

## EMERITUS – December 2023



**An occasional newsletter for the Emeritus Faculty Association**

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:**

#### **ATTENDANCE IS VERY POOR.**

We thought that when we went over to the Zoom platform many more of the emeriti would sign in. Unfortunately, this has not been the case. Furthermore, most of those who do the Zoom are our older retired faculty – hired in the 60s and 70s – and we get a miss from most of those who have retired more recently.

Is the scheduling on the first Friday of each month of the academic year, from 11:00AM-12:00PM an ok time? Any suggestions that could make you want to attend?

Invited speakers almost always say yes, with the idea of giving us an off-the-cuff talk for about 40 minutes and then a Q&A. I don't want to make this more formal. Let me know.

Thanks.  
Joel Rosenthal



## **ZOOM MEETING:**

Our next meeting of the Semester will be Friday, December 1, 2023 at 11:00 am. We will continue to do these meetings via Zoom. Information will be sent to your Stony Brook emails a few days prior to the meeting. Meeting information is also listed below.

<https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/94939205113?pwd=KzIxVTJJPdkY0OUNmY0RPd3Fubjlkdz09>

**Meeting ID: 949 3920 5113**

**Passcode: 269923**

Our guest speakers will be Paul Zimansky and Elizabeth Stone, Departments of Anthropology and Ancient History & Archeology

## **BIOS:**

Elizabeth Stone is Professor Emerita of Anthropology, having taught at Stony Brook from 1977 until her retirement in 2020. In the course of her academic training and professional career she worked at archaeological sites in England, Germany, Iran, Afghanistan, Syria, Turkey, and most extensively, Iraq. The focus of her research has been on urbanism in the Bronze Age Near East, and led to her discovery of ancient Mashkan-shapir, a major Mesopotamian city of Hammurabi's time. Since the Gulf War of 1991, and particularly in the aftermath of the US invasion of Iraq and the looting of the Iraq Museum, she has been deeply involved in efforts to preserve Iraq's antiquities. From 2015-19 she directed Stony Brook's archeological expedition at Ur.

Paul Zimansky is Professor Emeritus of Ancient History and Archaeology. He took his PhD at the University of Chicago and taught for many years at Boston University before coming to Stony Brook in 2004 to assist in Iraq reconstruction projects. He has co-directed archaeological expeditions with Elizabeth Stone in Syria, Turkey, and Iraq and co-authored their publications, including *Anatomy of a Mesopotamian City: Survey & Soundings at Mashkan-Shapir*. He is an authority on Urartu, an Iron-Age empire based in eastern Turkey.

## **TOPIC:**

The talk will outline Stony Brook's involvement with the archaeology of Iraq, starting with the Mashkan-shapir project in the late 1980's and concluding with the recent Ur expedition. Most of the discussion will be about Stony Brook's involvement in getting Iraq's antiquities establishment back on its feet after the looting of the Iraq Museum, which included surveying looted sites, training Iraqi scholars (including one who became Iraq's Minister of Culture) and restarting research in southern Iraq.



**SAVE THE DATES: (First Friday of every month)**

Here is a preview of next year's speakers.

Andrew Moore, Department of Anatomy  
Nancy Tomes, Department of History  
Crystal Fleming, Department of Sociology  
Mark Bowen, Department of Physiology & Biophysics



**PARTICIPATION NEEDED:**

**"Documenting COVID-19: Stony Brook University Experiences":**

Stony Brook University Libraries announced the establishment of "Documenting COVID-19: Stony Brook University Experiences," a new digital archive project to collect, preserve, and publish the institutional history of Stony Brook University. The archive will primarily be formed from submissions received directly from students, faculty, staff, and alumni that document life during the COVID-19 pandemic. Interviews, first-hand accounts, written narratives, photographs, and more will be important sources to consult in the future to study, interpret, and derive meaning from this historic time period. Members of the Emeritus Faculty Association are invited and encouraged to participate in the project. For more information, please visit: <https://library.stonybrook.edu/special-library-initiatives/documenting-covid-19/>

**Faculty Emeritus Documentation Project:**

*In return for the light labor of arranging the calendar of speakers I claim the right to be a nag. Each month the SB Emeriti newsletter includes a plea for you to go to the Old Stony Brook memory project on the web site run by and preserved in the Melville Library's Special Collections. To date, only 19 retired SB faculty have filled out the forms designed to let you talk about the early days at SB and your retrospective views, both about what you expected (or were told) when you came and what you now have to say, looking back, on the experience. The responses are an open document and this paragraph is designed to make you feel guilty if you have not bothered to fill out the questionnaire. You can remedy this.*

*Joel Rosenthal*

In an effort to document and preserve the unique and varied experiences of the university's emeritus faculty, a questionnaire has been designed to elicit the personal reflections of faculty members':

- impetuses for accepting academic positions at Stony Brook University.
- early experiences on the campus.
- views on the evolution and growth of the institution.
- contributions to departments and to the university.
- interactions with academic and administrative leadership.
- views on the institution's role in the community (local and wider).
- assessments of the university's mission and successes as a research university.

### **Stony Brook University history:**

Access information about the project and the questionnaire at:

<https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/libspecial/archives/collections/facultyemeritus.php>

Historis of departments and units. Gerrit Wolf, a new member of our ranks, has written a history of the evolution of the College of Business at Stony Brook. The University Archives, under Kristen Nyitray, welcomes all such efforts. You might want to turn your thoughts in this direction.



### **CAMPUS EVENTS:**

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Friday, December 1, 2023:   | Issac Mizrahi (A cabaret-style show with plenty of panache)<br>8:00 PM – Staller Center Recital Hall              |
| Sat/Sun December 2&3, 2023: | 27 <sup>th</sup> Annual Charles Dickens Festival<br>Village of Port Jefferson                                     |
| Monday, December 11, 2023:  | Faculty Exhibition 2023 (Available all week)<br>Staller Center – Paul W. Zuccaire Gallery<br>12:00PM – 4:00PM     |
| Friday, December 16, 2023   | The Nutcracker, Seiskaya Ballet<br>Staller Center – Main Stage – 7:00PM<br>(Additional shows Saturday and Sunday) |

More Events and information can be found: <https://calendar.stonybrook.edu/>



## **EMERITUS FACULTY ASSOCIATION (EFA) MEMBER UPDATE:**



**EXTRA, EXTRA** we are looking for new Steering Committee Members! Please contact [Joel.Rosenthal@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Joel.Rosenthal@stonybrook.edu) for more information.

The Provost's Office has updated the EFA's member list! Below is the link for the updated contact information for all members. Please take a look and let us know if you notice any out-of-date or incorrect information about yourself or a colleague, please contact Faith Mirabile at [faith.mirabile@stonybrook.edu](mailto:faith.mirabile@stonybrook.edu) with any changes. Please remember, we are **only** using your Stony Brook emails.

<https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/emeritus/members.html>

Please contact Joel Rosenthal, Chair of the Retirees Committee on the local UUP executive committee with any problems or questions about your union status or related matters.  
[joel.rosenthal@stonybrook.edu](mailto:joel.rosenthal@stonybrook.edu).



**WEBSITE:** To visit our website, go to the University website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/emeritus/index.html>. It always contains the latest emeritus news (click on "Next Meeting"), a list of members' email addresses, a list of officers, newsletter archives and many other useful links.



*We wish you  
Happy Holidays  
and a  
Wonderful New Year*