



"Robert McGrath"  
<rmcgrath@notes.cc.sunysb.edu>

08/27/2002 09:08 AM

To "Torre,F.Jason" <FTORRE@NOTES.CC.SUNYSB.EDU>

cc

bcc

Subject Faculty Director for the new College of Information and  
Technology Studies

Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce that Professor Imin Kao of the Department of Mechanical Engineering has agreed to become the first Faculty Director of the College of Information and Technology Studies (CITS).

The CITS is intended to be the first of six colleges for first-year students, all to be in place by Fall 2004. The impetus for the colleges comes from the research of the last two decades on what first-year academic experiences are most conducive to future academic success. The colleges will bring students together in a setting whose activities and structures will help them get into the academic mainstream quickly and enjoyably and are designed to improve their student experience at Stony Brook. The new colleges will complement existing programs such as the Honors College, the Learning Communities, the Living Learning Centers, and the Women in Science and Engineering programs that also offer structured learning environments. This inaugural college will be located in Mendelsohn Quadrangle, and program activities will be for both residential and commuter students.

I am personally very enthusiastic about this new venture. A working group from Academic Affairs and Student Affairs has worked very hard to go from concept to realization this last year. Our college concept is distinctive, but draws from successful models at UC San Diego and a few other universities with profiles similar to Stony Brook.

Faculty leadership of this first college is critically important and this is why I am so pleased that we have a person of Professor Kao's record of accomplishment. He received his B.S. degree at National Chung Hsing University in Taiwan and his Graduate degrees from Stanford University. He joined the Stony Brook faculty in 1994. His research work is in the area of robotics and manufacturing automation, and in applications of MEMS (microelectromechanical systems) devices. He is a successful and dedicated teacher whose real commitment to the education of the full person makes him an ideal leader for the first of our undergraduate colleges.

- Robert McGrath, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs