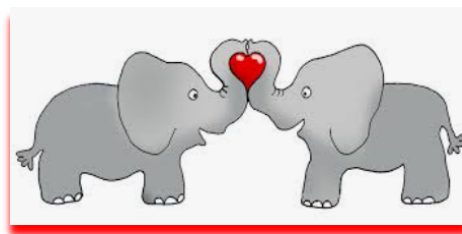


## EMERITUS – February 2022



### An occasional newsletter for the Emeritus Faculty Association

#### **ZOOM MEETING:**

Our next zoom meeting will be Friday, February 4, 2022 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.

#### **Join Zoom Meeting:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/96204016630?pwd=eVdPejUrWDc4czRSd0R5YS9kRmgvQT09>

Meeting ID: 962 0401 6630

Passcode: 727861

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,96204016630#,,,,\*727861# US (New York)

+13017158592,,96204016630#,,,,\*727861# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 962 0401 6630

Passcode: 727861

Find your local number: <https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/96204016630>



Our guest speaker will be Wilbur (Bill) Miller, retired, Department of History.

**Bio:** Wilbur (Bill) Miller taught history at SB for 44 years, with courses covering the period between 1820 and 1920. His specialty is the history of police and policing in the U.S. His publications have examined the New York City and London Police; revenueurs and moonshiners; and most recently, private police of many kinds. He got interested in police history while an undergraduate at UC Berkeley during the 1960s.

**Topic:** "Why are the police the way they are today?"



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

Here is a preview of our upcoming speakers.

**2022:**

**March:** Ben Tausig, Music

**April:** Judith Lochhead, Music

**May:** Maurie McInnis, President of SBU



**In Memoriam:**

**FLORIS CASH IN THE HOME OF THE ANCESTORS - Patrice Nganang, Department of Africana Studies, Chair**

Love is a basic ingredient of Africana studies – love of the self, and love of others. Love is the real skeleton of all the fields of knowledge that coalesce to compose the studies of people of African descent. And the tradition is there to substantiate it – a tradition flourished by the greatest and the lesser-known names in the field. I call them the Ancestors as in Africana Studies there is no instituted Hall of Fame. Halls of Fame belong to the establishment, and Africana studies, from its creation as a discipline during the sixties to its manifestation today remains attached to an insurgent constituency. Ancestors: this is a name that would easily attach African modes of remembrance to the ones practiced in the Caribbean, in Haiti for instance, with the diverse practices of Black communities in the United States. Ancestors: this is also a concept in which not only Black people will find a understanding of where people of great deeds rest. In some African cultures, there is

indeed a Place for Ancestors, a locus so to speak, and it is in the home. Ancestors: these are people that never go and never will because their deed resonate with the continuous flow of life, and with the materiality of people's existence. Their location, amongst the Bamileke, is the head of the bed, in the ancestral home, for ancestors are brought back home after having been buried. They become an institution in the lives of the living and are called upon when necessary.

Floris Barnett Cash was the Head of the Department of Africana Studies when I became an affiliate. I remember she is the one who encouraged me to become one. I did not know her, but as a colleague. I came to appreciate her dedication to the field, and her understanding of the fact of love is the backbone of her work – the love of Black people, the love of Africa. A connection of both is what inspired her publications and her dealing with people on campus – faculty, students, staff. For there is no testimony that came after the news of her passing, in which there was not a mention of her passionate commitment to Africana. I remember her coming during a PhD defense with a kente calf around her neck, the joy on her face surpassing that of the candidate himself after he was declared a doctor. The topic of the dissertation was panafricanism, and it suited certainly well – but at the same time, it was an expression of what she brought to the field – love. Starting the Ghana program was no easy feat – it is never. And Floris Cash is the one who started it – bringing our students to the African continent and making sure they touch down in the locations where the core of Africana still resides. This is the backbone of what found its manifestation in the disparate venues of her research and teaching activity. For there are no branches without a tree and there is no tree without roots. And the roots, that is the ancestral place – that is the House of the Ancestors. We know that in passing Floris Cash joined their company.



### **Participate in "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/>



## Participate in the 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.

**Your participation is vital to documenting Stony Brook University history.**

Access information about the project and the questionnaire at:

<http://www.library.stonybrook.edu/special-collections-university-archives/university-archives/>



### **Events around Campus:**

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Tuesday, February 1, 2022:  | Earfest – 7:30 PM<br>Staller Recital Hall                        |
| Saturday, February 5, 2022: | Complexions Dance Company - 8:00 PM<br>Staller Center Main Stage |
| Tuesday, February 8, 2022:  | Stony Brook Composers – 7:30 PM<br>Staller Recital Hall          |

Sunday, February 20, 2022:                   Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra – 3:00 PM  
Staller Center Main Stage

Friday, February 25, 2022:               Chamber Operat: John Blow’s Venus and Adonis – 8:00 PM  
Staller Center Recital Hall

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



**Emeritus Faculty Association (EFA) Member Update:**

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>



Joel Rosenthal is now chair of the Retirees Committee on the local UUP executive committee. Problems or questions about your union status or related matters can be addressed to him: [joel.rosenthal@stonybrook.edu](mailto:joel.rosenthal@stonybrook.edu).

Visit our 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.

