



Stony Brook University

DEPARTMENT of GEOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENTAL CONVOCATION

*Celebrating the Class of 2026*

Friday, May 22, 2026

Earth and Space Sciences Building

1:30 PM



## **Program**

**Welcome: Professor Timothy Glotch**

**Presentation of Undergraduate Degrees and Awards:**  
**Professor Hanna Nekvasil and Professor Marine Frouin**

**Undergraduate Excellence in Teaching Award:**  
**Gabriel O'Donnell and Mark Doucet**

**Myron Fuller Award: Zoë Briksza**  
*For outstanding Senior(s) in Geology and/or Earth Space Sciences.*

**Oliver Schaeffer Award: Evan Iervolino**  
*For academic performance, research, and departmental service, in honor of the Department's founder.*

**Oliver Schaeffer Endowed Scholarship: Ophelia Burden and Laila Elbaroudy**  
*This scholarship recognizes academic achievement and aspiration exemplifying the vision of the Department's founder. Endowment established by Professor Robert Warasila (PhD '76) and the George Schaeffer Family and continues to be supported by other generous donors.*

**Outstanding Service Award: Gabriel O'Donnell**  
*For outstanding service to the Geosciences Department.*

**Speaker Introduction: Professor Timothy Glotch**

**Salute to Graduates: Dr. Andrew Au (Ph.D. '84)**

**Presentation of Graduate Degrees and Awards: Professor Joel Hurowitz**

**Graduate Excellence in Teaching Award: Andrew Groh and Gary Kuang**

**David E. King Field Work Award: Vanessa Alfonso and Roheyatou Ceesay**  
*Made possible by donations from David E. King (MS '84)*

**The Far Beyond Award: Eashan Das**  
*For exceptional voluntary service that significantly enhances the quality of the Geosciences undergraduate learning experience, research mission, or Department operation.*

**Closing Remarks: Professor Timothy Glotch**

# ***Undergraduate Degree Candidates***

## ***Bachelor of Arts – Earth and Space Sciences***

***Niamh Amitrano***

***Britney Shane Williams***

## ***Bachelor of Arts – Earth and Space Sciences Education Track***

***John Emmel***

***Samantha Ficarelli***

## ***Bachelor of Science – Geology***

***Yatharth Bahl, Magna Cum Laude***

***Zoë L. Briksza, Magna Cum Laude***

***Ellyse Davis***

***Mark Doucet***

***Emma Felt, Cum Laude***

***Evan Christopher Iervolino\*, Cum Laude***

***\*double major (Geology, Earth and Space Sciences Education Track)***

***Nicoletta Labita***

***Gabriel O'Donnell, Cum Laude***

***Jack Schaffer***

# ***Graduate Degree Candidates***

## ***Master of Arts in Teaching Earth Science***

***Regan St. Clair***

## ***Doctor of Philosophy - Geosciences***

***Eashan Das***

***Leonard Flores-Andrade***

***Yang Gao***

***Reed Hopkins***

***Olive Koren***

***Connor Tinker***

***Prashani Amoditha Ulapane***



***Dr. Au received his BS in Physics at the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1975, his MS in Physics at Arizona State University in 1978, and his Ph.D. in Earth & Space Science at Stony Brook in 1984. After a one-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Carnegie Institution for Science, he consulted NASA Goddard Space Flight Center on geodynamics, space-borne geophysics, and space geodesy as a contractor for two decades. He returned to academia in 2006 as Professor of Mathematics and Assistant Program Chair at University of Maryland Global Campus. After his retirement in 2020, he stayed on as Adjunct Professor working part-time.***