Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Today, Suffolk is recognized nationally for its STEM, CSTEP and STEP programs. We are frequently invited to share our best practices with other institutions located across the country. In addition, our students have received prestigious and competitive research internships at multiple federal lab facilities supported by Department of Energy and NSF grants. These are important linkages for community college students, since most community colleges do not have physical resources to provide similar research opportunities on-site.

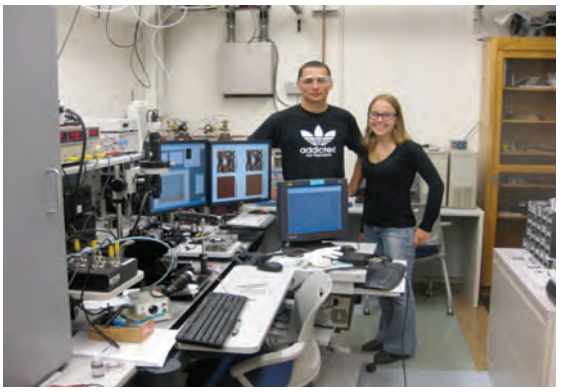
Suffolk's Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) program was recently selected by the NSF to be highlighted in their national Division of Undergraduate Educational programs brochure as a result of the College's scope and magnitude of its strong programmatic activities.

The College led the workforce and manufacturing plenary session for the STEM Hub Conference, held in December. This event was a collaboration between LIRACHE, Brookhaven National Labs and Farmingdale State College. One of the most important outcomes cited during the session by a representative from Brookhaven National Laboratory, is that existing collaborations between Suffolk County Community College and various partners provide the major connection for career paths in the STEM arena, and that existing continuing education programs provide STEM foundations for K-12.



SCCC NSF S-STEM students were selected to present their work at a Discovery Undergraduate Research Symposium in Albany. Joining the students were SCCC's Dr. Candice Foley and Dean Nina Leonhardt; SUNY Chancellor Dr. Nancy Zimpher and University Faculty Senate President Kenneth P. O'Brien.

Several Suffolk STEM students attended the Discovery Undergraduate Research Symposium in Albany. The Symposium is designed to bring together SUNY's most talented undergraduate scholars, SUNY administrative officials and members of the New York State Legislative delegation. The session allows SUNY undergraduates the opportunity to present their research and creative academic projects to a large audience at Albany's Legislative Office Building. This symposium highlights the tremendous range of undergraduate and graduate research projects taking place across New York State. It also serves as an opportunity for students and faculty mentors to be recognized for their outstanding work. Suffolk's STEM student ambassadors included Helen Bagnato (math research), John Cane (biology research), and Beatris Jimenez (chemistry research). SCCC STEM scholars discussed their research projects with many visitors including SUNY Chancellor Dr. Nancy Zimpher.



NSF S-Stem Scholar and Suffolk alumna, Anya Bagnato, at her internship at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, California.

The College accepted an invitation to attend an in-depth tour of Stony Brook University's Center for Emerging Technologies incubator. This visit served as an opportunity to commence discussions regarding the potential for faculty, staff and students from Stony Brook and Suffolk to work across both institutions, leveraging the strengths of each entity for the benefit of the region. I would like to thank Dr. Candice J. Foley and Associate Dean Nina Leonhardt for their development and implementation of STEM initiatives, as well as for their leadership of these programs.

In July, the College hosted a select group of Long Island's corporate leaders in order to showcase our leading role in cultivating and advancing STEM education on Long Island. I see great promise in our efforts to promote STEM programs and believe that these disciplines will form the genesis for the next wave of innovative ideas and advancement for our county, state, and country. In order for our students to be prepared for these new jobs of the future, which require critical thinking and technical competencies, we need to make sure we continue to provide strong programs that develop the necessary skills for them to be competitive within these fields.