Abstract:
In this talk, Dr. Schedel will cover several case studies of sonification at Stony Brook University, from x-ray scattering of nano-structures, to FMRI’s of the brain, to the gait of patients with Parkinson’s. Sonification can be used for purely scientific purposes, or as the basis for musical composition. There is a continuum between auditory display, which attempts to faithfully reproduce data in audio, and composition in which creativity can be king. In each case, aesthetic decisions must be made in order to translate data into the auditory domain - either to bring out or hide a quality in the data or to massage the sound of the data in order to fit musical goals.

Bio:
Margaret Anne Schedel is a composer and cellist specializing in the creation and performance of ferociously interactive media whose works have been performed throughout the United States and abroad. As an Associate Professor of Music at Stony Brook University, she serves as Co-Director of Computer Music and is the Director of cDACT, the consortium for digital arts, culture and technology. Her research focuses on gesture in music, the sustainability of technology in art, and sonification of data. In her spare time she curates exhibitions focusing on the intersection of art, science, new media, and sound.