Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies at Suffolk University
Annual Report for 2019-2020

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Overview

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, all of us including the Rosenberg Institute had a year unlike any we have experienced so far. The Fall 2019 semester began with plans in place, activities scheduled, and programs launched. We were proceeding as usual. Early in the Spring 2020 semester we suddenly entered the period of quarantine. Students departed the campus and dormitories for home or alternative housing, faculty changed to fully on-line instruction, and the Rosenberg Institute had to cancel its face-to-face programs.

Despite the disruption and confusion we all experienced, the Institute can claim achievements for the academic year as a whole, and success in its most important activity for the academic year, launching the new Rosenberg Institute Scholars Program.

Rosenberg Advisory Council

Membership of the Rosenberg Advisory Council and the reporting structure of the Rosenberg Institute during the 2019-2020 academic year was as follows:

Maria Toyoda, dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Ronald Suleski, professor in History and director of the Rosenberg Institute

Micky Lee, associate professor in Communication and Journalism, chair of the Council
**Rosenberg Institute Scholars Program**

In the summer of 2019, the Rosenberg Advisory Council approved the launch of this new initiative. The program would recruit exemplary scholars to advance the research and education of East Asian studies at Suffolk University, while helping to increase the institution’s profile nationally and internationally.

We carried out a recruiting campaign October to December 2019, in cooperation with the East-West Center at the University of Hawai‘i, and the Association for Asian Studies. Their mailing lists reach both US domestic and international scholars. We were seeking doctoral scholars, researching a broad contemporary policy issue of general concern to the international public. We received many queries (over 100) from interested scholars all over the world, and by the deadline in December 2019 received 66 completed applications.

The applications were reviewed by Advisory Council members in December 2019- and January 2020. The quality of applicants and their projects was very high. **We decided to appoint four Rosenberg Institute Scholars from the initial round of recruiting. They all have affiliation with the Rosenberg Institute from January 2020 to December 2021.** We ask them to state their affiliation in all their publications and public appearances during this period. They will serve in rotation as Rosenberg Institute Scholars, each for a one semester appointment.

Of the four selected scholars, it turns out, were two males and two females, two from large research universities and two from highly regarded smaller institutions. Each Rosenberg Institute Scholar will prepare a written paper of original research and conclusions, which will be presented to the Rosenberg Institute at the end of their six month appointment, and will be published on the Rosenberg Institute website.
Each scholar will be invited to visit the Suffolk campus within one year of their appointment (at a time mutually agreed), where they will participate in meetings with Suffolk faculty and students, in both public and in-classroom settings. Each scholar will receive an honorarium. In addition, we will arrange for wider public dissemination of the research findings of each paper, such as through an op-ed piece in a major newspaper or influential publication, or an appearance before the public sponsored by Suffolk or an appropriate organization. Because of the continuing pandemic these activities will be carried out on-line until we revert to a more normal situation.

**Rosenberg Institute Scholars 2020-2021**
The Rosenberg Institute Scholars appointed during this period:


Min received her BA from Beijing University, her MA from the University of South Carolina, and her PhD from Princeton University. Her books include: *The Belt Road and Beyond: State-Mobilized Globalization in China: 1998–2018* (Cambridge University Press 2020); *Diasporas and Foreign Direct Investment in China and India* (Cambridge University Press, 2014); *The Making of Northeast Asia* (with Kent Calder, Stanford University Press, 2010).

Her paper examines the debates among policy communities in China and actions by the Chinese state to combat the corona epidemic and revive the economy. It suggests that the Chinese policy communities are divided across three groups: One, the pessimists who have focused on U.S-China relations and the stability of the existing world order; Two, the optimists who are affiliated with new think tanks and whose research focuses on China’s Belt and Road Initiative; Three, the pragmatists who expect grave challenges facing China and the world and advocate for China to save itself while helping to stabilize the world market. In terms of actions, the central and local governments are both making concerted efforts to save domestic industry, attract foreign capital, and stabilize international trade.

Professor Ye spoke about her research at a virtual seminar held by the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard on 20 May 2020. She was introduced by Dr. Michael Szonyi, Director of the Fairbank Center, as a Rosenberg Institute Scholar at Suffolk University and congratulated for the honor she had received. She also spoke at a Harvard On-line Salon, where she was again congratulated by Professor
Jane Zhu of the Sawyer Business School at Suffolk and a member of the Rosenberg institute Advisory Council who arranged for Dr. Ye to speak and was moderator for the event. Professor Ye submitted her article in late June 2020 to the Rosenberg Institute, and it has been posted on our website.

**Professor Min Ye**

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**Jason Kirk.** Associate Professor of Political Science and Policy Studies, Elon University, North Carolina. [j.kirk2@elon.edu](mailto:j.kirk2@elon.edu). His research topic is: **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and World Bank in India: Deference or Displacement in Development Assistance.**” September-December 2020.

He received his BA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. His book on this topic is: *India and the World Bank: The Politics of Aid and Influence* (London, New York and Delhi: Anthem Press, 2010, 2011). Dr. Kirk will assume his appointment as a Rosenberg Institute Scholar beginning in September 2020.

His research paper will explore the idea that India, despite its competition with China, has emerged as the largest borrower of the China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), just as it has been the World Bank’s largest borrower historically. The AIIB, proposed by China in 2013 and established in 2015 with capital of $100 billion, has rapidly emerged as a leading multilateral development bank in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. While some initial media reports depicted AIIB as an instrument of Chinese foreign economic policy and as a competitor to the U.S.-led World Bank (and Japan-led Asian Development Bank),
the new bank’s operational record so far—in which India is essential—presents a more nuanced picture. His research will compare AIIB and World Bank coordination in two projects in India: the ill-fated Amaravati Sustainable Infrastructure and Institutional Development Project in Andhra Pradesh—dropped by both the World Bank and AIIB over problems with the state’s voluntary resettlement scheme impacting farmers—and the Mumbai Urban Transport Project III, taken over by AIIB after the World Bank and India could not agree on terms for a third phase of investment in the city’s suburban rail system.


She received her BA from Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, an MA and MPhil from Columbia University, and her PhD from Columbia University.


Her research paper is on the theme of female leaders who are too often overlooked in Chinese politics, despite the increase in female representation in recent decades. Who are the female leaders in China, and how do they govern? To answer these
questions, this project conducts a systematic examination of female government leaders at the subnational level in China since the 1990s. Taking advantage of several novel datasets, it explores differences between female and male leaders in terms of risk preference and pro-social attitude, as well as their implications for governance outcomes and career promotions.

Professor Hanzhang Liu

Victor Seow 蕭建業. seow@fas.harvard.edu. Assistant Professor, Harvard University. His research topic is “Scientific Management in China’s Industry.” September-December 2021.

He received his BA from McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and his PhD from Harvard University.

We plan to continue to grow and enhance the Rosenberg Institute Scholars Program to both deepen our student understanding of issues relating to East Asian studies, as well as continue to raise the brand and reputation of Suffolk University. The responses received so far from colleagues and the academic community have been very enthusiastic.

Faculty Travel Grants

The Rosenberg Institute offered travel grants to Suffolk faculty who planned to attend an academic conference to present a paper or give a talk. Their research had to be connected in some way with Asia. The invitation went out via a general email sent to all faculty, and the entries were considered and approved by members of our Advisory Council. In the end we approved 7 requests submitted by faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Sawyer Business School. Proposals of the visits to present a paper or engage in research included travel to: China (Beijing, Shanghai); Finland; Honolulu, HI; India (Manipal, Uttar Pradesh); Nigeria. The areas of professional research included: Accounting, Economics, Historical Studies, Management and Entrepreneurship, Strategy and International Business.

Because of the pandemic, unfortunately all these activities had to be abandoned, with the one exception of Professor Sushil Bhatia of the Sawyer Business School. His field is business innovation and strategy. He made it to Sharda University in
Uttar Pradesh, India. His talk there was organized by the General Management Department of the School of Business Studies. The topic of his lecture was “Think Inside the Box for Disruptive Innovation.” Not only was his talk well attended, but the graduate students present kept asking questions and so the Q&A session was rather extended.

Dr. Bhatia reported to me that his return to the US in March 2020, just as we were about to disassemble for our retreat into quarantine status, was almost surreal as he passed through international airports where passengers seemed very anxious and afraid, as if an enemy were stalking them (as it was!). But he made it safely back to our campus.

India Discovery Center Classical Dance in India

Held at Cary Hall in Lexington, MA on 21 September 2019. Featuring a new kind of choreography blending various dance styles together to depict the Bhagavad Gita. Friends of the Rosenberg Institute report interesting programs offered by this organization, and some Suffolk faculty have attended.
NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE OF A SPECTACULAR
Indian Classical Ballet
Saptavarna
Stunning Choreography
by Guru Aruna Mohanty
using Seven Classical Dance Styles
Mesmerizing Performance
by an Eighteen Member Troupe

Saturday, September 21st at 8:00pm
Cary Memorial Hall 1605 Mass Ave Lexington MA 02420
Tickets: $115, $90, $65, $45

30% discount until September 12, 2019
Please use Coupon code NEARTS

Buy tickets at:
www.lokvani.com
more info: www.indiadiscoverycenter.org

A Fundraising Event for India Discovery Center, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization
Suffolk Professor’s Research Widely Reported

Our colleague at Suffolk, Professor Da Zheng, is the world’s leading authority on the Chinese writer, poet, and artist Chiang Yee (1903-1977). Da was invited to visit Oxford, England, to install a plaque in the house where Chiang Yee once resided. The event was widely covered in England. In August 2019, the South China Morning Post (Hong Kong) ran a feature article on Chiang Yee, the historical marker, and Da’s involvement.

In the summer of 1940, Chiang Yee knocked on the door of 28 Southmoor Road, Oxford. It was opened by Henry and Violet Keene, who offered the traveller a bedroom on the upper floor of the unassuming terraced house, and the front room facing the quiet residential street as a study.

Chiang had arrived in the British university city after being bombed out of his lodgings in north London during the blitz of World War II. Moving from door to door and asking for a room for the night, what he thought would be temporary lodging became his home for the next 15 years, during which time he honed his extraordinary artistic ability and prose, writing about the British and painting scenes of their country.
Noted Writer and Playwright Chiang Yee

The blue plaque on the facade of 28 Southmoor Road, in Oxford. Photo: Peter Simpson
Southeast Asia Today!

Suffolk University Southeast Asia Student Association organized a panel discussion on Southeast Asia Today! It was a conversation about current events in the Southeast Asia region.

The panel consisted of Ambassador Friedrich Lohr (Political Science), Professor Weiqi Zhang (Political Science), Dennis Harkins (Center for Community Engagement), and Professor Ronald Suleski, (History/Rosenberg Institute). The panel was moderated by Professor Roberto Dominguez (Political Science). It was held 24 September 2019, the sponsors were the Department of Political Science, the Center for Community Engagement, and the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies.
Once again in 2019 the Rosenberg Institute and Suffolk University hosted students from Taiwan. The Rosenberg Institute cooperated with the Taiwan diplomatic office in Boston, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) and with the Federation of Taiwanese Students of New England (FTSANE). The meeting was for Taiwanese Student Leaders in New England. This took place on 15 September 2019 in Suffolk’s Sargent Hall. The students came from colleges.
and universities throughout the region and included members of the Suffolk University Taiwan Students Association. They enjoyed Taiwanese style food brought in for the occasion.

Gathering of the Federation of Taiwanese Students of New England held at Suffolk University in September 2019. Officials of the Taiwan diplomatic office, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office Boston, are also in the photo.

Rosenberg Institute Hosts a Delegation of International Opinion Makers

The delegation was organized by the United States Department of State and scheduled locally by WorldBoston. The delegation members were news anchors,
editors, writers, officials in their respective governments, a total of 23 guests in addition to State Department officials accompanying the group. Ronald Suleski was asked to speak with the delegation, and the dialogue from the meeting was put up on the University website.

Delegates from 18 countries visited Suffolk University to discuss China's foreign and domestic policy with Professor Ronald Suleski (bottom row, center).
Rosenberg Institute Recommended Student Intern for Chinese Historical Society of New England

Suffolk Student Vena Nguyen worked as an intern at the Chinese Historical Society of New England (CHSNE). Her job in 2019 was to help organize and catalogue some of the many historical materials in the organization’s collection. Vena was the Archives and Collection Intern. She was captivated by seeing the past of Boston’s Chinatown come to life through the materials she was handling, and she began thinking about the impact of history, her major at Suffolk. In a report about the internship for her professor, Assistant Professor of History Kathryn Lasdow, Vena linked her personal story, the study of historical materials, and the value of being a history major. She wrote: “Being Chinese myself on my mother’s side and growing up in a town with a huge Chinese-
American population, the magazines and menus [in the CHSNE collection] pushed me to think about my own family and cultural history. Reading about the histories of people who are like me, it gave me an incentive to learn more about how I can do history professionally.”

Vena Nguyen, class of 2019

A Trade War with China?

In October 2019 Suffolk had a lively discussion on the topic of Trade War with China? The special program in the Politics, Philosophy, and Economics program hosted a discussion about trade between the US and China. Suffolk professors Shahrzu Mohtadi (Economics), Weiqi Zhang (Political Science) and Chris Melenovsky (Philosophy) gave us some ideas about what is going on, and what is not going on. Lunch was provided and the Rosenberg Institute was involved in promoting the event.
TRADE WAR WITH CHINA?
A P.P.E. POLICY EVENT

Oct. 10th 12:15 - 1:30
1st Floor, Room 100
73 Tremont
Lunch Provided

The Politics, Philosophy, and Economics program hosts a multidisciplinary discussion about trade discussions between the United States and China

Prof. Shahruz Mohtadi  Economics
Prof. Weiqi Zhang  Political Science
Prof. Chris Melenovsky  Philosophy

Questions? Email cmelenovsky@suffolk.edu
Panel Discussion on the Birth of Gandhi

Suffolk professor C. Gopinath of the Sawyer Business School helped to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of Mohandas K. Gandhi. He joined as moderator for an informative panel discussion on the topic of Race and Race-Relations in the US, An Immigrants Perspective. The event was held on 13 October 2019 at the Lexington Public Library and was sponsored by the India Discovery Center, with promotion by the Rosenberg Institute. The free program was open to the public and drew an audience of many interested people.

Suffolk Vietnamese Student Association and Asian American Association at Suffolk Sponsor a Film

On 8 November 2919 students from these two Suffolk student organizations showed a movie, The Farewell. The film shows life in contemporary China and delivers a positive message about people. A large group of students attended, and they enjoyed the free popcorn, soft drinks, and candy.

Harry Dow Lecture Series on Immigration

Our faculty and students at the Suffolk Law School, the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association and the Latin American Students Association, on 5 November 2019 sponsored the 6th Harry Dow Lecture Series on Immigration Law.

Title of the program was From Crises Comes Opportunity: A Closer Look at How State and Local Governments Are Supporting Immigrant Communities Beyond the Courts. The Keynote Speaker was Jonathan Miller, Chief of the Public Protection and Advisory Bureau, Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General.

The Rosenberg Institute helped to draw the large and active audience for this major event of Suffolk law students, held at the Suffolk Law School.
China Town Hall Program

The eleventh annual China Town Hall program hosted by the Rosenberg Institute at Suffolk was held on 18 November 2019 was again a lively and well-attended event. The theme was in fact a town hall style discussion.

The National Committee on United States – China Relations assembled a panel of commentators and experts on China. The live webcast was moderated by George Stephanopoulos of ABC News. With him were Stephen Orlins, President of the National Committee; Melanie Hart, Director of China Policy at
the Center for American Progress; Yasheng Huang, a professor at MIT who has lectured at Suffolk in the past; Ely Ratner, Executive Vice-President at the Center for New American Security.

Once again, the event was co-sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies at Suffolk University, WorldBoston, a World Affairs Council, and Suffolk University. It was free and open to the public. An audience of about 60 persons watched the live webcast, then spent another hour engaging in a lively debate, in which Mary Yntema, President of WorldBoston and Ronald Suleski, Director of the Rosenberg Institute at Suffolk acted as discussion leaders. The meeting was free and open to the public. Refreshments were provided and were much appreciated by those attending.
CHINA TOWN HALL
LOCAL CONNECTIONS, NATIONAL REFLECTIONS

Join communities across the United States in a national conversation on China

Monday, November 18
5:30 - 7:30 PM
Suffolk University Law School, Room 495,
120 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02108
REGISTER HERE

Featuring an interactive webcast with four speakers, moderated by George Stephanopoulos, and an on-site discussion facilitated by Mary Yntema (President & CEO, WorldBoston) and Ronald Suleski (Professor & Director, Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies)

George Stephanopoulos
Chief Anchor, ABC News

Hosted by:
WorldBoston & Suffolk University

Stephen Orlins
President, National Committee on U.S.-China Relations

Melanie Hart
Senior Fellow & Director, China Policy, Center for American Progress

Yasheng Huang
Epoch Foundation Professor of International Management, MIT

Ely Ratner
Executive Vice President & Director of Studies, Center for a New American Security
Suffolk Travels to China: A Panel Discussion

This panel was presented on 19 November 2019 as part of the CUES (Center for Urban Ecology and Sustainability) lecture series event. It was sponsored by CUES and by the Rosenberg Institute.

The four professors described their experiences and impressions of the conference held in Shanghai in spring 2019. They were Hayley Schiebel, Scott Lussier, Sean Solley, and Carlos Rufin.

A lunch buffet was provided. Suffolk’s contacts with Shanghai were emphasized.
**Historic Letters at the Moakley Archives**

The Moakley Archives holds a set of letters from Gaylord Freeman obtained by Professor Ronald Suleski, Director of the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies, and donated to the Archives. In **2019 two Suffolk history students, Sara Calautti and Nikolas DeVincenzi**, decided to investigate the Freeman letters to place them in a broader context.

In 1967 Freeman and his wife had a VIP tour of East and Southeast Asia. Our Suffolk students found a published biography of Freeman held by the Library of Congress. He seems to have had high-level contacts with US Government officials. Sometimes it seemed he was in Asia with the blessings of the American CIA. What exactly was he doing on that trip to Asia? Were he and his wife truly innocent travelers? Further research will reveal the answers.

At the conclusion of the semester, students Calautti and DeVincenzi prepared a short video of their project and submitted their research paper to the Moakley Archives, where it is now available to future researchers.
The photo shows L to R, Julia Howington, Director of the Moakley Archives; Michael Dello Iacono, Records Manager of the Moakley Archives; Ronald Suleski, Director of the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies; Sara Calautti and Nikolas DeVincenzi, the two Suffolk history students. Sara displays a portion of the video presentation they prepared about the Freeman letters.

**Suffolk Professor Keynote Speaker at International Conference in the Philippines**

*Roberto Dominguez*, Professor of International Relations in the Department of Political Science and Legal Studies at Suffolk University, was keynote speaker at a conference held on the campus of the University of the Philippines Cebu in November 2019.
The theme of the conference was Diplomacy, Dialogue, and Discourse: Praxes Turn in IR [international relations]. The three-day gathering brought together practitioners in international relations and academic specialists to discuss cooperative prospects for scholarship and practice in forwarding the interests of the Philippines and the Global South in the world. Attendees came from Canada, China, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Vietnam, and of course from the Philippines and the United States.

Professor Dominquez has been leading groups of Suffolk students to Cambodia, Myanmar, and Vietnam in the past three years.

At the international conference in the Philippines

From left to right: WISC Secretary-General Roberto Dominguez, Workshop Manager Archill Niña F. Capistrano, Presenters Arnaud Kurze, Christopher Lamont, Adonis Elumbre, Magdalena Kania, MD Aftab Alam, Thuy Do, PHISO President Frances Antoinette Cruz, Presenter Henelito Sevilla Jr., and PHISO Founder Nassef Manabilang Adiong
China Scholars from Kazakhstan Visit the Rosenberg Institute

A delegation of four China scholars from Kazakhstan visited Suffolk University as hosts of the Rosenberg Institute. They were on campus on Monday 10 February 2020. They were in the Center for Teaching and Scholarly Excellence (CTSE) on the 12th floor.

The scholars were brought here by the US State Department through their International Visitor Leadership Program. Their local host was WorldBoston, their on-campus hosts were the Rosenberg Institute and the Center for Teaching and Scholarly Excellence (CTSE). The four scholars were accompanied by two Russian interpreters, who did simultaneous interpretation.

Professor Elizabeth Robinson (Education) came by to greet and talk about Suffolk’s TESOL program. Val Joseph, International Student Advisor spoke about study-abroad and the reception of international students at Suffolk. Professor Chris Dakin brought many students from his Chinese 102 class, who attended to hear the presentation made by the visiting Kazak scholars. Students asked questions and we had a lively interaction. Professor Suleski, Director of the Rosenberg Institute, presented some of his own publications to the scholars for use in their teaching and research in Kazakhstan.

The group asked that neither their names nor photographs be used in any Suffolk public announcements.

Suffolk Student now in Washington, DC

Zareen Khan graduated from Suffolk, BS cum laude, in 2018. She majored in Government and minored in Asian Studies. She is now doing graduate work at George Washington University in Washington, DC.

Her professor Ronald Suleski, professor in History and Director of the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies was visiting Washington, and he invited Zareen to
lunch to learn about her graduate work. Zareen’s first questions were all about her professors at Suffolk and the lively atmosphere she remembered on the Suffolk campus. She shared many stories about the friends she made and the classes she took.

One project of Zareen’s is to analyze recent issues of *The Japan Times*, an important English language newspaper printed in Tokyo. It appears the newspaper is receiving pressure from the conservative government of Prime Minister Abe to use distancing language from Japan’s actions in Asia during World War II. People didn’t expect to see such government censorship in the open democracy of Japan. Another paper by Zareen about a political protest movement in Taiwan “Toolkit for a Successful Movement: Digital Tools in Taiwan’s Sunflower Movement,” was published in the *SAIS Review of International Affairs,* in spring 2020.
Asian American Student Association Fashion Show

Our Asian American Association held their Annual Fashion Show: A Night Around the World. Among the student associations participating were: Caribbean Student Network, Vietnamese Student Association, Japanese Student Association, LatinX, Korean Cultural Club, and South Asian Student Association. This was held on 20 February 2020. Dr. Suleski is a Faculty Advisor to some of these groups.

Asian-American Women Activists

Asian-American Women Activists gathered at the Radcliffe Institute at Harvard to talk about their determination, activities, and experiences. “Their narratives often reflect the transnational nature of Asian American women’s lives.” The Radcliffe Institute asked the Rosenberg Institute to help publicize the event. The program was titled The Stories We Tell and the Objects We Keep. Asian American women have often been overlooked in formal records, and the tangible objects providing critical evidence of their histories have been ignored. Held 9 March 2020.
Filmmaker Kenneth Eng Visits Suffolk

In February 2020 noted filmmaker Kenneth Eng visited our Suffolk campus for two days of presentations and talks with students. He spoke to students of the History Department Student Historical Society, students who were history department majors and their friends, about Making Documentary Films. This was held in our Poetry Center. He spoke about a favorite topic of his, Asian American Literature, in our Sargent Hall. Still later that day, Ken spoke with students who are majors in the Communication and Journalism Department about the topic of Visual Aesthetics in Suffolk’s Samia Academic Center. He had a busy day but received rave reviews from our faculty and students. Micky Lee, Chair of the Rosenberg Institute Advisory Council arranged this campus visit.

Ken returned later in the week to show the documentary film he made about his father’s escape from China and the new life he created for himself in the United States. That was held in the Samia Academic Center, to a large and interested audience.

This series of campus events was sponsored by the Rosenberg Institute in cooperation with the Ford Hall Forum, an organization with long historical roots that is well-known in New England. The History Department’s student Historical Society arranged for this visit.

Filmmaker Ken Eng brought to Suffolk by the Rosenberg Institute and the Ford Hall Forum

Special On-Line Course Arranged
Shortly after our change-over to on-line teaching took place early in 2020, the Political Science Department announced a new on-line short course. The course was GVT-542-A "Diplomacy and Foreign Service." The catalogue description read: "This course aims at providing an overview of the nature of the work in diplomatic services in a selective number of countries around the world.” The professor chosen to offer the course was Professor Friedrich Lohr (Political Science), who spent many years in the diplomatic service of Germany. During his career he was stationed all around the world. He was Consul-General in Boston. He was second-in-command at the German Embassy in Beijing. He ran the embassy in Algiers during the time of terrorism. He also served as the Ambassador of Germany to North Korea, stationed in Pyongyang. He saw daily life there as few foreigners have been able to experience it. In this on-line course he gave students an idea of how diplomats must work, learn what to say and what to never say, and how to be “proper” under all sorts of circumstances. Ambassador Lohr is an active member of the Rosenberg Institute.

Former Ambassador of Germany and now Suffolk Professor Friedrich Lohr

Good news for Suffolk University

The University announced in May 2019 that it had agreed to purchase one of the most handsome buildings in Boston and to use it as dormitory space for our Suffolk students. This was the 14-story Ames Building, built in 1893, the first skyscraper in Boston and the city's tallest building until 1915.

At the same time, Suffolk announced that it had gained approval for a new University art gallery and performing arts space. This to be on the ground floor of our 10 West Residence Hall on Washington Street. That will become gallery
space where Suffolk art students, as well as members of the broader Boston arts community, can display their works.

Both were major steps forward for Suffolk, which will add to the university’s strength and will attract students to the school…one we have emerged from the current pandemic. The Rosenberg Institute was involved in publicizing this great news about Suffolk University, which provides many excellent facilities to the RI for our programs throughout the year.

Suffolk University has won unanimous approval from Boston’s top planning agency to convert the historic Ames Building at 1 Court St. into a residence hall that will house as many as 300 undergraduate students in the heart of one of Boston’s most vital downtown corridors.

**Fudan Conference on Urban Ecology and Sustainability**

This series of international conferences was organized by Professor Patricia Hogan, Director of the Center for Urban Ecology and Sustainability (CUES) at Suffolk in cooperation with Fudan University in Shanghai, China. It received major support from the Rosenberg Institute. Professor Hogan is also a member of our Advisory Council.
The first conference was held at Suffolk in 2018, the second was held at Fudan in 2019. The third conference was to be held at Suffolk in June 2020. In preparation for the conference, Dr. Wang Xiangrong, chief planner for the conference from Fudan, visited Suffolk to work out details of the Fudan delegation that expected to be present at the conference. The Covid pandemic intervened and in March both Suffolk and Fudan were forced to postpone the conference. At present talks are being held about holding the conference in spring 2021, but with no firm details available yet.

Dr. Wang Xiangrong, speaking here earlier at Suffolk, visited Suffolk in Dec 2019 to plan for the 2020 conference

**Pacific Destiny**

Jim Gabbe is the President and CEO of Citizenarts, a non-profit educational media organization. He has produced several films about the United States and China. His most recent film is *Pacific Destiny*. This film reviews the recent histories of the two major nations bordering on the Pacific Ocean, the United States and China.

The Rosenberg Institute planned a major showing of this film in the Boston area, including a visit by the director Jim Gabbe. He would be joined for a panel discussion and Q&A following the film by Suffolk faculty Weiqi Zhang (Political Science), Jane Zhu (Sawyer Business School and a member of the Rosenberg Institute Advisory Council), Robert Bellinger (History), moderated by Ronald Suleski, Director of the Rosenberg Institute. It was to be held at Suffolk’s Modern Theater, and several co-sponsors were on board. Unfortunately, the event scheduled for April 2020 had to be cancelled because of the pandemic.
End