A Message from the President

Welcome back to another promising new academic year. I hope you enjoyed the holidays with your families and friends and are now ready to begin afresh the important work of educating our students.

Suffolk University again welcomed in the New Year with an ice sculpture display in front of the Law School. This year, First Night celebrants saw the energy of the University embodied by the Suffolk Ram. Our New Year’s Eve celebration allows us to bring together faculty, staff, alumni, students and neighbors—all the people who are key to the success of the University community.

We were very pleased to see our students move into our newest residence hall, at 10 West St., earlier this month. The University now has the capability of housing more than 1,000 students in our three residence halls, and we are pleased to be able to offer them a full university experience, including the opportunity to live with fellow students in affordable and safe housing.

The official opening of 10 West St. again brought together the wider community, and we were pleased to have Mayor Thomas Menino speak at the event.

As recent events show, we have been hard at work planning for the expansion of the physical campus, but, as always, intellectual development and service are at the heart of the University’s mission.

The College of Arts and Sciences is preparing to offer a new master’s program in ethics and public policy next fall, and it once again will host an exciting array of distinguished visiting scholars this semester, including U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer; Byllye Y. Avery, founder of the Black Women’s Health Imperative; and novelist Maxine Hong Kingston.

The Law School officially launched the Rappaport Center for Law and Public

Ram Power

Celebrating First Night 2008 in front of the Suffolk Ram ice sculpture display are Brian McDermott of University Media Services and University Police Officers Moe Brown and Greg Grande. Passers-by stopped to chat and have their photos taken, as members of the Suffolk community distributed colorful neon glow-necklaces imprinted with the University’s name. (Photo by John Gillooly)

Capital Campaign on Way to $75M Goal

“The Power to Change” campaign already has garnered $46.8 million, or 62 percent of its $75 million goal, after just over a year of the three-year effort.

“The response from Suffolk alumni and friends has been nothing short of extraordinary,” said Vice President for Advancement Kathryn Battillo. “This is the result of so many generous people who share our vision of ensuring that Suffolk remains a vital, vibrant school, accessible to all.”

The Campaign for Suffolk University, launched in October 2006 during the University’s Centennial Celebration, is an unprecedented effort to harness Suffolk’s proud heritage to a boundless, enduring future. The ambitious campaign advances initiatives in four key areas: student life and learning, academic excellence, evolving campus and the annual fund. It champions every aspect of University life, preparing the University to meet the challenges of higher education in the 21st century.

Campaign highlights have included launching the Rappaport Center for Law and Public Service; increasing need-based financial aid through the Centennial Scholarship program; creating the first two endowed chairs in the University’s history; and establishing the Center for East Asian Studies.

“‘The Power to Change’ is a bold title for a bold vision,” Battillo said. “We take tremendous pride in this campaign’s progress and in the tireless commitment of our extended Suffolk family. I call their contributions transforming gifts, as they literally transform the University in profound ways.”

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Service, with Attorney General Martha Coakley as keynote speaker. The Rappaport Center weaves together the Law School’s government, public policy, and public interest resources and initiatives as it advances opportunities for law students and lawyers to engage in public service.

The Sawyer Business School added 20 new faculty members this year and has two exciting conferences planned: the Knowledge Globalization Conference in April and the Multi-Organizational Partnerships, Alliances and Networks (MOPAN) International Conference in June.

The initiatives, ideas and commitment of the Suffolk University family are what make our institution thrive. As we begin this new year, I want to thank you for your efforts and your loyalty. Together we will continue to groom tomorrow’s leaders and make a positive impact on our city, nation and world.

David J. Sargent
President

Sodexho Goes Green
The university’s dining facilities will discontinue use of Styrofoam products in response to a request from the Sustainability Task Force.

The task force asked Sodexho, which manages the University’s food services, to replace Styrofoam with more sustainable materials that are not as environmentally compromising.

Sodexho will use products produced from leftover manufacturing materials, such as paper scraps, in University dining facilities.

The change will mean a small increase in the price of certain items, because the non-Styrofoam packaging has a higher per-unit price.

Customers may be able to recoup some of this small price increase when Sodexho introduces a discount program for those who use reusable mugs or water bottles to purchase beverages.

Counseling Center Cites “Samaritans”
One individual and two teams were selected to receive this year’s Samaritan Awards.

These awards, part of the University Counseling Center’s Action for Depression Awareness, Prevention, and Treatment (ADAPT) program, are presented each year to individuals or groups that propose projects, events and activities addressing issues related to depression prevention or treatment.

President David J. Sargent presented awards of up to $1,000 to the winners so they can translate their ideas into action during the spring 2008 semester.

Samaritan Awards recipients
• “Raising Awareness and Taking Action: The Impact of Racism on Mental Health” was developed by students Taking Action Against Racism (STAAR), a group founded by fourth-year clinical psychology doctorate students Shana Dangelo, Meredith Klump and Lauren Mizock. The project seeks to educate the University community on the relationship of racism, discrimination and mental health, especially depression. The group will sponsor speakers and workshops to address issues of racism as well as focus on how taking a stand on discrimination impacts emotional health.
• Visiting Assistant Professor of Communication and Journalism Chris Clemens will work with students in his Media Production course to produce a DVD about depression and create a plan to distribute it throughout the campus.
• The “Heightened Awareness” project was developed by Assistant Professor of Sociology Erika Gebo and undergraduate sociology majors Chantelle Hashem, Marisa Melo and Shawna Ortega. They will conduct a survey of undergraduate students to measure students’ perceptions of depression and the existing University support system.
• A Samaritan Award Recognition certificate was presented to undergraduate student Linh Tran for the “Free Hugs” project. She will put together a Free Hugs Team to be stationed around the campus on a designated day with the goal of giving out 100 hugs. Hugging can help relieve stress and depression.

The ADAPT program is co-directed by Lynda Field and Paul Korn of the Counseling Center.

Emergency Response System Gives Heads Up on Snow Closing
The University’s emergency response system was put to its first test on Thursday, Dec. 13, when the University closed at 12:30 p.m. due to a snowstorm.

Employees and students who had signed up for the service received notice of the early closing by telephone, cell phone, text message and/or e-mail in the late morning.

“We had a 95 percent success rate for delivery to staff and students who had signed up, which is really good for the first time,” said Risk Manager Karen (Schwartz) Kruppa.

“We want to encourage employees who haven’t taken advantage of this service to sign up through Human Resources.”

An “Employee Change of Address/Contact Info” form is posted on the Human Resources page of the University’s Web site.

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President Sargent congratulates Linh Tran.

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Walter Caffey, Enrollment and Retention Management, was named associate vice president.

Robert DeFillippi, Management and Center for Innovation and Change Leadership, headed a panel of innovation scholars in a session on “Exploring the Dark Side of Creativity and Innovation” at the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP) conference, “Enabling Innovation in Organizations: The Leading Edge,” in Kansas City, Kan.

Megan Daley and Michael Duggan, Enrollment Research and Planning, presented a session on “How to do Web-based surveys” at the 2007 NEACRAO conference in Waterbury, Conn. Duggan also presented a session on “What’s New in IPEDS.”

History Department Updates: Robert Allison was re-elected vice president of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts. At the quarterly meeting of the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, he discussed his book, The Boston Massacre.

The New England School of Art & Design’s Interior Design department held its first alumni reception at the Seaport World Trade Center. The event coincided with Build Boston, the convention and trade show for design, building and management professionals. Waiting to board a trolley for the ride back to NESAD are students Rachell Aguiar, Odette Maine and Erica Leahy; Interior Design Program Co-Directors Nancy Hackett and Karen Clarke; and Lyuba Sardanova, a newly accepted Interior Design graduate student.

Robert Bellinger, Stephen O’Neill, Pat Reeve, Chris Rodriguez and Yong Xue represented the department at the 2007 Boston History and Innovation Awards dinner at the Intercontinental Hotel in Boston. They were joined by Julie Schniewind of Executive Education/Lifelong Learning and undergraduate students Tracie Recchino, Ethan Silvers, Rachel Plukas, Mike Nash and Sirena Espiritu. Matteo Casini presented “The ‘Majesty’ of Power in Seventeenth Century Italy: Ritual, Representation, Art” at The Center of 17th and 18th Century Studies at UCLA. He also spoke on “‘The City is the Queen…’: The Republic of Venice and Her Empire” as part of the History Department’s monthly lecture series.

Stephen O’Neill treated his History of Piracy class to authentic pirate food from the 17th and 18th centuries. When the class met two days before Thanksgiving, the students feasted on traditional ship’s biscuits, pea porridge and salmagundi, a spiced dish popular in pirate accounts. O’Neill and Ryan McGracle of No. 9 Park restaurant used original records and period recipes to create the menu.


Gordon King, Facilities Planning and Management, was elected chairman of the Marblehead Smart Growth Advisory Committee and also was appointed to the Marblehead Fair Housing Committee. Lydia Martin, New England School of Art & Design, visited with renowned illustrator Barry Moser at his studio and home in South Hatfield, where he demonstrated his methods of printmaking in wood engraving and his techniques in watercolor painting.

Quentin Miller, English, chaired a panel, “On the Road at 50,” at the Jack Kerouac Conference in Lowell. At the American Studies Association Convention in Philadelphia, he chaired a panel entitled “Walnut Street and Beyond: The History and Legacy of Pennsylvania Prisons.”

Marjorie Attignol Salvodon, Humanities and Modern Languages, spoke at Swarthmore College on “Between the Lines: Reading and Translating French Multicultural Fiction.”

Da Zheng, English, presented a paper, “Chinese Calligraphy and Asian Art in the West,” at the New York Conference on Asian Studies. He organized a symposium on Chiang Yee at the China Institute in New York, where he spoke about Chiang Yee’s art works.

Faculty Publications


Steve Novick, New England School of Art & Design, had a solo exhibition of his art work at the OHT Gallery in Boston’s South End.

Marjorie Attignol Salvodon, Humanities and Modern Languages, had an article, “The Mysteries of Belonging in The Autobiography of my Mother” by Jamaica Kincaid, published in the September 2007 issue of The International Journal of the Humanities. Her co-translation project, Tomboy, was published by the University of Nebraska Press in October 2007 as part of its European Women Writers Series.
Children’s Theater Troupe Takes Center Stage

There is a new show in town, and it is already receiving rave reviews.

The Suffolk University Children’s Theater Troupe—or Ready, Set, Act!—gave its premier performance last month at the Suffolk Family Holiday Celebration. The student actors wowed the crowd with an interactive interpretation of Aladdin.

“There were children of all ages in the audience, and the expressions on their faces were priceless,” said April Duquette, a junior majoring in theater education who is president of Ready, Set, Act! “Some of them were even holding hands with cast members and asking them questions on their way down to the gymnasium for the holiday party. A lot of parents came up to me afterwards to say how much their children really enjoyed our show.”

For Duquette, 20, who has been singing, dancing and acting since she was 7 years old, spearheading this new venture is a dream come true. “Two of my favorite things in the world are children and theater,” she exclaimed. “There is nothing better than putting both of your passions together as one.”

Ready, Set, Act! is in its first year, although at one time the Performing Arts Office produced a children’s show each year. The new troupe will perform throughout the year.

“The Performing Arts Office is very excited about the return of children’s theater,” said Performing Arts Director Kristin Baker. “We think this student-run performing group will provide meaningful student leadership opportunities in the arts and be a great benefit to the community. Plus, their shows are a lot of fun!”

The traveling troupe will work with both the Performing Arts Office and Suffolk’s Organization for Uplifting Lives through Service (S.O.U.L.S.) in scheduling shows in various communities, according to Duquette. The group is currently working on a student-written piece targeting high school audiences.

“We have fifteen to twenty students involved in the theater troupe, and while it’s a challenging job, we all share the work and receive great support from the Performing Arts Office,” said Duquette. “We have many creative and energetic people in the group who enjoy what we’re doing.”

Aladdin cast members Nat Steinsaltz, Jane Holmes and Heather Maloney play to an appreciative crowd at the holiday party. (Photos by John Gillooly)

Paine Scholarship Exhibit

The 2007 Stephen D. Paine Scholarship Award Winners and Honorable Mentions Exhibition, organized in conjunction with the Boston Art Dealers Association, will be at the New England School of Art & Design Jan. 14–Feb. 9, 2008. A reception will be held Friday, Jan. 18.

The Paine Scholarship is awarded annually to art school seniors and students in BFA programs in the Greater Boston area.

James Manning, interim gallery director at the New England School of Art & Design, is the exhibit curator. This is the third year that the Paine Scholarship Exhibit will be at the New England School of Art & Design gallery.

Public Affairs to Manage Info E-mail

The Office of Public Affairs has assumed responsibility for the Suffolk Information e-mail. As of January 1, 2008, Karen DeCilio and Nancy Kelleher are managing the listing of events and announcements that is sent to faculty and staff on the 15th and 30th of each month. Please direct all submissions to them at infomail@suffolk.edu. Public Affairs will forward the event listing information to Human Resources for posting on the faculty/staff calendar of the University portal, Campus Cruiser. The specifics for sending information through the Suffolk Information e-mail are available at http://www.suffolk.edu/offices/13672.html. Please read these directions carefully, as this is how most University-wide e-mail is distributed.

Gallery Presents

A Memory of Humanity

The Adams Gallery will present A Memory of Humanity: From Solferino to Guantanamo—145 Years of Red Cross Photography, a traveling exhibit from the International Red Cross, from Feb. 1 through March 31, 2008.

This powerful exhibit of photography from across the world illustrates how compassion and humanitarian aid can mitigate the horrors of armed conflict. A Memory of Humanity consists of more than 80 photographs from the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Museum in Geneva and offers a view of International Humanitarian Law from its beginnings in 1859 to the present.

Among the photographs are images from the devastating 1859 Battle of Solferino, the Spanish-American War, both World Wars, the Holocaust, the Spanish Civil War, the Boer Wars, the civil wars in Sierra Leone and Angola, the Arab-Israeli Conflict and the Biafran Civil War in southern Nigeria.

The University community is invited to a reception to be held from 5–7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31.