Reaching Out to the University Community

When Erin Evans considers the University’s mission of offering access to education, with an emphasis on diversity, she looks at it from a different perspective than most people on campus.

“The definition of access to education is changing, and the types of students arriving on our campuses are changing as well,” said Evans, who works with Law School Dean of Students Laura Ferrari on student life, enrollment and disability compliance issues.

“Today universities welcome many students—and faculty and staff—with a huge range of chronic health impairments, mental health and attentional issues, learning disabilities and medical conditions. Ensuring physical, information and programmatic access for those with disabilities impacts retention efforts and benefits everyone.”

For example, podcasts are a wonderful educational innovation, but it may be necessary to offer a transcript so that they are accessible to English Language learners, the deaf and hard of hearing. Curb cuts, elevators and automatic doors are great, not only for those using wheelchairs, but also for people carrying heavy items into a building or pushing strollers.

“Many simple, cost-effective solutions already exist to broaden access under the umbrella of our institutional mission of access,” said Evans.

In an effort to raise disability awareness for the entire University community, Evans has offered sessions on attention deficit disorder (ADD), understanding learning disabilities, and disability access to technology. The sessions drew many faculty and staff from across campus, as well as guests from local universities and law schools.

Continued on page 6

TV Studio Lights Up Tremont St.

The storefront windows at 73 Tremont St. have come alive with the opening of the Communication and Journalism Department’s new high-definition television studio.

The studio, which will be the setting for television production and broadcast journalism classes, features streaming video at the base of the window panels and an outward-facing television screen.

Passers-by see campus images and the University logo on the continuous screens running along the entire storefront, and they can watch the operation of the TV studio through the windows along Tremont Street.

“The University is acutely aware of the importance of an active street life that promotes pedestrian traffic,” said Vice President for External Affairs John Nucci.

The 660-square-foot studio is equipped with three high-definition digital cameras, a full lighting grid and a state-of-the-art control room.

“Our new television studio will enable our students to receive state-of-the-art instruction in television studio production,” said Associate Professor Robert Rosenthal, chair of Communication and Journalism. “It also provides an exciting venue for our ‘Temple Street’ television program, and we plan to produce Suffolk University newscasts and a sports show.”

“Temple Street,” which is broadcast on Boston Cable Access (BNN), produces features on Suffolk University and the Boston community, focusing on Beacon Hill and downtown.

The studio also will be used to conduct broadcast television interviews with local business, political, sports and cultural leaders. ✩

Vice President John Nucci, lab instructor Jason Carter, Dean Kenneth Greenberg and Communication and Journalism Chair Robert Rosenthal cut the ribbon for the new television production studio. (Photo by John Gillooly)
The University is participating in the national recycling and waste reduction competition for colleges and universities known as “RecycleMania” for the second year in a row. The competition started the last week of January and runs for 10 weeks. Suffolk is seeking to outdo last year’s performance and can fulfill its goals with your help!

In 2007, the University ranked in the top 30 percent for paper recycled among colleges participating in RecycleMania, and this year we aim to land in the top 20 percent. The Sustainability task force also aims to improve its cardboard recycling ranking, from the top 95 percent in 2007 to the top 75 percent, and to double the percent of the waste stream we recycle during the competition, from 16 percent in 2007 to 33 percent in 2008.

Over the past two years, Suffolk has improved its practices, increasing its recycling from just 4 percent of its total waste stream to 25 percent. With heightened awareness about recycling and extra attention to waste reduction, we will be able to continue improving so that we are throwing away less and less and recycling more of our waste.

The main goal of RecycleMania is to increase awareness of campus recycling and waste minimization. All participating schools are required to report measurements on a weekly basis in pounds. RecycleMania provides many ways to gain recognition, including RecycleMania trophies, awards and participant certificates.

RecycleMania is supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s WasteWise program and the National Recycling Coalition and is coordinated as a project of the coalition’s College and University Recycling Council.

Faculty, staff, students and visitors can help the University surpass its previous performance and reduce its environmental impact by taking advantage of the campus’ extensive and convenient recycling program and by reducing waste.

Choosing reusable items over disposables is one way to reduce waste. Through a partnership with Sodexo, Suffolk’s new Mug Club provides customers with 15 cents off their beverage purchases when using a reusable travel mug. This is just one of many steps the University has taken, with the help of the Sustainability Task Force, to encourage environmentally friendly behavior. In addition, workshops continue to be available to any classes or departments interested in exploring ways to reduce environmental impact.

There are many opportunities for the Suffolk community to get involved in helping make our institution greener. To get involved or share ideas, please email recycle@suffolk.edu.

Erica Mattison
Special Projects Coordinator
for Campus Sustainability

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When Vicki Karns first saw the play, The Exonerated—which tells the stories of people wrongfully convicted of capital crimes—she was deeply touched.

“The play was so powerful in its simplicity, and then several exonerated people took the stage and talked about their own experiences,” said Karns, an associate professor of Communication & Journalism. “When you listened—you realized it really could happen to anybody. These people were innocent, and they trusted the system. It was just so heartbreaking.”

In the summer of 2000, authors Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen conducted interviews with 60 people, ranging widely in age, ethnicity and religious and educational backgrounds. The only thing they had in common was that they had been found guilty of a capital crime and had spent time—from two to 22 years—on death row awaiting execution. All were subsequently shown to be innocent and were freed.

From these interviews, Blank and Jensen created The Exonerated. When Performing Arts Office Director Kristin Baker announced last year that she was going to produce The Exonerated as part of the Pioneer Performance Series, Karns immediately called and asked if she could be involved in the show. She was cast as Sunny Jacobs.

Jacobs was imprisoned from 1976 until 1992. Her husband was executed for a crime he didn’t commit, and her parents were killed while she was in prison. Her children grew up without a family—and she was innocent.

“I have such respect for Sunny Jacobs,” said Karns. “Her compassion, her faith and her unfailing spirit are so inspirational.”

Last month, Karns and a cast from within the Suffolk community, performed The Exonerated before captivated audiences at the C. Walsh Theatre.

English Department Office Manager Jeremy Solomons played Gary, another one of the exonerated people. John Hames, a staff member in the Center for International Education, and Suffolk Law Professor Andrew Perlman also showcased their skills in the play.

“By our last night on stage, we all seemed comfortable talking about the injustices of the justice system, race and the death penalty, in front of a crowd,” said Solomons, who acted professionally in his native England and comes from a long line of entertainers. “We had moved from shock—the feeling most of us had at the read-through that these cases could even exist—to an understanding of how human beings survive and come through these most dreadful experiences.”

The cast included students Sharif Butler, Gustave Cadet, Katuiska Cruz, Clarence Flanders, Samantha Hartlen, Tony Hui, Brittany Jasilli, Brian Lefort, Brian Martineau and Alexandra Taylor.

Baker directed the production, and Performing Arts Office Assistant Director Kathy Maloney and Coordinator Ben Janey were part of the crew, along with students Jen Gibson, Mike Hayes, Heather Luciani and Lori Niquette. Suffolk Law Professor Michael Avery and Sociology Professor Steven Spitzer participated on the post-show discussion panel.

“Suffolk was exactly the right place to host this production because it’s at the intersection of arts, politics, law and society,” said Baker. “We have been impressed by all the various people from different corners of the University who have been engaged in this process. We hope this production sparked discussion throughout the Suffolk community.”

Job Shadow Day at the Beacon Hill Institute

The Beacon Hill Institute participates in the annual Job Shadow Day sponsored by the Boston Private Industry Council and the Boston Public Schools to provide an opportunity for high school students who are considering career choices to learn about professional life.

“Seventeen students have visited BHI as Job Shadows since our first year of participation in 1999,” said Frank Conte, director of communications and information systems for BHI.

This year, Hieu Thong, a junior from Tech Boston Academy, shadowed Conte for the day and also helped update the institute’s media databases.

“Very few things are more satisfying than helping a student learn about the virtues of professional life,” said Conte. “Moreover, as a public policy organization located in the heart of the city and one often concerned with urban economic issues, the institute is pleased to host students from the Boston public schools. Job Shadow Day is also a chance to showcase the academic offerings here at Suffolk University.”

Tech Boston student Hieu Thong and Frank Conte.
Potpourri

Robert Allison. History, has edited excerpts from eight Massacre Orations, given in the 1770s by Joseph Warren, John Hancock and other patriots and in the 1850s by abolitionists William C. Nell and John S. Rock. Old South Meeting House and the Bostonian Society recreated a Boston tradition, the annual Boston Massacre Oration, with eight students from Boston Latin who presented the orations on March 5 at Old South.

Allison offered introductions and commentary. His Short History of Boston was selected by Boston Cares for its “Brews and Books” book group, and he was invited to join the group for its discussion of Boston history. He also discussed the origins of the U.S. Constitution at the annual meeting of Pennsylvania’s chapter of the Society of Colonial Wars in March.

Elif Armbruster, English, was appointed to a two-year term as treasurer of the New England American Studies Association (NEASA). At the NEASA convention at Brown University, she chaired a panel entitled “The Promise of Discipline: Theory’s Contract with Feminism.”


John Berg, Government, was interviewed on several radio programs: WGNU in St. Louis, Mo., with Liz Brown of “The Wake-Up Call” and on “The Morning Show,” KPOJ in Portland, Ore.

Stephen Callahan, Law School, was recognized as a Humanitarian Ambassador by the Fundación Ritmo Guanaco for his service and dedication to the Chelsea community.

Counseling Center: This year, the Center received applications from 132 intern candidates, the largest in its history. At the end of the 2008–2009 training year, the Center will complete its 12th year as an approved training site by the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). It has offered 31 years of pre-doctoral training to interns from 32 doctoral programs in 21 states and Canada. The accepted interns are: Matthew Kaler, University of Minnesota; Enedelia Saucedo, Oklahoma State University; and Lynn Saladino, Nova Southeastern (Florida) University.

Valerie Epps, Law School, is teaching International Law and Human Rights at Hongik University College of Law in Seoul, South Korea, for the 2008 spring semester. She will return to the Law School for the fall semester.

Erin Evans, Law School, received a professional achievement award from the Association of Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD). She also participated on a higher education panel at Build Boston 2007.


Lukumi Rumumba-Kasongo, Government, presented “Toward a Critical Understanding of the Practices and Values of Liberal Democracy in Africa with a Particular Attention to the Third or Fourth Term Presidential Phenomenon” at the Research Committee on “Socialism, Capitalism and Democracy,” hosted by the International Political Science Association and the American Graduate School of International Relations and Diplomacy in Paris.

Celeste Kostopulos-Cooperman, Humanities and Modern Languages, presented a paper “Cruzando fronteras: Marjorie Agosín y el discurso de la justicia” at the Latin American Jewish Studies Association conference in Buenos Aires. She also gave a presentation and reading, “The Disappeared and Murdered Young Women and Girls of Ciudad Juárez,” at Eastern Washington University.

Micky Lee, Communication and Journalism, will present the paper “Constructed global space, constructed citizenship” at the International Communication Association meeting in Montreal.

Lydia Martin, New England School of Art & Design, is on sabbatical for the 2008 spring semester. She is working on a series of 15 oil paintings, Loteria, named for a Mexican children’s card game whose images inspired her to paint this series.

Thomas McGrath, Humanities and Modern Languages, presented a paper, “Drawing and the Disegno/Colore Debate in Renaissance Italy,” at the annual conference of the College Art Association in Dallas in February.

Chris Rodriguez, History. As one of the University’s Service Learning Faculty Fellows for 2007–2008, he will build on his recent experience in El Salvador to assist other faculty in including a service learning component in their courses. In March, in conjunction with Primary Source, he conducted a curriculum development workshop on Mexican History and Geography for Shrewsbury fourth-grade teachers. Rodriguez also attended the Student Conference on Service, Advocacy and Social Action (IMPACT) at Northeastern University, March 7–9.


Celeste Kostopulos-Cooperman, Humanities and Modern Languages. Her translation of Marjorie Agosin's essay “Always Living in Spanish” was published in the college textbook, Language of Composition: Reading, Writing, Rhetoric.


Audrey Goldstein, New England School of Art & Design, participated in “Material Drawing,” an exhibition of drawings by four sculptors at GAS Gallery in Brookline. The exhibit will travel to the Danforth Museum in the spring of 2009.

Marilyn Jurich, English, published Defying The Eye Chart, a volume of her poems.

Daniel M. Kimmel, Communication and Journalism, has published an essay, “The Batman We Deserve,” in the new critical anthology Batman Unauthorized, part of the “Smart Pop” series of books featuring serious essays on and analysis of various pop culture phenomenon.

Susan Nichter, New England School of Art & Design, had an exhibit at the Amsterdam Whitney Gallery in Chelsea, N.Y., that included some of the works from her one-person show, “Never Been Seen.” She also participated in the MacDowell Colony Centennial Exhibition, “Time and Space,” at the FPAC Gallery in Boston.

Da Zheng, English, presented a paper, “A Bilingual Bridge: Sampan and the Community Newspaper,” at The Forum on Overseas Chinese in Shanghai in December. He was a member of the Chinese American Studies Scholar Group that visited cities in southern China and had academic exchanges with local scholars. Zheng also gave a talk on Chinese Americans and mass media at a meeting organized by the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council in Beijing.

Information Modeling in the Interior Design Curriculum

Bob Topitzer, Sociology, presented a paper, “Knowledge of the West: The Effects of the Media on Siberian Children,” at the fourth annual conference of Technology, Knowledge, and Society held at Northeastern University. The paper reported on part of his experiences and research while visiting a former closed city of the FSU, Zelenogorsk, Russia. Topitzer reports that he and his wife Peg became the grandparents of twins, a boy and a girl, born to their second-oldest child, Jonathan.

Ana Vaquerano, Law School Clinical Programs, received a certificate of appreciation from Latinos Unidos de Massachusetts for her support and work on behalf of immigration rights.

David Yamada, Law School, was elected to the Board of the Labor & Employment Law Section of the Labor and Employment Relations Association, a multidisciplinary educational organization for scholars and practitioners in employment relations. He moderated a panel discussion, “The Employment and Labor Law Professor as Public Intellectual: Sharing Our Work with the World,” at the annual meeting of the Association of American Law Schools in New York City. In the February 2008 issue of the ABA Journal, the monthly magazine of the American Bar Association, Yamada’s legislative advocacy on workplace bullying was highlighted in an article “No Putting Up with Putdowns.”

Da Zheng, English, presented a paper, “A Bilingual Bridge: Sampan and the Community Newspaper,” at The Forum on Overseas Chinese in Shanghai in December. He was a member of the Chinese American Studies Scholar Group that visited cities in southern China and had academic exchanges with local scholars. Zheng also gave a talk on Chinese Americans and mass media at a meeting organized by the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council in Beijing.

Please welcome our newest employees

Wilma Arguinzoni, Office of the President
Gregory Freed, Ballotti Learning Center
Sean Kelley, Advancement
Jeffrey Lane, Registrar’s Office—Colleges
Kyle MacQueen, Marketing
Sarah Nashat, Sawyer Library
Raquel Sousa, Law Admissions
Margaret Talmers, Law Career Development
Lynette Yeomans, Financial Aid—Colleges
Jim Wallace, Facilities Planning and Management

Joining the University Police are:
RuQayya Abdul-Baseer
Antonio Alves
Ashley Cormican
Chaz Mungalsingh
Vladimir Romero
Robert Schneider
Jameson Yee
The Americans with Disabilities Act requires institutions to address legal requirements related to information exchange, physical access and program entry. It impacts every aspect of the institution, from facilities to admissions, residence life to counseling. It protects students, faculty, staff, alumni and guests. Therefore it is important that all key players work together to develop a process to remain in front of the issues, according to Evans.

“I’ve been very pleased with the response from Law School faculty and administration around disability access issues. Once they recognize an issue, they’re eager to put the steps in place to facilitate an optimal learning experience.”

Need for services escalating
Asperger’s Syndrome, mental health issues, chronic medical conditions and technology access to curricular materials are hot topics, said Evans. Another trend is a huge increase in the number of students requesting their textbooks and course materials in a digital format. Online courses and multimedia, whether in the classroom or on the Web, also pose accessibility challenges.

Educational research and Census Bureau statistics show that the number of people with disabilities continues to grow at a seismic pace. A school as large as Suffolk University should expect about 10 percent of its students to require services, said Evans.

Evans came to the Law School with extensive experience in disability issues, serving in regional and national leadership roles for the Resource Partnership, NASPA (National Association of Student Personnel Administrators) Region I, and Association for Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD). She founded the Disability Leadership Consortium in 2003 and has offered 45 workshops for leaders in higher education.

“It’s clear to me that the Law School and the Dean’s Office care about students, and it’s a good environment to work in,” she said. “I’m pleased to have the opportunity to make an impact on disability matters quickly, while also broadening my scope to work with faculty and staff on everyday student matters.”

Walk to the Hill for Civil Legal Aid

Members of the Law School community joined the Feb. 28 Walk to the Hill for Civil Legal Aid. Hundreds of lawyers and bar leaders visit the State House annually to speak with their legislators about the critical need for legal services for the indigent and to advocate for funding. Among the Law School contingent were, front, students Ashley Stolba and Kate Borgondy and alumna Michelle Harper, director of public interest and pro bono programs; back, student Thomas Beauvais, alumna and Foley Hoag associate Lynn Zuchowski, alumna and Medical-Legal Partnership for Children staff attorney Jennifer Stam, alumna and WilmerHale associate Miranda Hooker, and student Joanne Golden. Not in the photo are Clinical Professor Christopher Dearborn and Isabel Raskin, education attorney with Juvenile Justice Center, who also participated.

Suffolk In the News

The University is frequently featured in local and national media. The following is a sampling of recent media mentions. To view the complete list, go to www.suffolk.edu and click on In the News.

Sentinel and Enterprise.com—Feb. 28, 2008
Law Professor Kate Day comments on proposed legislation in Massachusetts to make rape committed through deceit or fraud punishable with imprisonment up to life.

Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly—Feb. 25, 2008
Law Professor Mark Perlin comments on recent decision of the Superior Court’s Business Litigation Session in regards to Massachusetts’ plaintiffs-friendly stance toward motions to dismiss.

“A fair role for fathers” Law Professor Charles Kindregan argues that a presumption of joint legal and physical custody could handcuff judges.

Boston Herald—Feb. 21, 2008
“NECN looks to broadcast from new Suffolk studio”
Nesad Gallery Features Student Artists

The gallery at the New England School of Art & Design is showcasing student work through the end of the academic year.

The changing exhibits, focusing on various program areas, are as follows:

Foundation Student Exhibition
March, 25–April 4
Reception: 5–7 p.m. Thursday, March 27

Graphic Design Undergraduate Exhibition
April 7–18
Reception: 5–7 p.m. Friday, April 11

Fine Arts Undergraduate Exhibition
April 22–May 2
Reception: 5–7 p.m. Friday, April 25

Interior Design Undergraduate and Master’s Exhibition
May 5–19,
Reception: 5–7 p.m. Friday, May 9

The gallery is on the second floor at 75 Arlington St.

Adams Gallery
A Memory of Humanity: From Solferino to Guantanamo—145 Years of Red Cross Photography continues at the Adams Gallery through March 31.

In April, the gallery will begin a three-month showing of A Changing World: New England in the Photographs of Verner Reed, 1950–1972.

This retrospective is drawn from materials donated to Historic New England by photojournalist Verner Reed, who covered New England for Life magazine, and his wife, Deborah.

Former Minister of Education to Lead Suffolk-Dakar Campus

André Sonko, former Minister of Education in Senegal, is the new managing director of the University’s Dakar campus.

Sonko has served as a special consultant on higher education to the Senegalese president; director of Senegal’s Office of Government Studies; chief of staff for the prime minister; Minister of Labor, Employment and Public Affairs; and Minister of Internal Affairs.

“Sonko has been an indispensable resource and ally as the University established the first and only full-service American campus in West Africa,” said President David J. Sargent. “His unwavering commitment to education will be a great benefit to the students, faculty and staff in Dakar and an inspiration to everyone within the University community.”

Sonko is president of the S.O.S.—Sahel Senegal and a member of Caritas Senegal and the orientation council of the Aspen Institute of France. He is a knight in the Order of Merit of Senegal, a knight of the Malta Order, an officer of the Legion of Honor, commander of Academic Palms of France and Senegal, and commander of the National Order of Korea.

He holds a master of science degree with distinction in economics from the University of Dakar in Senegal and a master of business administration degree from the University of California, Los Angeles. Suffolk University awarded him an honorary doctor of humane letters degree in 2001.

Ford Hall Forum in Partnership with College

Ford Hall Forum has established a partnership with the College of Arts & Sciences, and the lecture series’ administrative offices have taken up residence in the John E. Fenton Building.

Jimmy Wales, founder of Wikipedia, is scheduled to kick off the Forum’s fall 2008 season in the C. Walsh Theater next September. Also appearing at future events on campus will be Gary Hershberg, CEO of Stonyfield Farms and author of Stirring It Up: How to Make Money and Save the World, and Gwen Ifill, host of PBS’ Washington Week in Review.

The original Ford Hall once stood just a block away from the Fenton Building, and the nation’s oldest free public lecture series began there in 1908 as a series of Sunday-evening public meetings hosted by prominent Boston businessman George W. Coleman.

Coleman’s unique format, which provided equal time to speakers’ remarks and questions from the audience, gave any interested citizen the opportunity to debate issues with some of the most influential figures of the day. According to Coleman’s vision, the lecture series would enable the “full, free and open discussion of all vital questions affecting human welfare.”

The Forum has gone on to host discussions with the most intriguing figures in our nation’s modern history, including Maya Angelou, Louis Brandeis, W.E.B. DuBois, Al Gore, Garrison Keillor, the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Henry Kissinger, Ayn Rand, Eleanor Roosevelt, Cokie Roberts and Malcolm X.

The University is providing the Forum with the opportunity to “come home,” not only to Beacon Hill, but also into an academic environment that shares a similar spirit and history of public education and civic dialogue.

“Both organizations were born in the progressive era, and both have a commitment to free speech and interactive learning,” said Dean Kenneth Greenberg.

“We are eager for our community to engage in the excitement of live, public discourse that is the heart of the Ford Hall Forum events.”

March 2008
New Records System Eliminates Paper Waste

The reams of paper once required to track a student from the application stage through admission, financial aid, registration and beyond have been all but eliminated by ImageNow, a document-management system now in use at the University.

The product stores documents as images so that they can be accessed by multiple users throughout the University, according to Senior Programmer/Analyst Darlene Poplawski.

“We can literally call an applicant or student up in Colleague while ImageNow is open, click on an icon, and anything that’s been scanned for that person—including applications, transcripts, e-mails and recommendation letters—will be available for viewing,” said Poplawski.

Documents also can be viewed through ImageNow alone using an applicant/student ID or name. The documents may be viewed on campus or from a remote location through the Web.

The College Financial Aid, College Registrar, Graduate Admission and Undergraduate Admission offices are using ImageNow to scan and link documents to applicants/students, and other offices across campus are able to access these materials. The Law School Admission Office, Registrar and Financial Aid Office will implement ImageNow this coming summer.

Documents enter the system through scanners, from Word documents, PDFs, spreadsheets and e-mails using the ImageNow Printer or when sent to a particular fax number.

“The admission offices used to have to pass along all of the admitted applicant folders to the Registrar’s office—literally walk boxes of file folders over,” said Poplawski. “Paper copies of everything would have to be stored. And paper copies of applicant files would be made for everyone reviewing them.”

Now the images are accessed electronically.

“We’ll be saving money on paper and file storage costs, people will be able to access files more quickly and conveniently, and the biggest advantage by far will be that we’ll be helping the environment by going pretty much paperless,” said Poplawski.

Reaccreditation of Interior Design Under Way

The New England School of Art & Design is in the midst of reaccreditation for its BFA and MA programs in interior design.

Both programs seek reaccreditation as Professional Level Programs.

Nancy Hackett has completed a program analysis report, which will be reviewed by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation, formerly FIDER. She and Karen Clarke, co-directors of the interior design program, are coordinating the site visit to take place March 28 through April 1.

In Memoriam

Ilse Fang, retired professor of Humanities and Modern Languages