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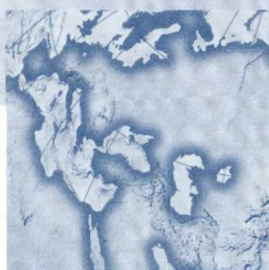
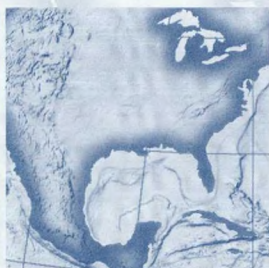
The

International *observer*

Suffolk University's Newsletter for International Alumni

Issue III

Fall 2003



Dear Fellow Alumni and Friends:

Welcome to the third issue of the *International Observer*. The mission of the International Alumni Relations Office is to be a viable resource for international alumni, international students, faculty, administrators, and friends of Suffolk University. I trust you will find this newsletter both informative and interesting.

More than 1,000 international alumni live abroad, and 600 international alumni live in the United States. The International Alumni Relations Office oversees the Country Ambassador Program as well as two newly created programs, the International Mentor/Mentee Program and the International Alumni Board of Boston (IAB).

The Country Ambassador Program was developed in May 2001 and consists of alumni, enrolled students, and parents who are interested in assisting Suffolk with international recruitment. The dedication of this group is truly inspirational.

The International Mentor/Mentee Program is designed to assist new international students in achieving their personal and academic goals with the support of more experienced students. Mentors assist mentees with adapting to university life and life in Boston.

We are proud of the newly established IAB. The eight board members, in partnership with the International Alumni Relations Office, are responsible for creating and implementing a series of programs that will further connect international alumni to Suffolk University.

Please contact me if you would like more information about any of the above programs. Please send any information you would like to share in upcoming newsletters. This is a wonderful way for all of us to stay connected.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dorothy A. Zahir".

Dorothy A. Zahir

Director of International Alumni Relations

International Alumni Relations News

Suffolk Students and Alumni Participate in International Student Career Networking Program

The Center for International Education hosted three Career Networking events in 2002 and 2003, each of which drew more than 50 participants from 46 countries.

The October 29, 2002 event, "How to Approach the Job Market and Learn Various Networking Techniques," was hosted in collaboration with the Office of Career Services and Cooperative Education in the CMD conference room. The Director of Career Services presented on the obstacles international students face when approaching the job market. The Office of Immigration Services also participated in the program by presenting general information on Optional Practical Training.

The final portion of the evening consisted of a panel comprised of international and American alumni who work in the Boston area. Special thanks to Lenka Benova, BSBA '02; Gloria Boone, Professor of Communications & Journalism; Mark DiFraia, BSBA '97; Brian Howland, EMBA '99; Elaine O'Sullivan, MPA '97; and Quazi Zahir, BSBA '97 for their participation.

On April 11, 2003 in the Law School function room, the Center for International Education hosted a second International Alumni/Student Networking Opportunity, "How to Brand Yourself." John Sugden, BSBA '81 and EMBA '85, spoke on how to approach the job market. Sugden, principal and founder of the Career Strategies Institute, told the audience to think of "themselves as a company with a vision," and he stated that students must first identify exactly what they want to do in their careers and then develop a strategic plan.

The most recent event, held on October 3, 2003 in the Law School function room, was an opportunity for international alumni to mix with international students. Students had the opportunity to meet with representatives from Career Services and International Student Advising. Topics discussed ranged from the importance of networking, to the upcoming ski trip, to plans for future events.

International Alumni Board Holds Its First Meeting

The newly formed International Alumni Board (IAB) met for the first time on September 18, 2003 to discuss the successes and challenges of the various events and programs at Suffolk that involve international alumni. The topics included the two International Alumni/Student Career Networking events, the winter ski trip, the Country Ambassador Program, the Mentor Program, and the International Alumni Web pages.

The eight IAB members are Arjun C. Rao, MBA '03 from India; Rudy Rudy, BS '02 from Indonesia; Joy (Pin-Hsuan) Liu, IMC '03 from Taiwan; Wen-Chi Chueh, MBA/GDPA '03 from Taiwan; Melike Bardakci, MBA '02 from Turkey; Donna (Huong) Ngo, BSBA '01 from Vietnam; Zhang Chen, BSBA '01 from China; and Li Xi, BSBA '01 and MBA '03 from China.



Country Ambassador Program Activities 2002-2003

The Country Ambassador Program continued to expand in 2002-2003.

- In 2003, there were 136 Ambassadors from 49 countries, a 74 percent increase over 2002.
- In spring 2003, Country Ambassadors telephoned admitted students to welcome them to Suffolk University.
- Indian students hosted a chat room connecting currently enrolled students with incoming Indian students.



Suffolk Welcomes Largest-Ever Freshman Class

As the 2003-2004 school year gets underway, Suffolk University welcomes the largest freshman class in its history, a class of more than 900 students distinguished by its academic achievement and diversity.

New freshmen **927** New transfers **303**

New, undergraduate international students **132** Graduate **91**

Foreign countries represented for new undergraduate students **67**

States represented for new undergraduate students **21**

Gender breakdown for new undergraduate students Male **41%** Female **59%**

Ethnic breakdown for new undergraduate students

White 65%	Unknown 11%
International 9%	Asian/Pacific Islander 7%
Hispanic 4%	Black 3%
American Indian 0.3%	

Suffolk's Center for International Education Hosts Meeting of Japanese Students and Alumni

Twenty Japanese students and alumni gathered in the student lounge of 20 Beacon Street on September 12, 2003 for a lively dinner meeting, which was coordinated by Kazuo Sakiyam, an MBA student. The event, now in its second year, included 17 current students and three alumni living in Boston. This year's goals were to welcome the nine new Japanese students to Boston, to discuss the creation of a formal Japanese Association, and to encourage a strong alumni network after graduation.



Suffolk's International Mentor Program Is Underway

Adapting to campus life, coping with the demands of classes, and developing better study strategies are common challenges for new international students at Suffolk.

Luckily, these students now have the support of the newly created International Mentor Program, where entering students are paired with more experienced student mentors for help in achieving their personal and academic goals. Mentees can take advantage of this one-on-one program that is designed to help them understand and acclimate to the University and to the greater Boston community.



Suffolk Receives Grant to Train Ghanaian Educators

The Beacon Hill Institute (BHI) and Suffolk University's Department of Economics were recently awarded a grant of \$125,000 to train faculty members from the University of Cape Coast in Ghana in helping the city of Sekondi-Takoradi to become economically competitive. The grant was given by the Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation and Development and was funded by the US Agency for International Development.

This education training project began when Dr. Renee Dankerlin introduced the idea of working with people of Ghana to BHI, where she is currently working as an independent consultant.

Dr. Dankerlin had met Philip Nkrumah, the Mayor of Sekondi-Takoradi, the third-largest city in Ghana, when he visited Boston in October 2001 to sign the Boston-Sekondi-Takoradi Sister City Agreement with Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino.

Inaugural Graduating Class of LLM Program

May 18, 2003 was a very special occasion for five law students from Mexico, Sweden, China, and Serbia—they represent the first graduating class of Suffolk University Law School's Master of Laws (LLM) in Global Technology, launched in the fall of 2002. At Suffolk they each earned a postgraduate law degree in Global Technology. This unique degree, with its international focus, offers students an opportunity to acquire specialized legal skills and knowledge in the fields of intellectual property, biotechnology, and information technology. The five 2003 LLM graduates are Diana Cuevas Soriano, Ulrike Franken, Anna-Karin S. Gustafsson, Diying Luo, and Monika Ninkovic.

Country Ambassador/Alumni Profiles

Tugdual Denis, MBA '03

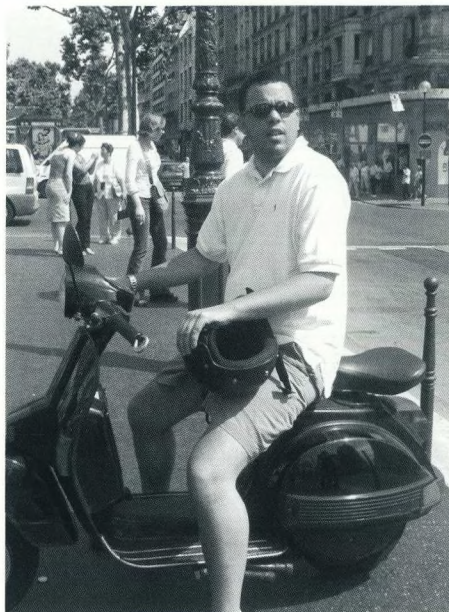
Working for the fifth-largest lingerie manufacturing company in the world might sound like a daunting task, but for Tugdual Denis, MBA '03, of Paris, France, this is only the first step in a career he hopes will lead to the creation of his own company.

Recently hired by Hop Lun Fashion International as part of a "Future Manager" recruitment program, Denis now works as Business Development Manager, where his primary responsibility is to structure a new sales department for the Middle East and Africa.

"These are areas where the company is not currently doing business, and I was assigned to create and implement a sales division to serve these areas," said Denis. "Since I was hired, I have already initiated business in Lebanon, Israel, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Tunisia, Morocco, Senegal, Cameroon, and South Africa. In January or February of 2004, I will be transferred to the company's headquarters in Hong Kong, where I will work in the marketing department for six to eight months. Then, I am likely to be transferred to the US or Canada for one year."

Of the time he spent at Suffolk, Denis said, "I am certain that this experience will dramatically impact the rest of my life and career. The places I went, the people I met, and the experiences I had (good or bad) taught me a lot about differences and tolerance. Obviously, I learned what the American way is all about in terms of business, but I also grew to appreciate the culture and the people. For any European student, coming from a historically rich country, it is critical to bring a cultural meaning to this whole experience. In that respect, Boston will always be very dear to me."

Regarding his long-term goal of running his own business, Denis said, "I am driven by a strong entrepreneurial spirit, and my objective is to create a family business involving my sister and my father. Until then, I want to have as many and diverse work experiences as possible. Working in different countries and business environments will provide me with the opportunity to become extremely flexible and adaptable."



"Kung" Chalermchai Mahagitsiri, BSF '00

Did you know that Suffolk University is the "alma mater" of a soap opera star? "Kung" Chalermchai Mahagitsiri, BSF '00, is an actor on the popular Thai soap "Muang Maya: The Series."

Off screen, Mahagitsiri is the Managing Director of the Lakewood Country Club, one of the premium golf courses in Thailand. Juggling these responsibilities is a challenge for Mahagitsiri, but he believes that "everyone can be successful in several things by good management of his or her time." He credits his family and educational background for bringing him up to be "a warm-hearted and vivacious person."

"Once you have a chance to do something, you should grasp the opportunity," said Mahagitsiri. "One should also have an imaginative idea and always try to make it a reality."



Country Ambassador/Alumni Profiles

Gabriela Moreno Najul, MBA '93



A native of Barquisimeto, Venezuela, Gabriela Moreno Najul, MBA '93, chose to study at Suffolk University after receiving a Fundayacucho-Laspau scholarship. "Studying in the US gave me exposure to state-of-the-art knowledge and technology, and most of all, intercultural interaction with peers from all over the world. This was definitely a mind-enhancing experience," said Moreno Najul.

Moreno Najul is now Systems Manager for Central El Palmar, S.A., in San Mateo, Venezuela, where she is in charge of the corporation's Competency Center. As part of her role, she managed a project that successfully implemented the ERP software Baan IV at five locations of the corporation's manufacturing sites with the Competency Center team.

She also managed the development of several operating and strategic information modules of specific use in the sugar industry as well as the reconciliation and cash flow modules.

"Suffolk offered me personalized education because of the small classes, and really, everybody knows your name, as the admission brochure promises. Today, 10 years after graduation, I still find people at Suffolk who remember me," said Moreno Najul. "I felt I needed a way to give back to an institution that gave me so much. That's why I decided to participate in Suffolk's Country Ambassador Program. I have been able to help prospective students from Venezuela go through their application processes and provide information about studying at Suffolk and living in Boston. I'm glad to keep in touch with the people from Suffolk and help to build the University's global reputation."

Would you like to be profiled?

It's a great way to network and highlight your accomplishments with your Suffolk classmates. For more information email:

dzahir@suffolk.edu

Chiung-Ling Chen, BSBA '96 and MSF '97

After graduating magna cum laude from Suffolk, Chiung-Ling Chen, BSBA '96 and MSF '97, began her newest challenge as Supervisor, Overseas Division, for CMC Magnetix Corporation in Taipei, Taiwan.

"Being an international student," said Chen, "I worked harder to overcome the language barrier, and there were many resources at Suffolk to help me to solve problems of studying and living in the US."

"At Suffolk, I learned how to appreciate and enjoy different cultures, which is the key factor for me to work as a supervisor. Moreover, due to my language advantage at work, I have been assigned as a representative to do MMA projects in the US and the Republic of Ireland and internal audits among the subsidiaries located in Asia, Europe, and North America."



Commencement 2003



International Graduates Champagne Reception

The President's Office and the Center for International Education hosted a reception at the International Pavilion at the World Trade Center in Boston following Commencement on May 19, 2003. International students graduating in May and September 2003 were invited to the event. More than 320 international graduating students and their families attended. Vice-President Marguerite Dennis gave the welcoming remarks, and Gregory McBride, Clerk of the General Alumni Association, inducted the new graduates into the Alumni Association.



Introducing 10 Somerset Street!

Residents of this new dormitory live at the top of Boston's Beacon Hill, one block from the State House and a short walk to the Park Street subway station. They couldn't be better situated in the heart of Suffolk's campus, within a few blocks of all major University buildings and classrooms.

Location 10 Somerset Street, Boston

Size 19 floors; 120,000 sf

Occupancy

Housing for 345 students

147 double rooms

19 single rooms

8 quadruple rooms

Features

Atrium courtyard

100-seat dining area and food service

Student lounges and recreation areas

Computer lab

Exercise area

Laundry

Bicycle storage room

Security station



**Let us know
what you think!**

Please send
your comments,
questions and
class notes to:

**dzahir@
suffolk.edu**

Admission International Travel Schedule for Fall 2003 and Spring 2004

Undergraduate Admission Office International Travel Schedule

September 2003 – India Visit

September 16-27—Suffolk representative
Rob Hoehne visited India.

October 2003 – Asia Visit

October 16-26—Suffolk representative
Lauren Grover visited Hong Kong, Taipei,
Seoul, and Tokyo.

Graduate Admission Office International Travel Schedule

October 2003 – Canada Visit

October 4 and 18—Suffolk representatives
Geoffrey Scott and Judy Entin visited
Canada on the World MBA Tour.

October 2003 – Europe Visit

October 7-28—Suffolk representative
Eva Kanellis visited London, Paris,
Prague, Budapest, and Warsaw.

October/November 2003 – Latin America Visit

October 29 and November 3—Suffolk
representative Ellen Driscoll visited Lima,
Peru, and Mexico City, Mexico.

November 2003 – Asia Visit

Suffolk representative Eva Kanellis will
visit Asia. If you would like to meet with
Eva in your home country, please email
evkanellis@yahoo.com.

World MBA Tour 2003

November 12 – Beijing
November 15 – Shanghai
November 20 – Hong Kong
November 22 – Singapore

January and February 2004 – Asia Visit

Suffolk representative Judy Reynolds will
visit Asia. If you would like to meet with
Judy in your home country, please email
jreynold@suffolk.edu.

World MBA Tour 2004

January 26 – Tokyo
January 29 – Seoul
January 31 – Taipei
February 2 – Manila
February 4 – Bangkok
February 7 – Kuala Lumpur
February 9 – New Delhi
February 11 – Mumbai

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information on

For up-to-date

so we can confirm the news with you.

include your name, phone number, or fax

Relations, at dzahir@suffolk.edu. Please

Zahir, Director of International Alumni

your fellow alumni, please email Dorothy

of a child, or have any news to share with

a degree, married or celebrated the birth

If you recently began a new job, earned

We Want to Hear from You!

Keep Us Informed!

Save the Dates!

International Trips/Dates

January 23-25, 2004 – International Ski Trip – Sugar

Loaf Mountain in Maine. Hosted by the International

Alumni Board and the Center for International

Education. If interested, please contact Rudy at

rudy@ee.suffolk.edu.

March 2004 – Vice President Marguerite J. Dennis

will be traveling to Mexico City, Mexico, and

Bogota, Colombia. She will be inaugurating the

first Mexican Alumni Association and Colombian

Alumni Association.

June 18, 2004 – European Golf Tournament in Spain.

Details to be announced.

If you are interested in learning more about any

of the above events, please contact Dorothy Zahir

at dzahir@suffolk.edu or 617-305-1981.

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