Celebration Kicks Off Modern Theatre Project

The University celebrated the official start of its newest residence hall project in November, setting the stage for restoration of the Landmark Modern Theatre façade and injection of additional life into the Downtown Crossing neighborhood.

The project will bring a new 184-seat theater and a gallery to Downtown Crossing, while creating 197 additional student beds on campus. The building will open in fall 2010.

The celebration also highlighted the University’s emphasis on sustainability in designing new buildings and retrofitting existing infrastructure.

Suffolk President David J. Sargent, Vice President John Nucci and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino described the importance of the restoration of the Modern, the third Washington Street theater to be preserved. The Paramount Theatre and the Opera House are the other recently rescued “jewels” in the area.

“We always are pleased when we can benefit our students, whether by expanding our academic offerings or improving our infrastructure,” said President Sargent.

“We are particularly proud when we can also serve our city, and this building will go a long way to advance revitalization efforts in Downtown Crossing and the Theater District.”

Meredith Jones, a student representative on the University’s Sustainability Committee, also spoke, discussing the success of “green campus” efforts.

For the second time in University history, the building blocks of a demolished building will rise again as part of new construction.

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Law School Podcasts Climb the Charts on iTunes U

Suffolk University Law School professors are in high demand on iTunes U, where their legal writing skills podcasts are climbing the charts.

In fact, one of their recordings ranks among the top 10 most downloaded law-related iTunes U podcasts worldwide.

Suffolk is the only law school in the country offering weekly legal writing tips on iTunes U.

“The great thing about this is that students get the benefit of being taught by 13 different professors, and we get to utilize the talent of our entire department,” said Suffolk University Law School Professor Kathleen Elliott Vinson, who directs the Legal Practice Skills program. “This is a teaching tool using technology that is very popular and familiar to students entering law school. They’re listening to these podcasts to enhance their learning experience.”

Each week, a different Legal Practice Skills professor records and uploads a 5-to-10-minute legal writing tip podcast corresponding to his or her academic syllabus. One week, the “Annotated Sample Memo” ranked as iTunes U’s second-most-downloaded law-related podcast, topping hundreds of others.

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Promotion, Tenure and Sabbaticals for College

Promotions
Barbara Abrams, associate professor of Humanities and Modern Languages
Kevin Carragee, professor of Communication and Journalism
Nancy Hackett, associate professor, New England School of Art and Design
Steven Novick, professor, New England School of Art and Design
Bruce Wickelgren, associate professor of Communication and Journalism

Tenure
Barbara Abrams, associate professor of Humanities and Modern Languages
Lisa Celovsky, associate professor of English
Patricia Hogan, associate professor of Physics
David Medoff, associate professor of Education and Human Services
Elisabeth Moes, associate professor of Psychology
Sukanya Ray, associate professor of Psychology
Marjorie Salvodon, associate professor of Humanities and Modern Languages
Jane Secci, associate professor of Communication and Journalism

Sabbaticals
Barbara Abrams, associate professor of Humanities and Modern Languages
Robert Allison, professor of History
Robert Bellinger, associate professor of History
Lisa Brown, professor, New England School of Art and Design
Lisa Celovsky, associate professor of English
Thomas Connolly, associate professor of English
Edith Cook, associate professor of Math and Computer Science
Rosemarie DiBiase, associate professor of Education and Human Services
Patricia Hogan, associate professor of Physics
Vicki Kams, associate professor of Communication and Journalism
Frederick Marchant, professor of English
Shahruz Mohtadi, associate professor of Economics
Steven Spitzer, professor of Sociology
Da Zheng, associate professor of English

Get Organized for New Year

Human Resources is offering a training and development course, Straighten Up!, designed to organize office workspace, at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, in the Law School function room. The program begins with a half-hour demonstration by Pam Kristan, Straighten Up! consultant and trainer. She has helped thousands change the way they organize their workspaces and their lives. Optional participation in the full program features at-the-desk work during the morning, with an 11:30 a.m. send-off to help you stay organized. Kristan will come to your desk to offer insightful and effective interventions to help you reorganize your workspace.

For more information on Straighten Up!: http://www.pamelakristan.com/
To register: http://www.suffolk.edu/offices/22523.html

New Faces
Please welcome our newest employees:
Karen Corey, Office of Government & Community Affairs
Daniel D’Onofrio, University Media Services
Timothy Loiselle, Undergraduate Admission
Mick-Kelly Pierre, Mail Services

Faculty Publications

James Angelini, Accounting, has published two papers: “Business Taxes in Massachusetts: Toward Fundamental Reform” (with Tierck, D., Conte, F., Sanchez-Penalver, A.); in State Tax Notes, Vol. 49:6; and “An Exploration of Distortions in Horizontal Equity Caused by Cost of Living Differences” (with Noga, T.) in Tax Notes.


Melanie Barker Berkmen, Chemistry and Biochemistry, had a micrograph of bacterial cells that she obtained through fluorescence microscopy published in the textbook Microbiology: an evolving science (2008).

Christopher Buscaglia, Business Law and Ethics. His article “Crafting a Legislative Solution to the Economic Harm of Employee Misclassification” will be published in the University of California, Davis, Business Law Journal (spring 2009 edition).

Potpourri

Student Affairs Division news:
Beth Rosenbleet hosted the 2008 National Orientation Directors Association conference held in Boston Oct. 31–Nov. 3. The conference, which marked the end of Rosenbleet’s three-year commitment as host, attracted more than 900 participants. Karen Jasinski coordinated the national pre-conference programs.

Kate Bauer and David DeAngelis were honored at the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) regional conference in Hartford, Conn. DeAngelis received the Donald L. McCullough Award, the highest honor given annually to recognize an individual’s long-term commitment to the organization and field of student activities. DeAngelis has served on the regional board in various capacities over the past 10 years. Bauer was named the Staff Programmer of the Year for exemplifying outstanding achievement in student affairs.

Denise (Strum) Lang, Creative Services, and Jason Lang were married May 31 at The Brookside Club in Bourne.

Brenda Bond, Public Management, is the principal investigator for two state-funded research grants in Lowell and Springfield to assess the implementation of citywide youth violence policies. This semester she hosted Boston Police Commissioner Ed Davis and Colonel Mark Delaney of the Massachusetts State Police as guest speakers in her Public Service Human Resource Management classes.

Jake Deehan and Michael Duggan of Enrollment Research and Planning participated in the New England Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers conference in Manchester, N.H. Deehan co-presented the session “Using Pivot Tables in Microsoft Excel,” and Duggan conducted “Mining for Competitor Data: Using IPEDS Data Tools to Make Your Life Easier.”

Erin Evans, Law School, and Rich DeCapua, Office of Student Affairs, presented a preconference session “Critical Topics Facing Residence Life, Housing, and Disability Services” with colleagues from Brown and Lesley universities at the annual National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Region 1 conference in Hyannis.

Quentin Miller, English, presented “Home to Harlem, and Back Again: James Baldwin's Returns” at the American Studies Association convention in Albuquerque, N.M.

Adam Nelson, Athletics, appeared Oct. 28 on the New England Cable News “Good Morning Live” show, previewing the Boston Celtics upcoming season. He was on the show during the Celtics’ championship playoffs and for the NCAA March Madness basketball tournament last spring.

Congratulations to Jeff Rhind of University Media Services and fiancée Dania Swartz on the birth of their daughter Natalya Catherine Rhind on Oct. 29.

We’re No. 1!

Gov. Deval Patrick confers with Beacon Hill Institute Executive Director David Tuerck at an event marking the release of BHII’s Eighth Annual Competitiveness Report. Massachusetts ranks first among all states in terms of its economic “competitiveness”—its ability to attract and retain business and to provide a high standard of living for its residents over the long run. Patrick introduced the report at a University conference. (Photo by John Gillooly)

iTunes U

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In addition, the weekly Legal Writing Tips podcast series was chosen as one of the nine featured podcasts on the iTunes U site. Two of the three “New and Notable” podcasts also were produced by faculty from the Legal Practice Skills program.

“For today’s multi-tasking student, this is a cutting-edge way to learn,” said Vinson. “It’s accessible and portable—you can listen and learn on the train ride home, walking your dog, working out in the gym or relaxing in your pajamas.”

The Legal Practice Skills podcasts launched on iTunes U in spring 2008.

“We’re reaching out to so many people,” said Vinson. “Our podcasts are free and available to anyone across the country and around the world.”

Dean Alfred C. Aman, an accomplished jazz drummer, has even jumped into the act. “He created the background music to one of our three podcast series, and it sounds great,” said Vinson.

Some Legal Practice Skills faculty also are providing personal podcasts to students, offering oral critiques of papers instead of traditional written feedback.

“I just wanted to comment on how powerful the audio critique is versus comments on a page,” wrote first-year law student Cynthia Snow in an e-mail to Professor Samantha Moppet. “It was really great to sit here in my kitchen and listen to you talk to me. Thanks for being so progressive and insightful.”
Suffolk Scores with Celtics Partnership

A new partnership formed with the Boston Celtics paves the way for academic and sports business opportunities and an in-game sponsorship.

Sawyer Business School students will study and evaluate the NBA franchise’s business, marketing, and community programs and needs in class. Then, working in collaboration with Celtics personnel, they will develop marketing programs to be evaluated and potentially implemented by the team.

The partnership also includes an in-game sponsorship, through which the University sponsors a popular T-shirt giveaway during each home game.

Professor of Marketing Catherine McCabe, who developed the academic program, said the partnership will bring real-world learning in sports business and marketing to Business School students. At the same time, the Celtics may be the beneficiaries of some fresh ideas.

“The opportunities for students within the sports industry in Boston and New England have been growing rapidly,” said McCabe. “That includes not just professional sports leagues and teams, but also companies that are sponsoring and developing partnerships with those teams. Whether considering a career path in sports business or some other area of marketing, Suffolk students will be better prepared for the competitive job market.”

Service-Learning Efforts Recognized at Connections Exhibit Reception

Students involved in service-learning missions to El Salvador were applauded at a reception for the exhibit Connections: Suffolk University Keeps Moakley Legacy Alive in El Salvador, which features photographs chronicling their experiences in the Central American nation befriended by the late Congressman Joe Moakley.

The Moakley Archive and Institute created the Connections exhibit, which includes an encore showing of the 2003 exhibit El Congresista: Joe Moakley en El Salvador and is at the Adams Gallery through Jan. 12.

After describing Moakley’s first encounter with guerrillas in the wilds of El Salvador as he conducted a congressional investigation there—a tense introduction that Moakley lightened by singing an Irish song—President David J. Sargent praised the students for their efforts.

“I salute you. Joe Moakley would be proud to know that you were going to El Salvador to help his friends there,” said Sargent.

Sargent said the students’ efforts are particularly meaningful for him, as he has two grandchildren who were orphaned in El Salvador and adopted by his son.

Sargent’s sentiments were echoed by Frederick W. Clark, Jr., president of the John Joseph Moakley Charitable Foundation, who thanked the students on behalf of the foundation for “bringing our culture to El Salvador and bringing the Salvadoran culture back here.”

Celebration

Continued from page 1

The marble, sandstone and brownstone façade of the Modern Theatre will be taken apart stone by stone and restored.

In the 1920s, it was brick that was saved and reused as the Beacon Hill campus was being constructed. When a building at 51 Temple St. was demolished to make way for a new structure, the University made a deal to have the brick left on site. Work crews cleaned nearly 150,000 bricks and used them in constructing the new building.

While making the most of its resources in those early years, the University proved to be ahead of its time in sustainable use of materials.