BRA Approves 20 Somerset Plan

The Boston Redevelopment Authority has approved the University’s plans to build a new academic building at 20 Somerset Street to serve as a permanent home for the New England School of Art and Design.

The decision clears the way for removing the abandoned structure that once served as the Metropolitan District Commission headquarters. A new classroom/art studio building will rise in its place.

The University will transform the adjacent Roemer Plaza into a welcoming open space, incorporating a commemorative element celebrating the MDC’s history of parkland and greenspace conservation.

The 20 Somerset development process has extended over four years, and the University has worked closely for the past two years with a BRA-appointed task force, neighbors on Beacon Hill and representatives of the abutting Garden of Peace.

The proposed building’s design includes:

• A glass façade on the south side of the building designed to enliven an improved Roemer Plaza
• A “quiet” façade on the opposite north side, designed to be respectful of the neighboring Garden of Peace memorial to homicide victims
• State-of-the-art classrooms for students in the College of Arts and Sciences that will feature full media technology and energy-efficient lighting and heating
• Art studios for instruction in painting, drawing, sculpture and printing, along with electronic classrooms for computer instruction in graphic design and interior design
• Faculty offices
• A public art gallery displaying student and professional work
• Critique spaces

The new building is being designed by the architectural firm of Chan Krieger Sieniewicz.

New Academic VP Focuses on Quality

Griffith arrived at Suffolk University Nov. 1 after serving as dean and law professor at Georgia State University College of Law.

“I was immediately attracted to Suffolk because of its focus on quality teaching and strong faculty/student interactions,” she said.

She has immersed herself in her new surroundings—visiting the residence halls, working out in the weight room and walking through the library. She is trying to learn about Suffolk students not only by communicating with them, but also by putting herself in their shoes.

Continued on page 3
Research Boosts Broken Windows Theory

The law enforcement field is taking note of the research efforts of Brenda J. Bond, assistant professor of Public Management, who is co-author of a journal article documenting significant crime drops in focused areas of Lowell where law enforcement problem-solving, public works and code enforcement had been brought to bear.

The long-debated “broken windows” theory of social behavior argues that crime is linked to physical and social disorder in a community.

In Lowell, this disorder took the form of trash-strewn streets, broken street lights, abandoned buildings, public drinking and loitering. In the course of the randomized research study, officials cleaned up half of the neighborhoods plagued by these sorts of problems. Researchers then monitored the results and found that there were 20 percent fewer calls to police from the spruced-up areas compared to areas receiving traditional police response.

“This study is critical in that it not only supports the theoretical aspects of Wilson & Kelling’s ‘Broken Windows’ theory, but it generates valuable knowledge that police practitioners can adopt as part of their policing strategies,” said Bond. “Moreover, the study shows that engagement of non-public-safety services is critical to crime reduction. By building on the work of my colleague, Dr. Braga, the results of this experiment will inform police strategy for years to come.”

Bond served as co-author of the research article, in the journal Criminology (8/09), with Anthony Braga of Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government. The Boston Globe wrote about the study and its outcome in its Feb. 8 edition, with a follow-up editorial on Feb. 13, 2009.

Job Shadow Day at 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.

“Nineteen 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, Gledestony Sequeira and Daynabo Issak, juniors from Charlestown High School, shadowed Conte as he went about his work.

“Job Shadow Day is a great opportunity to introduce high school students to both

SAVE THE DATE

The Suffolk University Athletics Department will induct a coach, six athletes and a baseball team into its Athletic Hall of Fame during an induction ceremony and dinner.

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2009
The Royal Sonesta Hotel
Cambridge

THE SUN IS PUBLISHED BY:

Office of Public Affairs
73 Tremont Street
Boston, MA 02108
617-573-8447
sun@suffolk.edu

Executive Editor
Greg Gatlin

Managing Editor
Nancy Kelleher

Staff Writers
Karen DeCilio
Tony Ferullo

Design
Heather Clark

Frank Conte with Charlestown High School students Daynabo Issak and Gledestony Sequeira.

BHI and Suffolk University. Students who participate in Job Shadow show a real interest in success,” said Conte. “Curiosity about work life and its many responsibilities is a valuable trait, and Gledestony and Daynabo clearly understand its importance. The institute -- through its work in economics -- is always interested in the next generation and how it will shape tomorrow’s workforce. To that end I tried to underscore how their jobs will change over a lifetime in our dynamic economy.”
New Academic VP Focuses on Quality
Continued from page 1

“One of my goals is to improve the quality of the academic enterprise,” said Griffith, who works closely with the deans at all three schools. “To accomplish this, I have to ensure that our students have the best learning experience and support services possible. There is nothing more important than that.”

Griffith’s additional goals include:
• Continuing to focus on diversity
• Energizing the commitment to inclusiveness at the University’s campuses worldwide
• Creating the University as a hub for intellectual discourse
• Encouraging faculty to engage and promote scholarship and discovery of new information
• Preserving Suffolk’s reputation as an outstanding teaching University

She welcomes the opportunity to assist the University in its continuing growth in a competitive environment and tough economic times.

Griffith, who holds a B.A. from Colby College and a J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School, said: “I like the challenge of helping to move educational institutions forward to the next level.”

Griffith stressed Suffolk’s value as an educational resource and partner.
“A University today cannot be insular,” she said. “What we need to do is host events that draw people from the community with whom we can connect. We have to bring people together to discuss ideas and share knowledge about a wide range of topics.”

Griffith was at Georgia State University College of Law from 1996-2008. She also served as professor of law at Quinnipiac University and Bridgeport University schools of law. She spent a year as an American Council on Education fellow at Ohio State University.

“I feel one of my strengths is that I have been at various institutions and seen how other schools operate,” she said.

One project Griffith is tackling is the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation, which occurs every 10 years, with the next self-study scheduled for 2012.

The furnishings in Griffith’s office on the 12th floor of 73 Tremont Street reveal something unique about her. She works standing up. Her computer, printer and fax machine are all lined up on a platform against the back wall, like a technological buffet. This setup allows Griffith to walk around as she works, with everything at her fingertips.

“There is no special reason other than I like working standing up,” she said. She then added, “Besides, I sit enough during a typical day while attending meetings.”

When she’s not busy at work, Griffith enjoys skiing, sailing, swimming and jogging. She also is a “political junkie,” a big fan of Italian and Chinese food, and a voracious reader, presently reading Albion’s Seed, a cultural history book by David Hackett Fischer.

Her recent transition from South to North has gone smoothly. “Now I know why we attract so many students from all over the country and all around the world—our location,” said Griffith with a smile. “Boston is an exciting and historical place, and it has so much to offer. I even like the climate.”

College & Athenaeum Partner for Civic Discourse Series

Civic Discourse, a new initiative sponsored by The Boston Athenaeum and the College of Arts and Sciences, was inaugurated in February with journalist and political analyst David Gergan lecturing on “The Press—Turning Foe into Friend.”

The College and the Athenaeum will present an annual series of lectures, panel discussions and films devoted to a topic of national significance. Media and Democracy is the focus for 2009.

“Our goal with the civic discourse initiative is to treat significant—and significantly complex—issues as thoroughly as possible and from a variety of perspectives, said Dean Kenneth S. Greenberg. “We believe the topic Media and Democracy will provide great resonance following the recent national elections. In addition to talks by leading national political and media figures, the series will feature many of Suffolk’s faculty members, particularly professors in the Communication and Journalism Department.”

“Our goal is to reactivate the role of the Boston Athenaeum as an institution in which the most pressing issues of the day would find a full and intelligent hearing,” said Richard Wendorf, the Athenaeum’s Stanford Calderwood director and librarian. “We are very fortunate to have been able to forge a relationship with the College of Arts and Sciences at Suffolk University, a major institutional presence in our neighborhood.”

Events are free and open to the public by advance reservation. For a full schedule, see www.suffolk.edu/college/34193.html.
Congratulations to Elif Armbruster of English and her husband Bill Cochrane on the birth of their daughter Mea Cochrane on Dec. 25, 2008.

Kirsten Behling and Elizabeth Irwin of the Office of Disability Services co-presented “Effective Communication Strategies for Faculty: Highlighting How to Discuss the Major Contract of the Course, the Syllabus” at the Annual Conference on Teaching for Transformation, University of Massachusetts Boston’s Center for the Improvement of Teaching. Behling also presented “Universal Course Design a Model of Faculty Development” at Northeastern University’s Faculty Development Around Inclusive Teaching.


Sara Dillon, Law School, was inducted into the St. Michael’s College Alumni Academic Hall of Fame.

Erin Evans, Law School, was a planning member of the 2009 National NASPA Mental Health Conference committee and served as a facilitator for a roundtable discussion on the challenges and impact of mental health issues on campuses.

Debbie de Lange, Strategy and International Business, received honorable mention in the 2008 Page Prize Competition for Environmental Sustainability Curriculum sponsored by the Moore School of Business at the University of South Carolina. She shared the honor with Herman van den Berg of the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto, for their course, Managing for Environmental Sustainability.

College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean Sebastián Royo presented “Spain in the European Union” for United States government officials in Arlington, Va.

Douglas Seidler, Interior Design, New England School of Art & Design, will present a paper “Using SketchUp to Increase Understanding of Detailing, Material, and Assembly in Interior Design Education” at the Interior Design Educators Council 2009 International Conference March 27 in St. Louis, Mo.

Jeff Stone, Athletics, received the Kerkor “Koko” Kassabian Award from the Athletic Trainers’ of Massachusetts in recognition of his outstanding service and contributions to the athletic training community in Massachusetts. He also was chosen 2008 Trainer of the Year for the Great Northeast Athletic Conference. Stone is director of District One-New England for the National Athletic Trainers’ Association and was named co-medical director for the 2009 Bay State Games.

ABA Session at Law School

Law Professors Marc Greenbaum and Jeff Lipshaw engage in a lively discussion during a reception following a roundtable on the federal bailout sponsored by the Rappaport Center for Law and Public Service, the Law School and the American Bar Association Business Law Section. The event was held in conjunction with the ABA Mid-Year Meeting in Boston. Law School faculty participating in ABA events included Dean Alfred C. Aman, Jr., who discussed “The Domestic Face of Globalization: Administrative Law in a Public/Private World” as a luncheon keynote speaker, and Professors Alasdair Roberts, Victoria Dodd and Renée Landers, who moderated panel discussions. (Photo by John Gillooly)
Spring Showcase Clowning Around

Assistant Professor of Theatre Caitlin Langstaff, front, poses with students performing in Circa, the movement/clown piece she created as part of Spring Showcase. With Langstaff are Allie Barone, Andrew Scheinthal, Shaun Bedgood, Zach Zatet, Michael Dewar, Claire Van Riper and Arissara Chounchaisit. Through games and improvisation, Langstaff and the troupe created a story set on getting back to basics in the name of survival. (Photo by J. Stratton McCrady)

Faculty Publications

Sandra Barriales-Bouche, Humanities and Modern Languages, has published “Filming Ghosts: Between the Dictator and Me (2005), An Awakening to a Silenced Past” in the journal Studies in Hispanic Cinemas.

John Berg, Government. His chapter “Greens in the USA” was published in Green Parties in Transition: The End of Grassroots Democracy?


Sue Orsillo, Psychology. Her book Mindfulness-and Acceptance-Based Behavioral Therapies in Practice, co-authored with Lizabeth Roemer, a psychology professor at the University of Massachusetts Boston, was published in November 2008.


New Faces

Please welcome our newest employees:

Laura Alfring, Juvenile Justice Center
Ayesha Augustus, University Police
Cheryl Azza, Juvenile Justice Center
Abie Baafi, Office of the President
Brendan Collins, Information Technology Services
Jessica Dasilva, University Police
Anthony Delprete, Athletics
Jose Diaz, Facilities Management
Suzanne Gallagher, Office of the Provost
John Greaney, Macaronis Institute
Alexander Green, University Police
Janice Griffith, Office of Academic Affairs
Keith Hersh, Information Technology Services
Rebecca Kmiec, Office of Disability Services
Derek Lam, Information Technology Services
Shannon Malone, Finance
Eric Sacca, Student Accounts/Bursar
Timothy Skaggs, University Police
Laveme Slawson, Law Registrar’s Office
Tyler Smith, University Police
Bijaya Tamang, University Police

Simone B. Chun
Ford Hall Forum Spring Lecture Series


Ifill was honored with the 2009 Louis P. and Evelyn Smith First Amendment Award.

The series continues with:
Richard Stallman
Copyright vs. Community
6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, March 19
C. Walsh Theatre

Karl Case and William Apgar, with Lisa Lynch
Has the American Dream Reached the End (or a New Beginning)?: Credit, Debt, and the U.S. Economy
6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, March 26
C. Walsh Theatre

Charles Burnett, Frank Christopher, and Kenneth S. Greenberg
Film screening and discussion of Nat Turner: Troublesome Property
6-8 p.m. Thursday, April 2
C. Walsh Theatre

Juan Enriquez
Financial Crises, Technology, and Why Boston Might Just Be the Center of the Universe (at least for now)
6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, April 16
Boston Public Library, Rabb Auditorium

Phillip Longman
The Empty Cradle: How Falling Birthrates Threaten World Prosperity and What to Do About it
6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, April 23
Old South Meeting House

Nicholas Daniloff
Of Spies and Spokesmen: A Cold War Correspondent Looks at Russia Today
6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, April 30
Boston Public Library, Rabb Auditorium

Paul Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Gould, Nick Mills and Sima Wali, with Alan Berger
Afghanistan
6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, May 7
Boston Public Library, Rabb Auditorium

On Equal Terms

Boston Women’s Commissioner Marie Turley, poet and artist Susan Eisenberg, Assistant Professor of History Pat Reeve and John Laughlin of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council #35, gather with “Stella” at the opening reception for the On Equal Terms exhibit, at the Adams Gallery through March 17. Among the tradeswomen on hand to tell about their work was a carpenter who had installed the trim in the gallery. (Photo by John Gillooly)

College Magazine Wins National Awards

Suffolk Arts+Sciences, the premier issue of the College magazine, has won five national awards since its publication in 2007. They are:

• Gold EDDIE Award from FOLIO: in the category of Supplemental Annual, One-Shot, Full Issue.
• Bronze OZZIE Award from FOLIO: for Best Design, New Magazine, Association/Non-Profit
• The 2008 APEX Award for Publication Excellence in the category of New Magazines and Journals
• The 2008 Gold EXCEL Award from The Society of National Association Publications for Most Improved Newsletter to Magazine
• An overall Extra! Award from The Society of National Association Publications for outstanding excellence in publishing
International Collaboration Inspires Adams Gallery Installations

Here, There and Everywhere: Anticipating the Art of the Future, organized by Boston-based Transcultural Exchange, consists of more than 60 simultaneous presentations worldwide, including installations at the Adams Gallery.

Transcultural Exchange brings together artists from various cultures and disciplines.

The Adams Gallery features separate installations by New England School of Art & Design Fine Arts Program Director Audrey Goldstein and Assistant Professor of Foundation & Fine Arts Ilona Anderson.

The work they created with international colleagues will be at the gallery April 1 through May 7, 2009.

The installation Point to Point, by Goldstein and Dennis Simms of Berlin, Germany, consists of a sculptural backpack with a soundtrack and video projected onto its surface.

The work reflects Goldstein’s fascination with the full spectrum of interpersonal relationships, from chance encounters and familial ties to the disembodied and remote intimacy of the online world. Simms’ soundtrack is a compilation of sounds culled from musicians in Berlin’s clubs, street noise and the heartbeat.

Common Ground, by Anderson; Janet Callinicos of Brisbane, Australia; and Liza Callinicos of London, consists of a romantic embroidered silk petticoat (Anderson), a “memory of a memory” floating above a pile of discarded objects on the floor (Janet Callinicos) and the sound of breath emanating from within (Liza Callinicos).

The artists, all of whom have lived in Africa, employed the call and response of African musical tradition to bring to mind the fragile balance in negotiating between cultural contexts.

University Efforts Yield CASE Awards

The CASE District I 2009 Communication Awards recognized the Suffolk University Alumni Magazine (SAM), with gold in the magazine categories of Best Design and Best Writing. SAM is produced by the newest members of the University Media and Creative Services team, the writers and designers working with Advancement.

The Virtual Campus Tour, produced by UMCS for the Office of Enrollment Management, was awarded silver in the Specialty Web Sites category.

In the Digital Media—DVD/CD-ROM category, the Our Town is Downtown DVD, produced by UMCS for External Affairs, received a bronze.

UMCS received an honorable mention in the Special Purpose Communication category for a new-student orientation packet produced for the Division of Student Affairs.

The CASE District I communication awards recognize outstanding achievement in higher education, independent school and non-profit organization communications. Judges assess overall design; content and writing; and use of photography, graphics and technology.
University Earns Service Learning Seal


The annual award is given to one or more service-learning resources recognized nationally by service-learning practitioners for effective and valuable contributions to the field.


“We are very proud to have received this distinction,” said Suffolk University Vice President for Student Affairs Nancy Stoll. “It confirms the wonderful work that our students do through the S.O.U.L.S. program under the leadership of a talented and creative staff. Our community service and service-learning efforts provide tremendous benefits to our students’ educational experience and to our neighborhood and the city of Boston.”

New Web Site for Athletics

The University’s Athletics Department has joined the PrestoSports College Sports Information Network and unveiled a new department Web site: www.gosuffolkrams.com.

The new Web site is the home for all information regarding the University’s 13 intercollegiate varsity sports teams.

It features updated scores, photo galleries, student-athlete and staff biographies, as well as information for prospective student-athletes and alumni.

Information related to the University’s intramural programs, gymnasium schedule, fitness center hours and the Athletic Hall of Fame also may be accessed through these Web pages.

Chinese New Year Observed

The Sawyer Business School’s celebration of the Lunar New Year, “The Cultural Aspects of Doing Business in China,” was among several events held across campus to usher in the Year of the Ox. Featured activities included a lecture by Jill Cheng, founder and president of Cheng & Tsui Company, an independent publisher and distributor of educational materials dedicated to supporting Asian studies, a traditional lion dance and a martial arts presentation. There was also a demonstration by Chinese calligraphy writer Tian Yien Jiang. Associate Dean Morris McInnes, Associate Professor Lin Guo and daughter Bridget, Assistant Professor Tammy MacLean, and Professor Robert DeFilippi gather around the head of the lion.

(Photo by John Gillooly)