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Commencement a Family Affair for University Employees

Many Suffolk employees and their families enjoyed commencement weekend as the culmination of the unique opportunity to learn and to work that the University offers them.

Carol Powers, senior benefits services coordinator in the Human Resources Office, was but one of those who watched children graduate from the University. Her daughters Kristin and Kelly were among the graduates.

“Being Kristin and Kelly’s mom has been the greatest joy of my life,” said Powers.

“No one can prepare you for motherhood, but I knew when they were born that they were special. When they were little they would ask me how many years would they be in school. I always said: ‘A minimum of 16 years.’ They knew that high school was not the end of their educational journey. They both did well in school so I always knew that college would be in their future.”

Said Kristin Powers, who graduated with a bachelor of fine arts degree in graphic design and international relations, “I remember all of the things that I have done in those seven years: deciding to go back to art school; taking classes that interested me in addition to all the requirements; finishing my undergraduate degree with two majors; and wearing a United States Air Force ROTC uniform. I am extremely fortunate to have experienced and done so much during my time at Suffolk.”

Kelly Powers graduated with a bachelor of arts degree magna cum laude in Psychology. “What really makes this school special is the fact that you get to know your professors and classmates because the classes are so small,” she said. “The people at Suffolk are what made my time here so wonderful.”

“Having them graduate together is great,” said their mom. “I am so proud of them and excited that they are sharing this once-in-a-lifetime experience together. Working at Suffolk and seeing the environment that they have experienced on a different level is so rewarding, too.”

Award-winning journalist Ted Koppel and Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley were the keynote speakers as more than 2,428 students were awarded degrees during the 2009

Working Toward Best Practices for Records Management

The Office of the Provost has embarked on a review of records management procedures prompted by new state and federal regulations regarding data security.

The University has engaged Huron Consulting Group, Inc., a national consulting firm, to assist with reviewing its current records management procedures and developing a compliance plan, according to Suzanne Gallagher of the Provost’s Office.

“It’s a large undertaking to examine records across campus,” said Gallagher. “As part of the process we decided to look at all records so that we could develop standard practices that will make it easier to meet the data security regulations and to manage records in the future.”

The first step in the review process entailed completing questionnaires about what types of records are maintained, how they are
William M. Bulger, the longest serving state Senate president in Massachusetts history, was awarded the John Joseph Moakley Charitable Foundation Public Service Award at the Foundation’s eighth Annual Scholarship Award Ceremony in May at the Law School. Here he chats with University Archivist Julia Collins. More than $110,000 in scholarships were presented to 28 students pursuing higher education or vocational study. Bulger—a Moakley friend who grew up with the late congressman in South Boston—served as a state representative, state senator and president of the University of Massachusetts and is a key supporter of the Boston Public Library and the Boston Symphony Orchestra. (Photo by John Gillooly)

Illustration Major to Be Added in 2011

The New England School of Art & Design has won approval to add an Illustration major to its menu of programs.

The major has been approved by the College’s Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Educational Policy Committee and Faculty Assembly and by the Board of Trustees. It will undergo review by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, or NASAD this fall, according to Sara Chadwick, director of Administrative Services for the New England School of Art & Design.

The school now offers major programs in Graphic Design, Interior Design and Fine Arts.

It is working with consultants to put the final touches on the Illustration program, which is expected to launch in September 2011.

Records Management

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secured, and how long they are kept. Business and academic units across campus were asked to submit the questionnaires by June 8.

“Everyone has a different records-keeping system, and we aren’t judging these procedures,” said Gallagher. “The questionnaire is only meant to gather information.”

Questionnaire answers and follow-up interviews will be used to develop policies about data security and retention.

Huron will develop a records retention schedule for the University. Not only is it important to maintain certain records for mandated time periods, it also is necessary to destroy certain records after a set period of time, according to Gallagher.

Once the standards are in place, training will be offered as needed. “We don’t want to change offices’ procedures, except when necessary,” said Gallagher.
Faculty and Student Art Shows on Campus

*Springboard*, a juried exhibition from the New England School of Art & Design, features the work of three spring 2009 graduates:

- The exhibit is at the Adams Gallery through August 2, 2009.
- Students exhibiting are:
  - Sam Spano, winner of the 2009 Fine Arts Juror's Award
  - Bonnie Birge
  - Juan Berrios
- Meanwhile, the Suffolk University Art Gallery presents a Faculty Drawing Exhibition from the New England School of Art & Design.
  - The exhibit, at the 75 Arlington St. gallery, runs from July 18 through July 31.
  - An opening reception will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, June 18.

(Photos: Molly Ferguson, Imaginatas Photography, 2009)

Law Faculty Offer NECN Legal Analysis

Law School professors are analyzing the news from a legal perspective each week on New England Cable News.

Through NECN’s “Sidebar” segment, the Suffolk Law professors examine significant local, national and international stories.

“Sidebar” debuted March 23 with the segment “Is the AIG bonus tax constitutional?”

In discussing AIG and the congressional move to tax bonuses paid to executives of the insurance firm that had been saved by a generous federal bailout, Law Professor Carter Bishop told NECN’s Chet Curtis that “it is possible, but marginal whether those (tax levies) are constitutional.”

Bishop also pointed out that AIG had no option when it came to paying the much-maligned bonuses. Failure to pay would have been construed as a breach of contract under Connecticut law, and AIG would likely have lost any suit resulting from a refusal to pay the bonuses, according to Bishop.

In other “Sidebar” segments, Professor Chris Dearborn analyzed the Massachusetts marijuana law, and Professor Anthony Polito discussed charges filed against funds that fed into Bernard Madoff’s Ponzi operation.

“We are very excited about the opportunity to showcase our faculty and share our collective legal expertise,” said Associate Dean and Professor of Law Linda Simard. “We hope that ‘Sidebar’ will help bring attention and increased awareness to some of the important legal issues of our day.”

“Sidebar” airs at 4:15 p.m. Mondays during NECN’s “News Day Live” broadcast.

NECN and the University are broadcast partners, and the segment originates from the University’s television studio at 73 Tremont St.
Rachael Cobb, Government, and U.S. Election Assistance Commissioner Gracia Hillman spoke on “Youth participation in the 2008 election cycle” at the American University Center for Democracy and Election Management. Cobb also presented a paper, “Poll Worker Performance in an Urban Setting,” at the Northeast Political Science Association and was a panelist at a roundtable discussion, “Obama: The First One Hundred Days,” held at Suffolk University.

Erika Gebo, Sociology, was awarded two Shannon Anti-Gang and Youth Violence Grants from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to assist the communities of Springfield, Fitchburg, Leominster and Gardner in addressing gang issues.

Heather Hewitt, Sawyer Business School, North Andover campus, received the Dean Barbara Erickson Award for outstanding service to graduate students from the University’s Graduate Student Association.

Karen Jasinski, Student Activities and Service Learning, is engaged to Nathan Phillips of Camden, Maine. They are planning a July 18, 2009, wedding at St. Catherine of Sienna Church in Norwood.

Walter Johnson of Physics reports that his wife, Lea Johnson, former director of the Suffolk University Management Education Center, has been named dean of the School of Business Administration and Graduate School of Management at American International College.

Congratulations to Faith Litchcock-Morellato of the Ballotti Learning Center on the birth of her daughter Julia Evani Morellato on November 6, 2008.

Bob Rosenthal, Communication and Journalism, discussed the economic situation of The Boston Globe and the newspaper industry in general on Fox 25 Boston’s morning show on May 11, 2009.

Keri E. Iyall Smith, Sociology, is the vice president of Sociologists Without Borders.

Dmitry Zinoviev of Mathematics and Computer Science and graduate student Vy Duong presented a poster, “Online social networks as vector spaces,” at the Sunbelt Social Networks Conference in San Diego.

Ken Garni of the Counseling Center and Bea Snow of Biology were feted by colleagues at a retirement party at the Omni Parker House. CAS Dean Kenneth Greenberg presented them with Paul Revere bowls in recognition of their longtime service to Suffolk University. Snow is leaving after 44 years while Garni finishes with 40 years.

Associate Professor of Accounting Gail Sergenian received the Educational Institution Partner Award from the Boston Metropolitan Professional Chapter of the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) in recognition of her work as faculty adviser for the Boston Metropolitan Student Chapter. Presenting the award is Francois J. Assad, NABA professional member and awards reception committee member.

“I consider NABA to be the premier mentoring organization for people of color, from school throughout one’s career. It is open to all business majors, whatever one’s cultural background,” said Sergenian.

“Suffolk has had a huge presence in NABA for many years. We were the first University in the greater metropolitan Boston area to become an Educational Institution Partner by initiating a renewable NABA scholarship for an incoming student of color. In addition, we hosted the Annual Business Minority Conference and Case Competition for the last two years. Our students become very active members of the professional chapter upon graduation. Every year they have divided Case Competition teams by school, Suffolk student teams have come in first, this last year being no exception,” she added.
A Theatrical Look at Censorship

For Nora Long, “the play’s the thing,” so when she ends her day as marketing and special projects supervisor in the Theatre Department, she dons her second hat, developing and directing a new production with her fledgling theater company.

Long is the co-founder of New Exhibition Room, which engages local artists as it builds new work and re-imagines traditional theatricality.

New Exhibition Room will explore the role of censorship in a free society when it premieres its first full-length production, *Shh*!

The ensemble is building the piece using Supreme Court cases, banned books, current events, mythology, *Sesame Street* and other sources of inspiration.

“*Shh!* will serve up a physical and emotional exploration of all the things we can’t say or do,” said Long, who is co-artistic director of New Exhibition Room.

“I don’t think ‘smart’ and ‘fun’ are mutually exclusive,” she added. “Censorship is timeless, whether you are talking about the Alien and Sedition Acts or the less formal manifestos of political correctness. I’m interested in exploring these issues through performance.”

The creative process for *Shh!* is embedded in rehearsals, which began in late May. An early entry on the group’s Facebook page answers the question: What’s it about?

“The truth is, we don’t know yet. The play doesn’t exist—we are making it up in rehearsal.”

However, the New Exhibition Room, or NXR, Facebook page offers a sampling of books, music, film and television that will influence the work.

Long notes that the production may not be suitable for all ages and/or temperaments as it will likely contain nudity, violence, and adult language and content.

New Exhibition Room will present *Shh!* July 9–25 at the Boston Playwrights’ Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Information is available on the NXR Web site www.newexhibitionroom.org.

Faculty Publications

Michael Kraten, Accounting. His article “The Big Four Audit Report: Should the Public Perceive it as a Label of Quality?” was accepted for publication in *Accounting and the Public Interest*.


Carolyn Boyes-Watson, Sociology, has published a book *Peacemaking Circles and Urban Youth* (Living Justice Press).


New Faces

Please welcome our newest employees:

Frank Barrett, Government and Community Affairs

Victoria DeBassio, Dean’s Office, Sawyer Business School

Kaitlyn Davis, Public Management

Victoria Finn, Law Career Development

Paul Guarino, Information Technology Services

Stefanie Harvey, Office of the Provost

Margo Lindauer, Juvenile Justice Center

Lisa Parker, Law School
Michael Morris receives his juris doctor degree from his father, Trustee Jim Morris, as Law Dean Fred Aman looks on.

Melissa Demir, daughter of Associate Professor of Physics Oktay Demir, received a bachelor of science degree summa cum laude.

University Police Officer Dhan Shrestha was awarded a bachelor of arts degree.

Esmeralda Sema of the Sawyer Business School received a bachelor of science degree magna cum laude.

Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley is joined by Trustees Chairman Nicholas Macaronis and U.S. Rep. Barney Frank.

Director of International Student Programming R. Scott Reedy served as Alumni Marshal, representing the 25th anniversary class.

Communication and Journalism Chair Bob Rosenthal congratulates his son Tim who was awarded a bachelor of science in journalism degree.

Director of Athletics Jim Nelson shouts instructions to the crowd.
Employee Graduates

The following employees were among the Class of 2009:

Elizabeth Bassett, Financial Aid-Colleges, MPMSP
Melanie Becker, Off-campus Housing Office, MSCJ
Leslie Cummings, Sociology, MSCJ
Anthony DelPrete, Athletics, MED
Avith Ernest, University Police, BSB
Phally Eth, Sawyer Library, BSB
Jeffrey Farland, Financial Aid-Colleges, BS
Lauren Hajjar, Public Management, MPA
Amanda Hines, Sawyer Business Graduate Programs, MA
Ka Wing Leung, Purchasing Services, MSA
Isaura Medina, Undergraduate Admission, BS
Jerica Mikenas, Undergraduate Admission, BS
Katrina Nunez, Information Technology Services, BSB
Gabriella Priest, Career Services/Coop Education, MSCJ
Kathryn Rodrigues, Math & Computer Science, MED
Eric Sacca, Student Accounts, BSB
Esmeralda Sema, Business Law, BS
Mohammed Sharif, University Police, BSB
Dhan Shrestha, University Police, BA
Timothy Skaggs, University Police, BSG
Ellen Sklaver, Sawyer Library, BS
Raquel Sousa, Law Admissions, BS
Lynette Yeomans, Financial Aid-Colleges, MPA

A Family Affair
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Suffolk University commencement exercises.

The Law School ceremonies were held on the morning of May 17 with Coakley speaking. Koppel addressed the College of Arts and Sciences and Sawyer Business School ceremony that afternoon.

In addition to Coakley and Koppel, the following received honorary degrees at commencement:

• Hon. Robert L. Carter, U.S. District Court Judge, Southern District of New York, honorary Doctor of Laws
• Massachusetts House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo, honorary Doctor of Laws
• U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Newton, honorary Doctor of Laws
• Peter Brooke, Advent International Corporation chairman and CEO, honorary Doctor of Commercial Science
• Angela Diaz, MD, MPH, director of Mt. Sinai Adolescent Health Center and Jean C. and James W. Crystal professor of Pediatrics at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, honorary Doctor of Science
• David Hoberman, Mandeville Films, honorary Doctor of Humanities
• Josh McCall, chairman and CEO of Jack Morton Worldwide, honorary Doctor of Commercial Science

The University's graduate school ceremonies were held May 16 at the Westin Copley Place.

Josh McCall, chairman and CEO of Jack Morton Worldwide, was the keynote speaker at the Sawyer Business School Graduate Program commencement ceremony.

Award-winning author Maxine Hong Kingston delivered the keynote address at the College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Program commencement exercise.
Impressive Showing in Recycle Mania

The University tied for fourth place in Massachusetts for recycling and waste reduction in the 2009 Recycle Mania competition.

In the Grand Champion Category, which measures recycling and waste reduction, the University placed in the top 20 percent of schools nationally, with a recycling rate of 38 percent.

Suffolk placed in the top 26 percent nationally in the Waste Minimization Category, weighing in at 34 pounds of waste per person.

On the Move Again

Spring and summer have been moving time over the past several years as the University relinquishes leased space and settles into the Stahl Center at 73 Tremont St.

Departments packing boxes and making the Stahl Center their home this year are:
- History
- Government
- Economics
- Philosophy

Sotomayor Visit Intrigues Analysts

Supreme Court nominee Sonia Sotomayor told Suffolk University Law School students that the law “is uncertain and responds to changing circumstances” in a 1996 lecture that was adapted for an article in the Suffolk University Law Review.

The article, “Returning Majesty to the Law and Politics: A Modern Approach,” coauthored with Nicole A. Gordon, gives a glimpse of federal appeals judge Sotomayor’s judicial temperament.

The article has been cited by the Wall Street Journal and Washington Times and in other media analysis of the Sotomayor nomination.

“What is correct is often difficult to discern when the law is attempting to balance competing interests and principles, such as the need to protect society from drugs as opposed to the need to enforce our constitutional right to be free from illegal searches and seizures,” the article says.

Athletics Hall of Fame

Inductees into the Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2009 include, front, basketball and softball standout Kate Norton, basketball players Jack Resnick and Christos Tsiotos, and pitcher Fred Knox; standing, hockey player Brian Gruning, soccer player and coach Ernst Cleophat and baseball coach Joe Walsh. The 1984 baseball team was also welcomed into the Hall of Fame during the second of the University’s induction ceremonies in early May. (Photo by John Gillooly)

Umansky Working on Accreditation in New Academic Affairs Role

Lauri Umansky has been appointed interim associate vice president for Academic Affairs and is working closely with Vice President for Academic Affairs Janice C. Griffith on accreditation and academic policy issues.

Umansky is focusing on the New England Association of Schools and Colleges accreditation process. The most recent NEASC self-study took place in 2002, and the University is gearing up for the 2012 review.

Umansky, a member of the University’s History Department since 1990, also served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences before she assumed her new duties April 1.