Phase 1 of New MySuffolk Portal Improves Access

MySuffolk, the new portal that retains the best of Campus Cruiser while introducing a new look and enhanced organization, launched on Jan. 5.

The new iteration of the portal focuses on student and faculty users. A version of MySuffolk geared to staff and administrators is in the works.

Over the years, new content was added to Campus Cruiser in bits and pieces.

“We updated the look and organized content in what we hope is a logical way,” said Michael Schneider of the Office of University Communications, which worked closely with Information Technology Services on the yearlong project.

Faculty members will notice that the SAIL terminology is gone, but content formerly organized under SAIL may be found under the Faculty tab.

The MySuffolk portal provides a starting point for browsing the University’s internal communication structure. In time, forms and information pertinent only to members of the University community will no longer be on the University Web site, but will be accessible through MySuffolk.

For example, Public Affairs now has publicity forms for students and faculty online, easily accessible to the public. In time, these forms will be accessible only to the internal community through MySuffolk.

Some students were asked to test the MySuffolk portal before it launched, and adjustments were made. However, Schneider said further tweaks and adjustments to the portal will be made as feedback comes in via the short survey that appears on user dashboards after login.

Creating the Dream: Carmen Veloria

President David J. Sargent presents Carmen N. Veloria, assistant professor of Education and Human Services, with the Creating the Dream Award at the annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Luncheon. Veloria was honored for her outstanding contributions to the African-American, Hispanic, Native American and Asian communities. (Photo by John Gillooly)

Makeovers on the Menu at Campus Cafes

Campus dining facilities were upgraded over the winter break through a contribution of more than $1 million by Sodexo.

Renovations have been completed to the dining facilities at the 150 Tremont St. Residence Hall, the Donahue Building and the Sawyer Building, and a kiosk was added to the first floor of Miller Hall, offering an early-morning grab-and-go coffee option and a late-night venue for snacking and studying.

“Our team did an extraordinary amount of work in just a short time to renovate three campus cafes, and these improvements will help Sodexo to prepare and sell a broader spectrum of food to students, faculty and staff,” said Gordon King, senior director of the Facilities Planning & Management Office, which worked with general contractor Turner Construction and architects Bergmeyer Associates on the renovation projects.

The renovation at 150 Tremont Street was the most dramatic, as the serving area was completely redone, with new flooring, Corian countertops and various food stations, including one for international fare.

The Donahue Café has a new salad bar area, soup and sushi stations, and a renovated check-out space. The Sawyer Café was re-visioned to be more of an espresso café.

“The entire renovation project went very smoothly,” said Sodexo’s director of Dining Services Jason Laprade. “These renovations bring a whole new level of dining to Suffolk students due to the added options and ease of service.”
Faculty Publications

**Melanie Berkmen**, Chemistry and Biochemistry. Her article, “Polar Positioning of a Conjugation Protein from the Integrative and Conjugal Element ICEBs1 of Bacillus subtilis” (with Suffolk alumna Emma-Kate Loveday) was published in the *Journal of Bacteriology*, Vol. 192, Issue 1, Jan. 2010. Their fluorescence micrograph of bacterial cells is featured on the cover of that issue.


**Sukanya Ray** and **Debra Harkins** of Psychology have published two articles in the *Journal of American Psychological Sciences*.

**Human Resources**

**Retirement Updates**

Employees can access their TIAA-CREF and Fidelity retirement accounts online to view total retirement savings assets, reallocate future contributions, change the beneficiary information and update contact information. To set up an online account go to www.tiaa-cref.org or www.fidelity.com.

The Internal Revenue Service places limits on the amounts that may be contributed to the account of a participant in a 403(b) retirement plan. Please contact Human Resources if you:

- Contribute to a 403(b) retirement plan other than the Suffolk University plan.
- Contribute to a qualified 401(a) retirement plan (including a Keogh or SEP-IRA) sponsored by another employer in which you are at least a 50 percent owner.
- Make elective deferrals (including Roth contributions) to both Suffolk’s plan and a 403(b) or 401(k) plan of another employer.

If you fall under one of the above categories, you may have to reduce your contribution to one of your plans in order to remain within the legal limit for 2010.

**New Faces**

Please welcome our newest employees:

**Elizabeth Conley**, Alumni Programs – College of Arts & Sciences

**Julie Elias**, Registrar’s Office – Colleges

**Marco Flores**, University Police

**Heidi Galpern**, Information Technology Services

**Ryan Griffin**, Academic Access and Opportunity

**Matthew Idzik**, Academic Access and Opportunity

**Rebecca Kromer**, Law School Dean’s Office
Robert Allison, History, taped a 36-lecture course "Before 1776: Life in the American Colonies" for The Teaching Company, which produces lectures by the best college professors in the country. The course explores the development of the American colonies from Jamestown to the beginning of the American Revolution. The series will be released on DVD and CD in The Teaching Company’s “Great Courses” series.

Afshan Bokhari, NESAD, presented a paper “In the name of the Emperor, Princess and the Holy Spirit” for a panel “Fathers and Daughters in Islam” at the annual Middle Eastern Studies Association conference in Boston. An opinion column in the Gulf News said the conference offered some “incredibly sophisticated panels that were illuminating. One that stood out addressed ‘Famous Fathers and Daughters in Islam’.” The papers will be published in an edited volume of *The Journal of Persian Studies*. Bokhari also presented “Relevancy of Autobiographical Narratives: The Case of Jahan Ara Begum (1614–1681)” at the international workshop “Women’s Autobiography in Islamic Societies: Defining the Genre” at the University of Texas, Austin, South Asia Institute. In addition she will present “Masculine Modes of Female Subjectivity: Jahan Ara Begum’s Sufi Piety and Authority” at the special session “Medieval Muslim Women” of the 45th International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University in May.

Darlene Chisholm, Economics, presented a paper “Product Differentiation and Film Programming Choice: Do First-Run Movie Theatres Show the Same Films?” (joint work with Margaret McMillan and George Norman of Tufts University) at the Screen Economics Research Group’s Inaugural Symposium at the University of Sydney. In November, Chisholm attended the UCLA/Bruce Mallen Scholars and Practitioners Workshop in Motion Picture Industry Studies at the Anderson School of Management, where she presented “Evidence on Make-or-Buy Production Decisions in U.S. Motion Pictures,” (joint work with George Norman of Tufts University and research assistance by Suffolk Economics graduate students Evgeny Vorotinkov and Denexel Domingo).

Two Suffolk employees were honored at the annual National Association of Student Personnel Administrators conference in Newport, R.I. Richard DeCapua of Student Affairs received the “Continuous Service Award” and Amanda Jahnke of the Office of University Communications was presented with the “Outstanding Graduate Student Award.” While at the conference, DeCapua and Michael Siegel, assistant professor and director of the Administration of Higher Education Program, presented a preconference workshop to higher education faculty members from institutions throughout the Northeast to discuss the preparedness of graduate students entering the field of student affairs.

Roberto Dominguez, Government, presented a paper “The Foreign Policy of the Bush Administration towards Europe: Acrimony and Diplomacy (2000–2008)” at the 2nd Global International Studies Conference in Ljubljana, Slovenia. He was also part of the North American Team awarded a $12,000 grant to organize a trinational conference with scholars from Mexico, the United States and Canada to debate the “Future of Border Governance in North America.” The conference, held in Mexico City in October, brought together 40 scholars from six countries.

Michael Duggan, Enrollment Research and Planning, presented three sessions at the New England Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers (NEACRAO) conference in Portland, Maine, in November: “What’s new in IPEDS,” “Using the U.S. Dept. of Education’s College Navigator System” and “An introduction to the IPEDS Data Center.”

Heather R. Hewitt, Merrimack graduate programs, and son Eric were among the volunteers who participated in the fifth annual delivery of potted mums sponsored by the Sawyer Business School Graduate Programs, North Andover campus, and the Greater Haverhill Chamber in recognition of national Make a Difference Day. Eight hundred and fifty mums were distributed to 11 nursing homes and elderly housing communities in Haverhill.

Charles Kindregan, Law School, was reelected to the board of directors of the Probate and Family Inn of Court for 2009-2010 and reappointed to the 2009-2010 American Bar Association Family Law Publications Board. He was both the moderator and a presenter at an ABA conference on surrogacy in Montreal. Kindregan’s work in the drafting of the ABA Model Act on Assisted Reproduction was cited in the lead front page article of the Sunday New York Times on Dec. 13, 2009, which quoted him on the need for regulation of surrogacy clinics. In addition, the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws cited his writing in its 117th Year Annual Meeting Report in recommending changes to the Uniform Probate Code.

Karen Kruppa, Risk Management, was named a trustee on the Non-Profit Workers’ Compensation Board.

Vice President of External Affairs John Nucci was named to the board of directors of the Freedom Trail Foundation.

David Yamada, Law School, presented a paper “The Dignifying Effects of Workplace Bullying Legislation” at the annual workshop of the Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies Network at Columbia University in December. He was named to the Graduate Dean’s Advisory Board at Empire State College.

The University celebrated First Night 2010 with its traditional ice sculpture. Joining in the fun were University Security Officer Sinidu Woldie-Abegaz and Police Officer Pheng Reasey, right, along with his family, including Nathan Seale, Phary Pheng, Andrew Pheng, Sreyleakphena Pheng and Anthony Pheng. (Photo by John Gillooly)
Happy February!
Happy for some, but…

If you’re not a winter enthusiast, by this time, you must be counting the days until the frost thaws and spring begins to bud. Now that winter is in full force, how do we make it through the next few months without letting the short days and frigid temperatures get us down?

More than 500,000 people suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), a type of depression triggered by the change in seasons. Individuals with SAD may experience a change in appetite, fatigue, irritability or avoidance of social interactions. Many of us experience milder versions of this, but if you feel like you just can’t pull yourself together, you may want to talk with your health care provider.

Here are some suggestions that may help lift your mood and carry you through the rest of the winter:

• Exercise – This is important year-round, but often people cut back on physical activity when it’s cold out. Why not try and embrace the season by taking up a winter sport? Rent some skates at the Frog Pond here in Boston, or try cross-country skiing. After all, exercise is not only great for maintaining weight and staying healthy, it’s also a great stress reliever and energy builder.

• Eat good-mood food – Sugary foods can lead to severe highs and lows in your blood-sugar levels, which can leave you feeling cranky and tired. Instead, opt for high-quality carbohydrates (vegetables, fruits, lentils), soluble fibers (brown rice, sweet potatoes, beans), and smart proteins (poultry, fish, low-fat yogurt) to combat mood swings.

• Hydrate – When the temperature drops, we don’t always feel the need to drink as much water as we do in the warmer months. However, we still need to drink plenty of water throughout the day to keep our energy levels high and our bodies healthy.

• Get some sun – Even 10 minutes of sun exposure a day can make a difference in the way you feel. If it’s unbearably cold out, try keeping your window shades up to let the light in…every little bit helps.

You can always find comfort in knowing that springtime is just around the corner. Happy winter!

Student Exhibits at NESAD

The Suffolk University Art Gallery at 75 Arlington St. will present a series of student exhibitions in the coming months:

• Master of Arts in Graphic Design Thesis Exhibition through Feb. 7
• Stephen D. Paine Scholarship Exhibition, a juried show of undergraduate scholarship winners from Boston-area schools, Feb. 13–March 7
• Foundation Student Exhibition, March 10–April 2
• Graphic Design Undergraduate Student Exhibition, April 3–April 16
• Fine Arts Undergraduate Student Exhibition, April 17–May 5
• Master of Arts in Interior Design Thesis Exhibition, May 6–May 23

Holiday Cheer

Carolina Garcia, program director of Service Learning, and husband Santiago Comella sit with sons Santiago and David Comella as they visit with Santa Claus at the annual holiday party. Meanwhile, Olivia Harvey sports a flowery mask of face paint as she celebrates with mom Stefanie Harvey, Provost’s Office, and Santa. A close look behind the beard reveals a face that’s familiar around campus. (Photos by John Gillooly)