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Some things are better the second time around, and, for University employees Jason Riccio and Joseph Wolk, that holds true for their University graduations.

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“Working during the day and going to school at night is definitely a balancing act,” said Riccio, an academic adviser in the Sawyer Business School. “I feel graduating this time is more of a relief and brings a sense of accomplishment.”

Riccio and Wolk were awarded master’s in education degrees May 21 at College graduate commencement exercises, but that’s not the only thing they have in common. Riccio graduated from the University in 2003 with a BS in Media Studies, while Wolk graduated in 2007 with a BS in Sociology and Theatre. Both were hired by the University immediately after earning their degrees.

Both second-time graduates are proud of their Suffolk University roots and consider the campus their home away from home—for good reason.

Wolk’s office in the Donahue Building is next door to the Student Accounts/Bursar’s Office, where his wife, Janet, a 2007 graduate, works as the office coordinator. They met here, started dating in October 2008 and were married less than one year later. Today, they are the parents of a 6-month old daughter, Chloe.

Riccio’s office on the eighth floor of the Sawyer Building is a brief stroll from the Rosalie Stahl Center, where his wife, Cathy Bright, works as a counselor in the Graduate Admission Office. They met here in 2005 and were married in 2010.

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Visiting Scholar Receives Poetry Prize

Poet David Ferry, a Distinguished Visiting Scholar in the College since 2009, has won the 2011 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, which recognizes the extraordinary lifetime accomplishments of a living U.S. poet.

The $100,000 prize is sponsored by the Poetry Foundation, publisher of Poetry magazine, and is considered one of the most prestigious awards given to American poets. Ferry will donate the money to social service organizations that he has supported in the past.

The poet has taught seminars on classics and translation in the University’s English Department each semester since fall 2009. Ferry also is a regular guest lecturer in poetry classes, and he gives readings of his works at the University’s Poetry Center. He will return for a third year as a distinguished visiting professor in fall 2011.

“David has found a new life with these Suffolk students,” said Visiting Professor of English George Kalogeris. “The students really seem to love him, and he has a great relationship with them.”

Ferry, a professor emeritus at Wellesley College, has been working on a new translation of Virgil’s Aeneid while at Suffolk University and is now on the sixth book of the 12-volume epic.

His books of poetry and translation include His Epistles of Horace; Of No Country I Know; New and Selected Poems and Translations; The Eclogues of Virgil; The Odes of Horace; A Translation; Dwelling Places: Poems and Translations; Gilgamesh: A New Rendering in English Verse; Strangers: A Book of Poems; On the Way to the Island; and The Limits of Mortality: An Essay on Wordsworth’s Major Poems.

Potpourri

Barbara Abrams of Humanities and Modern Languages and Gloria Boone of Communication and Journalism co-authored a paper “Memory and Transcendence of Place and Time in Online Holocaust Memorials,” which they presented as part of a panel on Digital Horizons of Remembering War and Conflicts at the Third Global Conference on Digital Memory in Prague.

Six faculty members participated in the Asian Studies: Traditions and Transformations Conference in Boston. Simone Chun, Government; Micky Lee, Communication and Journalism; and Chris Westphal, Education and Human Services, presented papers on the panel “Globalization: Labor, Trade Union, and Constructed Citizenship.” The panel was moderated by Da Zheng of English. At separate sessions, Gertrude Hewapathirana, Education and Human Services, presented the paper “Lived Experience of Successful Entrepreneurs in Sri Lanka,” and Ron Suleski, Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies, gave a PowerPoint presentation about his detective work in tracing and analyzing a Chinese family’s genealogical history against the backdrop of the Republic Era.

Eric Bellone, Applied Legal Studies, presented data on his research on the “Impact of Videoconferencing on in-Court Attorney/Client Communications” at Northeastern University.

Tom Connolly, English, has been named to the editorial board of The New England Theatre Journal.

Bob DiGuardia, Information Technology Services, opened the technical session of the National Datatel Users group conference in National Harbor, Md., with his presentation “The Only Person Who Likes Change is a Wet Baby.” The presentation was featured in the DATATEL DIRECTIONS newsletter.

Heather Hewitt, Sawyer Business School MBA-North Campus, received the Jerry Loy Outstanding Director Award from the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the success of chamber events.

Nina Huntemann, Communication and Journalism, spoke on “Rethinking Video Game Violence” at Central College in Pella, Iowa.

Patricia A. Reeve, History, presented “Bone and Sinew of the Republic: Antebellum Workingmen Assert the Right of Person” at Gender and Health: Histories, an international symposium at the University of Waterloo, Canada, and funded by the Canadian Institute of Health. Symposium papers will be published as an anthology in 2012-2013. She also chaired and commented on the panel “Teaching Tragedy” at the conference Remember the Triangle Fire, which was sponsored by the Labor and Working Class History Association and marked the centennial of one of the nation’s most infamous industrial disasters.

Maureen Stewart, Budget and Risk Management, and Karen Kruppa, Risk Management, presented the development and training of the University’s Emergency Action Plan as part of a panel “Navigating and Nurturing Your Emergency Response Team” at the University Risk Management and Insurance Association Northeastern Regional Conference at Babson College.

Quentin Miller, English, delivered the paper “Beale Street and Other Alienating Spaces” at the seventh Race and the Twenty-First Century Conference at Michigan State University.

Benjamin Powell, Economics, was elected president of the Association of Private Enterprise Education (APEE), an international association comprised of scholars in economics, political science, philosophy, business, history and related disciplines who have a common interest in studying and supporting a private-enterprise system. He recently organized the association’s annual conference, which studied institutional evolution towards freedom and prosperity.

Bob Rosenthal, Communication and Journalism, appeared on the Fox25 Morning News May 2 to analyze the national and international political ramifications of the killing of Osama Bin Laden.

Sawyer Business School professors Laurie Pant, Warren Briggs and Gail Sergenian were feted by colleagues at a retirement party at the Downtown Harvard Club.

Ron Suleski, Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies, was a discussant on a panel “Constructing a Multi-Ethnic Utopian Culture in Manchukou, 1932–1945” at the annual conference of the Association for Asian Studies in Honolulu. He also moderated a workshop panel on “National Historiographies” at Empire and Beyond: Manchuria in the Modern World at Harvard University.

Retired Marketing Professor Joe Vaccaro was at the 2011 Athletics Hall of Fame dinner with son Paul Vaccaro, who served as emcee for the evening’s festivities.

David Yamada, Law School, was profiled in the Spring 2011 issue of ADA Today, the membership magazine of Americans for Democratic Action, a Washington, D.C.-based public policy advocacy group. Yamada is chair of the group’s executive committee.

Dmitry Zinoviev and Vy Duong, Math and Computer Science, served as judges at the Massachusetts State Science Fair, high school division, at MIT.

The 48th annual conference of the Eastern Academy of Management, hosted by the Sawyer Business School and the University, was held on campus May 11–14. Jodi Detjen, Management and Entrepreneurship, and MBA student Victor Davidson won the CASE Fellows Award for their case “Dynamic Research – The Challenge of Acquisition.” The “Best First Time Submission” went to Meera Venkatraman, Marketing, and alumnus Sean Zinsmeister, for their case, “I am hungry: I sought, I found, I redeemed.” Sheila Webber, Management and Entrepreneurship, and SBS Associate Dean Laurie Levesque served as vice presidents of local arrangements for the conference.

Webber also was elected Eastern Academy of Management secretary-elect for 2011–2012. Ben Ngugi of Information Systems and Operations Management was named associate editor for technology for The CASE Journal.

The Student Government Association recognized the following faculty and staff members at its annual Leadership Awards banquet:

Outstanding Coach
Adam Nelson – Men’s Basketball

Outstanding Administrator of the Year
Craig Cullinane, Diversity Services

Outstanding College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Member
Rachael Cobb, Government

Outstanding Sawyer Business School Faculty Member
George Moker, Entrepreneurship

Outstanding New England School of Art and Design Faculty Member
Lydia Martin, Foundation Studies

Unsung Hero Faculty/Staff
Dave DeAngelis, Student Affairs

A Job Well Done
Vice President -Treasurer Francis X. Flannery and his extended family celebrate his retirement from the University. A large contingent of current and former employees, trustees and colleagues joined them to pay tribute to Flannery’s 47 years of dedicated service. “The two words this University stands for, honesty and diligence, perfectly describe Frank Flannery,” said Michael Dwyer, retired assistant treasurer, who worked with him for 41 years. Flannery, who was named trustee emeritus, said he will continue to be involved with the University as an active member of the board of trustees. He began working at the University the day after he received his Suffolk MBA degree. (Photo by John Gillooly)
As expected, it was a family affair for Riccio and Wolk on graduation day. When they walked across the stage to receive their Suffolk degrees—for the second time—they were cheered on by their loved ones, including Wolk’s grandfather, Milton Wolk, a 1958 Suffolk alumnus.

“It’s great that my parents and grandparents were there,” said Wolk. “They’ve always pushed me on the importance and value of receiving a good education.”

Suffolk University and the Law School awarded degrees to 2,454 students at commencement exercise, May 21-22.

William “Bill” Bratton, a security expert who has led the nation’s largest police departments, and his wife, television personality and trial attorney Rikki Klieman, addressed Law School graduates.

The keynote speaker for the undergraduate ceremony was Jeff Glor, a onetime WHDH-Boston television reporter who now is news anchor for “The Early Show” on CBS.

Greater Media Chair and CEO Peter H. Smyth addressed the Sawyer School of Business graduate commencement, and Joaquín Almunia, vice president of the European Commission, the EU Executive branch, addressed the College of Arts and Sciences graduate students.
Brothers Edwin and Alan Dillaby

Chairman of the Board Andrew C. Meyer, Jr., Law School Commencement speaker Rikki Klieman and Law Dean Camille Nelson

The Hon. John E. Fenton, Jr., salutes the crowd after receiving his honorary doctor of laws degree.

Joseph Wolk of the College Registrar’s Office with wife Janet Wolk of Student Accounts/Bursar’s Office and their daughter Chloe

Law School Commencement speaker William Bratton

Jason Riccio of the Sawyer Business School and wife Cathy Bright of Graduate Admission
Law School honorary degree recipients John E. Fenton, Jr., David Chesnoff, Rikki Klieman, William Bratton and Therese Murray; Trustees Gerard Doherty and Michael George, Acting President and Provost Barry Brown, Law Dean Camille Nelson, Chairman of the Board Andrew C. Meyer, Jr., and Trustee James Morris

Casey Kennedy of Payroll and R. Scott Reedy of the Center for International Education

College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Commencement speaker Joaquín Almunia, College Dean Kenneth Greenberg and Acting President and Provost Barry Brown

Sawyer Business School Graduate Commencement speaker Peter Smyth


Undergraduate Commencement speaker Jeff Glor

Jessie Schloss of Facilities Planning
Poynton Receives Counselor of the Year Award

The American School Counselor Association has named Timothy Poynton the 2011 Counselor Educator of the Year. Poynton is an assistant professor of Education and Human Services and director of the School Counseling Program in the College.

“We are delighted that Tim Poynton’s outstanding contributions in the field of school counseling have been recognized by an organization with worldwide influence,” said Dean Kenneth Greenberg. “Students in our Education and Human Services Department benefit from his teaching and research, but Tim’s influence extends far beyond our campus to benefit professionals across the nation and around the world.”

Poynton said that “while teaching is central to the mission and identity of Suffolk University, the supports provided for faculty to engage in research and professional service activities were key to my being chosen for this award. As such, I view it as acknowledgment not just of my contribution to the profession of school counseling, but our contributions.”

Faculty Publications


Linda Brown, Foundation Studies & Fine Arts, had an exhibition “Habits of Growth,” featuring sculptures with living plants, at the Kingston Gallery in Boston.

Krisanne Bursik, associate dean of the College, and Julia Gefter, doctoral student in Clinical Psychology, have published a co-authored manuscript “Still Stable After All These Years: Perceptions of Sexual Harassment in Academic Contexts” in the peer-reviewed Journal of Social Psychology, 2011, 151(3), 331-349.

Anthony G. Eonas, Business Law and Ethics, and Erin M. Secord published “Exploring the Creditor’s Duty of Reasonable Care Under UCC Article 9 Amidst Recession and Revision” in the Oregon Law Review.


“Charles Burnett: The Power to Endure,” a film retrospective featured at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, included the Suffolk-affiliated documentary “Nat Turner: A Troublesome Property.” The film is the product of collaboration between Charles Burnett, a 2010 Suffolk honorary degree recipient, College Dean Kenneth Greenberg, and Frank Christopher, a 2009 Visiting Scholar in the College of Arts and Sciences. The three collaborators wrote the film, with Greenberg and Christopher acting as producers and Burnett as director. It was screened nationally on PBS in 2003 and has since been shown in film venues across the world, including the Louvre in Paris.

Susan Orsillo, Psychology. Her book The Mindful Way though Anxiety: Break Free from Chronic Worry and Reclaim Your Life is being translated into Spanish, German and Finnish.


Lydia Segal, Business Law and Ethics. She co-authored, with L. Gideon and M.R. Haberfeld, “Comparing the Ethical Attitudes of Business and Criminal Justice Students” in Social Science Quarterly.

Miriam Weismann, Business Law and Ethics. Her paper “Achieving the Goal of Credible Regulatory Oversight” was accepted for publication in Academy of Legal, Ethical and Regulatory Issues. It also received the Distinguished Research Award at the Allied Academies Spring 2011 International Conference.

Dmitry Zinoviev and Vy Duong, Math and Computer Science, published the paper “A Game Theoretical Approach to Broadcast Information Diffusion in Social Networks” in Proceedings of Spring Simulation Multiconference, Boston, April 2011. Zinoviev also wrote the chapter “Information Diffusion in Social Networks” for Social Networking and Community Behavior Modeling: Qualitative and Quantitative Measures, IGI Global 2011.

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Faculty Share Tech Ideas at University Symposium

The University’s first Technology Symposium in May drew more than 90 faculty and staff, who heard a keynote speech from Chris Dede of Harvard University and were able to choose from among 20 different presenters and 10 different breakout sessions.

The Symposium, co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Center for Teaching Excellence, showcased faculty integration of technology into teaching and encouraged cross-University sharing of knowledge. It was organized by a committee representing the three schools’ Academic Technology offices and is expected to become an annual event.

In his talk, 21st Century Learning: Implications for College Teaching, Dede, who is the Timothy E. Wirth Professor in Learning Technologies at Harvard, described how faculty can redesign higher education to offer students the skills they need for 21st century work and citizenship.

Breakout session topics included “Making the Most of Classroom Technology,” “Interactivity in Online Courses,” “Blogs and Learning,” “Visual Technology,” “Podcasting and iTunes,” “Social Media,” “Getting Started Teaching Online,” “Web 2.0 Course Design,” “Paperless Courses,” and “Innovative Data in Business.”

Those attending also had opportunities to experiment with programs and applications on three iMacs that showcased Suffolk faculty blogs and online course materials.

“The feedback we’ve been receiving from participants tells us that this symposium met the needs of a lot of Suffolk teachers who are incorporating innovative technologies into their classrooms,” said Symposium Committee Member Katie Linder, assistant director of the Center for Teaching Excellence. “Not only were participants able to see what others are doing, but they were also able to ask questions and share their own experiences in cross-disciplinary discussions.”

Professor Elected to Committee

English professor Thomas Connolly has been elected to the Marblehead School Committee for a three-year term. He stressed his experience as a Suffolk educator throughout his campaign, which he believes was a plus with voters.

State of University

Continued from page 1

our future. The town hall meetings were an important first step to provide information and context, but I really benefited from listening to the comments and concerns of the community as well as hearing what people see as the principle goals of this wonderful University.”

Brown has since met with each of the faculties of the three academic units and plans to continue the dialogue with additional sessions throughout the University after the start of the fall semester.

Questions or comments about the state of the University may be addressed to him at president@suffolk.edu.

Meanwhile, the University is regularly updating information about the presidential search through a dedicated Web page located under the About Suffolk tab—www.suffolk.edu/about/45872.html.

The page provides ongoing updates on the University’s progress along the search timeline and includes a job description.