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Suffolk University College of Arts and Sciences newsletter, 2005

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Suffolk Arts & Sciences

NEWS FROM THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Spring 2005

HONORS PROGRAM ATTRACTS OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

The College of Arts and Sciences will inaugurate an undergraduate honors program in fall 2005, accepting 15 students as honors scholars.

"Increasingly, Suffolk is attracting exceptional students, and this program is designed to offer these students an enriched pathway through the curriculum from the moment they come through our doors," said Professor Agnes S. Bain, director of the honors program. This year, more than 120 excellent students were nominated by their high schools for this program.

The 15 students accepted as honors scholars each year will receive a full merit scholarship for four years as long as they remain in good standing.

"The honors program helps the College attract a wonderful group of new students," said Dean Kenneth S. Greenberg. "These students will be an integral part of the community, not set apart."

Freshman honors scholars will take honors-level sections of Integrated Studies and Freshman English in the fall and will come together in a special Honors Freshman Seminar in the spring.

As sophomores they will be offered a menu of honors seminars in addition to the regular curriculum, and the students will be asked to do a one-semester off-campus learning experience in their junior year.

The chairs and honors coordinators of the various departments are considering ways in which they can offer these students an enriched curriculum within their majors.

"We hope that, in addition to these curricular activities, the Honors Scholars as a cohort will interact with faculty to plan enriching experiences for the University that are educational and cultural, as well as social," said Bain.

The College will continue to offer the Archer Fellows program for students who are not among the top 15 but who can still benefit from an enriched curriculum. ■

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS ADD INTELLECTUAL VIGOR

National Book Award-winning author James Carroll this month launched the College's Distinguished Visiting Scholars Program, which will bring renowned scholars, artists and intellectuals to the Beacon Hill campus.

"This new program is generating excitement throughout the College," said Dean Kenneth S. Greenberg. "It gives us an opportunity to introduce new ideas to students through public lectures, social gatherings, small groups and classes with these guests, who are distinguished in their fields."

People of national and international reputation, including two National Book Award winners and a Nobel laureate, will be in residence for periods of time ranging from a week to a semester, and their creative wisdom will be woven into the fabric of the College. ■



NEW PROVOST FOCUSES ON ACADEMIC INITIATIVES

Patricia Maguire Meservey joined the University as provost and academic vice president on Nov. 1, 2004, and has been working closely with the deans to build upon and fine-tune the University's comprehensive academic programs.

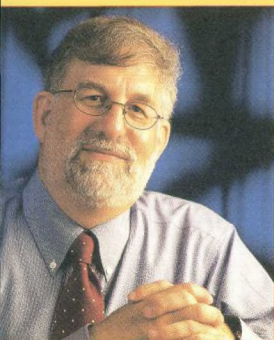
"Suffolk University is a premier urban institution with a focus on excellence and a commitment to diversity, access, community service and leadership in a global society. I am very pleased to be part of this community," she said.

Meservey holds a PhD in higher education administration from Boston College; a certificate from the

Institute for Educational Management, Graduate School of Education at Harvard University; an MS in parent-child health nursing from Boston University; a BS in nursing from Boston University; and a diploma in nursing from Faulkner Hospital in Jamaica Plain. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

She has had a distinguished career in higher education, most recently as vice provost for faculty and budget at Northeastern University. ■

FROM THE DEAN



In the College of Arts and Sciences, 2004-2005 has been a year of great innovation and excitement,

as you can see through this newsletter. From curriculum revision to a Distinguished Visiting Scholars program, from poetry readings to oral history projects, from new research projects in the sciences to renewed energy in our writing-across-the-curriculum program – each initiative we undertake seeks to enrich the education of our students. We remain dedicated to providing an education that challenges our students and transcends the classroom and the college years.

A highlight of the year in the College has been our work on a major curriculum revision, the first in more than a decade. The new curriculum is still a work in progress, but it will likely include a new freshman seminar program as well as a requirement that all our students enrich their education by connecting academic experience to experience in the world beyond the classroom. We also will initiate a new honors program, to be launched in fall 2005.

Please enjoy this edition of the newsletter of the College of Arts and Sciences, and stay connected. We value your feedback, so please get in touch at jcampbel@suffolk.edu.

Kenneth S. Greenberg

Kenneth S. Greenberg
Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

DESEGREGATE BOSTON SCHOOLS NOW
KEEP THE BUSES ROLLING! STOP THE RACIST ATTACKS AGAINST BLACK STUDENTS
NATIONAL STUDENT COALITION AGAINST RACISM

STUDENTS GATHER ORAL HISTORIES ON DESEGREGATION

More than 30 years after the court order that led to desegregation of the Boston Public Schools, Suffolk students conducted interviews with people affected by desegregation as part of an Oral History class taught this spring by Sue Goganian of the Bostonian Society.

In June 1974, U.S. District Court Judge W. Arthur Garrity, Jr., ruled that Boston “had knowingly carried out a systematic program of segregation affecting all of the city’s students, teachers and school facilities.” Students were bused to integrated schools at summer’s end.

“Students collected interviews from former Boston students, teachers, parents and others who were involved in some way with the court decision that led to desegregation,” said Goganian, who taught the course in the History Department. Before setting out to conduct the interviews, the Suffolk students thoroughly investigated the topic in class and learned interview techniques that would help them draw details from their subjects.

The class worked closely with Beth Bower, archivist for the Moakley Archive and Institute at Suffolk University, which is collaborating with the Boston Schools Desegregation Archives Project on an oral history effort called “Boston Voices: Oral Histories of School Desegregation.” ■

PHILOSOPHY HELPS SHAPE WORLD VIEW

As a University, Suffolk is concerned with the intersection of theory and practice, and the Philosophy Department plays an important role in helping students bring philosophical theories to bear on the issues of our world, according to Greg Fried, the new department chair.

It was his interest in world affairs and questions of international justice that drew Fried to the study of philosophy, and, under his leadership, the department is particularly focused on ethical and political questions.

Fried holds a BA from Harvard and a PhD from the Committee on Social Thought at the University of Chicago. He has published many articles and books, including *Heidegger's Polemos: From Being to Politics*.

Heidegger’s criticism of modernity and enlightenment stands in stark contrast to the liberal tradition the United States represents, said Fried. “The United States considers itself a defender of the political philosophy of freedom, as evidenced by the words of the Declaration of Independence: ‘... We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal. ...’ Heidegger wanted to attack that universal project.”

Despite championing freedom in its founding document, one of America’s most important challenges is racism, the legacy of slavery, according to Fried. He has been involved in the *Mirror of Race* project, which uses daguerreotypes made from 1840 to 1876 to engender discussion of slavery and racism in the United States. Fried and musician/storyteller Derek Burrows make *Mirror of Race* presentations across the nation, and a book is in the works. The images may be viewed at www.mirrorofrace.org.

Commenting on the issues of the day, Fried said that “we are living in a time when what America represents is being challenged in ways it never has before.”

He concedes that the nation “faces an enemy that hates much of our conception of what freedom means, but we must uphold our principles, not betray them as has been done at Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo.”

Fried is working to make closer connections between the Philosophy Department and other departments and schools within the University. He has proposed a writing initiative, and he is developing a service learning component for ethics courses. Next year his department will sponsor a series of events on the relationship of religion to modern society. ■



Images such as these, from the *Mirror of Race* project, raise questions about the ambiguity of race.

A HOMECOMING FOR NEW MADRID CAMPUS DIRECTOR

Madrid native and professor of government Sebastián Royo is the new director of Suffolk's Madrid campus, which he sees as an integral part of the University and "a central component in the strategy to prepare our students for a global world."

Royo succeeded Leslie Croxford, the founding director of the Madrid campus, which was established in 1995 as part of the College of Arts and Sciences. Students may complete the first one or two years of their Suffolk undergraduate work in Madrid, and the campus offers a study-abroad program.

"Most of my research has involved Spain, and I am involved with the academic community in Madrid," said Royo, who is based in Boston and

travels to Madrid monthly. "I frequently collaborate with Spanish journals and academic institutions."

One of Royo's priorities is strengthening relationships with universities in Madrid to offer more opportunities to Suffolk students and to enhance the cultural and academic components of studying abroad. He is in discussions to expand Suffolk's existing relationship with Universidad San Pablo-CEU, one of the leading private universities in Spain and a neighbor to the Madrid campus. Suffolk now has two joint degree programs with this university.

He also plans to strengthen the links between the Boston and Madrid campuses by "building additional synergies between the campuses," developing opportunities for faculty and



students to participate in Madrid campus programs and creating exciting new programs and courses.

"Our campus in Madrid will fit nicely into some of our new programs and some exciting new curriculum developments within the College of Arts and Sciences," he said.

Royo holds a PhD in political science, an MBA and a master in international relations, all from Boston University, and a law degree from Universidad Autonoma de Madrid. ■

ARTISTS' JOURNALS DEPICT SUMMER IN ITALY



Graphic design students returning from a monthlong summer sojourn in Italy displayed their artwork in the New England School of Art and Design gallery this past fall, and visitors were so struck by the exhibit that some purchased images right off the wall.

The NESADSU summer program was devised in response to students' request for an opportunity to immerse themselves in creative work in Europe.

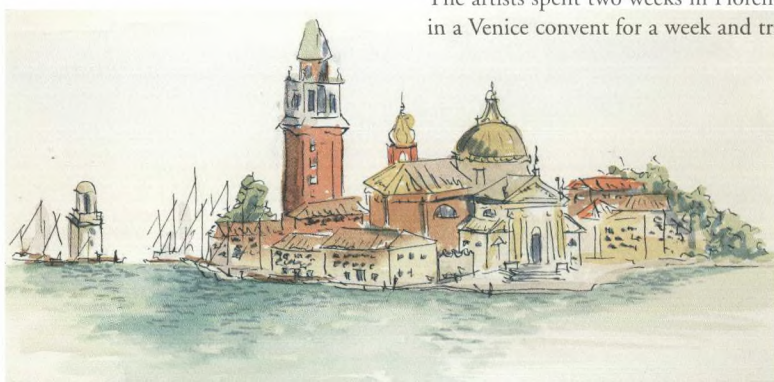
Assistant Professor Wallace Marosek created a syllabus and program and traveled to Italy last summer with 13 students, accompanied by Graphic Design Program Director Laura Golly. The artists spent two weeks in Florence, stayed in a Venice convent for a week and traveled

through Tuscany, journaling their experiences through paintings, illustrations, and pen-and-ink drawings.

"The students were energetic and interested," said Marosek. "We were amazed at their response to the subject matter, and they made for perfect diplomats and ambassadors for Suffolk University."

Working in journals was a valuable learning experience, particularly for graphic design students, who need some level of expertise with illustration, according to Marosek. Yet he sees no need to limit the summer painting experience to NESADSU students and has planned a 2005 program that has attracted students from other disciplines. In addition to painting, students will study art history under the direction of NESADSU faculty member Grace Consoli, who will accompany Marosek.

"International exposure in any country is an enriching experience, and the program doesn't have to apply to a student's degree to be valuable," said Marosek. "It laid the foundation for first-hand cultural understanding." ■





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NEWS FROM THE College of Arts & Sciences

2ND ANNUAL LEGACY BRUNCH

11am, Sunday, April 10
Ritz-Carlton, Arlington Street, Boston

SCIENCE BANQUET

6pm, Saturday, April 16
New England Aquarium, Boston

COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM AWARDS RECEPTION

6pm, Thursday, May 12
Holiday Inn Government Center, Boston

METRO WEST ALUMNI CHAPTER TOUR OF NASHOBA VALLEY WINERY

5:30pm, Sunday, May 15
100 Wattaquadoc Hill Road, Bolton, MA

REUNION WEEKEND

Celebrating class years ending in 5 and 0
Friday, June 3 - Sunday, June 5
All events take place in Boston

FRIDAY, JUNE 3, EVENTS

- Half-Century Club Luncheon
For Classes 1955 and before
Noon, David J. Sargent Hall
- Welcome Reception
6pm, Colonnade Hotel
- Boston Pops
8pm, Symphony Hall

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, EVENTS

- CAS/SSOM Dinner and Awards Reception
6 pm, Prudential Skywalk

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, EVENTS

- Farewell Breakfast
9am, 10 Somerset Street

BOSTON RED SOX VS. MINNESOTA TWINS

7pm, Friday, July 29
Fenway Park, Boston

ALUMNI AT LOWELL SPINNERS, LOWELL, MA

5pm, Saturday, August 6
3:30pm, Buffet at the Gator Pit

BOSTON RED SOX VS. DETROIT TIGERS

7pm, Friday, August 26
Fenway Park, Boston

For more information or to find out how
you can get involved, please contact Jean
Campbell, director of alumni relations,
617.573.8457 or jcampbel@suffolk.edu

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY ALUMNI EVENTS

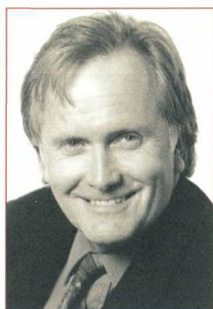
NOTED AUTHORS CELEBRATE NEW POETRY CENTER

The Suffolk University Poetry Center celebrated its inauguration this past fall with readings and lectures by authors of national and international renown.

Award-winning author Maxine Hong Kingston delivered the Lowell Lecture in September. She received the National Book Critics Circle Award for her first book, *The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts*, and again for its sequel, *China Men*. Her latest effort is *The Fifth Book of Peace*. Kingston also has won the National Book Award, the

PEN West Award for Fiction, an American Academy of Arts and Letters Award and a National Humanities Medal from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

English Professor and Poetry Center founder Fred Marchant is working to make the Center the hub of writing workshops and other literary activities on campus. As part of this effort, the English Department has become involved with the literary journal *Salamander*, which was founded by Visiting Assistant Professor Jennifer Barber.



English Professor and Poetry Center
founder Fred Marchant

In November, the Poetry Center hosted poets David Daniel, editor of *Ploughshares* magazine and author of the Levis Reading Prize-winning book, *Seven-Star Bird*; Saskia Hamilton, author of the poetry collection *As for Dream*; David Rivard, who won the James Laughlin Award of the Academy of American Poets for *Wise Poison* and the Agnes Lynch Starrett Poetry Prize for *Torque*; and Marchant, author of *Full Moon Boat*, *House on Water*, *House in Air*, and *Tipping Point*, which won the Washington Prize in poetry.

The event was cosponsored by Graywolf Press, a nonprofit literary publisher. Graywolf Press Director Fiona McCrae also spoke that day about her life as an editor and director of one of the nation's leading independent literary presses. ■