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Suffolk University Law Dean's Alumni Newsletter, Spring 2003

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SPRING 2003



DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF
SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL,



SUFFOLK
UNIVERSITY
LAW SCHOOL

One of my favorite euphemisms in higher education is our reference to the second half of the academic year as the "spring" semester. Record snow falls and cold temperatures in New England since January make it difficult to believe that we are halfway through the "spring" semester as I write this letter.

Despite the challenges of a harsh New England winter (or maybe because of them), the level of activities at the Law School has been extremely high. I continue to be very impressed with the richness of the Law School's curriculum and programs, and the accomplishments of our faculty and students. I will mention some of the highlights in this letter to alumni and friends, and I encourage you to visit our website at www.law.suffolk.edu for additional information about activities at the Law School.

FACULTY

One of the best ways to convey a sense of the outstanding faculty members we have attracted to the Law School is for me to describe the two who were recently tenured and are being promoted to the rank of Professor of Law: **Joseph Franco** and **Elizabeth McKenzie**.

Joe Franco teaches courses in securities regulation, corporate finance and regulation of financial services, and is the Faculty Director of the Law School's Financial Services Concentration. He is a graduate of Yale Law School, where he was an editor of the *Yale Law Journal*, and he was assistant general counsel for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, DC, before joining the faculty. His most recent articles on securities law appear in the *Stanford Journal of Law, Business and Finance* and in the *Columbia Business Law Review*. Joe has also been one of the law school's leaders in the use of technology in the classroom and has made presentations at two national conferences on technology in legal education.

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Betsy McKenzie is the Director of the Moakley Law Library and teaches courses on advanced legal research. She has added significantly to the services and resources of the law library, and managed the complicated planning and move into the vastly improved library space in Sargent Hall. She has been instrumental in the development of the Moakley Archives, which house the papers of former Congressman Joseph Moakley. She has written numerous articles on recent developments in law libraries, in legal research and in adaptive technologies, and received the Law Library Journal's award for Article of the Year in 1999. Betsy is a recognized leader among law library professionals, serving as chair of the Law Libraries Section of the Association of American Law Schools and as the president of the New England Law Library Consortium.

Our faculty has been augmented once again by an outstanding group of visiting faculty members during the 2002-2003 year. They are accomplished teachers and well-known scholars who have enriched our community.

Stephan Landsman, distinguished visiting professor for the fall semester, is the Robert A. Clifford Professor of Tort Law and Social Policy at DePaul University College of Law. **Michael Selmi**, a distinguished visiting professor for the full-year, comes to us from George Washington University Law School. **Mark Patterson**, a professor from Fordham University School of Law, has been teaching courses in the Intellectual Property Law Concentration and our new LLM Global Technology program.

INTERNATIONAL LAW CONCENTRATION

Commencing in the fall of 2003, we will have an academic concentration in International Law. For several years the Law School has been developing a broad curriculum in international and comparative law, as part of our regular JD program, our summer program in Lund, Sweden, and our new graduate LLM in Global Technology. These courses have been taught by many of our full-time faculty including Professors **Carter Bishop**, **Eric Blumenson**, **Kristen Carpenter**, **William Corbett**, **Sara Dillon**, **Valerie Epps**, **Keith Fisher**, **Lorie Graham**, **Stephen Hicks**, **Bernard Ortwein**, and **Miguel Schor**, as well as several adjunct faculty members with practice experience in international law. In addition, we have many co-curricular and extracurricular activities for students with international and comparative law interests, such as the *Transnational Law Review*, the International Law Students Association (ILSA) chapter, and the Jessup International Law Moot Court team. Establishing International Law as an academic concentration recognizes the strength of these areas of our curriculum, and allows students to receive formal certification of their specialization. Professor **Valerie Epps** will serve as the faculty director of the new concentration.

ABA CONFERENCE ON "BRICKS AND BYTES"

We continue to attract national attention to the Law School by hosting conferences at Sargent Hall that draw audiences from throughout the country. We were chosen by the ABA Section on Legal Education as the site for its Bricks, Bytes and Continuous Renovations conference.

The program is held every three years at a recently constructed or renovated law school that is considered a model for its facilities and technology. Over 200 law school administrators and faculty members attended the program at Suffolk Law School this March, and a number of our faculty and administrators were featured as presenters, including Associate Dean **John Deliso** (conference chair), Professor **Lisle Baker**, Professor **Joseph Franco**, Professor **Elizabeth McKenzie** (director of law library), Associate Professor **Jeffrey Pokorak** (director of clinical programs), **Marc Eichen** (director of academic technology), **George Comeau** (managing associate director of media services), as well as **Kathryn Battillo**, the vice president for advancement for Suffolk University.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Another national conference at the Law School this spring reflected the leadership roles played by Suffolk students in the National Women's Law Student Association (NWLSA). The 2003 NWLSA conference, attended by students from law schools in all parts of the country, was chaired by Jessica Massey, '03; Tina Nguyen, '03, is the president of the NWLSA Board; and Pamela Nsuti, '03, is the director of the NWLSA moot court competition.

Suffolk students have gained recognition for their accomplishments in a variety of ways, and I can only mention here a few examples. Kyla McSweeney, '03, was recently selected for a highly-competitive Equal Justice Works Fellowship. Only 30 students, out of 250 applicants nationally, receive these prestigious two-year fellowships funded by Equal Justice Works and private donors. During her fellowship, Kyla will work with Greater Boston Legal Services to increase access to quality childcare for low income families.

Stephen Wilson, '03, won the Boston Patent Law Association's annual legal writing competition. His winning article, entitled "Rewarding Creativity – Transformative Use in the Jazz Idiom," also received second place honors in the Nathan Burke competition sponsored by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).

Suffolk's advocacy teams continue to excel in moot court competitions. Our team won the national championship in the Hispanic National Bar Association Moot Court Competition. Team members, Joel Munoz, '04, and Patricia Morissette, '03, bested 26 teams at the national finals in Dallas, Texas. In the National Trial Competition, Suffolk's team comprised of Eugenia Rutherford, '03, and Christopher Perillo '04, won the Northeast regional. In the Tax Moot Court finals held in St. Petersburg, Florida this winter, Stephen Silveri, '03, was recognized as the "best oralist" in that national competition.

Suffolk students have
gained recognition for
their accomplishments in
a variety of ways

Another area in which
you can be of tremendous
assistance to our students
is in career counseling.

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

We look forward to seeing alumni from classes ending in '3' or '8' at the reunion weekend, June 6 and 7, 2003. We have rescheduled reunions from the fall to June and have increased the number of events and activities leading up to the reunion dinner. We hope you are as excited about the new format as we are, and will encourage fellow classmates to attend. Please visit the alumni website at www.law.suffolk.edu/alumni for current news, planned events and reunion registration.

Our alumni chapter in New Hampshire has embarked on an ambitious project to support Suffolk alumni pursuing public service careers in that state. The Law School has a proud history of its graduates going into public interest and government jobs, but many current students cannot consider these lower-paying careers because of the debt service on their educational loans. The average indebtedness of graduating students who received financial aid is approximately \$70,000.

Through the leadership of Judge John Maher, '68, Suffolk Law alumni will be making contributions to a newly-created loan repayment assistance fund that will provide stipends to Suffolk graduates working in public service careers in New Hampshire. We hope that this model can be replicated by alumni chapters in other parts of the country as well. For more information contact the office of alumni relations at 617.305.1999 or email at diane.schoenfeld@suffolk.edu

Another area in which you can be of tremendous assistance to our students is in career counseling. Our graduating seniors face a daunting challenge in their job searches in the current economy. If you know of employment opportunities, or if you are willing to meet with students to discuss their career plans, please contact Jim Whitters, Director of Career Development at 617.573.8148 or email at james.whitters@suffolk.edu.

We are very pleased to announce that **Diane Frankel Schoenfeld** has been appointed Director of Alumni Relations for the Law School. Some of you have met Diane already, as she has served with energy and creativity as the interim director since last summer. She brings 13 years of experience in alumni relations and development, working previously at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design and at Hebrew College.

If you have not met Diane yet, I hope you will do so at one of the many upcoming alumni events, or you can contact her at 617.305.1999 or email at diane.schoenfeld@suffolk.edu.

I hope that 2003 is off to a healthy and prosperous start for each of you!

Best wishes,



Robert H. Smith
Dean and Professor of Law