In the Aftermath of the Tsunami

Associate Professor Judy Dushku of the Government Department was part of a Human Rights Assessment Delegation visiting Banda Aceh, Indonesia, in December 2005. Here is her report on the aftermath of the tsunami and the Acehnese bid for independence from Indonesia.

By Judy Dushku

REMOTE TRAGEDY HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD can reach and move us powerfully. When the tsunami struck South Asia in December 2004, the news was conveyed to us by powerful pictures of waterborne death and devastation. Many learned for the first time of the hard-hit Indonesian province of Banda Aceh, where 130,000 lives were lost and the homes of thousands more destroyed. Yet Aceh’s troubles go deeper, through political conflict and a struggle for independence spanning decades.

The trip coincided with formal events publicizing the most recent peace accord and its program of mutual accommodations between the Jakarta government and the Acehnese. Shadia Marhaban, an Acehnese activist refugee and political scientist who had visited Suffolk in March 2005, had been one of the negotiators at European Union-brokered peace talks in 2005 in Helsinki, where an agreement was worked out to provide some measure of autonomy for Aceh, control of some of the value of its considerable oil and gas reserves, and the withdrawal of 20,000 Indonesian soldiers from the province in exchange for a laying down of arms by the GAM (Free Aceh Movement).

I saw partial progress in providing housing and schools for the Acehnese who lost family members and every possession in the tsunami. The aid expenditure is slowed by bureaucracy and by land ownership issues; many homes simply could not be rebuilt on their original locations. “Temporary” tents delivered right after the tsunami remain as ragged homes, schools and clinics. Still, there are new “barracks,” featuring a long common porch with doors leading off to one-room “homes” every 15 feet or so. Each room houses a new “family” made up, for example, of a surviving uncle or aunt, a widow with her children, perhaps a former neighbor, a nephew or niece.

Economic life has not been restored and most adults seek work to supplement their government rations. People who have lived beside the sea for centuries have been forced to move inland. Neither fishing nor agriculture has been properly restored, and many people are angry at the slow pace of rebuilding. Aceh accounts for between 30 percent and 40 percent of Indonesia’s oil and natural gas export production, yet much of the wealth of the province never reaches the Acehnese people.

Continued on page 8

From the Archivist

Photo Fun at the Suffolk Archives

A N ENTHUSIASTIC GROUP OF self-described “Suffolk Old-Timers” met Jan. 13 to help the archives’ staff identify the people, places and events captured in our thousands of photographs.

Led by intrepid organizer Michael Dwyer, our photo volunteers spent several hours poring through 18 boxes of historical photographs of Suffolk. Stories were told of events and folks departed, and many saw their younger selves emerge from an acid-free folder. Many thanks to Gail Brickley, Bill Coughlin, Lorraine Cove, Maureen Dooley, Bob DiGuardia, Michael Dwyer, Chuck Feltch, Nancy Fine, Paula Fleck, Mary A. Heffron, Catherine Judge, Paul Ladd, Judy Minardi, Jim Nelson, Jackie Parker, Chris Perry, Mary Karen Rogers, Paul Ryan, Jane Scherban and Susan Scott.

The Archives is happy to report that we have 66 photo boxes still to organize and identify, so there is ample opportunity to participate in a future photo party. We will be calling for faculty and former student volunteers soon. If you’d like to get involved, please e-mail Becky Rudolph at brudolph@suffolk.edu.

Continued on page 7
A Message to Readers

Dear Readers,

You may have noticed in recent issues that more people have been communicating to their Suffolk colleagues through the SUN. We have welcomed University Archivist Beth Bower and Tech mavens Bill Mahoney and Reynold McGuire as columnists, and all of them have contributed interesting and useful articles.

Plus, this issue features a bylined article from Judy Dushku of the Government Department, who traveled to the region devastated by the 2004 tsunami and shares her insights with us.

We hope you enjoy these new voices contributing to our pages. Perhaps they will inspire you to get in touch with an idea. As always, your feedback is welcome.

The campus also has had an influx of new ideas this spring semester through the College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Visiting Scholar program. Guests include Nobel-Prize-winning Iranian human rights champion Shirin Ebadi; Robert Brustein, founder of the American Repertory Theatre (A.R.T.); and political scientist Christiane Lemke of the University of Hannover in Germany. And NESDASU welcomed its first visiting artist, Jaune Quick to See Smith.

Suffolk's own scholars will have the opportunity to present their research during a March 30 academic conference, which will be open to the entire University community. This academic conference will set the stage for a similar symposium to be held during our Centennial year. Scholars from other institutions will join Suffolk faculty in presentations on a particular theme—just one of the many ways we will showcase the University during the 2006-2007 academic year.

Rosemarie E. Sansone
Executive Editor

Tech Talk: Creating Stronger Passwords

YOUR PASSWORD IS YOUR FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE to securing your information. That information can be anything: your work, your personal calendar, family photos, e-mail. In the world of computers and technology your password is one of the single most important pieces of information you possess.

Most people know your name, so most people know your user login ID, and you have to protect that.

Texas A&M University’s Research Foundation reported that a standard six-character, single-case password has 308 million possible combinations. It would only take five to 10 minutes for any password cracker to go through those combinations to reveal your password. By changing your password to eight characters and substituting a number and special characters, you bump up the complexity to around 6,000 trillion combinations.

That is a significant increase by only changing a few parts of your password.

How can you remember a truly unique password? Easy!

Let’s create an example. Let’s take a simple sentence: I currently work at Suffolk University. Simple right? Now, take the first letter of each word; that gives you: icwasu

Let’s change the case, alternating between upper- and lowercase characters: iCwAsU

This is a start, but not good enough. By replacing some of the letters with “special characters,” we can change our password into: i<w@sU

We replaced the “c” with the less-than sign “<”, and we replaced the “a” for “at” with the actual “@” sign.

The best part of this is that you are still just remembering your simple phrase! “I currently work at Suffolk University” still hasn’t changed, but we have turned it into a password that would take days if not weeks for a password cracker to figure out! You can add on even more extra characters. Us nerds call it “padding”, toss an extra “<” or “@” in your password.

i<w@sU^<
i<w@sU#@
i<w@sU^&

In review:
• Don’t write down your passwords — not for ANY reason!
• Don’t choose passwords based on simple words, dictionary words or words based on personal information.
• Choose a password at least six characters long, preferably eight characters or greater.
• Select a phrase or sentence you can easily remember and convert it using the skills you learned in this document.
• Do not let anyone use your password for any reason.
• No one from Suffolk University will ask for your user login ID or your password. Do not give them out.
• If your friend or coworker can guess your password, other people can.

Reynold McGuire
Network Services Group

Suffolk University News

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Good Neighbor, Good Policy: An Interview with John Nucci

John A. Nucci, recently appointed to the newly created position of vice president of government and community affairs, shared his views about his new role in a conversation with the SUN.

Nucci had served on the Boston School Committee, was an at-large member of the Boston City Council and clerk of the Suffolk County Criminal Superior Court. In addition to these elected positions, he served as director of community coordination for more than 20 years at Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD).

What are your immediate thoughts and concerns as you assume your new position?

I suppose that the first thing that comes to mind is how very fortunate I am to have President Sargent and the Board of Trustees offer me the opportunity to work for an institution that I know so well and respect so much and to be able to do so in the area of government and community relations, which, really, has been my entire professional life to date. Leaving 21 years of elected office is certainly an adjustment, but the fact that it will be a virtually seamless transition to my new position will surely make things a lot easier.

How do you feel your background as an elected official will help you in your new role at Suffolk?

Knowing how government works, thinks and even speaks will be an important attribute as we move forward as an institution. An elected official, especially in a city like Boston, is forced each and every day to deal with community issues, find common ground and consensus, and navigate political processes. That's the type of experience that one simply does not fully learn or understand without direct experience.

What are the key challenges of this newly created position?

Assuming a vice-presidential position in an area that never existed before now, I suspect that there will undoubtedly be some ground that we will have to make up in the early stages. As we know, most of the other major institutions in the area have had people and departments focusing exclusively on this function for quite some time.

Longer term, and stated broadly, under President Sargent's skilled leadership, Suffolk has managed to both grow in size and stature and simultaneously remain true to its original mission. In the coming years, managing this growth, continuing to be a good neighbor and maintaining positive and productive relations with policy and opinion makers will be critical to our success.

What are your primary objectives and goals in expanding Suffolk's profile in the local community?

I think that it's actually more than simply expanding our profile (although that is certainly key), and I'm certain that our challenge goes far beyond just the local community. Suffolk has a great story to tell, not just about it's origin and mission, but also about its remarkable growth in recent years. We are celebrating 100 years of doing something quite unique and special.

Whether it's right here on Beacon Hill, within the Greater Boston region, across the commonwealth or in the halls of Congress, I hope to help others understand just what our University is accomplishing, and, hopefully, how they can work jointly with us to continue. There is no shortcut or gimmick to expanding an institutional profile; it has to be earned with dedication, trust and commitment.

What do you feel people should know about the positive impact Suffolk has made in the city of Boston and its neighboring communities?

That question can be broken down into so many categories and subcategories — and that's the beauty of Suffolk! For example, when it comes to students, just think of the people who obtained an undergraduate, graduate or law degree at Suffolk because we gave them the opportunity and access to do so while they worked or raised a family or both. In fact, you're talking with one of them.

Or else, look how we have managed to help this city with our incredible and widely hailed law school facility so perfectly blended into the downtown and how we are helping ease the housing crunch in Boston by building residence halls and housing our students. We have been a great neighbor and will continue to be.

From a government relations and community standpoint, what does Suffolk need to do in order to continually grow to meet the needs of these ever-changing times?

What I hope to do is focus and channel the already outstanding contributions being made by so many members of the Suffolk faculty, staff, alumni and student body into a tangible strategy to convince both the community and government leaders of our value and importance. The talent and dedication is already apparent at Suffolk; I'm hoping that we can utilize that goodwill to the benefit of the University and those who benefit from our many contributions at so many levels.

Save the Date

Suffolk University will present an academic conference, "Discovery: Boundaries and Connections," from noon to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 30, 2006. For information, contact Julie Schniewind, jschniew@suffolk.edu.
Potpourri

The History Department, along with the Old South Meeting House, will honor Benjamin Franklin’s 300th birthday with a marathon reading of Franklin’s autobiography and other writings starting at noon Thursday, March 2, at the Old South Meeting House. Robert Allison, History chair, invites everyone to participate as readers or listeners in this unique celebration of Boston’s greatest son. Those who stay for the entire marathon will receive a copy of Franklin’s collected writings. CAS Dean Ken Greenberg will be one of the readers. For more information, contact Allison at ballison@suffolk.edu.

Michael Basseches, Psychology, conducted a workshop on “Adult Intellectual Development and Pedagogy” for the faculty at Bentley College and presented a workshop on “Challenges of Parenting High School” to MIT employees.

At the annual Association of American Law Schools conference for law faculty members Jan. 5 and 6 in Washington D.C., Andrew Beckerman-Rodau, Law School, made a presentation on converting CLE materials into publishable legal scholarship and another that dealt with pedagogical decisions and their effect on teaching.


Richard Chambers, Theatre, designed the set for the Portland Symphony Orchestra’s “Magic of Christmas” concert. With the help of theater students David Foley, Patrick Flaherty and Senel Onel, he put the orchestra and chorus on shaped risers and designed portals, scims and flying scenery to create scenes to accompany groups of similarly themed songs.


Gail Coffler, English, participated in the annual Moby-Dick Marathon held at the New Bedford Whaling Museum on Jan. 3. As 2006 president of the Melville Society, this was the first official event of her one-year tenure. Coffler kicked off the marathon with a 45-minute lecture on “Melville’s Allusions to Religion,” which is the title of her most recent book. She also was among the first 10 marathon readers. She was quoted in a news article that ran in the New Bedford Standard Times on Jan. 4.

Frank Rudy Cooper, Law School, was appointed program chair of the Association of American Law Schools Law & Humanities section.

Victoria Dodd, Law School, served as a mock Supreme Court justice for oral arguments in the FAIR v. Rumsfeld case at a symposium at Boston College Law School in November.

Valerie Epps, Law School, received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach International Law at Fudan University in Shanghai, China, for the spring 2006 semester.

Stephanie Hartung and Audrey Huang, Law School, presented “Showing v. Telling: Allowing Students to Appreciate the Value of a Legal Writing Paradigm” at the New England Legal Writing Consortium fall conference at Boston University Law School in December.

R. Harrison Kelton, Humanities and Modern Languages, attended the Midwinter Conclave of the American Guild of Organists Jan. 8-12 in Las Vegas, where world premiers of works by American composers Emma Lou Diemere and Craig Phillips and seminars on the organ works of Mozart and Langlais were presented in preparation for their anniversary celebrations in 2006 and 2007.

Charles Kindregan, Law School, chaired a meeting of the ABA Committee on Assisted Reproduction and Genetics on Dec. 20 at the Law School. The committee is working on drafting a new proposed model code. At the 2006 National CLE Conference and the Colorado Bar Association, he spoke on the evolving law of assisted reproduction. Also, Kindregan and Maureen McBrien, Law School, jointly addressed the Rhode Island Inn of Court. They are teaching a new course on the law and science of assisted reproduction this semester.

Suffolk In The News

The University’s Faculty and Administrators are quoted regularly in local and national media. The following is a sampling of recent media mentions, including radio and television. To view the complete list, go to www.suffolk.edu and click on In The News.

Boston Globe, Jan. 17, 2006
Bob Allison, History, talks about Ben Franklin’s legacy 300 years after his birth.

Institute for Public Accuracy, Jan. 9, 2006
Michael Avery, Law School, president of the National Lawyers Guild, comments on Judge Samuel Alito’s nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Baltimore Sun, Jan. 5, 2006
Rosanna Cavallaro, Law School, talks about victims’ rights.

CBS 4 Boston, Dec. 26, 2005
Judy Dushku, Government, discusses tsunami-ravaged South Africa.

Also appeared in:
Boston Globe, Dec. 28, 2005

New England Cable News, Dec. 13, 2005
Jim Mahoney, director of photography at the Boston Herald, interviewed live on the “morning show” about Focus on the Moment exhibit at the Adams Gallery.

Mahoney also interviewed live with FOX-TV-25 and WBZ-AM.

Boston Globe, Dec. 12, 2005
David Tuerck, Economics and executive director of the Beacon Hill Institute, on the state’s economy. Stories on the Beacon Hill Institute’s annual State Competitiveness Report also appeared in media across the nation.

Boston Globe, Boston Herald, WBZ-AM, Dec. 7, 2005
John Nucci named vice-president of government and community affairs at Suffolk.

Boston Globe, Dec. 2, 2005
Lillian Hallberg, Online MBA Program, on online degree programs.
Faculty Publications
Andrew Beckerman-Rodau, Law School. His article, "MGM v. Grokster: Judicial Activism or A Good Decision?" was accepted for publication in the UMKC Law Review for the summer of 2006.

Darlene Chisholm, Economics, had her research paper, "When to Exit a Product: Evidence from the U.S. Motion-Pictures Exhibition Market" (co-authored with George Norman of Tufts University), accepted for publication in the May 2006 American Economic Review. The May issue is the Papers and Proceedings (P&P) of the annual meeting. Selected papers and discussions of papers presented at the meetings are published along with reports of officers, committees and representatives.


Stephen Hicks and Michael Rustad, Law School, are the authors of the first chapter in Legal Issues in the Global Information Age (2005), published by the Center for International Studies.


Rachael A. Kipp, Chemistry, has been named on a patent for her post-doctoral work. The citation is: IAP binding compounds, McEndon, George; Kipp, Rachael A.; Casc, Martin; Shi, Yigong; Semmelhack, Martin F.; Albiniak, Philip A.; Wist, Aislyn D. (The Trustees of Princeton University, USA).


New Employees
A warm welcome to our newest employees!
Kristin E. Baker, Performing Arts
Kristen L. Bourque, Law Dean's Office
Heather L. Cavanagh, Graduate Admission
Mara E. Collins, Graduate Admission
Linda S. Cook, Law Admissions
Jason M. Dorfman, MIS
Bridgett C. Halay, Law Grad Program (LL.M)
Kay N. Harper, Advancement
Jamila R. Haynes, Human Resources
Ryan W. Higginson, Human Resources
Sarah R. James, CAS Dean's Office
Mark Kennedy, Cape Cod MBA
Hang Ting Law, Student Accounts/Bursar
Laura Ruth Muller, Education & Human Services
Seth O. Opitz, Law Academic Technology
Sheryl L. Pace, Registrar's Office
Samuel Dunham Rowley, USA-Senegal SSOM
Caitlin A. Ryan, Management
Kara E. Ryan, Facilities Management
Colleen J. Travers, Voice Communications
Lauren N. Webster, Economics
Natalie Ann Wombell, Theatre Arts
Potpourri
Continued from page 4

... Sawyer School of Management launched its annual research seminar on Dec. 16 with a presentation by Alladi Venkatesh, professor and associate director of the Center for Research on Information Technology at the University of California-Irvine, on "Production, Consumption and Management of Virtual Spaces in the Home." In addition to Suffolk faculty, participants included faculty members from Boston University, Northeastern, the University of Connecticut and Emerson College. The event was cosponsored by the Marketing Department, the Center for Innovation and Change Leadership and the SSOM Dean's Office. ... Fei Shi, Computer Science, presented a research paper, "Searching Patterns in Digital Image Databases," a joint work with student Ahmad AlShibli, at the Tenth Asian Employment Law of the Association of United States who will be teaching courses on U.S. law at Eastern European law schools. 

Human Resources

New Fitness Benefit from Harvard Pilgrim
Employees enrolled in Suffolk’s Harvard Pilgrim PPO or HMO may be eligible to receive up to a $150 reimbursement for membership in a qualified health or fitness club. In order to qualify, you or your dependent family member must be a member of a full-service club that offers cardiovascular and strength-training equipment and facilities for exercising and improving physical fitness for four consecutive months in 2006. Facilities that do not qualify for reimbursement include country or social clubs, spas, gymnastic centers, martial arts studios, tennis facilities, aerobic-only centers, pool-only clubs and sports teams or leagues. Individual classes are not eligible for reimbursement.

Information on the reimbursement process will be available on the Harvard Pilgrim web site in late winter or early spring of 2006. Go to www.harvardpilgrim.org and click on Member Savings under the Quicklinks.

In addition to the fitness reimbursement, employees may receive special pricing and discounts on a number of fitness products and services. Visit www.harvardpilgrim.org, click on Member Savings under the Quicklinks for information about special pricing for participating clubs in the International Fitness Club Network, discounts on home exercise equipment and athletic footwear, discounts on memberships in the Appalachian Mountain Club and Weight Watchers.

Delta Premier Offers New Benefit
As of Jan. 1, single-tooth implants will be covered under Delta's Premier Plan as a Type III benefit when used in place of a conventional bridge. This benefit has been added at no additional cost to the employee or to the University. Type III benefits are covered at 50 percent after the deductible to a calendar year maximum of $1,200.

According to Delta Dental literature, implants are "now used routinely in the practice of restorative dentistry due to the availability of user-friendly implant systems. Implants are an ideal option for people in good general oral health who have lost a tooth due to decay, an injury or for some other reason... Typically when one loses a tooth, a conventional bridge is performed to replace it requiring that teeth on either side of the space be cut down and crowned to support the bridge. However, when teeth on either side of the space are in good health, an implant may now be used."

For additional information on implants, visit www.deltamass.com under the Oral Health Literature section.

2006 Employee Charitable Giving Campaign Raises $30,779.20
The University's Employee Charitable Giving Campaign for 2006 was quite successful. This year, through your generous donations, a total of $30,779.20 was raised with monies directed to the United Way of Massachusetts Bay ($14,162.20); Community Works ($5,606.50); Oxfam America ($6,092.50); Community Health Charities ($2,805.50); and the Earth Share of New England ($2,112.50).

At the campaign closing, three employees won raffle prizes:
• Curtis Hoover, Residence Life & Summer Programs, a gift certificate to P.F. Chang’s for his prompt pledge card return.
• Bernadete Falby, Legal Internship, an American Express gift certificate, for her donation of at least $80.
• Jane Scherban, Voice Communications, a Jet Blue Airlines gift certificate for donating at least $180.

Thank you to everyone who helped in the campaign this year. •
From the Archivist

Continued from page 1

We thought you might enjoy seeing faculty and staff photos that were identified over the past few months. Can you identify the faculty and staff shown here, most of whom are still at Suffolk? Answers are at the bottom of the page.

Beth Bower
University Archivist

2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9

IDENTITIES:

1. Jim Newton, Director of Athletics
2. Tom Connors, John Compton
3. Bob Behringer, History
4. John O’Connell, Government
5. Harry Katz, Psychology
6. William Good, Chemistry
7. Judy Buhle, Government
8. Edmond Keenan, Associate Law Dean
9. Pat L. Blattner, Senior Biology (Receiving Alumni Award) and Dr. Ed Hamburg
Tsunami Aftermath

Continued from page 1

The corporate giant of the area is ExxonMobil, strongly supported by the Indonesian and U.S. governments. ExxonMobil is responsible for hiring private militias that caused many civilian deaths and "disappearances" during the conflict. The corporation also is accused of massive pollution of wells and rice paddies near its plants.

The Acehnese are Muslim, with a traditionally moderate Islamist culture. They have resisted aid that comes on the condition that they embrace more fundamentalist Sharia law. Most people express satisfaction with their moderate traditions, but at the same time some zealous religious leaders blame religious moderation for the tsunami.

Acehnese separatism is not about ethnic purity. The Acehnese are proud of their mixed lineages and joke that their province's name comes from "A for Arabic; C for Chinese; E for European; H for Hindu." Young people especially hope to be considered among the world's "progressive people." They expect to rebuild their country more independently and to resolve political conflicts. Many are optimistic that the peace process that has evolved will hold, overseen by monitors from the European Union and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and scrutinized and commented on by hundreds of NGO (non-government organization) employees and foreign journalists.

Concerning independence, Marhaban said that "placing GAM on (a U.S. State Department) list of 'terrorist’ organizations would be a shame, as it is one of the key organizations representing the true independence desires of the entire Acehnese people. We should recall that Nelson Mandela was considered a terrorist, as was East Timor's Xanana Gusmao. And the British thought a military leader named George Washington was a terrorist. Not bad company, I think."

Works by and about Native Americans

The gallery at the New England School of Art and Design is showing works by contemporary Native American Artist Jaune Quick to See Smith through March 16. Smith, a painter and printmaker who will be in residence at Suffolk as a visiting artist, has created artwork specifically for her visit here. She will give a Lowell Lecture at 1 p.m. Tuesday, February 28, at the C. Walsh Theatre.

Boston artist and book creator Ric Haynes is showing simultaneously at the Project Space. For a number of years he has regularly visited the Crow people, with whom he has created unique relationships, and his recent work involves probing into the creation mythology of the indigenous peoples of the Americas.

An opening reception for the NESADSU exhibits will be held 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 1, at the gallery.

Faculty-Student Gallery Show

Offshoots: Artists and Their Students, an exhibit at the Brickbottom Gallery in Somerville, featured the work of New England School of Art and Design faculty members and their students. Showing their work were instructors Gabrielle Barzaghi, Randal Thurston and Debra Weisberg, paired with their students, Alison Balcanoff, Jessie Schloss and Ann Fernald Borwick. The exhibit, designed to show how art teachers influence their pupils, also included the work of instructors and students from the Massachusetts College of Art, the Art Institute of Boston/Lesley College, University of Massachusetts/Lowell, College of the Holy Cross and Mount Ida College.

University Archives/Moakley Institute

Rebecca Ann Rudolph