Diversity Task Force's final act

"We grabbed some of the best students and staff [and faculty], put them in a room and said we need to talk about some issues here at the university."

Nathan Espinal
Journal Staff

The Diversity Task Force gave their final presentation to the Suffolk community this past Friday. The presentation outlined the recommendations they have made in the final report after a two-year-long joint effort of surveying and evaluating the university's climate that they will be submitting to Acting President Marisa Kelly in May. Once submitted, the Task Force will disband, having accomplished their goal, according to Chairwoman of the Task Force Micky Lee.

The Task Force has come up with a number of strategies, some of which are still debated amongst the members. However, they are sure of making students, faculty and staff receive the proper training in matters of diversity and inclusion.

"These are solid foundations for where Suffolk currently stands. It's been a year and I think we are starting to open our eyes a little more," said Levis Smith, a junior business major and student member of the Task Force. "One thing to understand, we don't have a standing committee that does things like this. We grabbed some of the best students and staff [and faculty], put them in a room and said we need to talk about some issues here at the university."

The position they have yet to reach a consensus on is whether the university should create a position that would report to the president and tentatively titled Vice President of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity. Along with this position, the Task Force hopes to create a Division, or Office, of Inclusion, Diversity and Equity, which will oversee the Commission of Diversity Affairs (CDA). The CDA was suspended in 2016 by former President Margaret McKenna and the Task Force has recommended it be reinstated since the bylaws are already in place.

The Task Force noted the concerns of the Suffolk community regarding bias incidents and proposed the university create an ombuds person based on the climate poll and the research we present.

"We found 15 colleges that were similar to Suffolk in many ways," said Director of Events Jennifer Bonardi. "If the upper administration decides that we are in need of an ombuds person based on the climate poll and the research we present,..."
Tomatoes reflects on year as acting president, what's to come

Chris DeGusto
News Editor

As this academic year draws near to a close, so does the first year of Marisa Kelly's stint as Acting University President. In a recent interview with The Suffolk Journal, Kelly reflected upon her time thus far in the high office—what has been accomplished as well as still needs to be worked on, the challenges she has faced and what her goals are going forward at Suffolk.

"I'm excited about everything we've accomplished together this year," said Kelly. "But I don't want that to suggest that I think everything is perfect. Every institution faces challenges, big and small, and we're no different in that every institutional leader acting or otherwise makes mistakes. I know I have made mine and I think in spite of all that, we've made real progress and I'm excited to be here and to have been a part of that."

Major strides have been taken this year at Suffolk, Kelly explained. Whether looking back at the improvements in communication, the extension of the university's strategic plan or the achievements on the national rankings front by The Wall Street Journal and U.S. News, Kelly said that Suffolk has been "rowing in the same direction" together as a community.

With inclusivity and diversity a forefront in Kelly's idealism, one aspect that will always be a constant work in progress is the continuation of effective communication. The president's blog, "Momentum," has helped to gain more feedback so that communicating with the Suffolk community was a two-way street. After the Presidential election of last year, Kelly spoke of the importance of conveying an accepting and supportive message to Suffolk in order to foster a sense of community.

One personal challenge that Kelly highlighted in her transition from Provost to Acting President was the acclamation of a new role which provided new responsibilities and expectations. In the fall, Kelly said she believed she needed to be present on campus, to focus on internal communication with the university leadership since positions were filled with people that were not stationed at that role the year prior.

"I was not new to the institution, but certainly new to this role. We were in a lot of personnel shifts [in the fall] that I think required us to really focus on being a team, and I think we did that pretty quickly," said Kelly.

Kelly also explained that she tried to not find herself at times in the transitional phase doing "two jobs at once" and instead focusing on her "two jobs at once." At Suffolk, Kelly said, "I think we did that pretty quickly," said Kelly.

Kelly said that Suffolk has been "rowing in the same direction" together as a community.

Task Force hands recommendations to improve university's climate

Elena Molokotos, a first-year student in Suffolk's clinical psychology doctoral program was recently awarded the Cognitive Neuroscience Society Graduate Student Award. Her research primarily focused on how twins illuminate genetic influences on brain structure. Once Molokotos decided to focus on this area of study, she began examining the neuroimaging information and performing the statistical analyses. Molokotos said the main message within her award-winning research was that the brain structures involved with executive functions, such as organization and planning, are potentially more influenced by genes than other networks of brain. Molokotos was one of 10 graduate students from around the world in a lot of ways, said Kelly. "I think that our students have the ability to directly engage with those entities while they are in-charge," said Kelly. "We need to take that experience and move forward with it after graduation. And that is something that we have always done it's been important to who we are."

The Task Force, is the creation of some of a "pipeline" that will attract students to as opposed to a state school. The Task Force, is the creation of the same attractive components that Suffolk uses to compete with other universities nationwide.

"It is that combination of faculty and staff engagement, experimental learning inside the classroom and outside of it across all four years that is distinctive," said Kelly. "There are places across the country certainly that do it well or even as well, but nobody does it better, and I would say that to anybody at any time."

At Suffolk, Kelly said the focus is on outcomes, the value of the experience provided for students, that is reflective of the university's values. With the luxury of Suffolk's geographical location, students from all socioeconomic levels are able to intertwine their academic schedule with jobs, internships, club activities and engagement with industries of the city, Kelly said.

"Boston is an international city with global corporations that are shaping the future of the world in a lot of ways," said Kelly. "I think that our students have the ability to directly engage with those entities while they are in-charge, to take that experience and move forward with it after graduation. And that is something that we have always done it's been important to who we are."

Internationalizing Suffolk is another prominent priority of Kelly. She described not only the importance of recruiting international students, but providing global experience for all of Suffolk's students; exemplified by internships, study abroad programs, or the connectivity to the international community. Going forward, bridging the gap between Suffolk and Boston Public Schools through dual-enrollment programs can create a launching platform for students not only at the university but in their professional and personal lives. This summer, Kelly said she is excited for the permanent move of NESAD to the lawyer building, and the continuation of progress on goals outlined in the strategic plan.

Over the course of the next year, Kelly hopes to implement significant elements of the pending recommendations from the diversity strategic plan, along with continued support of Suffolk's faculty and staff from a professional development perspective. These facets, Kelly said, are important conditions vital to the university.

"It's a busy world and there's lots going on, but I have felt this year like there was a commitment across all constituencies, alumni as well, a real commitment across all constituencies to work together to move the institution forward, and to do what we've always done, which is to put the best interests of our students first," said Kelly.

Connect with Chris by emailing cddegusto@suffolk.edu.

NEWS BRIEF

Suffolk student awarded for neuroscience research

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Task Force hands recommendations to improve university's climate

From FORCE page 1

It would come down to them hiring somebody for the position," said Kelly. "Ideally, they would start in the fall when the rest of us start the academic year, which is as complicated as it gets."

The Task Force also recommended the university create a new initiative that will develop a program for predoctoral, postdoctoral students, to teach courses at Suffolk related to their research interests. The advantages for such a program, as stated by the Task Force, is the creation of a "pipeline" that will expand research and set the university apart from its peers.

Establishing better methods for community building and professional development are concerns raised by University staff, according to the Task Force. The Task Force recommended the university provide more workshops that revolve around bias and classroom incidents, while also continuing the effort provided by Suffolk's Unity Events.

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Tedx Talk discusses future economies

Chris DeGusto
News Editor

A limitless future calls for endless possibilities, that of which today's society cannot predict with precise accuracy. Humans dream of what is to come, but are unable to truly see exactly what will transpire for our technological and economic sectors. Through space exploration and artificial intelligence, these dream-like ideas can start to become a reality. Speakers conveyed this exact idea at Suffolk's TEDxTalks club, inaugural TEDxSuffolk University event on Monday, "Economies of the Future."

"We meet in a university noted for knowledge. We meet in a state known for progress," said Justin Park, the co-founder & president at intergalactic Education LLC.

Park, who is also tied to the Swiss Institute of Technology, NASA, and Allen Hamilton and International Space University, presented "Space World," about the benefits of continued space exploration. A paraphrased speech of former United States President John F. Kennedy was one of the mediums for this talk, as he said today's market can inspire the next generation of space travelers.

Park said the Apollo missions of the 1960s and '70s were ahead of their time, and prompted the belief that many young people could travel to space—a belief he said is nonexistent now. This lack of belief is not true, according to Park, who highlighted where the repetition of space missions will create markets. Insurance companies, intergalactic education programs, professional sports and the use of lawyers are some examples Park gave to illustrate the number of industries that can be accessed by space exploration.

"Believe a Renaissance in manufacturing will happen that is equivalent to the original Industrial Revolution," said Park during his talk.

A pre-recorded talk from writer and blogger Tim Urban addressed an issue that many people deal with, procrastination. Urban described what he said are two types of procrastination: one who is incented, and subsequently panics, by deadlines in the short term, and another, who has no deadlines, that put off life goals and aspirations and become "spectators at time in their own lives."

With only four weeks of preparation time, Suffolk's TEDxTalks' club president Abdulla Khoury said in an interview with The Suffolk Journal that securing a venue for the talk was his biggest challenge. He explained that along with finding the right location and time, the time span proved to be problematic for another reason—finding speakers.

"It's in making a stake as to what's going to happen, [that] we influence the future," said CEO & founder of Learnvore Emily Burns. Burns, who spoke about artificial intelligence (A.I.), said the creation and development of new technologies is essential because our lives depend on it. The advancement of technology to this form could either create species immortality or cause humans to go extinct. With this spectrum outlined by two extremes, Burns said that the human race could either be overcome by A.I. or benefit in many ways.

As many jobs and household chores could be replaced with the hands of A.I. robotics, humans would be left to replace their natural species characteristics in other areas of life. With some people concerned that A.I. would outsource many jobs and cut close to humanity, Burns said that humans would infact be able to utilize this time spent on work in other areas such as with friends and family. Burns said she believes that A.I. would "inspire the need for human authenticity."

Besides Burns and Park, 6 other speakers from top-tier universities, financial sector professionals and investors presented their own takes upon the future economy.

"The goal of this event was to build through large events [to] provide Suffolk with thought provoking content that we haven't seen yet," said club creative consultant Alex Bennett at the event in an interview with The Journal.

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Perlmutter touches hearts within university

From EMILY page 1

building, Sargent Hall or on Temple Street would be difficult to find a publication that has not grown to a point where it over the other, and had grown to a point where it would be difficult to find a publication that has not been accused of being fake news.

Last Wednesday night, three journalists spoke at Suffolk University’s Ford Hall Forum on their continuing careers in organizations that have been labeled as “fake news,” as well as what role journalism should play in a democratic society. These journalists, Joe Mathieu of WBZ NewsRadio, Matt Viser of the Boston Globe and Evan Engel, formally a Vocative senior producer, all have spent time having been accused of being fake news by the public, or by the current executive administration. Matt Viser told his story of having been the subject of false reporting after controversy arose when he spoke on “The Lead” with Jake Tapper. While on the show, CNN ran a headline under Viser’s name that read, “Alt-Right Founder of 'The Proud Boys' referencing an inflammatory statement by known white-supremacist Richard Spencer.

A screenshot of this CNN segment that showed the headline directly below an image of Viser immediately went viral on Twitter, and created a false association between Viser and the quote that was at this point the subject of false reporting and an overly alarmist police abuse you’ve ever heard about, but is still the sort of thing that as a journalist you want to report. But when I brought it back to Vocative, they were adamant that I not report it and that I not speak about it in front of any forum, including this one.”

After being asked to not report on the event, Engel decided to leave the publication and began to speak more about his experience. He said that to him it was more of a joke, but the public immediately became highly polarized on the subject. He noted that “there are people who reflexively justify any action a police officer takes, and so in their eyes I was instantly at fault, without question at fault. But there are also people who get mad at any journalist for challenging power, so there were accusations of fake news. Someone said I was an ‘Israeli spy.’”

Engel said that the public tends to quickly label things as fake news if it disagrees with the point of view of the law enforcement.

Joe Mathieu said he believed 2008 began a new era of people who began to use social media as a primary source of news. He said that, “the internet was really for the first time a mainstream news dissemination tool for all ages, now everybody was reading online.”

Viser instructed that if people wanted to become immune to the biases in news, they should “Be skeptical, Sean Spicer said in one of his first briefings about how, ‘We’re going to call you out on the media,’ said Viser. ‘I’m fine with that, call us out, if people want to be fair or open I think we’re not being fair or open. I think I would call us out. I would call us out to the media.”

Ford Hall Forum seeks truth on fake news

Kyle Crozier
Journal Staff

During the 2016 presidential campaign, the term “fake news” exploded in popularity. At the start of the election season, this term was connected to stories that some believed were intended to discredit or benefit one candidate over the other, and had grown to a point where it would be difficult to find a publication that has not been accused of being fake news.

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French populism finds its face in Le Pen

Commentary

Nick Viveiros
Journal Staff

In his political movement, President François Hollande before becoming economic minister in 2014, a post he held until resigning last April to run for president. Macron’s platform is described as a “massive reduction in the number of people that the party should win.”

The right-wing brand of politics Le Pen offers ignores traditional conservative and liberal dogma in favor of populism, a brand of politics which focuses on popular, immediate concerns listed on ideological purity. It argues voters have been cheated by the political elite.

A centerpiece of Le Pen’s campaign has been the restoration of what she calls an “independent France.” According to her campaign website, Le Pen plans to “achieve a European project respectful of the independence of France” through a referendum on the “European experiment,” offering a real possibility of a “Brexit” repeat should Le Pen win the presidency.

“The EU is a utopia of globalisation, artificial protectionism created across nations,” Le Pen told BBC radio in November. “I believe that this world is dead.” Le Pen’s France also includes a “simplification” of the French Government, creating a “true Europe” where each country can make a decision on how it wants to be a part of the EU.

If you come to our country, don’t expect that you will be taken care of,” Le Pen said of government assistance for immigrants in a December 2016 speech in Paris. “That’s finished now, it’s the end of playtime.”

The election overseas has had an impact on the Suffolk community, where nearly a quarter of students hail from outside the United States. “I heard a lot of people here in the U.S. saying that Trump is sexist, homophobic and racist, in France, the public opinion is the same regarding Le Pen,” said sophomore communications and marketing major Celia Del-Rey.

A native of France currently studying abroad at the International University of Monaco, Del-Rey noted the polarization is as extreme overseas as it is in the United States. The connections many make between Le Pen and President Donald Trump are not lost on Del-Rey.

“I would say that [Le Pen] and her policies are associated with Trump by both her supporters and opponents. Those who feel that she is on the same side as those who do not support Trump,” she said. “Either she is adulated, or she is hated,” said Del-Rey.

Connect with Nick by emailing nviveiros@suffolk.edu.
Activists struggling to aid undocumented immigrants under Trump

Elvira Mora  Journal Staff

Eighteen feet of steel with a cement base and slats secured six feet under make up the southern border between the United States and Mexico which passes through in Brownsville, Texas. Texas native Rodrigo Juarez, 27, is one of the activists who work everyday to aid undocumented immigrants who navigate the way toward citizenship.

Juarez is currently an accredited representative as he was approved by the Board of Immigration Appeals to represent the unaccompanied before the Immigration Courts.

Juarez’s parents are from Mexico. And I’m actually the only one

in my family born in the States,” said Juarez. He attended Texas A&M University and carried out a year of service through the AmeriCorps program in Rio Grande Valley. Shortly after actively working with undocumented students, Juarez decided to focus on immigration and attended Lewis and Clark Law School in Portland, OR. He became a co-founder of an immigration student group and volunteering program that sent student volunteers down to work at a family detention center in Dilley, Texas. Throughout the 2016 presidential campaign and within his first 100 days in office, President Donald Trump has accelerated efforts for a wall to be constructed. As

an individual working for a non-profit immigration organization, Juarez experiences firsthand the hostile environment working with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents.

“There had been a change in the attitudes of Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/ICE. Like before, if you had a favorable case, ICE would work with you. They would consider letting your client go on bond or their own recognition or parole,” said Juarez. He said that the rules have become much more rigid.

“I feel that you fight for anything and everything. You’ll oppose anything in court even if the proposed action legally doesn’t have any sense. You have to issue a bond or even classify your client as having any sort of criminal history.”

ICE’s aggression toward undocumented individuals has rapidly increased. According to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents.

“There are reports of ICE agents raiding courthouses and hospitals and picking up people who are going to interviews with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). They are not only detaining people with these raids and breaking into people’s houses but they are also facing a massive chilling effect on the entire system,” said Juarez.

The American Bar Association offers pro bono programs such as the South Texas Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project (ProBRR), which Juarez is currently a part of.

Suffolk Law School encourages faculty and staff, who are attorneys, to cooperate with pro bono programs that are provided throughout the nation.

The law school also has an immigration clinic that offers weekly seminars to prepare students for immigration representation.

According to the American Bar Association director of the program regarding Suffolk University Law School, said, “It’s an amazing opportunity to not only learn but also to take the initiative with the university’s support.”

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ISA promotes international community on campus

Amy Koczerz  Journal Staff

Suffolk’s International Student Association (ISA) strives to promote community and togetherness among both international and domestic Suffolk students. They do this through weekly meetings and co-sponsoring events with other cultural clubs on campus. The university itself capitalizes on its great international presence. According to the Suffolk website, there are nearly 1,700 international students from at least 110 different countries.

ISA aims to bring all members of their organization so they can learn more about different students’ domestic and international lifestyles and experiences. ISA holds events, such as the Indian Diwali Festival of Lights, to bring people of all different cultures together to appreciate celebrations from across the globe.

“We want to make international students feel welcome,” said freshman Entrepreneurship major and ISA Treasurer Junaid Islam. According to Islam, international students tend to develop their expectations of college life prior to coming to the U.S. based on what they see in movies.

Since Suffolk doesn’t provide that “traditional” college experience, according to Islam, sometimes international students have trouble transitioning.

Because Suffolk is embedded into Boston, some international students experience difficulty adapting to the new lifestyle when they first arrive. College itself is a brand new experience.

International students, while adapting to college life, also have to figure out how to navigate their way through a new city and country. ISA provides a network where students can talk to others facing the same struggles and then provide support for one another.

“We want to make sure students are having fun and enjoying their city in a responsible way,” said Islam. Because they are so far away from home, international students often feel a great deal of freedom when they come to the U.S. for the first time.

“When we’re all together, we want to make sure everyone is on track, said Islam. ISA provides support and advice to any international students regardless of what they are going through.

ISA wants to have projects on campus next year, through co-sponsoring events with international clubs such as the Venezuelan Student Union, the Chinese Student Association, the Caribbean Student Network, as well as all international clubs that are interested.

“The unique thing about [ISA] is that we want to collaborate with students from other cultures as much as possible,” said sophomore Business major and ISA Vice President Charles Tang. "We’d enjoy if other international groups came to us more to collaborate for events."

Most other cultural clubs serve as somewhere of a “home away from home” for international students by providing events to experience their own culture. ISA seeks to work with students from all different cultural backgrounds to give people a well-rounded cultural experience in a social setting.

“We want to get everyone more about everyone’s culture, not just one in particular,” said senior biochemistry major and ISA President Kubra Umit. Suffolk’s international students dream to interact with other students from all different cultures. ISA allows students to take advantage of going to school alongside international students by allowing them to get to know each other on a deeper level while also having a taste of other cultures.

“We want to introduce new cultural events to others,” said Umit. The more students that come to ISA, the more cultures they get to explore.

Suffolk has a great club for American students to join to experience different cultures. Tang. The club’s executive board alone consists of members from China, Turkey, Bangladesh, and the Philippines. ISA emphasizes that students who join the club always have to be international.

“We’re living alongside so many international students,” said junior advertising major and ISA secretary Rhema Rondina. “You can’t be afraid to get to know someone from a different part of the world because you can learn so much.”

For next year, ISA hopes to hold at least two events each month to draw more members in and promote their club. “Everyone is always welcome to come,” said Umit who explained ISA feels that offering events about different ethnicities will allow Suffolk to become a closer community.

Connect with Amy by emailing akoczerz@suffolk.edu.

@realDonaldTrump
Canada has made business for our dairy farmers in Wisconsin and other border states very difficult. We will not stand for this. Watch!

TAY STUNED:
Keep your eye out for the orientation issue. It’s set for publication in June.
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The third floor of Sawyer was alive with the sounds of the silver screen on Saturday night as performers took to the stage for the Suffolk University show choir’s annual Cabaret.

Members of Rampage performed a variety of musical numbers taken from Hollywood blockbusters, as the theme this year was “Lights, Camera, Rampage.”

The show began with a rendition of OneRepublic’s “Love Runs Out,” which featured all of Rampage’s 16 members. The performance was a well-received opener for what turned out to be a stellar production. The choreography for Rampage’s group numbers was arranged by sophomore dance captains theatre major Kelsey Whipple and fine arts major Julianna Fielding, and complemented the musical arrangements quite nicely.

As one of the standout independent acts of the evening, sophomore Rebecca McAuliffe belted out a soulful rendition of Etta James’ 1962 hit “Something’s Gotta Hold On Me.” As she sang, junior broadcast journalism major Felicity Osterboin and sophomore business major Charles Tang added some background vocals.

Saturday’s cabaret was the last curtain call for Rampage’s seniors; they really stole the show, both in group performances and individual acts. Rampage president and senior public relations major Victoria Laroque and senior marketing major Casey O’Leary took on the roles of Simba and Zazu for a duet of “I Just Can’t Wait to be King” from the 1994 animated hit “The Lion King.” Laroque returned in the second act with McAuliffe to perform “The Cup Song” of “Pitch Perfect.”

“I started show choir in high school, and knew I wanted to continue with it or something like it, and Suffolk was the only school near me that had a show choir,” she said. Laroque, a marketing major from Lowell, Mass., said that as she researched more about the school, it “all fell into place.”

One of the most well-received acts of the night featured junior marketing major Kevin Landers and junior theatre major Victoria Isotti as Ryan and Sharpay Evans of “High School Musical” performing a rendition of “Bop to the Top.” With an audience comprised of those who grew up listening to and appreciating the franchise, this particular number was received with rounds of applause and a brief trip down memory lane.

It was with the second to last act - the senior number - when it became apparent that the seniors realized what was already known: this is it. The cohort of four took to the stage to perform “Come So Far (Got So Far to Go)” from “Hairspray.” While the quartet was all smiles as they maneuvered around the stage singing the classic show tune, even the audience could tell that there was something very different about the final curtain call. Based on the facial expressions of the small group, it was clear that they realized that this would be one of their last performances with the group.

As a whole, Rampage delivered what is quickly becoming their standard performance: well-executed without the sort of phony “put-togetherness” of other show choirs. There was a certain charm that the group displayed that doesn’t really exist amongst other performance groups. And, with an increasingly competent group of underclassmen taking the stage, Rampage is in good hands for years to come.
Film critic discusses impact of politics on cinema

**Felicity Otterbein**

**Arts Editor**

It takes an incredible amount of creativity and imagination to be able to create an original play. It's easy to succumb to the temptation of using political events as inspiration for your story, but in the end, it's more rewarding to create something that is unique and original. Linnea Rose and Suffolk University's Theatre Department have managed to do just that with their production of "Fractured Inferno." Brought to life within the walls of the Sullivan Theater, the hour-long play was an intellectual exercise that combined both the storylines from the literary classic, "Dante's Inferno," and warped tales from the Brothers Grimm.

Portrayed as one man's very long and confused journey, the storyline follows Michael, portrayed by freshman theatre major Liam Grimaldi, who is guided by a mysterious angel named Gabriel, played by sophomore theatre major Michael Tremaine. The two are invested in Christianity and understand biblical references will be able to appreciate the subtle, and at times not-so-subtle jabs at what happens in the afterlife. Gabriel, in Abrahamic religions, is an angel who acts as God's messenger. In various biblical texts, he is depicted as someone who interprets dreams and reveals information to those seeking guidance. In this instance, Gabriel acts as Michael's guide through the nine circles of hell: limbo, lust, gluttony, greed, anger, heresy, violence, fraud and treachery. Gabriel is known to stand in the presence of God, and therefore knows all about his power and routinely cites psalms and passages from the bible during the performance in order to provide insight to the audience on what happens within each circle.

The performance begins with a few rows of people standing in what appears to be organized lines similar to that of a military regiment. They are all dressed in army green and appear to be starting off into the distance. There is no sound, no movement, no kind of indication as to what is happening until a man, Michael, appears to snap out of this trance and voices his confusion and questions the whereabouts of his son, effectively breaking the silence.

This circle is undoubtedly the first circle of hell, limbo. Argued across spiritual belief systems, this space has been referred to as an area of nothingness, purgatory, the Department of Motor Vehicles. In religious belief systems, purgatory is a space for those who have not been assigned to Heaven or hell. It is here where Michael and Gabriel first meet, and Gabriel calmly tells Michael that he must start a journey across the remaining circles in order to locate his son.

The play itself told numerous biblical references and is suited for those who are kept up with popular culture and classic fairy tales. The allusions to stories like Cinderella and Hansel and Gretel, paralleled with psalms and readings from the Book of Timothy proved to be not only educational, but also entertaining.

Gabriel cited Luke 12:15 during the scene revolving around the circle of hell identified as greed. "Then he said to them, Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." In this particular scene, Princess Cinderella has taken over the kingdom and seems to answer that lingering question at the end of the classic Disney movie, "but what happens to Lady Tremaine and the wicked step-sisters?"

Morris explained, the Rocky movies are often considered to be a direct commentary of the debate between the white boxer vs. the black boxer. But in a pretty good mood, during a period where there weren't a lot of popular movies that did that."

In a "Rocky IV" clip presented during the talk, Morris showed a clear separation between the training sequences of the two boxers. In another scene, "Rocky IV" from 1985, the conflict changes, and we see a fight between an American boxer and a Russian boxer. Russian boxer.

Compared to other movies made in this time, Morris said, "Rocky was one out of all of those movies that put everyone in a pretty good mood, during a period where there weren't a lot of popular movies that did that."

The Soviet Union was depicted as being threatened by the United States. In this case, greed is the true power of the Soviet Union. The movie "Rocky IV" provided a clear example of how the Soviet Union was being portrayed as the "boogeyman" in American movies started to become about Arab people committing some acts of terrorism. The movie about this fear that the Soviets would be stronger than the Americans, and when it seemed that the Soviets would be stronger than the Americans, and when it seemed that the Soviets would be stronger than the Americans, the political climate of the time was reflected. The movie "Rocky IV" was released in 1985, during a period where the Cold War was at its peak. The movie provided a clear example of how the Soviet Union was being portrayed as the "boogeyman" in American movies started to become about Arab people committing some acts of terrorism.

Perhaps this play acts as a reminder not to cheat on your significant other, but also as a reminder to never let your guard down. The beauty of creating original content is that the interpretation is left to the viewers. It's opened ended and fresh and has limitless potential to become something that can be analyzed and deciphered for years to come.

**Kyle Crozier**

**Journal Staff**

American television and film has been thought to mirror the political climate of the time it was originally produced. To analyze this, and predict how this might affect the future, Pulitzer Prize winning critic for the New York Times, Wesley Morris, spoke at Suffolk University's Modern Theatre.

As an event sponsored by the Suffolk Cinema Series, Morris acknowledged the controversy that exists in politics, and posed the question, "what responsibility does the culture have in terms of responding to political issues?" He explained that although he does not have a simple answer to this, he does think it is always important to pay attention to how artists will respond to shifts in politics.

He went on to show a clip from the 1974 movie, "The Parallax View." This movie, directed by Alan J. Pakula and starring Warren Beatty, showcased an example of a plot based around presidential assassination and suspicion. Morris offered that those themes were direct results of the common general feeling of the time after the Kennedy assassination. The assassination of a political figure combined with an array of political suspicions centered around illegal activities being performed by the Nixon administration during the Watergate scandal.

Where the Nixon administration created distrust of the government, Morris summarizes the main character of the movie as constantly threatened and followed, creating a total lack of privacy.

As this was a time of heightened suspicion and when it seemed threats loomed behind every corner, Morris explained that this movie exemplified one American and a Russian boxer. The American who uses what Morris described as "God's own workout equipment," things like rocks and pieces of wood, and the Russian, that uses steroids and complicated technological exercise machines.

There are a lot of movies about this fear that the Soviets would be able to enter the country and that we would be overcome without our being ready for it," said Morris.

This theme of separation between the American and the Soviet Union was presented in other movies during this time.

He showed a scene from the 1998 thriller starring Denzel Washington, "The Core," where thousands of Arab-Americans had been placed in internment camps in order to find a suspect. He said that, "Islam is part of how we understand terrorism in this country, and it's a style that developed in some groups after President Obama took office, as well as fears of global war and world disaster as a result of climate change."

Despite all of these parallels between film and current politics, and the examples cited in the past, Morris said he was not sure he would see the same correlation between Donald Trump administration and film.
I'll be graduating from Suffolk University soon, and as I think about the school I'm leaving, I wonder how I'll feel when I think about Suffolk after I'm long gone.

The answer is not much. I've grown and come to see the world differently than I did four years ago, but most of those experiences didn't come from my education, in terms of college classes. I chose Suffolk because it advertised itself as a stable institution that would challenge me and draw students from all over the country. But in my experience, the opposite has been true. I've had four presidents come and go during my time here, and not one got a chance to be the face, the leader of this school.

Along with the Board of Trustees, many of them promoted a plan to "put Suffolk on the map" and improve our school. But if there is a guiding vision or a plan for the community to line up for and support, they've done a poor job of communicating it to us.

The campus I arrived at is mostly gone or significantly changed. That's not all bad, but the places most memorable to me, like the Donahue building, where I first joined The Journal -- my only experience at Suffolk I truly enjoyed -- have been erased from the school's story. What's left is an awkward hodgepodge of spaces spread across markedly dissimilar buildings. Our campus is Boston, but it is indistinguishable from the city, too.

Then there's my education. I made Dean's list in the past, but I was recognized for two semesters in which I felt as though my professors rewarded me for such minimal effort. In other semesters, I worked harder to do well and earned grades I deserved, but I only got recognized for the semesters I slacked off. I've had perhaps four or five truly great, challenging, and rewarding classes. But many of my courses, particularly sophomore and junior year, weren't even average. They filled in my schedule, they met my degree requirements, but they didn't provide me with much of anything to carry into my career. My internships and various jobs have filled in the areas Suffolk lacked in teaching.

While I hope other graduates had a better experience, this is how I leave Suffolk -- an average graduate with some skills and life experience to help me, but no loyalty or love for the school I've spent four years of my life attending.
EDITOR'S WORD

We all had no idea how hard it would be to watch three seniors leave at the end of the year to embark on their own unique journeys. To Sky, who instilled the confidence within us to write for this publication and become apart of an everlasting bond at The Journal, we thank you. To Katie, who’s creative and bubbly personality emanated the office, we will never forget your joyful and infectious presence around here. And to Sam, who became not only a confidant and father-figure mopping up all of our lives, but a true friend, from the bottom of our hearts, we’ll miss you all.

We’ll miss all of the work you put into this newspaper week in and week out producing top notch content, but that isn’t what we’ll miss the most. What we’ll miss the most is the laughs, the heart-to-hearts, the good times and even the bad. We’ll miss the times we spent together growing, not as writers, but as people. You’ve all become a part of our lives, and although we will forever be connected in life, it doesn’t make it any easier knowing now it’s time for you all to start a new adventure.

Something special happened this year, which is why saying goodbye is so much harder. This isn’t just saying goodbye to a friend or a classmate, it’s saying goodbye to family.

Urban crime is on the decline
Trump tweets inaccuracies and it’s time to fact check him

Patrick Holmes
Opinion Editor

It should be mandatory to fact check both what President Donald Trump says and his tweets. It seems that many Americans will believe whatever he chooses to say or write and by doing so, have shielded themselves from the facts. During his campaign, Trump sent out a tweet stating that inner-city crime is reaching record levels. This tweet, which is extremely inaccurate, is based solely on opinion with no statistics taken into account. In fact, violent crime has been declining for more than five years, according to the Pew Research Center. They even go as far as to say that United States citizens view of violent crime doesn’t often align with the data, saying that citizens believe the rates of crime are higher than the reality.

It is unacceptable that our now current president is not paying attention to simple facts that a sophomore in college can easily find from reputable sources. It is even shocking that many people believe him and do not try to search for the factual data.

In 2015, the violent crime rate increased by 3.1 percent when compared to 2014 statistics, according to FBI crime data. However, this percentage is insignificant compared to the thirteen years before where the crime rate consistently declined. There are statistics that show the rise and fall of crime rates and it seems that Trump has not taken a glance at any real information that could possibly help him win over liberal voters. It is said that the violent crime decline has been happening for decades and that small increases in few cities have exaggerated the rates, according to the Washington Post.

From 1993-2015, the violent crime rate fell 50 percent, according to the Pew Research Center. So, what does one do with this information? It seems clear that many people believe that violent crime in urban areas is increasing but the statistics say otherwise. There may be a few spikes in cities such as Chicago, but that doesn’t contribute to all city crime. There are speculations as to why the crime rate has gone up but there is not enough information to say for sure. And even though Trump said he would “bring in the feds” in Chicago, the feds are already working with the police force there, according to the Washington Post.

Personally, it seems clear that Trump’s statements should be taken with a grain of salt and if Americans want the real information, they should take it upon themselves to fact check what our current president says and tweets. Law enforcement officials were at a loss on such as the quality of policing, gang-violence and socioeconomic status. Not only with urban crime, but other issues concerning Americans, it should be clear to not trust everything that Trump states. It is unacceptable that our now current president is not paying attention to simple facts that a sophomore in college can easily find from reputable sources. It is even shocking that many people believe him and do not try to search for the factual data.

Something special happened this year, which is why saying goodbye is so much harder. This isn’t just saying goodbye to a friend or a classmate, it’s saying goodbye to family.
Caps off to Suffolk seniors final at bat

Hannah Arroyo
Asst. Sports Editor

With seven games left in their season, senior financier Francesco Saia said that his team’s focus is to prove that his class is the “most successful Athletics.”

The past two seasons Suffolk has been back-to-back conference champions with wins over St. Joseph’s College and Johnson & Wales University.

“In order to win the championship this season, both Neil and I have contributed to their team’s GNAC chances. Neil has acquired many new talents this year. He explained that he has enjoyed being able to hit for better, no matter how difficult things were. At the end of the year, Saia wants the outcome of the season to be more than the team could have imagined.

“Of all my experiences, the one that kept striving for better, no matter how difficult things were. At the end of the year, Saia wants the outcome of the season to be more than the team could have imagined.

“(My freshman year I was the only American kid among Asian players and even some South American players, which differs from tennis in the United States. For instance, in other countries the surfaces of courts vary compared to the U.S, where tennis is played on a hard-surfaced court.

“They taught me all different types of styles of tennis from the way they were brought up, how to play tennis and incorporated it into my game, making me not only a better player with new various skills, but also making the whole team better with new techniques and skills that we were never fully familiar with,” said Saia.

Although when Saia was younger he did not like to play tennis, he eventually grew to love it. His favorite part about playing tennis at Suffolk has been hanging out with his team and“sharing laughs and good times together.”

Being an active member on the team, Saia has made a lot of memories with his new teammates each year. He enjoyed experiencing the diversity the tennis team has brought him.

“My freshman year I was the only American kid on the team,” said Saia.

“So just learning from other types of people from different countries, how they play tennis and learning how to speak Spanish was fun.”

Upon graduation, Saia looks for a future in finance and hopes to further his career in New York City. Although he will not be pursuing tennis any further, he will always play in order to prevent himself from becoming “washed up.”

“Tennis will always be incorporated in my life no matter what,” said Saia.

Connect with Brooke by emailing bpatterson2@suffolk.edu
It felt like the “ultimate homecoming” for Will Feldman when he crossed the finish line at this year’s 121st Boston Marathon. Even though his visit to Boston was brief for his seventh-career marathon, Feldman will officially return to a “special place” he has always called home to take on his new position as Suffolk University’s first-ever head coach of track & field. Feldman was also named head coach for cross country on May 15.

“Being named head coach for track & field/cross country feels amazing to be honest, it’s a dream come true,” said Feldman in a phone interview with The Suffolk Journal on Thursday. “It’s hard to believe that everything is coming together and I can start building this program.”

Feldman, who was announced as head coach on April 1 by Director of Athletics Cary McConnell, said he found out about the available coaching position from a press release through The Boston Globe, which he had to refresh the page a few times before it “finally bit in.” Toward the end of serving his second season as assistant coach at UNC Greensboro, Feldman contacted McConnell and expressed his interest in the job. Whether it was coaching or supporting track & field as a supportive alumus, Feldman wanted make sure that the program would do well.

“When I saw the job post, I was kind of in shock,” said Feldman. “I would never in a million years dream that Suffolk would have track & field. I knew I had to reach out and do what I could to be a part of it.”

Feldman said he is “excited and blown away” by McConnell’s vision for track & field and already thinks the program is heading in the right direction. He traveled to Boston for an interview in January and said that he hunchered over with “great excitement for the first time in five years” as he had a “really great experience” visiting and reconnecting with the Suffolk community since he graduated in 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts in European History.

He was named most valuable player and named co-captain as team captain for three out of the four years as a student-athlete of the cross country program. He even began his coaching career while he was still an undergraduate student at Suffolk in 2008 at Suffolk’s Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) rival, Emmanuel College. Feldman said he and his teammates always talked about “how cool” it would be if the athletics department offered track & field after cross country practice.

“I knew how much impact recruiting methods at the DIII level. For instance, Feldman is able to recruit student-athletes round year to UNCGreensboro and communicate via email as early as September of their junior year and over the phone heading into their senior year by July whereas at Suffolk, coaches can start communicating with prospective students in the summer after their junior year. Even though the switch from DI to DIII is minor for Feldman and he said he is really excited to have the ability to recruit as a first-time head coach nationally. Through McConnell, Feldman has an “extensive list” of students, who have expressed interest in participating in track & field and he plans to build a competitive program.

“I'm excited to really begin the year. I'm looking for students who can definitely contribute to the team,” said Feldman. “I want to work hard to explain to them what it means to be a student-athlete.”

“I'm excited to really the word about Suffolk in general and build the program. Suffolk's really committed to this program. Even though the athletics department anticipated track & field to begin for the 2016-17 academic year since its addition to the varsity line up last summer, track & field will officially begin this fall after men's and women's cross country concludes its season in mid-November. Outdoor track & field will officially begin the end of next March to beginning of April or even May as Feldman already anticipates a GNAC Championship run. Practice will start up in the fall and the majority of both indoor and outdoor track & field will practice together.

“Any expectations [for the program] are high,” said Feldman. “What I think we’ll accomplish in a few years is: laying the foundation, establishing [team] culture and building success of student-athletes. We’re going to be hard to beat in the conference once we get going.”

He thinks it may appear to others that he is leaving UNC, a Division I (D1) institution for a coaching position at a Division II (DII) school, but he said his decision was “a no brainer and you can’t put a price tag to go back to your home.”

“I’ll be bitterness to say goodbye to the [UNC Greensboro track & field] team, but I’ve always had the dream of coaching track & field at Suffolk,” said Feldman. And he only had to wait for seven years for it, which felt more like a decade for Feldman.

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