



President Shares Vision for University

Seeks participation from community during initial campuswide forum

President James McCarthy's first campuswide forum a week after officially joining the University generated an enthusiastic dialogue, and he was greeted with warm applause as he took the stage at the C. Walsh Theatre.

McCarthy confirmed his commitment to the University's historical mission of access and excellence, described the professional route that brought him to Suffolk University and laid out the challenges he aims to address in the coming weeks, months and years.

NEASC accreditation

On the immediate horizon are the NEASC self study and strategic planning.

The NEASC self-study is under way, and the [president has received an extension](#), postponing the reaccreditation visit to October 2013. During the forum, he urged members of the community to [read the self-study](#) and specifically of what issues will be raised and recommendations made," said McCarthy.

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Campus Reacts to First Meeting with New Leader

"He was very forthcoming, and you can tell he did his homework because he knew a lot about us. He touched upon the four key areas I feel are most important: communication, collaboration, cooperation and transparency."

– **Jim Wallace, director, Facilities Planning & Management**

"Suffolk University has a great future ahead and an excellent leader to move the institution forward. While change and innovation are in the forefront, Suffolk's fundamental values of access and opportunity are holding on strong."

– **Lucia Calderon, research compliance officer**

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Potpourri

Darlene C. Chisholm, Economics, presented a paper, "The Boundaries of the Firm in Creative Industries: Evidence from Motion-Pictures Financing and Production," co-authored with George Norman of Tufts University, at the UCLA/Bruce Mallen Scholars and Practitioners Workshop in Motion Picture Industry Studies at the Anderson School of Management.



Mabel Juliet Kelley

Karen Kelley, Government and Community Affairs, and husband Kevin welcomed a daughter Mabel Juliet Kelley on Nov. 25. She weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces.

Charles Kindregan, Law School, spoke on Constitutional Issues as to Donor Waivers in Surrogacy Cases at the fall 2011 meeting of the American Bar Association Family Law Section in Nevada, where he received a plaque noting his contributions to the A.B.A. Publications Board. He also discussed recent developments in assisted reproduction law at Case Western Reserve Law School and served as a moderator and presenter at the Law School's Advanced Legal Studies program on the new Massachusetts alimony statute. Kindregan was named to the West Philadelphia Catholic High School Hall of Fame in December 2011.

Tryan L. McMickens, Administration of Higher Education, Education and Human Services. At the March 2012 National Association of Student Personnel Administrators ([NASPA](#)) annual meeting in Phoenix, he will present "Racism Readiness" at the Emerging Scholars: A NASPA Faculty Fellows Research Symposium. McMickens also will be honored as a runner-up for NASPA's Melvene D. Hardee Dissertation-of-the-Year Award. In addition, his paper "Conveying knowledge, resources, and opportunities for doctoral students of color" was accepted for presentation at the annual meeting of the American College Personnel Association in Louisville, Ky., in March.



Sebastián Royo, associate dean of the College and director of the Madrid campus, organized and moderated a roundtable: "The Spanish Election: Challenges for the New Government" at Harvard University's Center for European Studies.



Tony Ferullo, Public Affairs. Ferullo, who coaches the boys varsity basketball team at the Mystic Valley Regional Charter School in Malden, was named Commonwealth Athletic Conference Coach of the Year. The team posted the best record in school history, 17-3, and finished number one in its division for the first time.

Jane Secci, Communication and Journalism, received a Champion Award from the board of directors of [We Can](#), Women's Empowerment Cape Area Network, for outstanding service to the community at the organization's tenth anniversary celebration. Secci volunteered as We Can's interim executive director for one year to restructure the organization, create new policies and procedures and raise funds.

Ron Suleski, Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies, attended the monthly meeting of the [Royal Asiatic Society China](#) in Shanghai. Suleski is past president of the Asiatic Society of Japan.

Tom Vales, Electrical and Computer Engineering, presented a high-voltage show at the University for middle school students from the Eliot School in the North End. The presentation generated ideas for the students' science fair projects.

THE SUN IS PUBLISHED BY:

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Our Own Karate Kid

Brian McDermott is the mild-mannered assistant chief information officer and director of Media Services by day, but he trades in his business attire for a totally different uniform once he steps out of the workplace environment.

In the evenings, McDermott uses his mind and body to kick it up a notch – literally – by indulging a passion for karate.

“Martial arts is all about self-defense, providing you with the knowledge and the necessary tools to protect yourself,” said the University’s Karate Kid. “Learning the different techniques, combining speed and power, is what it is all about.”

McDermott, an alumnus, has long been interested in karate. He began taking lessons when he was 12 and then again at 22, but he never fully committed to the sport until six years ago when he envisioned a game plan to ensure that he would succeed.

“I convinced my wife to join me in taking lessons,” said McDermott. “I figured that if we went through this together, there was no way I was going to quit.”

After five years of training four to six days a week year-round, McDermott and his wife, Crystal, received their first-degree black belts in Kenpo Karate last year.

“We tested at the same time, and it was the most physically challenging and grueling day of our lives,” he said. “Overall, it was a very rewarding experience, because we accomplished what we set out to do.”

The McDermotts routinely practice their skills at home.

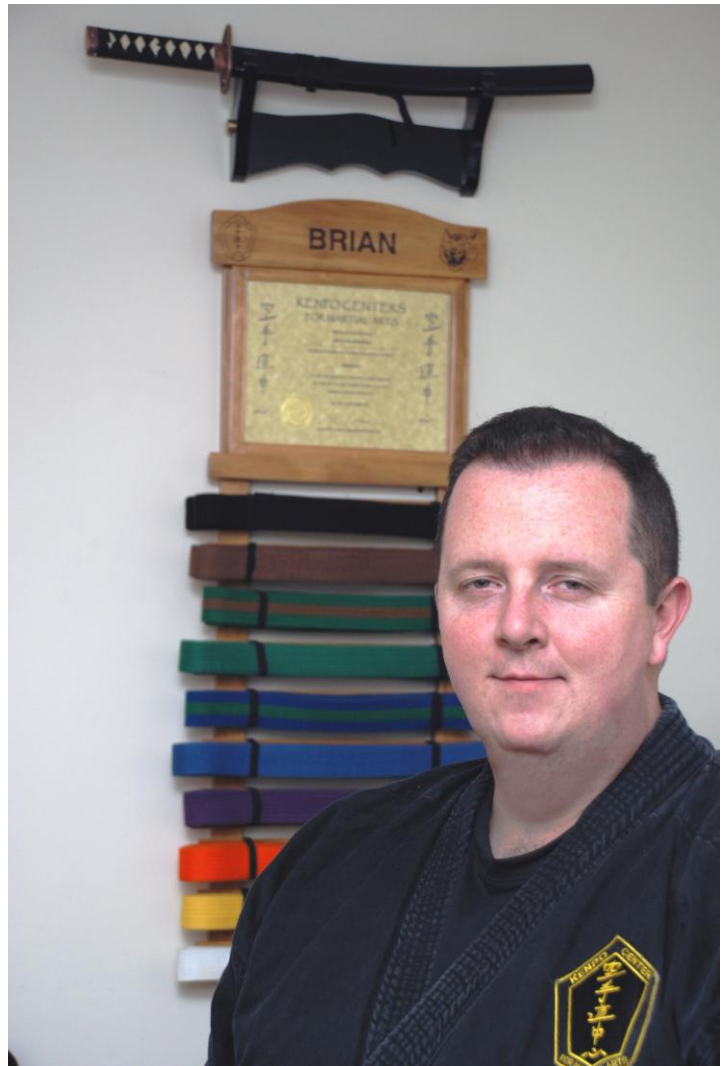
“We always wonder what the neighbors think when we battle each other and the shades are down,” he laughed. “Our instructor calls it ‘McDermott Couples Therapy’ and says that no one goes after it like we do.”

Karate has helped McDermott to become a more confident and disciplined person, he said.

“Like anything else, the more time and effort you put into something, the better you get,” he said. “When you work hard and see the results, you feel good about yourself.”

Working and furthering his education through the University’s Executive MBA Program keeps McDermott busy, but he and Crystal find time to perfect their craft by continuing their lessons in the 10 degrees of black belt as well as by teaching karate to others.

“This is our passion and we will be involved in karate forever,” he said. “We love it.”



President Shares Vision for University

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McCarthy said he will launch a strategic planning process by March 1, to be concluded by the end of the semester with the full engagement of the campus community.

The data collected during the NEASC process “lay the foundation on which the strategic plan can be based,” he said. “It is very important that all of us contribute our perspectives on where the University should go.”

Town meetings, committee work and other vehicles will afford many opportunities for community participation, he said.

In discussing challenges and opportunities facing the University, McCarthy touched on:

- The balance of cost containment and adequate resources
- Creating a student center: “The discussion of locations for a student center is focused on something that can be done on relatively short notice.”
- Engaging alumni: “Far too few give back to the University.”
- Raising money for scholarships and eventually for facilities
- Enhancing use of technology for student learning
- Administrative structure: “There will be faculty, staff and student participation in the recruitment of all senior administrators in the future.”

“It is important for all of us to realize that the challenges facing Suffolk are the same challenges that universities across the nation and the world also face,” said McCarthy. “We need to make sure we engage with colleagues at other institutions. We’re all in this together.”

Opening up a dialogue

During a question-and-answer session with the assembled faculty, administrators, student and staff, Athletics Director Jim Nelson asked if McCarthy will be guided by a report and recommendations on University finances prepared by the Pappas Group.

“That is a very important question,” said McCarthy, who noted that Acting Vice President & Treasurer Danielle Manning will join him for a future forum focusing on financial issues.

“We will certainly be informed by the report,” he said. “You used an important word: ‘recommendations.’ It’s likely that we will accept some recommendations and act on them, but not others.”

When asked about his vision for the University, McCarthy said that the “fundamental mission and structure of the University” are sound. “The fundamentals

are not going to change,” but he will work to “do everything better” within that structure.

The president said he sees the value of centralized purchasing and decentralized curriculum.

Reaction on Campus

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I feel these forums are incredibly exciting because people in the Suffolk community – students, faculty and staff – can share ideas and suggestions and learn what’s going on. I was proud of the students’ questions and their level of interest. And I thought President McCarthy was great, and his sense of humor very refreshing.”

– **Anita Sen, office coordinator, Theatre Department**

“I’m very heartened after listening to what President McCarthy had to say. He was very frank and seemed open and accessible.”

– **Sara Chadwick, director of administrative services, New England School of Art & Design**

“I talked with a number of my colleagues immediately following the forum, and everyone was upbeat and optimistic about President McCarthy’s remarks. ... He seems like a genuine and cheerful type of guy and he’s what the school needs.” – **Ronald Suleski, director, Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies**

“The communication by President McCarthy was thorough and to the point. His sense of humor was outstanding, and his humility really impressed me. I’m looking forward to working with him as we engage all of our students from different and diverse aspects.”

– **Amy Fisher, campus minister**

President McCarthy’s talk revealed preparedness and an understanding of questions asked, as well as a personalization of response and a sense of humor ... gaining the confidence of those to whom he will provide leadership on our campus.”

– **Jim Nelson, director of Athletics**

Faculty Artwork Delights Stahl Center Staff and Visitors

Denizens of the upper floors at the Rosalie Stahl Center have the daily pleasure of viewing original artwork on loan from New England School of Art & Design artists.

The work, in a variety of media, is on display in the corridors of the 12th and 13th floors of the Stahl Center through July 30.

Katie Linder, director of the Center for Teaching Excellence, particularly enjoys seeing the abstract paintings by Paul Andrade each day as she steps off the elevator on the 12th floor.



Katie Linder pauses to admire a painting by Paul Andrade, part of an exhibit of New England School of Art & Design artists at the Rosalie Stahl Center.

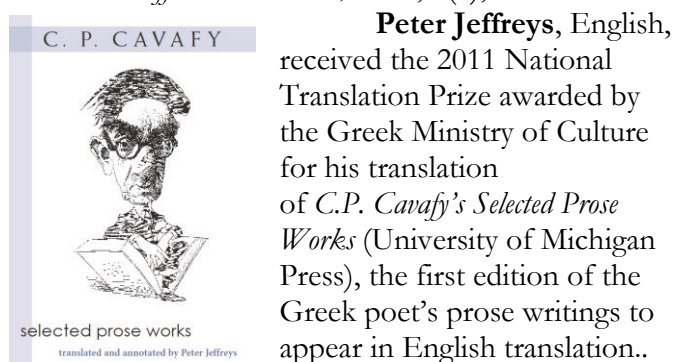
"I appreciate that there's faculty artwork on display, and it's quite appropriate that people see faculty work as they come and go from the Center for Teaching Excellence," said Linder.

The exhibitors are faculty members Harry Bartnick, Bebe Beard, Lydia Martin, Susan Nichter, Steve Novick, Deborah Weisberg and Andrade as well as Fine Arts student Silvi Naci.

The artists loaned their artwork for the enjoyment of the wider university community.

Faculty Publications

Krisanne Bursik, associate dean of the College, and Suffolk University alumna Mandi White-Ajmani, PhD, have published their co-authored manuscript "What Lies Beneath: Dogmatism, Intolerance, and Political Self-Identification" in the peer-reviewed *Individual Differences Research*, 2011, 9(3), 153-164.

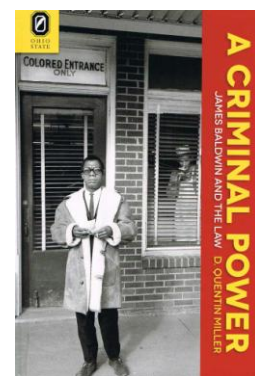


Peter Jeffreys, English, received the 2011 National Translation Prize awarded by the Greek Ministry of Culture for his translation of *C.P. Cavafy's Selected Prose Works* (University of Michigan Press), the first edition of the Greek poet's prose writings to appear in English translation..

Allan Tow, Education and Human Services. His article "From Take-Out Counter to Podium:

Journeys into Public Life" was published in the *Chronicle of the Chinese Historical Society of New England*, fall 2011, Vol.17, No.1, pp. 8-11. It describes several activists in New England who were owners of Chinese restaurants including the well-known China Pearl in Boston's Chinatown.

Quentin Miller, English, published "*A Criminal Power*": *James Baldwin and the Law* (The Ohio State University Press, 2012). The book examines Baldwin's entire career in the context of the law, using the frameworks of Critical Race Theory and prison literature to trace Baldwin's shift in thinking about the way law shapes African American lives and American culture more generally.



In Memoriam

Carol Maggio, [office manager, Athletics](#)