



Man with a Mission: Stopping Idle Pollution

RICHARD GREGG WOULD LIKE TO CLEAR THE air about something he strongly believes in.

Suffolk's newly appointed Operating Director of Healthcare Programs is spearheading a campaign that would prohibit vehicles from idling on any school property in Massachusetts.

Sen. Benjamin B. Downing (D-Pittsfield) and Rep. Stephen R. Canessa (D-New Bedford), a Suffolk alumnus who had Gregg as a professor, recently filed a bill, "An Act to Improve School Campus Air Quality," with 48 cosponsors.

"Years ago, we banned the use of tobacco products and eliminated second-hand smoke from all school properties in Massachusetts," said Gregg. "Now it's time to ban unnecessary engine idling. This is the best way to ensure clean and healthy air for our schoolchildren, teachers, staff and school bus drivers."

Gregg's mission began one day in 2001 in Lenox while he was waiting for his daughter and son outside of their school. His vehicle was shut off, but other parents sat in their cars with the engines running. Gregg soon noticed that people all over town were idling their cars for long periods.

"What comes out of that tailpipe isn't called pollution for nothing," stated Gregg. "It is highly toxic for both human health and the environment, and many of the chemicals are identical to those in tobacco smoke. Motor vehicle exhaust can cause a variety of respiratory ailments, and exhaust from diesel vehicles has been linked to lung cancer."

Gregg, a healthcare professional and environmental activist for much of his life,

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Making Strides in Campus Development

THE BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, BRA, has approved tentative designation of the University as the redeveloper of the Modern Theater building at 523-525 Washington St., bringing the campus a step closer to meeting the housing needs of students.

The University plans to develop the Modern Theater as a 150-to-200-bed student residence hall. The facade will be restored, and a first-floor gallery and performance center will bring back the tradition of offering cultural activities at the site.

"Approval of the Modern Theater renovation moves us closer to our goal of housing 50 percent of our students," said John Nucci, vice president of Government

and Community Affairs, who has worked closely with the city of Boston and with neighborhood groups to bring the University's plans to fruition. "In addition to the cultural contribution the renovated Modern Theater will bring to an important downtown historic area, the presence of our students will support the continued vigor of the Downtown Crossing area."

While the University initially had sought to convert the former MDC headquarters at 20 Somerset Street into a residence hall, concerns among Beacon Hill neighbors led planners back to the drawing board. In a matter of months, the focus turned to the Ladder District.

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The 2007 Deans' Reception

Law Professor Charles Kindregan, second from right, celebrating 40 years of distinguished service to the University, was joined by his daughter Patricia and son Chad and Law Professor Richard Vacco and his wife, Jean, at the Deans' Reception at the Museum of Fine Arts, an annual event honoring faculty, administrators and staff. More photos, pages 5 and 6. (Photo by John Gillooly)

Wesley Savick's *Shrapnel* at Studio Theatre



SHRAPNEL, AN ORIGINAL WORK FOR THE STAGE WRITTEN and directed by Associate Professor Wesley Savick, explores the nature of war.

The play is inspired by the books *A Terrible Love of War*, by James Hillman; *War is a Force that Gives Us Meaning* and *What Every Person Should Know About War*, by Chris Hedges; and *The Psychology of War: Comprehending its Mystique and its Madness*, by Lawrence LeShan.

The production raises questions about how we make war "normal," whether war is an inevitable and fundamental part of the human condition, and whether our impulse for war can ever be tamed.

This theatrical event incorporates mythology, stage combat, live music and a sweeping array of personal accounts to explore the contradictory nature of war within all of us.

Shrapnel will be at the Studio Theatre Thursday, Nov. 15, through Sunday, Nov. 18, 2007.

Musical Premieres in New York

The Boston Music Theatre Project's *Crossing Brooklyn* opened in New York to rave reviews.

The musical, originally titled *Begin Again*, was developed in residence at the University by Theatre Department Chair Marilyn Plotkins. It is at the Transport Group Oct. 19–Nov. 18, 2007.

Crossing Brooklyn is a post-September 11 love story set in New York City. It concerns a young couple, dedicated public school teachers full of hopes and dreams. After the events of September 11 tear their world

apart they struggle to find their way back to each other. The lessons they learn through the children they meet change them forever.

Crossing Brooklyn was first developed with composer Jenny Giering, librettist Laura Harrington and Plotkins in two fall residencies at Suffolk as part of the Boston Music Theatre Project. The workshop production premiered with a Suffolk student ensemble in the Studio Theatre in spring 2006.

Additional Faculty projects

- Assistant Professor/Set Designer Richard Chambers is in pre-production for Stoneham Theatre's production of *Antoine and Feval*, which performs in January.
- Assistant Professor Caitlin Langstaff performed in *A Baker's Dozen* in October at the Friends Meeting House in Cambridge.
- Theatre Department Technical Director Steve McIntosh was sound designer for Boston Playwrights' Theatre production of *The Devil's Teacup*. He also designed the sound for The Nora Theatre's production of *The Secret Love Life of Ophelia*, directed by Associate Professor Wesley Savick.
- Plotkins led a panel discussion at the National Alliance for Music Theatre's annual conference in New York in October. Other panelists included directors of musical theatre programs from Baldwin Wallace University, Boston Conservatory, Carnegie Mellon University, and the University of Michigan and former Boston Music Theatre Project composer Mel Marvin. Marvin teaches at New York University's Tisch graduate program in musical theater writing and recently composed the scores to the Broadway musicals Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* and *Cymbeline*. ▶



Students Connect with *Hairspray* Director

New England School of Art & Design students Austin Bousley and Liz Bailey, Professor Lydia Martin and student Ryan Stranz with filmmaker John Waters at a book signing following the performance of his spoken-word career retrospective, *This Filthy World*, at Boston University. Waters told the students that he had had some art works on exhibit in Provincetown during the summer. Waters, creator and host of the Provincetown Film Festival, called this shot a "class photo." The students were invited to the performance by Martin's husband, Christopher Martin, a National Endowment for the Humanities distinguished teaching professor at Boston University.

Gallery Roundup

Ozpirations

The gallery at the New England School of Art & Design presents *Ozpirations*, art inspired by *The Wizard of Oz*. The exhibit, organized by Jennifer Fuchel, will be at the gallery Nov. 15–Dec. 22, 2007. A reception will be held from 6–8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16.

Inspired by nature

The Nature of Invented Species explores artist Mike Farley's ongoing interest in nature and the environment.

"These new hybrid species draw from both existing and created animals," said Farley of his works, in paint, colored pencil and mixed media on paper.

Farley is a senior at the New England School of Art & Design at Suffolk University.

The Nature of Invented Species exhibit is in the first-floor lobby at One Beacon St., Boston, by the Pemberton Square entrance.

The space is one of several on campus dedicated to student works.

Adams Gallery

From Dairy to Doorstep: Milk Delivery in New England, 1860–1960, continues at the Adams Gallery through January. ▶

Hollywood on Tremont

WHEN THE PRODUCTION CREW OF THE upcoming movie *Bachelor No. 2* needed to shoot classroom and faculty office space, they turned to the Law School. Photographers captured actor Alec Baldwin, who plays a professor in the comedy, leaving the Law School, and the shot was featured in the *Boston Globe*. ▶



United States Central Command (Centcom) from 1991-1994 and has appeared several times before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to discuss the war in Iraq. Coward established the lecture series in 1997. (Photo by John Gillooly)

2007 Coward Lecture

SAWYER BUSINESS SCHOOL EXECUTIVE-IN-RESIDENCE Emeritus Derek W. F. Coward; Gen. Joseph P. Hoar, USMC (Ret.); and Associate Law Dean John Deliso at the 2007 Derek W. F. Coward Lecture, sponsored by the Center for International Education. Hoar spoke on "The Middle East: Many Problems, Few Solutions." Hoar, a University trustee and chairperson of the University's International Board of Advisers, was commander in chief of the



Artist's conception of the 10 West St. residence hall. The Modern Theater is to the left.

Expanding Campus

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Neighborhood residents initially opposed an initiative to convert 10 West St. to a residence hall with first-floor retail space, but the University worked closely with them to allay any fears. In the end, interested residents reached unanimous agreement on the University's plan.

"We've had great cooperation from the city and the neighbors, and the approval process moved fairly quickly," said Nucci.

The University, a commuter school little more than a decade ago, now houses more than 750 students in its two existing residence halls. The apartment-style residence hall to open at 10 West St. in January will add 274 student beds. It directly abuts the Modern Theater building, which will be developed over several years.

Meanwhile, plans are moving forward to bring the New England School of Art & Design to the 20 Somerset site, along with some science classrooms.

"Developing this new facility gives us a great opportunity to design something from scratch to meet our needs," said New England School of Art & Design Chairman William Davis. The school's lease at 75 Arlington St. is up in 2010, and the move to Beacon Hill will offer the school proximity to the College along with improved visibility.

The various University development efforts are part of a 10-year master planning process, said Nucci. A master plan spelling out the University's expansion needs and goals will be submitted to the city in January 2008. ▶

In the Pink

PRESIDENT DAVID J. SARGENT RECEIVES the first-ever Pink Tie Award from Professors Norine Bacigalupo and Carol Dine during the second annual Courage and Cuisine luncheon, one of many activities marking Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October. President Sargent was recognized for his longtime support of activities promoting breast cancer awareness throughout the University community. (Photo by John Gillooly)



Idle Pollution

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knew that something had to be done. After two years of his hard work, Lenox adopted a resolution declaring it an "idle-free" community. Gregg and colleagues from the Lenox Environmental Committee launched an education initiative, tacking up posters and handing out fliers throughout the town.

A 35-year-old Massachusetts law prohibits idling a vehicle in excess of five minutes. It is estimated that more than one million people would be protected by the newly proposed legislation banning all unnecessary idling on school grounds. Violators would face a \$100 fine for the first offense and a \$500 fine for subsequent offenses.



Richard Gregg

"The goal of our "idle-free" efforts is to raise awareness for people of all ages and from all walks of life about the need to keep our air clean and healthy. And it's working," said Gregg, chairman of the American Lung Association of Massachusetts' "Idle-Free" Massachusetts Campaign.

"Look, I'm passionate about clean air and the environment, and I feel it's my obligation to help preserve them in every possible way. We all need to work together to make this world a healthier and better place to live." ▶



Associate Business Manager Greg Harris and his sister Cathy Mulherin, programmer/analyst, Information Technology Services; with Greg's daughters Jennifer, Jessica and Courtney



The Human Resources team of Elizabeth Berman and Carol Powers (Photos by John Gillooly)

ANNUAL DEANS' RECEPTION



Professor Paul Ezust, chairman of the Math & Computer Science department, and College of Arts & Sciences Dean Kenneth S. Greenberg



Management Professor Suzyn Ornstein, her husband John Dugger, and Sawyer Business School Dean William J. O'Neill



Associate Professor Robert Bellinger of History and his wife Nailah.



Law Professor Anthony Sandoe and Law School Dean Alfred C. Aman



Physics Professor Frank Feldman and his wife Carol

Forty-Year Honorees

Paul Ezust, professor/chair, Math and Computer Science
Frank A. Feldman, professor, Physics
Charles P. Kindregan, distinguished professor, Law School

Thirty-Year Honorees

Barbara L. Ash, professor, Education and Human Services
Stephen C. Hicks, professor, Law School
Richard P. Preiss, associate professor, Communication and Journalism
Anthony B. Sandoe, professor, Law School

Twenty-Year Honorees

Robert Bellinger, associate professor, History
George T. Comeau, managing associate director, University Media Services
Gina Doherty, director, PC resources, Law Academic Technology
Dianne Goguen, associate director, Financial Aid-Colleges
Shahriar Khaksari, professor, Finance
Joan Luke, manager, Law Clinical Programs
Morris McInnes, associate dean, Sawyer Business School
Catherine M. Mulherin, programmer/analyst, Information Technology Services
Suzyn Ornstein, professor, Management
Nancy Stoll, dean of students-Colleges

Ten-Year Honorees

Paul Andrade, instructor, NESADSU
Jeanne M. Aversa, associate director, Undergraduate Admission
James Barrett, manager, Web Services, Law Academic Technology
Karen Clarke, associate professor, NESADSU
Robert Drain, manager, Second Language Services
Mary M. Flaherty, associate professor, Education and Human Services
Linda A. Foley-Vinay, director, Second Language Services
Ross D. Fuerman, associate professor/chair, Accounting
C. Gopinath, associate professor, Management
Lillian M. Hallberg, assistant dean, Graduate Programs, Sawyer Business School
Debra Harkins, associate professor, Psychology
Jonathan Haughton, professor, Economics
Ann Marie Holland, manager, Payroll
Neil G. Hunt, instructor, Information Systems and Operations Management
Philip Kaplan, associate professor of legal writing, Legal Practice Skills
Lauren Mahoney, director, Undergraduate Programs, Sawyer Business School
Linda J. Nazzaro, assistant director, Undergraduate Programs, Sawyer Business School
Regina M. O'Neill, associate professor, Management
Janet Oliver, coordinator, Second Language Services
Marie E. Pagliarulo, staff accountant, Assistant Treasurer's Office
Glory Peguero-Gonzalez, assistant director, Financial Aid-Colleges
Michele A. Rapp, associate director, Career Services/Coop Education
Sukanya Ray, associate professor, Psychology
Lori F. Rosenberg, educational consultant, Ballotti Learning Center
Sandra L. Scott, controller, Assistant Treasurer's Office
Douglas Snow, associate professor, Public Management
Andrew P. Wark, senior desktop support specialist, Information Technology Services
Mostapha Ziad, associate professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering



College of Arts & Sciences Dean Kenneth S. Greenberg and Associate Professor Richard Preiss of the Communication and Journalism department



English Department Office Manager Jeremy Solomons and his wife Dr. Alane Shanks, Bette Mandl, professor emerita of English, and her husband, Alex



Sawyer Business School Associate Dean Morris McInnes and his wife Peggy



Associate Professor Karen Clarke of the New England School of Art & Design and her husband Bruce

Potpourri

The Accounting and Business Law and Ethics departments of the Sawyer Business School have moved their offices to 40 Court St.

Barbara Abrams, Humanities and Modern Languages. At the 12th International Congress on Eighteenth Century Studies at the University of Montpellier in France, she organized a panel, "Text, Image and Polity in Rousseau's *Lévite d'Ephraïm*," and presented a paper, "Rousseau and the Levite's Concubine: A Story of Hospitality Gone Wrong." Abrams also notes that 14 students from the University's French program traveled to CAVILAM in Vichy, France, for French immersion study during the summer. The students all passed the French national test DELF, which is equivalent to the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) exam.

Robert Allison, History, appeared on the History Channel show "Save Our History." He joined with host Steve Thomas in exploring Boston's historical treasures, including the Old State House, the Old South Meeting House and the Museum of African-American History. On Constitution Day, Sept. 17, Allison spoke at Dominican College in Orangeburg, N.Y., on the origins of the constitution and the idea of religious liberty.

Robert Bellinger, History, presented "Black Studies, Senegal and the Géwël Tradition," the first lecture in a series of monthly lectures to be hosted by the History Department. He is a member of the New England chapter of the African American Historical and Genealogical Society and served on the planning committee for the organization's national con-

Save the Date

Once again the University community will participate in the festivities of First Night. An ice sculpture of our mascot, Hiram the Ram, will be on display in front of Sargent Hall from 3–5 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 31, 2007. Come join in the celebration!

ference "What's in a Name? The Voyage of Discovery!" held at the Boston Marriott Burlington Hotel on October 25–28, 2007.

Jason Carter, Communication and Journalism. His short film, "The Competition," co-directed by Paul Ceriello, premiered at the Long Island International Film Expo and was shown at the Wood's Hole Film Festival during the summer.

The Center for Teaching Excellence Web pages link faculty to resources and tools that can further develop the outstanding teaching that is a hallmark of the University. The site can steer the University community to upcoming events and programs, such as a Nov. 15 presentation on sponsored research grants. The Center for Teaching Excellence Web site can be found at www.suffolk.edu/research/CTE.html

Teri Fair, Government, attended the Inter-University Consortium of Political and Social Research Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and participated in a workshop "Methodological Issues in Quantitative Research on Race and Ethnicity." At the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in Chicago, Ill., Fair presented a paper, "An Examination of Mayoral Leadership in Atlanta, 1990 through the Present," and participated in a focus group for a new American government textbook from Thomson Wadsworth Press.

Mary Lally, assistant dean of Enrollment & Retention Management/ registrar, was appointed to the 2007–2008 board of advisers of *The Successful Registrar*, a monthly national newsletter for registrars in higher education.

Eric Lee, assistant to the president, participated in the Rodman Ride for Kids on behalf of Roxbury Youthworks, Inc. He finished the 25-mile cycling tour in 1 hour and 16 minutes.

Stephen O'Neill, History, was the guest curator for the exhibit, "A Short Life and Merry: Pirates of New England," at the Heritage Museums & Gardens in Sandwich. He brought his students from "The History of Piracy" class to the museum for a guided tour of the artifacts on display.

Bob Rosenthal, Communication and Journalism, appeared on the New England Cable News show, "NewsNight with Jim Braude" as a panelist on the Weekly News IQ Quiz.

Richard Torrisi, International Business, was appointed to a three-year term on the Fulbright Review Committee for Central Europe. He was recognized by the Polish-US Fulbright Commission in Warsaw for his outstanding contributions as a participant in the 2006–2007 Fulbright Program. Torrisi was a Fulbright Scholar at the Leon Kozminski Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management in Warsaw, Poland. ▶

58 Faculty Members Join the University

THE UNIVERSITY WELCOMED 58 NEW MEMBERS to its distinguished faculty for the 2007–2008 academic year. They are:

College of Arts and Sciences

Ahmed Munir Akash, instructor, Humanities and Modern Languages

Ilona Anderson, assistant professor, New England School of Art and Design

Melanie Berkmen, assistant professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Afshan Bokhari, assistant professor, New England School of Art and Design

Wyatt Bonikowski, assistant professor, English

Simone Chun, assistant professor, Government

Brian Conley, visiting assistant professor, Government

Denell Downum, visiting assistant professor, English

Leslie Eckel, assistant professor, English

Daniel Fox, assistant professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Anna Gitelman, assistant professor, New England School of Art and Design

Angela King, instructor, Communication and Journalism

Robert Hannigan, assistant professor, History

Caitlin Langstaff, assistant professor, Theater

Montgomery Link, assistant professor, Philosophy

Larry Marchese, assistant professor, Communication and Journalism

Amy Markshas, assistant professor, Psychology

Lauren Nolfo-Clements, assistant professor, Biology

Benjamin Powell, assistant professor, Economics

Stevan Radojev, lab instructor, Physics

Patricia Reeve, assistant professor, History

Tracey Rogers, assistant professor, Psychology

David Shumaker, assistant professor, Education and Human Services

Kristopher Tapp, assistant professor, Math and Computer Science.

Law School

Dorothy Bisbee, assistant professor of Legal Writing

Christopher Dearborn, assistant clinical professor of Law

Sabrina DeFabritiis, assistant professor of Legal Writing

Jeffrey Lipshaw, associate professor of Law

Erik Pitchal, assistant clinical professor of Law

Herbert Ramy, professor of Academic Support and director of the Academic Support Program

Ragini Shah, assistant clinical professor of Law

Gabriel Teninbaum, assistant professor of Legal Writing

Elizabeth Trujillo, associate professor of Law

Visiting Faculty

Edwin Hood, distinguished visiting professor of Law for the fall semester

Ruth Jones, visiting professor of Law for the fall semester

Robert Keatinge, visiting associate professor of Law for the fall and spring semesters

Ken King, visiting associate clinical professor of Law for the fall and spring semesters

Pierre Monette, visiting associate clinical professor of Law for the fall and spring semesters

Mary Szto, visiting associate professor of Law for the fall and spring semesters

Sawyer Business School

Alicia D. Boisnier, assistant professor, Management

Brenda Bond, assistant professor, Public Management

Cristian Chelariu, assistant professor, Marketing

Jorge Colazo, assistant professor, Information Systems & Operations Management

Mohamed I. Goma, assistant professor, Accounting

Abu M. Jalal, assistant professor, Finance

Arnold Kamis, associate professor, Information Systems & Operations Management

Georges Désiré Tsafack Kemassong, assistant professor, Finance

David L. Manzler, assistant professor, Finance

Jamshed J. Mistry, assistant professor, Accounting

Brigitte W. Muehlmann, associate professor, Taxation

Stefan Platikanov, assistant professor, Finance

Carlos Rufin, assistant professor, Management

Lydia Segal, associate professor, Business Law & Ethics

Peter Tarasewich, associate professor, Information Systems & Operations Management

Sheila S. Webber, associate professor, Management

Miriam F. Weismann, associate professor, Business & Law

Aimee L. Williamson, assistant professor, Public Management

Zhen Zhu, assistant professor, Marketing ▶



Honored With Heritage Medallions

The University recognized the commitment of six people who made outstanding contributions to the life of the University through its 2007 Heritage Medallion Ceremony on Founder's Day, September 19. Those attending included President Sargent and CAS Associate Dean David Robbins, chair of the Heritage Committee; honorees Clarence Cooper, business professor, administrator and executive-in-residence; Daniel Sankowsky, professor and chair of Management; and Maria Miliora, professor of chemistry. Accepting medallions for the posthumous recipients were Suzanne Siegel, widow of former University President Daniel Perlman; Kathleen Kelsh and Eileen McDermott Fitzpatrick, daughters of former Law School Dean Frederick A. McDermott; and George Comeau of Media Services, on behalf of George A. Frost, Gleason Archer's benefactor and a longtime trustee. (Photo by John Gillooly)

Faculty Publications

Sandra Barriales-Bouche, Humanities and Modern Languages, has published "Exilio y Post Exilio en Luis Cernuda" in the journal *Revista Hispanica Moderna*.

Peter Jeffreys, English. His scholarly edition of the correspondence between the British novelist E.M. Forster and the Greek poet Constantine Cavafy, *Friends at a Slight Angle: the Letters of E.M. Forster and C.P. Cavafy*, will be published by the American University in Cairo Press.

Quentin Miller, English, recently published a college literature textbook, co-edited with Julie

Nash of the English department at UMass Lowell. *Connections: Literature for Composition*, is an anthology of world literature from all historical periods that reflects the complexity of the vice/virtue dichotomy. It also contains 11 chapters on literary genre, research and writing, including student essays from past and present Suffolk students **Sarah Humberger**, **Kristin Seabolt**, **George Scala** and **Lacey Perkins**.

Kristin Polito, Executive MBA program, has published two articles for *Human Resources Management Magazine*: "The Executive MBA—A Quest for Professional Development Leads to Personal Enrichment" and "The Executive MBA—First Among Equals." ▶

University Receives Two Federal Grants

THE UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN AWARDED TWO federal grants to help students from disadvantaged backgrounds prepare for college and, once enrolled, to engage in a way that prepares them to pursue doctoral studies.

The grants are as follows:

- One million dollars through Upward Bound to increase the rate of post-secondary education enrollment and graduation among low-income high school students and those whose parents did not attend college, as well as among low-income military veterans who are the first in their families to pursue a college education.
- \$880,000 through the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement program, with the goal of increasing the number of students from underrepresented segments of society who successfully pursue Ph.D programs. ▶



Hub on Wheels

Associate Professor of Accounting Lew Shaw and Director of Career Services and Cooperative Education Paul Tanklefsky were the top fund-raising team in the recent Hub on Wheels event, raising \$1,309 to support technology for Boston Public School students. More than 3,000 cyclists pedaled 25 miles around the city. (Photo by John Gillooly)

Providing a Safe and Healthy Work Environment

THE NEW OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY team of Manager Kerry LaRoche and Specialist Erik Francis has been busy creating a safe and healthy work environment for everyone in the Suffolk University community.

Formerly under the umbrella of the Facilities Planning and Management Department, the Office of Environmental Health & Safety is now part of the Budget and Risk Management Department.

"I'm so pleased to have Kerry and Erik working on Environmental Health and Safety here at Suffolk because they are very knowledgeable and a pleasure to work with," said Director of Budget and Risk Management Maureen Stewart. "In the few months they've been on board, they've developed relationships with the lab staff, responded to environmental issues in various buildings, and developed bloodborne pathogen and floor warden training programs."

The Office of Environmental Health & Safety is an important and valuable resource that people can rely on when facing dangerous or potentially dangerous situations. Since arriving at Suffolk earlier this year, LaRoche and Francis have worked closely together in spreading the word about how helpful they can become in a time of need.

Said LaRoche: "Our purpose is to provide all students, faculty and staff with general health and safety knowledge, emergency contact information, emergency procedures and guidelines, and hazard awareness. We're responsible for promoting a total safety culture in order to prevent accidents, injuries and illnesses, and we're committed to taking the necessary steps to comply with state, federal and local regulations."

As part of their outreach efforts, LaRoche and Francis have created a New Employee Orientation PowerPoint presentation, which is in the Human Resources New Employee Handbook. By the end of the year, safety training meetings will be offered to faculty, administrators and staff in the College of Arts & Sciences, where a safety officer has already been designated for each department.

LaRoche and Francis frequently visit the Archer Building, where the biology, chemistry and physics labs are located, because of its chemical-populated environment. They also keep close tabs on the fourth floor of the Ridgeway Building, where chemicals are used in the photo lab, and on the acrylic paint supplies and electrical machines at the New England School of Art & Design. LaRoche and Francis also work closely on day-to-day operations with the Facilities Department.

"We're trying to change the culture by getting our name out there and letting people know that we're here to help," said Francis. "Our number one priority is the health and safety of all our employees, and we're always reminding them to 'think before you act' when a potential emergency situation occurs." ▶



Kerry LaRoche and Erik Francis
(Photo by John Gillooly)