

THE SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

Cultural Diversity Conference Considers Goals

President Sargent and the Administrative Council joined with other members of the University community for a two-day conference on cultural diversity Sept. 22-23 at which goals were spelled out and some 30 speakers featured.

The C. Walsh Theatre conference, entitled "Suffolk University: Rebuilding a Diverse Community" was designed with three specific goals in mind:

-Showcase commendable efforts by the University members over the years to increase cultural diversity on campus.

-Present the campus community with a plan-in-progress for systematically coordinating, expanding and strengthening those efforts.

-Initiate the dialogue needed to refine a university-wide diversity plan.

Suffolk faculty, students, administrators and staff members discussed ways to increase cultural diversity in many aspects of campus life. The two-day session marked the beginning of a series of discussions designed for a comprehensive document to complement the University Strategic Plan.

Sharon Artis, assistant to the President and director of multicultural affairs, moderated the program. She chairs the task force charged with planning the conference and writing the document.

"Strengthening cultural diversity implies increasing the numbers of and quality of life for people from



Conference speakers Alvin Storms and Cecelia Alvarez.

underrepresented groups," she pointed out. "Over the years, the definition of underrepresented groups at Suffolk has expanded to include not only factors of race and ethnicity but also factors of class, gender, age, nationality, religion, sexual orientation and physical disability."

Artis noted that in recent years, Suffolk has hosted a number of forums and conferences designed to increase diversity on campus. "We have now reached the point of implementing those recommendations by designating appropriate people and offices, setting up timelines and designing procedures to assess progress."

Joining President Sargent and Artis on the panel were SOM Dean John F. Brennan, CLAS Dean Michael R. Ronayne, Dean of Enrollment Management and Retention Marguerite J. Dennis, Vice President-Treasurer Francis X. Flannery, Vice President for Development David L. Murphy, Dean of Students Nancy Stoll and Law Registrar Lorraine Cove. *

Vol. 21

No. 1

October 1992

Barron's Cites Suffolk As One of Top 300

Suffolk University has received another distinction in its growing reputation as one of the outstanding centers of higher education.

The just released publication, *Barron's Best Buys in College Education*, has selected the university as one of 300 institutions that combine quality and value.

Among the criteria cited were quality and diversity of its curriculum, faculty and student body, personal attention to students, retention and graduation rates, career placement success, overall quality of campus life and affordability.

Barron's described Suffolk as "a small private commuter university that, according to students, doesn't feel like the typical, impersonal, too busy to care urban school." It also noted, "While remaining true to its egalitarian roots... Suffolk is set apart from the majority of urban commuter institutions in that it remains small... and attentive in its teaching."

It cited the university's increased minority enrollment and a doubling of its international enrollment in just one year.

Dean of Enrollment Management and Retention Marguerite J. Dennis observed, "I am delighted that Suffolk University has received this national recognition for its excellent educational progress. Suffolk shares this distinction with universities such as UCLA, Purdue, Ohio State, Cornell, University of Michigan and Notre Dame." Dennis said that other local institutions recognized were Northeastern, Bentley, Stonehill, Gordon and Assumption. \$\displaystyle{\partial}\$