



# Government Department Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue II

Spring 2006

## Tsunami Relief in Banda Aceh by Judy Dushku

### Special points of interest:

- Learn about Professor Dushku's trip to Banda Aceh
- Meet our visiting professor, Dr. Christiane Lemke
- Read about the first meeting of the Government Department Alumni Advisory Board

When Dean Greenberg asked me to assemble a presentation on the tsunami and the politics of aid last winter, I was delighted to book a most sought after speaker: Shadia Marhaban, a refugee from Banda Aceh, the spot in South Asia hardest hit by the horrific waves on December 26, 2004. Shadia was in exile in the US because she had been an activist in the movement for Aceh's independence from Indonesia. She is a political scientist, a journalist and a former interpreter for the BBC and CNN, and she had participated in the efforts to get Indonesia's oppressive army out of Aceh, as well as to get journalists from abroad to publicize the independ-

ence struggle. So she had a lifetime of experience to prepare her to offer thoughtful analysis on the situation in the tsunami-devastated region, and the probable ways that tsunami aid workers there would get entangled in the protracted political and military struggle that had resulted in the death and disappearance of thousands of Acehnese civilians.

Shadia and her husband, an American journalist who had been captured and temporarily imprisoned by the Indonesian army for trying to report the Acehnese side of the war, had developed a great network for getting information out of Banda Aceh. Most foreigners

were unaware of the conditions that preceded the giant waves that washed over Aceh, but Shadia was working with Australian investigative film makers who had, on the day preceding her visit to Suffolk, released the most up-to-date documentary on the immediate effects of the tsunami in Aceh, a film that exposed the ways the Indonesian military were taking advantage of the disaster to attack Acehnese fighting their defensive war, so our speaker was wonderfully informed.

Shadia explained what would become evident over the year: that humanitarian relief would be intricately entwined  
*(Continued on page 3)*

### Inside this issue:

<i>Tsunami Relief in Banda Aceh</i>	1
<i>Faculty and Alumni News</i>	2
<i>A Perspective from Azerbaijan</i>	4
<i>A Perspective from Morocco</i>	5
<i>Government Department Events</i>	6
<i>Visiting Professor Profile</i>	7
<i>Alumni Meeting Report</i>	7

Edited by Meri Power

## Government Department Honored by Washington Center

In October of 2005 the Suffolk University Government Department was named a Distinguished Affiliate of the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars. The ceremony, a part of the Washington



Center's 30th Anniversary celebration, was held at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington DC. On hand to accept Suffolk's award were department chair Dr. John Berg, former faculty

*(Continued on page 7)*

# Faculty and Alumni News and Announcements

- ◆ Mark Andrews served as a guest speaker and panelist at the “Connecting Business with Government” conference, hosted by Suffolk University and the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. The conference was held at the Suffolk University Law School on November 16th and 17th. He spoke on business administrative law and provided an introduction and overview of the rest of the panel discussion, which was entitled “Government and Business: The Government Perspective.” Other participants in the panel included Massachusetts State Representatives Daniel Bosley (Democrat) and Charlotte Golar Richie (Democrat), and Mark Forest, a congressional aide from the office of United States Congressman William Delahunt (Democrat, 10th Massachusetts).
  - ◆ Professor Sebastián Royo participated in several conferences in the fall of 2005. He presented “Varieties of Capitalism in Spain: Business and the Politics of Coordination” at the 101st Annual American Political Science Association Meeting in September, he presented “Portugal in the European Union: Consequences, Challenges and Lessons” at the US State Department Seminar on Portugal in Washington DC in October, and he presented “Beyond Free Trade: Regional Integration and Economic Development in the Iberian Peninsula and Mexico” at the Mexico: Are We Still Connected? Conference, held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas on November 18th.
  - ◆ Professor Royo also published several articles, including “Portuguese Migration: Redefined Boundaries and Uneasy Transformation”, which was published in *Mediterranean Quarterly* in November 2005, and “The Transformation of the Spanish Economy and the FDI in Latin America: Towards a New Theoretical Framework”, which was published as a part of the new book *Peseta Diplomacy: The Role of Spanish Firms in Latin America's Quest for Globalization* (edited by Felix Martin and Pablo Toral).
  - ◆ Professor Roberto Domínguez attended the Buckminster Fuller Global Stimulation Workshop in Marblehead, Massachusetts on January 6, 2006.
  - ◆ Dr. John Berg, the Government Department Chair, presented “Gay Marriage: The Evolution of an Issue in Massachusetts” at the annual meeting of the American Politics Group of the Political Studies Association. The meeting was held in the first week of January, 2006 in Manchester, England.
  - ◆ John Hames, Class of 2005, has spent the last several months in Gambia as a member of the Peace Corps. He is currently living and working in a small village called Buduk, home to members of the Fula tribe. Living without the comfort of modern amenities in a village that lacks paved roads, land lines, electricity or running water, John has used his time there to work on improving his mastery of the Fula language and has organized meetings to educate the local villagers about the dangers of HIV/AIDS and the importance of AIDS prevention. He will be visiting the Gambian capital of Banjul and is also planning a trip to Dakar, Senegal, where Suffolk has an international campus. John graduated in January of 2005 with his Bachelor's degree in International Affairs.
  - ◆ Katia Mounthault-Tatu, who received her MSPS from Suffolk in 1999, is currently living in the Republic of the Congo in central Africa and working for the Chevron Corporation, handling public relations and community engagement programs for the international energy company. Under her direction, these programs have built hospitals and schools in the Congo and helped construct wells to provide access to clean drinking water. Katia has supervised the opening of a modern pediatric ward in one of the region's oldest hospitals and has also served as a sponsor for HIV/AIDS orphans. Other programs developed under Katia's tenure include literacy education and HIV/AIDS prevention. In addition to her work with Chevron, Katia has also founded and published a French-language, pan-African newsmagazine.
  - ◆ Brian Arrigo, who received his Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Suffolk in 2004 and is a current student in the Master of Science in Political Science program, ran for an At-Large seat on the Revere, MA City Council in last November's election. Brian was defeated in the election by his opponent, the incumbent Councilor At Large Anthony Zambuto. Brian is on track to finish his Masters degree this spring.
  - ◆ Stephannie Barboza, the Government Department's head staff assistant and a 2003 Suffolk graduate, and her husband Alberto Ruiz are expecting their first child, a boy, in May of this year. Stephannie is also currently working on her Master's Degree in Criminal Justice here at Suffolk. Congratulations and best wishes!
- .....
- Have a piece of news, an event or other interesting items you'd like to have announced in the next issue of our newsletter? Email the editor at [governmentsuffolk@suffolk.edu](mailto:governmentsuffolk@suffolk.edu) (please put "Newsletter" in your subject line) or mail us at 41 Temple Street, Boston, MA 02114. The Fall 2006 newsletter goes to print in July (all submissions will be accepted as space permits). Thanks!*

## Tsunami Relief in Banda Aceh by Judy Dushku (continued)

*(Continued from page 1)*

with Indonesian attacks on Acehese tsunami victims. If there is repression of aid recipients and complete political and economic inequality, material and monetary contributions get siphoned off into the hands of elites who take it out of the areas where it is needed. If there is no local leadership free to cooperate actively with the UN and other non-governmental organizations trying to build shelters and set up clinics, then agencies have no assurance their work will not be dismantled and become the property of those for whom it was not intended.

Aceh provides a powerful example of why the political environment in which a natural disaster occurs needs to be understood in order to give proper credit or blame to incoming humanitarian aid agencies, and to more correctly measure what devastation was caused by the tsunami and what devastation long preceded it. Shadia's presentation at that critical time early last year directed our attention to Aceh as both the site of a great natural disaster and a scene of long-standing political conflict. Others in the world have come to that understanding, and foreigners involved in disaster aid have helped press for a solution to the conflict.

In August, the Finish government hosted talks in Helsinki for representatives of the Indonesian government and their enemies of 40 years - Acehese independence fighters, called GAM. Partly because of this support in Europe and from some powerful nations in Asia who had reasons of their own to show donors to tsunami relief that all money wasn't being squandered in places in conflict, pressure was put on Indonesia to seek peace. Thus, the two sides came to an agreement on how to resolve this bloody conflict and to allow the

Acehnese to steadily establish institutions for holding local elections, to encourage entrepreneurs to begin independent marketing activities in Banda Aceh, and to begin staffing a police force made up of Acehese. Shadia Marhaban was one of the negotiators at that Helsinki conference, and the only woman on the Acehese side.

Shadia and her husband have co-produced a film called *Black Road* that compares the independence struggle and the peace-making process in Aceh before and after the tsunami. I had just heard that this film was available for spring when I was invited to go to Aceh to assess the tsunami aid efforts and to look at the human rights conditions there with a delegation of academics and activists who study the region. I wrote Shadia and invited her to return to Suffolk when she visits Boston next March, one year after her previous visit.

Then I went for two weeks to visit this place I had watched from the other side of the world for a year. There was horrific evidence of past and present human suffering, and many of the accusations about mismanagement and fraud within aid agencies seemed well-founded. But there were also encouraging signs of agencies doing credible work in an environment that had been a battlefield for 40 years before it was hit by the tsunami. Much trust-building had to develop between foreigners and Acehese before real relief could take place, so the job of the aid agencies has been complex and misunderstood.

Our group, led by Global Exchange, a human rights organization out of San Francisco, visited with Oxfam-UK, Unifem, Save the Children, UNDP and a host of local NGOs. All have successes to show, as well as failed attempts to remedy a terrible mess. Many groups are committed

to staying on to contribute what they can. It is easy to see some of the harm that agencies do, but also to appreciate the value of shelters built and medical aid provided. And there are also encouraging signs of local Acehese people playing new kinds of roles in the rebuilding of a country and of a society on a model of equality and progress in a place that was unsafe for them before, and still is a place where homes are piles of debris and rebuilding is a constant challenge. But their wary optimism about possible peace and a future of political involvement in a country of their own seems to buoy them up.

Since returning from Aceh I have been interviewed by *The Boston Globe*, by Emily Rooney on Channel 2's "Greater Boston", and by Channel 4 News. Most news interviewers want to know about how the relief agencies are doing their jobs, which is a legitimate question but not the only one needing publicity. As a political scientist I feel strongly that it we should press people to look at the political setting in which aid is being delivered. Context and social framework are essential elements in understanding rebuilding – in Aceh or anywhere.

.....

*Judy Dushku is an Associate Professor of Government and has been teaching at Suffolk for forty years. Continuing her travels, she will be leading a student study trip to Venezuela this spring break (for further details see the announcements on page 6). In addition to the study trip, which is being offered for credit, she will be teaching African Politics, United Nations Seminar and Ethical Issues in International Relations in the Spring Semester.*

## Perspectives from Around the Globe: Azerbaijan by Jason Baughman

The car rolled to a stop in front of the hotel and I looked at the driver's face quizzically as if to say, "...surely this can't be a hotel." But it was. And that's where I would stay the night, in Xaçmaz village, just a few miles south of the Dagestani border. It had been a long shared taxi ride from Baku. It was chilly and had rained steadily for most of the way. I had waited over two hours for the shared taxi to fill up; shared taxis only leave when they are full and Xaçmaz village isn't exactly the most requested destination. The ride was about four-and-a-half hours and cost me 4 shirvan (40,000 Azeri manat, or about \$9USD.) It was full of colorful characters, and they all smoked heavily with the windows barely cracked due to the cold. The ride gave me plenty of time to think about my previous travels as well as how I ended up here in northern Azerbaijan observing an Exit Poll for the Azeri parliamentary elections of November 2005.

I had taken the fall semester off to travel and visit friends I hadn't seen in awhile. I had journeyed through the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, then made my way further southeast to Tbilisi, Georgia, also in the former Soviet Union. My best friend, Susan, a Fulbright Scholar, was living and doing research there on ethnic Azeri and Armenian minority communities within Georgia. I had planned on staying with her about a month to see what I could of Georgia and to catch up on all the news with my good friend.

Georgia is no stranger to revolution and fast-moving politics (see: the Rose Revolution of 2003), but this time the buzz on the street was all about Azerbaijan and the upcoming elections. Protests from the opposition were being met with brutal violence. The majority government of Ilham Aliyev had promised to make this election free, fair, and open, but the reports that were coming in seemed to suggest otherwise.

My friend Susan had observed elections before for various organizations in various places (Ukraine and Tajikistan), and she was quite well-connected with the expatriate and po-

litical community in the Caucasus. When invited to be international observers for the exit poll conducted by PA Consulting and USAID (the United States Agency for International Development) in Azerbaijan, we leapt at the chance to see history unfold before our eyes and to be in the center of the action.

Within only hours of my arrival from London, we were walking down Chavchavadze Avenue in search of the Azeri embassy. It took a few days, but we were each given 7-day visas, and thereafter we took the overnight train that runs between Tbilisi and Baku. The journey takes fourteen hours by train, and it's a slow trudge through the Caucasus with a prolonged stop at the border. We got a sleeping compartment with some other election observers and spent the night on the train sharing food and vodka to keep us warm and entertained.

Once settled in Baku, we attended the orientation meeting for PA Consulting/USAID and signed up for our constituencies that we preferred. I signed up for northern Azerbaijan because it was more likely I would be paired with a Constituency Supervisor who spoke Russian, as opposed to southern Azerbaijan where Farsi is more prevalent. Azeri (linguistically almost identical to Turkish) is spoken everywhere. I speak neither Azeri nor Farsi – but I wanted to be able to communicate at least on a minimal basis.

So I climbed out of that taxi, and was walked by the driver to the front door where an elderly gentleman who spoke Russian and Azeri greeted me effusively. He sat me down, made me tea and brought sugar cubes (which Azeris place between their teeth when they sip tea, instead of adding to the teacup.) He also brought small candies, and made conversation about Azerbaijan, America, and of course, the upcoming election. He was an ardent supporter of Ilham Aliyev – the son of Heydar Aliyev, a former high-ranking KGB officer who had ruled Azerbaijan since the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The very neat and stylish pinstripe suit of my hotelier was in no way reflective of the hotel itself, perhaps a

former country getaway, but now a decrepit mint-green and chalk-grey concrete block. The rooms, separated from the corridor by a green wooden plank door with no lock, consisted of a bed, window and a light bulb that hung from the ceiling on a chain. There was no heat or running water, and despite the desperate want of a hot shower, I climbed into bed with my coat and scarf still on: it was freezing.

In the morning, I got up and was greeted by tea and some homemade cakes from my same host in his pressed suit. "*Eta damashnaya*," he said. (Those cakes are homemade.) I wasn't exactly hungry, but remembering my manners, I drank the tea and ate the cakes and let the man speak about Azerbaijan as he remembered it. After we ate, he walked me down the village road to the *Dom Sovieti* (a sort of cultural museum/gathering spot from Soviet times in the center of town.) I was amazed to see all the men out on the street dressed in formal suits as well, despite this being a very rural farming village.

I met with my Constituency Supervisor and began my day of exit poll observation. We visited several polling stations (getting stuck in the mud and lost on dirt roads with no signs) all over Xaçmaz, right along the border with Dagestan (Russia.) We were all briefed on what to look for, the procedure of voting and exit poll data collection, and we filled out checklists for each polling station, answering a 'questionnaire' which required us to observe the behavior of those gathering data, and to ensure data was collected according to established procedure. Furthermore, we had to listen to the calls placed by the supervisor to HQ to phone in the data. I had to at least learn my Azeri numbers one through twenty, so I would be able to understand them phone in the numbers from each ballot that corresponded with the questions from the exit poll. I spent sunup to sundown in Xaçmaz, and then took another shared taxi ride back to Baku that evening, stopping for dinner in a nice Iranian restaurant that served chicken shashlyk and buttered jasmine rice (and no alcohol!).

(Continued on page 8)

## Perspectives from Around the Globe: Morocco by Jamie Costigan

I live in a small town called Tahannaout at the foot of the Atlas Mountains, thirty-five kilometers from Marrakesh. The town is composed of one main street and numerous duwars or village-esque clusters of mud and cement houses. As the provincial center, the town houses the governor's mansion, the military barracks, a junior high and high school, and a boarding school for students who live in surrounding villages and nearby towns.

Because of lack of available room at the boarding school and lack of financial means, only a small percentage of school-aged children from these surrounding areas attend junior high and high school. On the main street there are eight teleboutiques, five cafes, three internet centers, four patisseries, ten convenience stores and five vegetable stands. Unemployment is high and, though the number is slowly increasing, too few students attend the university. Many youth believe that in the face of the poor job market, a university education is a waste of time. Off the main street olive trees shade the landscape and golden wheat fields cover the foothills. From six mosques, the call to prayer booms out over it all.

As a youth development volunteer I am assigned to work in youth centers under the supervision of the Moroccan Ministry of Youth and Sports. At the youth center I have taught English classes, organized an environmental day, set up a library, and organized Youth Cafe events for youth to read their poetry and engage in group discussions about a variety of topics ranging from music to domestic violence. Other volunteers in the Youth Development sector, in addition to English classes, have primary projects such as teaching art, organizing cinema clubs, and organizing events concerning health, AIDS, and the environment.

While the impact of such projects is small on the grand scale of development, and while Peace Corps' effectiveness could be improved in number of ways, I maintain my faith in Peace Corps as an important part of the sustainable development effort. One reason for this is that as Peace Corps volunteers living in small communities and with flexibility in regards to the secondary projects we choose to undertake, we are uniquely able to identify and nurture potential agents of change, help motivated individuals to reach their goals and to contribute to the development of their communities.

My most rewarding work has been with Myriam, a twenty-one year old woman from the Tarzint duwar in Tahannaout.

Her father took her out of school when she was 12. However, she loved learning and taught herself English and French in her home. Two years ago, on the first day in 9 years that she was permitted to leave her home aside from occasional trips to the market, Myriam learned about English classes being offered at the youth center. She enrolled in my class, proving herself to be my most advanced student, and, over time became my closest friend, my Arabic tutor, and my counterpart on numerous projects.

I remember the first Youth Cafe at the youth center. The subject of discussion was to be the new Moroccan Family Code. Knowing Myriam to be an opinionated advocate of women's rights, I encouraged her to participate. After much hesitation, she agreed. On the day of the event, she arrived at the youth center but looked uncomfortable sitting among the students. After half an hour she disappeared. I found her in the bathroom, black mascara tears streaking her face. "I have nothing to contribute," she told me. "They are all students, they have education. What can I offer?"

I thought her insecurity absurd. She had taught herself English and by candlelight had read English books by Fatima Mernissi and academic articles by Nawal El Saadawi, highlighting the parts she agreed with and underlining the parts with which she disagreed. "How could such a girl question her ability to contribute to discussion with a group of high school students?" I asked her.

A few days later, she excitedly told me, "I want to do something important before I turn 21." Working with the teachers at the elementary school near her home, she and I worked to make her goal a reality. We received a Peace Corps' Small Project Assistance Grant to furnish an empty room with books, art supplies, tables, chairs, and educational games. Myriam now volunteers her time teaching art classes to children twice a week and has become active in encouraging children's continuation of their education. Last spring she assisted me in giving a presentation to fathers in her village about the benefits of education and she is responsible for a scholarship provided to enable a girl from her village to go to the junior high. She also acted as my co-facilitator during a week-long girls' development program this past spring.

Over the past two years, Myriam has also made great efforts to gain economic independence as a way to increase her ability to reach her personal goals and to ensure her family's safety from domestic abuse.

She has opened a bank account, has learned glass painting, (recently assisting a small business Peace Corps Volunteer in teaching a glass painting class for women in Essouaria, Morocco) and, with her mother, has begun to design curtains. She and I are now working together to try to market her products with the label "Horiyati!" or "My Freedom!". She has also recently been given the opportunity to take the baccalaureate examination to get her high school diploma. She has begun the difficult process of catching up on eight years of missed history, mathematics, and science lessons. If she passes the examination, she hopes to study the psychology of education at university.

Because of the close relationships they build with people in their communities, Volunteers are also uniquely able to plant seeds of peace and social responsibility. Not only do volunteers in Morocco present a different image of America, acting as ambassadors in a time of great animosity against the United States, but they also introduce the relatively unknown concept of volunteerism for the social good and can, through their words or actions inspire others to follow suit.

Through English classes and the Girls and Guys Leading Our World (GGLOW) program, a leadership program for youth which focuses on gender awareness, self-esteem, social responsibility, and leadership skills, I often encourage students to think about ways that they can help their community. One day during my intermediate English class I asked students to think of activities they would like to have or projects they would like to do in Tahannaout. When we began to discuss ways to make their ideas reality, they fatalistically told me time after time, "It is impossible." Last fall, however, these same students told me that they had discovered a very poor elementary school in a village nearby. They wanted to organize donations for the school and activities for the students. Each Friday, we began hiking to the school to lead art, music, theater, and sports. On our first visit, one of my students turned to me with a huge smile and said in Arabic, "You told us last year to think of something we could do to help Tahannaout. We are doing it now aren't we!?" If sustainable development is to occur in Morocco, where fatalism plagues the youth, isn't it as important to plant the seed of social responsibility and to encourage belief in possibility as it is to provide financial resources? What good is a new library if no one is willing to consistently volunteer his time to run it?

*(Continued on page 8)*

## Government Department News and Announcements

- ◆ Hassan Bakr Hassan, a Professor of political science from Assuit University in Egypt will be visiting Suffolk University for five weeks beginning April 1, 2006. Dr. Hassan, a PhD, will be visiting the university as a part of the *Direct Access to the Muslim World* program, a program supported by the Fulbright Scholars Program. His visit was made possible by Professor Robert Laffey and Margaret McNamara of the Advancement Office. For more information about Dr. Hassan's visit, please contact Professor Laffey or the Government Department main office.
- ◆ Two former United States Representatives, Barbara Kennelly (Democrat, Connecticut) and Mickey Edwards (Republican, Oklahoma), visited Suffolk University for two days in November as a part of the *Congress to Campus* program. During their stay in Boston, Kennelly and Edwards attended a breakfast with alumni, current students and faculty, visited several government classes, had dinner with a group of faculty members and university administrators, met with the Student Government Association, spoke at a public forum about the late Congressman Joseph Moakley and his work in El Salvador and visited Boston English High School. The program was made possible by the efforts of the faculty and staff of the Government Department, Beth Bower from the Moakley Archive in the Suffolk University Law School Library and Jean Campbell in Alumni Relations and a dedicated group of Suffolk Government undergrad and graduate students.
- ◆ The Government Department is pleased to welcome two new adjunct lecturers this spring semester: Ariel Ivanier and David Rice. Ariel Ivanier will be teaching two courses this semester, a section of Research Methodology and a graduate-level course, Ethical Issues in International Relations. David Rice will be teaching a section of International Law and Organizations.
- ◆ The Government Department would also like to extend a welcome to Teri Fair, who was recently hired as an assistant professor. She will begin teaching at Suffolk in the Fall semester.
- ◆ David Paleologos and the Suffolk University Polling Research Center recently won a contract to index small business activity for the US Conference of Mayors. This contract serves to expand the Center's activities beyond the Channel 7 polling it has done in the past. The Center hopes to extend the contract to include several more polls over the course of the year. The initial survey will be completed in January of 2006 and the results will be presented at the USCM's annual conference.
- ◆ Professor Judy Dushku is leading a study trip to Caracas, Venezuela for students interested in International Relations. The trip will be used to study many issues important in South American politics, such as agriculture, poverty, the environment, education and women's issues. There are still slots available for the trip; any interested students should contact Professor Dushku in the Government Department for a sample itinerary, payment, costs and other information related to the trip. The trip will take place during the week of Spring Break, March 9th to March 19th.
- ◆ Attention all alumni: Suffolk University's Alumni Magazine (SAM) recently published its first issue. For the next issue, SAM's editors are asking for your help. Every issue includes a Classnotes section, to help keep alumni informed and connected with members of their graduating classes. If you have any questions about SAM or Classnotes or would like to provide information to Classnotes, please contact them via email at [classnotes@suffolk.edu](mailto:classnotes@suffolk.edu).



*Former United States Representatives Barbara Kennelly (left) and Mickey Edwards (right) speak with students and faculty during the Congress to Campus Breakfast on November 14, 2005.*



## Visiting Professor Profile: Dr. Christiane Lemke

As we reported in our last issue, this spring the Suffolk University Government Department will be hosting Dr. Christiane Lemke as a part of Suffolk's Distinguished Visitor program. Dr. Lemke will be spending a month in residence here and will spend that month teaching an intensified 3-credit course, "The Politics of European Integration." The course will focus on EU-governance and the role of the European Union, and will look at the historical factors that helped pave the way for modern Europe's desire to integrate both economically and politically.

Dr. Lemke is currently University Professor of Political Science and Jean Monnet Chair at Hannover University in Germany. She received her education at the Free University of Berlin and



*Dr. Christiane Lemke, Professor of Political Science at Hannover University, will be spending several weeks at Suffolk this spring.*

was a John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellow at Harvard University. She has worked on citizenship and democracy in Europe, European integration, and regime change in post-communist states. Her most recent project is on US-European relations. She has published articles in journals such as *American Studies*, *Women in Politics Worldwide* and *World Affairs*, and she has served as co-editor for several English-language books, including *The Crisis of Socialism in Europe* (with Gary Marks), which was published in 1992. Dr. Lemke has published several German-language books on international relations, US politics and the European Union.

## Government Department Establishes Alumni Advisory Board

The first meeting of the Suffolk Government Department Alumni Advisory Board was held on September 22, 2005 in the Vice-President's Conference Room on the 25th floor of the Beacon Building.

In attendance at the meeting were Dr. John Berg, the department chair, Jean Campbell of the Alumni Relations Office, department staff assistant and 2005 graduate Meri Power, new faculty member Professor Roberto Domínguez, and several

of the department's distinguished alumni: Nancy Farias, Kristine Glynn, Heather Rowe, George Cronin, Bob Gibbons and Rory Winters.

Several topics were broached at the meeting, including plans for alumni get-togethers and networking events (including a possible spring event) speakers, fundraising, the Suffolk University Polling and Research Center, and the establishment of a Distinguished Alumni Award, to be awarded annually.

The next meeting of the Board, which will include several recently invited board members, will be held in the spring.

If you are an alum and have any comments or suggestions for the alumni board, please feel free to contact the Government Department via email ([government@suffolk.edu](mailto:government@suffolk.edu)). Please put "Alumni Board" in your subject line.

## Suffolk Government Department Receives Washington Center Honor

*(Continued from page 1)*  
member and Washington Center liaison Dr. Melissa Haussman, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Kenneth Greenberg, and three government department alumni: Kristen Menard, James Bamford, and James Evans. Out of the one thousand colleges and uni-

versities that the Washington Center is affiliated only thirty, now including Suffolk, have been named Distinguished Affiliates by the Center. The award was presented by Washington Center president Michael B. Smith and board chairman Ambassador Alan J. Blinken.

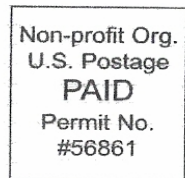
Among the other guests were several members of the United States Congress, White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card, Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and Dr. Judith Gill, the Chancellor of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, who announced Suffolk's award.

**GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT**

Suffolk University  
41 Temple Street  
Beacon Hill  
Boston, MA 02114

Phone: 617-573-8122  
Email: [government@suffolk.edu](mailto:government@suffolk.edu)  
Fax: 617-367-4263

Visit our Website: [www.cas.suffolk.edu/government](http://www.cas.suffolk.edu/government)



## Perspectives From Around the Globe (continued)

*(Continued from page 4)*

The next day we gathered leisurely at headquarters and looked over the data that had been transmitted and how that was matching up with the data being released by the government. The government would release data, rescind that data, amend it, and re-release it. Some seats that were supposedly 'lost' by the opposition were later declared victories for the opposition. While I am in no capacity to comment on the fairness of the entire election process, I think this behavior might be indicative of some fundamental flaws – a suspicion that was confirmed the next day by a press release from the OSCE saying there were some serious irregularities with this particular election.

My friend Sue and I were once again reunited (she had gone to the South, near the border of Iran for her observation,) and we hitched a ride to Seki, a town in the mountains famous for its sweet nut pastries, beautiful moun-

tain views, an ancient khanate palace, and a beautiful eighteenth century Caravanserai hotel complete with gardens and wood-burning stoves. We ate well, shared stories, and rested up for our journey (by way of bus and taxi) back to Georgia. We crossed the bridge on foot between the two countries, haggling a taxi driver to take us to Signaghi – an almost Italianate-like renaissance town on the Georgian side of the border; we stayed in Signaghi another night before returning home to Tbilisi.

It was a fantastic experience to observe directly and independently an election in another country, especially one that was so contested. Azerbaijan (and the rest of the Caucasus) will be very much a part of world history over the next few decades considering the vast quantities of oil under the Caspian Sea. I was overwhelmed mostly, though, by the hospitality of both Georgia and Azerbaijan, and all that the locals did to constantly make me feel warm, welcomed, well-fed and part of their unique identities and histories that they are all still

very much in the process of writing.

.....  
*Jason Baughman is a Government and German Studies major at Suffolk. A junior, he currently lives in Providence, Rhode Island.*

*(Continued from page 5)*

As a Peace Corps volunteer, I have not saved the world or created much quantifiable change. But, what I realize now is that that was never my intended role. Sustainable development requires that change occur on many levels. My role as a peace corps volunteer these past two years has been to work at the most basic, grassroots level, to inspire and support a few select youth, to plant seeds of awareness, hope, and motivation, and to remind them, and myself, that change requires patience and perseverance but is always possible.

.....  
*Jamie Costigan is a 2001 Suffolk University graduate.*