



# JOHN JOSEPH Moakley

ARCHIVE & INSTITUTE AT SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY

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NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2006

## INSTITUTE CONTINUES CONGRESSMAN'S TIES TO SALVADORAN VILLAGERS



Santa Marta honors its first high school graduates.

THE MOAKLEY INSTITUTE and Suffolk University are working to maintain and strengthen ties to the Salvadoran village of Santa Marta, where Congressman John Joseph "Joe" Moakley learned first-hand about the civil rights abuses that were the hallmark of the Salvadoran civil war.

During the 1990 investigation of the Jesuit murders, Moakley traveled to Santa Marta to meet with rebel leaders. At the end of the Salvadoran civil war, he returned to visit with villagers who had spent years in a Honduran refugee camp.

The Santa Marta villagers have been engaged in rebuilding their lives since

their return, and one element of the village's rebirth is a school. In a nation where education had once been reserved only for the wealthy and powerful, the village graduated its first high school class in December 2004. The Moakley Institute sent congratulations and posters from the exhibit *El Congresista: Joe Moakley en El Salvador*, translated into Spanish, for the occasion.

Now 18 of these 42 graduates are enrolled in universities in San Salvador, where these sons and daughters of subsistence farmers struggle to afford housing and food.

SALVADOR, *continued on page 2*

## Moakley Papers to Be Made Available Online

AS SUFFOLK'S ARCHIVISTS complete work on the Congressman John Joseph Moakley Papers, the Archive is busily preparing print and online tools to make his congressional papers accessible for research and building a unique collection of resources that add meaning to his legacy of public service and political leadership.

In a career spanning 50 years, Moakley generated more than 400 boxes of materials – the bulk of which covers his congressional years from 1972 to 2002.

Categories within the congressional papers are: legislative files; voting records; constituent service files; district project files; public relations materials, speeches, campaign records; photographs; memorabilia; and audiovisual materials. The largest category, legislative files, contains

more than 150 boxes of records related to Moakley's legislative and policy campaigns. These are centered on international human rights, the Special Task Force on El Salvador, and fire safe cigarettes. Environmental initiatives include creation of the Boston Harbor Islands National Park and the Boston Harbor Cleanup. District projects comprise the Third Harbor Tunnel and the Big Dig.

The Web site – [www.joemoakley.org](http://www.joemoakley.org) – will serve as the access point for a full finding aid, starting this summer. Subject guides and a selection of digitized materials, including photographs, memorabilia, documents, and audiovisual files, will be made available online later this year. The collection will be posted in national online catalogs that are available to researchers worldwide.

Meanwhile, the scope of the archive's holdings continues to expand as books, archival collections, and oral history interviews related to Congressman Moakley are acquired. ■



Photograph of Seabee Moakley, left, from his World War II scrapbook.

## From the Archivist

The year 2005 was a busy and productive one for the Moakley Archive & Institute at Suffolk University. This newsletter details the progress the Archive staff has achieved as our arrangement and description of the Congressman John Joseph Moakley Papers nears completion; research on Congressman Moakley and his career; the expansion of the Moakley Archive's Oral History Collection in collaboration with Suffolk University students; our annual programs commemorating those murdered on November 16, 1989, at the University of Central America in San Salvador; the initiation of our legislative staff training program; and our continued collaboration with Suffolk's schools to promote discussion of current topics featuring our faculty and guest speakers.

This promises to be as dynamic a year, as 2006 will mark several anniversaries. First, it is the 50th reunion year of Joe Moakley's Suffolk Law School class of 1956, which will be celebrated June 2-3, 2006. It also is the fifth anniversary of Congressman Moakley's passing on May 28, 2001. Finally, Suffolk University will celebrate its Centennial beginning in September 2006. These anniversaries provoke reflection on the characteristics that made Joe Moakley an effective leader and public servant. And they have offered the Moakley Archive and Institute and Suffolk University the opportunity to expand and strengthen our outreach around his legacy.

This newsletter details a new and exciting collaboration with SOULS, Suffolk's student service organization. Joe Moakley believed that public service was about people helping people. By connecting Suffolk students to service organizations with which Moakley worked, the legacy continues. And by supporting the educational and economic growth of the village of Santa Marta in El Salvador we continue the link with Boston that Joe Moakley started and nurtured some 16 years ago.

Sincerely,  
Beth Bower  
Archivist/Institute Director

## Students Gather Oral Histories on the 1974 Garrity Decision

MORE THAN 30 YEARS after the court order that led to busing in an effort to desegregate the Boston Public Schools, Suffolk University students began conducting interviews with those affected by the decision through an Oral History class.

The class is part of an ongoing collaboration between adjunct professor Susan Goganian and the Moakley Oral History project, introducing students to the value and craft of oral history interviews and documenting important issues coinciding with Congressman Moakley's career.

In June 1974, U.S. District Court Judge W. Arthur Garrity, Jr., ruled that Boston "had knowingly carried out a systematic program of segregation affecting all of the city's students, teachers, and school facilities." To desegregate the schools, some students were bused to schools outside their neighborhoods.

"Students collected interviews from former Boston students, teachers, parents, and others who were involved in some way with the court decision that led to desegregation," said Goganian, who teaches the course in Suffolk's History Department.

Laura Muller took the class last spring and interviewed Kirsten Alexander, who was a Boston student after the Garrity decision. Alexander, who is white, voluntarily took a bus to a magnet school. She talked about her experiences and those of her adopted brother, who is African-American.

"She talked about the climate of the time and what her family experienced," said Muller. "She thinks busing was a good thing for her family." Other narrators detailed the various reactions and impacts of the Garrity decision on their lives, families, friends, and neighbors.

The Moakley Oral History project has collected 58 oral history interviews since 2001. Transcripts are being prepared and will be available as part of the Archive's Moakley-related collections. In addition, the Archive produced a nine-minute DVD, *Joe Moakley: A Legacy of Service*, in partnership with the Moakley Charitable Foundation. It uses eight interviews and the archive's photos to portray the essence of good public service. ■

### SALVADOR, continued from page 1

Carolina Garcia, Suffolk University's director of service learning, has been working with the Moakley Institute and with University students to form connections with Santa Marta students.

Suffolk's Newman Club, a Catholic student organization, and SUHA, the student Hispanic Association, are planning fund-raising initiatives and working to raise awareness of just how much the university experience here differs from that of the Santa Marta students. Garcia also wants to help form a connection between students running Suffolk's radio station and the young people who have established a radio station in Santa Marta.

"Our long-term goal is to offer a course that deals with the political and foreign policy issues of El Salvador and to take the students to Santa Marta to work on a service project," said Garcia. "In the short term, we are making connections and fund-raising." ■

## Retired Congressmen Encourage Leadership



Mickey Edwards



Barbara Kennelly

TWO FORMER members of Congress visited Suffolk University and the Moakley Archive and Institute in November 2005 as part of a program to stimulate interest in public service.

The bipartisan team of retired U.S. Reps. Mickey Edwards (R-Okla.) and Barbara Kennelly (D-Conn.) talked with students through the Congress to Campus program, discussing their experiences and challenging students to become leaders in civic life and public service.

Kennelly and Edwards also spoke at a public forum commemorating the 16th anniversary of the Jesuit murders that led their former colleague, Joe Moakley to investigate civil rights in El Salvador. Kennelly was a member of the Speaker's Task Force on El Salvador led by Moakley, and Edwards worked with him on Latin American issues. ■

## Jump Start for Legislative Staff

CONGRESSMAN MOAKLEY recognized the critical role his staff played in his accomplishments. With that perspective in mind, the Moakley Archive and Institute collaborated with Suffolk University's Center for Public Management to offer the first of what will be biennial training programs for Massachusetts legislative staff in January 2005.

As the newly elected Legislature convened, Suffolk faculty, alumni, and experts from state government presented staff members with information and resources to help them effectively carry out their responsibilities in the General Court.

Senate President Robert Travaglini, Speaker Salvatore DiMasi, and Congressman Jim McGovern, who once served on

Moakley's staff, were among those on hand to address the trainees.

Topics presented included: the importance of good public service, the public service legacy of Congressman Joe Moakley, ethics, navigating state government, the state budget process, and press relations. ■



Legislative staff members display certificates after training.



### ON SALVADORAN RIGHTS

Benjamin Cuellar, director of the Human Rights Institute at the University of Central America, San Salvador, El Salvador, gestures during a discussion of "Human Rights in El Salvador and the Jesuit Case." Cuellar visited in November 2004 as the Moakley Institute commemorated the 15th anniversary of the Salvadoran murders that led to Congressman Moakley's investigation. The Moakley Institute also co-sponsored a Salvadoran community meeting with Cuellar and an evening performance by Salvadoran folk group Grupo Exceso de Equipaje.

## Continuing Joe Moakley's Legacy through Service

JOE MOAKLEY played a part in supporting and building up community-based organizations, and the Moakley Institute and Suffolk's Organization for Uplifting Lives through Service (SOULS) are working to continue that legacy by creating service partnerships with organizations that were dear to his heart.

"There are a number of ways in which Suffolk University can help these nonprofit organizations, through student volunteers and other resources," said Euvlid Rocque, a Suffolk graduate student and intern at SOULS, who has begun reaching out to agencies such as the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston and Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD).

Rocque has talked to ABCD, which serves low-income residents of greater Boston, about offering peer-to-peer mentoring, coordinating summer workshops for kids, providing interpretation services, and providing access to Suffolk University facilities. ■

## Panel Discussion Marks Constitution Day

THE MOAKLEY INSTITUTE co-sponsored a panel discussion on "The Supreme Court and the Constitution," with Suffolk University's Departments of History and Government as part of the University's celebration of Constitution Day, which officially is observed on September 17.

The informal panel discussion featured History Department Chair Robert Allison, Law Professor Victoria Dodd, and Associate Professor of Government John O'Callaghan, who share an academic interest in the U.S. Constitution. The lively discussion focused on the role of the Supreme Court in expounding the Constitution, the future of the court, and the history and political nature of judicial appointments. ■



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## MOAKLEY LEGACY COMMITTEE

Suffolk University's Legacy Committee evaluates the efforts of the Moakley Archive and Institute.

ROBERT J. ALLISON, *Chair, History Department*

ANNE MARIE CAMMISA, *Associate Professor of Government*

JOHN DELISO, *Associate Dean of Suffolk Law School*

SANDY MATAVA, *Director, Center for Public Management*

ELIZABETH MCKENZIE, *Director, John Joseph Moakley Law Library*

JOSEPH McETRICK, *Professor of Law*

ROSEMARIE SANSONE, *Director, Office of Public Affairs*

## MOAKLEY ARCHIVE AND INSTITUTE STAFF

BETH ANNE BOWER, *Archivist and Institute Director*

JULIA COLLINS, *Associate Archivist*

BECKY RUDOLPH, *Assistant Archivist*

## Researchers Access Broad Range of Archive Material

**MATERIALS IN** the Moakley Archive have provided evidence for researchers working on disparate topics, reflecting the variety of issues that concerned the late congressman during his long tenure in public service.

A paper on the issue of fire-safe cigarettes, by researchers from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Tufts University, was published late last year in the journal *Tobacco Control*. The paper, "From strange bedfellows to natural allies: the shifting allegiance of fire service organizations in the push for federal fire-safe cigarette legislation," cited materials from the Moakley Archive. The paper recommends that those involved in tobacco control efforts ally themselves with related interest groups, such as firefighters unions.

Closer to home, Suffolk University history student Laura Muller made extensive use of the Archive in writing her senior thesis, "The Contributions of Congressman John Joseph Moakley to Historical Preservation in Boston," in December 2005.

Muller contends in her thesis that many historical sites in Boston were at risk until Moakley fought for federal recognition and funding beginning in the 1970s. Among the historical preservation projects Moakley championed were the Charlestown Navy Yard and USS Constitution, the Boston African American National Historic Site and the Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area. He also acquired much-needed funding for restoration work on sites in the Boston National Historical Park, including the Old South Meeting House, the Old State House, and Faneuil Hall. ■