Alrighty, welcome everyone,
to our Experience Boston panel this afternoon.
We're so happy that all of you could join us
for our current student panel to learn a little bit more
about what it's like to learn, live,
and work in the City of Boston.
And you're gonna hear all from right
from our current students,
say about all those aspects of what that's like
and what it's like to be at Suffolk University.
A little bit about myself,
my name is Stephanie,
go by she, her pronouns,
and I am our Campus Visit Assistant Director
of Enrollment Visitor Services,
and I'm also a really proud of Suffolk alum.
I graduated in 2015 and just have really enjoyed being part
of the Suffolk community
both as an alum, a current student
and now as a professional staff member as well.
Today, we will be going through
a presentation of our current student panel,
but we want to encourage you to use our Q&A
function at the bottom of the screen
to really ask any questions you might have
throughout today's panel.
We'll have some time at the end of this presentation
to answer your questions
so feel free to use them.
Again the Q&A is right at the bottom of your screen.
If y'all are having any technical difficulties
please go ahead and use the chat.
I will be on the back end to help assist
but otherwise we're really looking forward
to hearing from our current students.
So with that again, welcome everyone
and now I'll hand it over to Clara to introduce herself.
Thanks Steph.
Hi everyone,
as Steph said, my name is Clara,
my pronouns are she, her, hers
I am originally from Medway Mass
which is about an hour away
depending on how fast you drive.
I'm also a psychology major
with a double minor in criminal justice and education.
What else am I involved in?
I am part of the honors program here at Suffolk.
I am actually the Resident Assistant for honors
living learning community over in Miller Hall as well.
I am part of our psychology club,
which is new this year, very exciting.
And I've also stayed abroad in Prague, so very involved. 
Throughout this thing have you have any questions about that, feel free to ask, but I will hand it over to Hoaka. 
- Awesome, thank you so much Clara.

Hi everyone,

my name is Hoaka, my pronouns are she, her, hers, and I'm currently a junior majoring in economics and I'm from Orlando, Florida. 
Aside from being a tour guide for Suffolk, I am also involved in our College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program, Pinky Swear Program Council and our Journey Leadership Programs. 
So I will go ahead and pass it off to Logan now.

- Awesome.

Thank you so much Hoaka.

Hi everyone, my name's Logan, I'm from Saco Maine originally, I'm a junior here. My major is political science with a concentration in law and public policy. And then I have minors in environmental studies and in foundational arts studies as well too. 
So I have been kind of a student that came in undeclared and kinda moved around in majors. 
But some involvement around campus that I've had is I've been a member of the Rampage Show Choir group, which was super fun. 
Did that my freshman year, I've been part of the SGA now or the Student Government for two years, I serve as the Chairman of the Housing Facilities Committee and we do things relating to like the residence halls in the physical campus. 
I'm also in the Photography Club, it's my third year. I'm on the executive board as the secretary, and we do a lot of fun events related to photography. 
We just did the disposable camera unit which was really fun where we just gave people disposable cameras for free, you know, it was fun. 
But yeah that's a little bit about me and my involvement. I'm just gonna pass it off to Maddy now.

- Hi everyone, 
my name is Maddy, I use she, her, hers pronouns, I'm originally from, excuse me, in Clarksburg, Maryland.
I am a senior, I'm a transfer student, so I'm graduating in December, I'm very excited. I am a theater major, with a double minor in psychology and arts administration. I am also part of the College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program, and I'm newly involved in our program council here as well on campus. So I'm very excited about that. And I've also done some work with the Performing Arts Office, so.

And I will hand it to Michael.

- Hello everyone, my name is Michael, I am a senior accounting major here at Suffolk university. I'm originally from Monson Mass, which is a small town about an hour and 45 minutes outside of the city all in the Western part of the state. In terms of my involvement here on campus, so I'm involved with this position here and get to speak to all of you today, but I'm also a member of the Sawyer Business School's, Honors Program, as well as the President of Beta Alpha Psi which is an honor society for accounting finance and information systems majors. So as you can see, we do have quite a broad wide variety of students here all with different experiences to talk about. And firstly, I'd really like to get started with kind of our stories on Boston and where Suffolk is located in Boston, truly in the heart of the city.

So Logan, coming to Boston can be a very big change. I know it was for me, especially coming from a rural area. Can you tell us a little bit about where Suffolk is and how it is to navigate campus?

- Yeah, definitely of course. So like you, I came from a very rural area too. Saco Maine is outside of Portland, which is the bigger city but it is mostly just woods really. (laughs) So when I was choosing my college, I really wanted to experience where I would be involved and really integrated into a larger society. I really like being around other people, you know seeing people in the commons hanging out. But Suffolk was really great for me.
06:05 because I really liked the city campus style
06:08 that we have here.
06:09 We're not like a traditional campus
06:11 where you're gonna have like a huge courtyard
06:13 that's owned by the school,
06:15 and then there's a bunch of buildings
06:16 like right next to each other.
06:18 We're kind of spread out through the downtown Boston area,
06:21 we're in a 15 minute walking radius,
06:24 pretty much of all of our buildings,
06:26 but the average walk time
06:27 is about seven minutes between buildings.
06:29 If you live up in like
06:31 our cluster of buildings up on the hill,
06:33 which is like Miller Hall, Sawyer, Samia
06:36 and 73 Tremont
06:38 those are all within like two minutes
06:39 a minute and a half walk of each other.
06:42 So on the map, it does look pretty spread out
06:44 but it is very close together
06:46 when you are down in the city
06:48 and just being in that area too,
06:50 just being around all the access to the T stops
06:54 we have all the color lines available
06:57 having the Boston Commons and the gardens available too.
07:01 We don't get to have, you know,
07:03 our own traditional greens but I mean,
07:05 we call the Boston Commons, you know
07:07 our greens really. (laughs)
07:09 So it's a great little area to be around.
07:12 The residence halls are located either by Government Center,
07:15 One Court Street,
07:17 Miller Hall up on the hill
07:18 and then in the downtown crossing
07:21 and then Boston Commons area
07:23 is gonna be a Modern 10 West and Smith Hall.
07:26 But yeah, that's a little bit about downtown.
07:31 - So Boston does seem like a very big city.
07:34 Our campus is very walkable,
07:36 but I guess getting around the city
07:38 seems a little bit daunting
07:39 but it's in fact a lot easier than you may think.
07:42 So Maddie, what's it like to get around the City of Boston
07:45 and how easy is it?
07:47 - Yeah, so that's one of the things
07:50 I love most about living here actually,
07:52 I grew up in a really suburban area
07:54 where everyone had to drive everywhere
07:56 and like major attractions
07:59 and things were probably like 20 or 30 minutes
08:01 out from where I live.
08:02 Here living downtown,
08:04 everything is probably a 10 to 20 minute T ride away
08:07 or it's walkable.
The T is our subway system here in Boston, it's actually the oldest subway system in the country. Fun fact, I found that out the first time I visited here, so I thought that was really cool. And Suffolk provides you with a discounted T pass for the whole semester that you can use to get back and forth to and from campus or anywhere else in the city. I personally love hopping on the train and going over to the Museum of Fine Arts, it's my favorite spot in the city and it is open again. So I'm very excited to go again. And it's really also accessible for students who might not want to live right downtown or around the city, or might be commuting from home as well.

We have the commuter rail that runs back and forth to different towns in the area and also all of the T lines around here. Yeah, I think it's very daunting kind of coming to the city and trying to figure out how to get around which train to take on, I know I can remember even growing up in Massachusetts coming to Boston and getting lost on the T my first week, I ended up in Newton. If anyone knows where Newton is unrelated to Boston its only 45 minutes on the T so I really messed up there. But Hoaka, so there are definitely some things that you need to adjust to when you come to the city. What was one thing you were very nervous about before coming to Boston, and how did you adjust or learn how to do that?

So that's a great question. Just going off a little bit more of what Maddie talked about, I have to say I was definitely nervous about getting around Boston. So within like the first couple of days that I hadn't moved into Suffolk, a couple of friends that I had made, and I, we decided to first walk around our campus and then get bearings of exactly where academic buildings were. We had our class schedules so we went around and walked our various schedules. And then after that, we decided to expand out a little bit and we picked a direction and we just started walking,
10:09 and we went until we felt like we had gone far enough,
10:13 and then at that point we turned on Google maps
10:16 to figure out exactly where we were and then walked back.
10:18 So we were really able to trace where we were going
10:21 and see some cool things.
10:23 Like we went down to the harbor,
10:25 we walked to a couple museums, restaurants.
10:29 So if you are concerned about navigating Boston
10:33 and finding out where things are,
10:35 just know, again, like Maddie said
10:37 that it's super walkable,
10:38 there's easy access to the T.
10:41 So once you get there
10:42 and once you're in the city of Boston,
10:44 it's really actually quite easy to navigate
10:46 and you'll be able to get your bearings quickly.
10:52 - So I think what everyone thinks about Boston
10:54 the first thing you think about is the weather
10:57 besides being an amazing city.
10:59 So I guess we're gonna open it up here
11:01 to some participation from everyone in the panel
11:04 or in the presentation today.
11:07 So if you were to pack for Boston,
11:09 what is the number one item you would pack?
11:12 A poll question should have just open on your screen
11:15 so please feel free to vote on that.
11:18 For me, I think a heavy winter coat
11:21 is going to be my like number one must have for Boston.
11:25 In fact, I would say that layering
11:26 is kind of the most important
11:28 because you're running around, outside in the snow all day
11:31 and then you kind of go into class
11:32 and you're very warm.
11:35 So let's see,
11:36 what is the general consensus of the room today?
11:49 Heavy winter coat always wins it.
11:52 Sneakers shoes, very important.
11:55 Some nice comfortable shoes for walking around the city
11:58 is absolutely a must.
12:00 And I really suggest maybe get some waterproof shoes
12:03 for probably half the year.
12:04 It does get a little bit wet.
12:07 So I know we've talked a lot about the City of Boston
12:10 but I'm sure you're all curious to know.
12:12 What's it like to really live
12:13 learn and work in the City of Boston?
12:16 So Clara, could you share with us
12:19 what your typical day looks like?
12:22 - Yeah, of course.
12:22 So I like to keep myself pretty busy.
12:26 So probably the easiest day to explain is Thursdays.
12:29 So on Thursdays I give tours
12:31 'cause I'm a Trustee Ambassador in the morning.
12:33 I give the 9:00 AM tour if anyone wants to like
12:36 hop on and get a tour, just let me know,
12:38 like I'll give it to you on Thursday mornings.
12:41 And then after tours,
12:42 I go to class and that's in-person, which is great.
12:46 So I have that from 11:30 to 12:45,
12:49 and once I'm done with that class,
12:50 I'm also a dog-walker off campus.
12:53 So whoever said sneakers
12:55 I'm definitely wearing those on Thursdays,
12:57 'cause I run over to North Station
12:59 'cause that's where my dog currently lives,
13:01 so I do that.
13:03 And then I go to my psychology club that's currently online,
13:07 so I'm able to do that as I'm dog-walking
13:09 'cause I'm obviously a multitasker, I guess.
13:12 And then I'll run back to 73 to grab a salad.
13:15 I love 73, the women there who work there
13:18 know my order by heart now I walk in
13:20 and they're like already ready preparing it for me.
13:24 And then after that,
13:25 I have my lab for forensic science
13:28 and that's about two and a half hours.
13:31 So once I'm done with that,
13:32 I usually just need a little bit of a break
13:34 so we'll go and grab dinner over at Samea.
13:38 My favorite is probably their noodles with orange chicken.
13:41 They'll have those ready, prepared for you.
13:43 I'll grab some soy sauce for that,
13:45 and then I'll eat that real quick.
13:47 And usually I'll sit outside on these Samea steps
13:51 just 'cause I think that's a great way
13:52 for me to get a little bit of sunshine
13:54 and get some fresh air.
13:55 And then since I am a resident assistant,
13:58 on Thursday nights, I'm on call.
14:00 So then I come back in and I talk to residents
14:03 do some rounds,
14:04 and that is what pretty normal Thursday looks like for me.
14:09 - Yeah I think that many students
14:11 have a very similar experience.
14:13 I'm gonna kind of button here
14:15 and share what my typical day looks like.
14:17 So my day typically starts in the morning
14:19 with some meetings, logging into my internship.
14:22 I'm very fortunate to have an internship right now
14:25 while also kind of balancing classes.
14:27 And you'll see that that's very common
14:28 amongst Suffolk students.
14:30 So I'll have my internship in the morning,
14:32 I'll sign off there,
14:34 I'll sign into my classes
14:35 and I'll take all my classes, you know
14:37 write all my notes, do all my homework.
14:39 And then we'll probably have a meeting with a professor
14:42 in the evening,
14:42 talk about maybe some upcoming projects,
14:45 some kind of career goals,
14:46 the professors have already helpful with
14:48 kind of helping you along your career.
14:51 And then I finished out the evening with some homework.
14:54 So I think that a lot of us have very similar schedules
14:56 and yet ours are vastly different.
15:00 So we have over 70 academic programs here at Suffolk
15:03 and many of the courses actually do take advantage
15:06 of the city of Boston.
15:08 So Logan, can you tell us some examples
15:10 of how your professors have taken advantage
15:12 of resources around the city?
15:14 - Yeah, I mean, when (laughs)
15:16 when you say takes advantage of the city
15:20 I like to think of my freshman year.
15:22 There's like a freshman experience course
15:24 usually take and I did Benjamin Franklin (laughs)
15:30 like a class completely about him.
15:32 It was run by the Professor Bob Alison,
15:35 and if you come here you should definitely
15:37 take either that course,
15:39 or the City of Boston with Bob Alison as well too,
15:42 because he teaches first,
15:45 obviously in the classroom.
15:47 We in my Benjamin Franklin class,
15:49 we did a lot of readings of different biographies,
15:52 yeah, biographies, not autobiographies (laughs)
15:56 and like his journals.
15:58 And then as well too, like we also went out into the city
16:01 because there's so much history around us,
16:05 there's so much to show off.
16:07 I was able to go to like the graveyard
16:10 that's like right next to 70 View Tremont
16:13 and like Bob explained all of the graves to us,
16:16 it was so cool. (laughs)
16:18 We also went over to like
16:19 the old town hall as well too.
16:23 That's now like Ruth steakhouse, I think.
16:27 But like we were able to like go view that
16:30 and just see the history.
16:31 And Bob's like,
16:32 besides being a professor at Suffolk
16:35 he is also like a huge historian in the Boston area.
16:39 So he knows so much
16:41 and he's just like such a great person to be around.
16:44 The last thing I'll say about Bob
16:46 is I actually was able to be part
16:49 of a revolutionary war reenactment because of him. (laughs)
16:54 So like after his class, my first semester here,
16:57 he actually emailed me and he was like,
17:00 "Hey, we're gonna do this like 250 year anniversary
17:03 of like the Red Coats, like marching on Boston
17:07 and we need like volunteers to help
17:09 like guide them through the streets."
17:11 So I got to like participate in like this really cool
17:14 like reenactment with like a real ship
17:17 like everybody full suits,
17:19 like all the guns, everything.
17:21 It was so cool.
17:22 But like I got that experience
17:23 through my professor and that was like so cool
17:26 for me because I'm kind of a history nerd.
17:29 And while like my major is like political science and stuff,
17:31 like I still really, really enjoy those experiences,
17:36 honestly, like it really deepened my connection in Boston.
17:39 I would highly recommend those courses
17:44 but yeah, I mean,
17:45 for me that's how my experience has been in Boston area,
17:48 but yeah.
17:51 - I had a very similar experience.
17:53 I'll never really forget my History of Boston course
17:56 that I took my first year.
17:58 That was really a great way to learn more
18:00 about the history of Boston,
18:02 and I really never felt more like a tourist in my own city.
18:05 So that was very interesting.
18:07 But as you have seen from I guess Logan's stories,
18:10 our location in the city is very unique
18:13 for our academic experiences,
18:15 but our location also provides a lot of opportunity
18:19 for professional development
18:20 especially through internships.
18:22 So Clara, can you tell us kind of what resources
18:25 are available to students
18:26 looking for professional development?
18:29 - Yeah, so I'm actually going through this process right now
18:32 and it was a little scary at first
18:34 because like professional development,
18:36 that's thinking about after college and like,
18:38 I don't really know what I'm doing.
18:40 I feel like I'm still like 12 years old,
18:42 so it's really helpful to have people
18:44 who've helped me throughout the way.
18:46 So there's a couple of different things
18:48 that have helped me so far in the search.
18:51 The first is internships.
18:52 So about 70% of undergraduate students here
18:56 are gonna get an internship
18:57 by the time they graduate.
18:59 For myself in psychology,
19:01 an internship is required for me to graduate
19:04 based on the coursework.
19:05 But depending on your major,
19:06 it might not be required
19:08 but a lot of students will still do it
19:10 because it's kind of like dipping your toe in the water,
19:12 see if you actually like it.
19:14 Which also means that you can do an internship
19:16 at any point in your Suffolk career.
19:18 So if you are not really sure about something,
19:20 and you decide to get an internship your freshman year
19:23 and you're like, "Ooh, I don't like real estate,
19:25 I can't do this."
19:26 You know, that's cool,
19:27 you'll have time to switch, that's a great.
19:29 For myself,
19:30 I'm just doing it a little bit later
19:32 'cause I know what I wanna do.
19:34 So the way that I'm looking for internships
19:36 is one through my professors,
19:38 I've done a lot of networking with my professors,
19:40 reached out to them and said,
19:41 these are the things I'm interested in,
19:43 do you know anyone in the Boston area
19:45 that is looking for people
19:47 that you could connect me to?
19:48 So always get those connections with your professors
19:50 'cause they can help you in a lot of ways.
19:52 But we also have more formal ways,
19:54 like our career development center,
19:56 they can help you search for internships
19:58 and the Critter Roman Center
20:01 also there's a lot of things to help you get prepared
20:05 for applying to internships.
20:07 They have looked over my resume before
20:09 and very nicely told me that I needed to throw it
20:11 out and make a new one because it wasn't going to work.
20:13 And I was like well, that's good
20:14 that's good to know,
20:15 thank you, I appreciate that.
20:17 They also were able to do a mock interview with me
20:20 and be like, "Oh, never say that in an interview."
20:22 And I was like, "Oh, okay, good, good."
20:23 So they're really good at helping you make mistakes
20:26 in a low risk environment so that
20:29 when you get to your internship resume or interview
20:34 that you're really nailing those responses instead.
20:38 So I do see that we have a question in the Q&A
20:41 about if you arrange your own.
20:44 So you do arrange your own,
20:45 But Suffolk is really there to help you the process.
20:48 And we also have different options
20:50 for students to get involved with professional development
20:53 outside of internship opportunities.
20:55 We have RAMP which is a mentor program
20:58 where you get paired up
21:02 with someone who is an alumni
21:04 who is in a field like your own.
21:05 So they can help you say that
21:07 try to figure out the graduation,
not the graduation, the graduate school process
or where they work to work their way
up to where they are now.
And we also have Handshake,
which is kind of like LinkedIn
but just for college students.
A lot of companies around the Boston area
will reach out to Suffolk students on Handshake
because Suffolk luckily does have a pretty good reputation
in the Boston area,
for having some really great students
with great work drives.
So that was a lot of information that I just gave you,
but my main point here is that Suffolk
does give you a lot of different resources
whether it's through formal or informal support.
I really can't recommend
the Career Development Center enough.
At one point I essentially had
a standing weekly appointment with them.
They again did help me go through my entire resume
mock interview skills,
finding positions to apply for.
They're so fantastic,
I always get this example
that this upcoming summer I had nine offers
for an internship,
and so that was kind of like their work with me
really did help me get to that point.
But I've been lucky enough
to have actually three internships,
my time here at Suffolk.
And I think it's a great way to really show
what an internship can do for you at Suffolk.
So my first internship was with,
it was actually on campus.
We opened a tax clinic,
it was a free tax clinic for people
around the City of Boston.
And typically to come Suffolk Campus
we would actually help them prepare their taxes.
So that was my first kind of internship experience,
it was very low pressure
because I knew I had the support system of the professor
right on Suffolk's Campus.
My second internship was actually with a biotech company
over in Cambridge
in their kind of their corporate accounting department.
So I got to see a lot of interesting things
during that time
and I even got to work with Johnson & Johnson,
so that's pretty cool.
And then I currently have an internship
with another tax firm in Boston
And really none of that would have happened without Suffolk's help. I actually even found all of those job postings through the Handshake website that Claire mentioned. That's just a great resource for all of our students to be able to find those professional development opportunities. I always say that Handshake and professors and alumni are really your best connections. So there are many locations around the City of Boston that our students do find internships at. As I mentioned that I just found them in three different places around Boston. So we're gonna open up a poll question. Where in Boston do you see yourself working in the future? So each one of these places on the poll question is actually a very popular spot for student internships. The John Hancock Tower is very popular for like business internships especially accounting and finance. The State House, Logan, I don't know if you've had any experiences with classmates that have had internships there but that's very popular for political science majors. And then I always like to see become an influence like Jenna Marbles, Jenna Marbles, I think we all grew up with Jenna Marbles on YouTube. She did graduate from Suffolk University and that is kind of a great connection to have. All right, let's see. So while these answers come up, okay. Massachusetts State House very popular. Google Theater District. I think Maddy celebrating that one a little bit. So let's move on, Hoaka, can you tell us a little bit about the places that students can find those internships? I know I talked about it a little bit, but can you maybe go a little bit more in depth? Yeah, absolutely. So there are so many places around the City of Boston that as Suffolk students, we really do have an advantage of in terms of location especially because we are located in Downtown Boston. So I see some of you are interested in the Massachusetts State House, like Michael said, great if you're interested in government. We like to joke that the Massachusetts State House...
25:21 is right in our backyard,
25:22 because it's like literally neighboring
25:24 all of our academic buildings, which is really cool.
25:27 Google Theater District,
25:29 you know short walks away from campus.
25:32 We also have the financial district,
25:34 which is great, If you're interested in
25:36 like business, or finance or accounting,
25:38 entrepreneurship that's only about a five to 10 minute walk
25:42 away from campus.
25:44 We have so many hospitals in the area as well,
25:46 if you're interested in majoring
25:48 in any of the sciences we have to offer.
25:50 So of course we have the Massachusetts General Hospital,
25:54 we have the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute,
25:56 we have Boston Children's which aren't too far away
25:58 from campus at all,
25:59 only about like a 10 to 20 minute T ride.
26:03 And then we also have the Channel 7 News,
26:05 so if you're interested in like broadcast journalism
26:07 or something like that,
26:08 that'd be a great option for you
26:10 only five minutes away from campus.
26:12 My best friend actually got an internship
26:14 at the Suffolk Superior Courthouse,
26:17 which is a neighboring building
26:19 to all of our academic buildings.
26:22 So she would literally go to class,
26:24 and then right after that
26:25 she would walk right across the street to her internship.
26:28 So that really just shows that
26:30 our central location gives us the opportunity
26:33 to really balance like school and work and internships
26:36 just based off of our location.
26:43 - Thank you so much Hoaka.
26:45 We spent a lot of time
26:45 talking about professional development opportunities
26:48 around the city of Boston.
26:49 But there are many ways to get involved off campus
26:51 and on campus, through our clubs and organizations.
26:55 So Maddy, how has being getting involved
26:57 with clubs and organizations on campus,
26:59 affected your experience in Boston?
27:02 - That's a really awesome question.
27:04 Student involvement is my favorite thing
27:07 to talk about on tour
27:08 because getting involved here on campus
27:12 absolutely changed my university experience.
27:17 As I mentioned,
27:18 I was a transfer student.
27:20 So as soon as I got here,
27:21 I was like I have to get involved in something,
27:23 I have to make friends
27:24 like so that I can really make this a home for myself.
That's how I found Trustee Ambassadors, and in terms of opportunities off campus, there are so many things that our clubs and organizations provide particularly with student leadership opportunities and service opportunities. Like through Trustee Ambassadors, I was able to attend a leadership conference in January with tour guides from just all over the country and got to your presentations and give my own presentation at our training, and that's just such invaluable leadership experience that you will never, you will never find anywhere else if you don't get involved. So it was just a wonderful opportunity. We have a lot of opportunities to do like recreational activities, like ice skating on the common, we have concerts on campus, we have opportunities to buy discounted tickets to shows down in the Theater District as well as like hockey games and Celtics games around here. So there's just so much to do in this city and the university really helps you take advantage of all those opportunities. Absolutely. I always say that academics is the reason you go to college and involvement is the reason you stay. So Clara, along with clubs, serving us many opportunities to gain fun and beneficial hands-on experience in the city. What are some ways that Suffolk supports student involvement around the Boston community? Yeah, so I think there's a couple of main ways that we do that. We are as you know, right in the center of Bostons, we wanna make sure that we are helping the community that we're in. So the way that we do that is often through our center for community engagement. I think it was two weeks ago, actually our weekly, not weekly annual service day. And since it is COVID, we wanted to spread it out over the week so that we could have code safe procedures but I was able to participate in that, and I worked with a three different communities around Boston,
such as a program to work with veterans,
a program that worked with families
who were coming to get treatment at our hospitals,
as well as a program that works with women in the area
women identifying people who currently don't have a home.
So we were able to do different gift bags for them,
we were able to,
for the kids that come to get treatment
we made them little cardboard llamas
so that they could, you know, decorate them.
So just little things that are really able
to make a bigger impact on the community.
It might not seem
like those small things that you might be doing
during service day are making a huge impact,
but in reality, they are.
Small things of kindness can really make a huge impact.
So even though we have the large service day every year
we also do have weekly opportunities
that you can volunteer with them
or they can help you find other volunteer work as well.
And then we have our own Suffolk CARES Pantry
but we also work with the Boston Food Pantry
to help the greater community outside of Suffolk as well.
And outside of that,
the community engagement also works with
our service learning classes.
So if you take a service learning class,
I'm in one right now,
you are able to part of your coursework
is working with someone in the Boston community.
So I'm taking one of those right now
to help students work on college access,
which is really exciting.
So that is like a very substantial way
that we are helping the Boston community.
But then students can also just get involved
with things around Boston too.
Like Maddy said,
there's usually something going on due to a club
or like getting involved there.
But if you wanna get a little bit more out into the city
my favorite way to do that
is by getting the discounted sports tickets
that she was talking about.
I was able to go see,
I think a Boston Red Sox game for like $20,
with pretty good seats,
which is pretty unheard of.
And then my freshman year,
I actually was able to go and see the Boston Ballet
Nutcracker for about $20 as well.
Which that was really exciting
'cause I've never gone before.
So a lot of different ways to help the community of Boston while also getting yourself kind of out to the city and explore it while you're here.

Absolutely.

I, you know, I'm gonna need someone to get me those $15 Bruins tickets when I graduate.

I love that we were able to go see a Bruins playoff game for $15 and that might be the highlight of my entire Suffolk experience.

But Suffolk does have a lot of fun places to just kind of hang out, relax, have some adventures.

So Logan, what would you say are your top three places to hang out around the city?

Okay. (laughs)

I think first off, I think like I'm gonna group the Boston Commons, the garden and the Esplanade altogether, because they're all so close.

Where I lived my first two years on campus in Smith Hall, and now I live in East Boston, but those parks are so great.

The Esplanade on the Charles River is so beautiful. (laughs)

When I lived in the dorms, I would spend as much time outside in those green areas as much as possible, just because like you're in the middle of the city but you have like this wide expansive area just to like hang out with your friends, do work.

I mean, I remember like the times me and Clara we would go outside and just, you know put a blanket down, do a little bit of homework in the commons. (laughs)

That like, for me that is like it right there.

But another one would be definitely like the MFA. I've had a lot of experiences going with a lot of my friends and stuff also by myself and something that is great about Suffolk is that Suffolk pays the MFA like a subscription, so all of our students can go completely for free.

So you can just go up to the counter, say, I wanna go in (laughs) they give you a free ticket and you're done.

And that also works at the ICA as well too, as well as the Isabella Gardner Museum.

Oh wait, that one's just discounted that one's not free, but it's discounted. But like all of those museums are like so great and as for me, I did a year of interior design when I was looking around,
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34:06 and during that year of like art
34:09 I really spent a lot of time at the MFA
34:12 either doing like charcoal drawings
34:13 or just like statues or like paintings
34:18 and stuff like that.
34:19 Or just to like view art and get inspiration for it.
34:22 The museums in Boston are so great,
34:25 and because we're connected on the T as well, too
34:28 they're so easy to get to, which is great.
34:32 And then I think the last one
34:34 is gonna be the North End for me. (laughs)
34:36 I live in East Boston,
34:37 but the North End, I love going to a lot of people
34:42 at Suffolk live in the North End, too.
34:44 I just can't afford it. (laughs)
34:46 But I mean, right now
34:47 I'm actually doing this project with the film club
34:50 in collaboration with the photography club.
34:53 We're working on this student film called 6 and Gigs,
34:56 and it's like a four-part series.
34:58 And we've been recording throughout the North End
35:01 for the last couple of weeks,
35:02 that's actually where I was last night. (laughs)
35:04 we were in like an alleyway in the middle of the night
35:06 recording, like a fight scene,
35:07 it was really cool,
35:09 but like the North End is like such a cool experience
35:12 because all of the windy streets,
35:13 it's all, it feels very old
35:16 all the Italian restaurants too.
35:19 I can't afford it,
35:20 but when my grandparents come to visit
35:22 that's what I'm eating. (laughs)
35:24 But also to Bovas,
35:26 I can't highly recommend it enough
35:28 open 24/7, seven days a week,
35:31 all roads lead to Bovas and the North End, (laughs)
35:34 you just gotta keep walking around.
35:37 But like, they do like pastries,
35:39 as well as like chicken parms and stuff like that.
35:44 That is like one of my favorite spots
35:46 to hit up in the middle of the night,
35:48 because nothing else is open
35:50 but yeah,
35:51 that's definitely just like the top three
35:53 of my lists right now.
35:54 But it definitely fluctuates, you know?
35:58 - All right, well,
35:59 you have transitioned us perfectly,
36:01 and before I open up the most debated question
36:04 of the afternoon,
36:06 I'm actually gonna open up a poll for our guests today.
36:09 So what is your favorite type of food?
36:14 We know that Boston is a very foodie city
36:16 and we'll try to sway your opinion yet
36:19 but this is like our number one most contented question.
36:26 Let's see.
36:41 All right, let's see the answers.
36:46 Italian and Asian or Asian fusion is split,
36:49 Latin-America and something else.
36:51 I'm curious what that something else would be, all right.
36:54 But now we're gonna open this question
36:55 to actually all of our panelists.
36:58 What is your favorite place to eat off campus and why?
37:04 And we'll start with Clara.
37:06 - This is always such a hard question.
37:08 I'm a big coffee person.
37:11 I'm not really like a big restaurant person,
37:13 I'm a big coffee person.
37:15 So my two favorite cafes around the area
37:19 are probably Bittersweet.
37:21 Oh my gosh, I can't speak right now.
37:24 Bittersweet Shop on Newbury.
37:27 They have really good coffee,
37:28 and also 10 for 10 would recommend
37:30 their grilled cheese sandwich
37:31 with their tomato soup.
37:33 It just like is so delicious.
37:34 But then if you wanna go a little bit farther away
37:37 my favorite coffee shop ever is 1369 Coffee House
37:41 over in Cambridge.
37:42 I'm a big coffee person,
37:44 so even though I can't quite pick a favorite restaurant,
37:47 those are definitely my two favorite like cafe spots to go.
37:51 But I feel like Hoaka has better
37:53 restaurant recommendations than I would.
37:57 - So I have got a great recommendation
37:59 for those of you that are particularly interested
38:02 in Asian or Asian fusion.
38:04 This is definitely like my number one go-to restaurant,
38:07 when anyone asks the best place to eat in Boston.
38:12 It's my Thai Vegan Cafe,
38:14 even though it's vegan,
38:15 like you don't have to be vegan to go there.
38:18 All of my friends who are vegan,
38:20 absolutely love that place
38:22 and they have such great food,
38:25 like your taste buds will not be disappointed,
38:28 I promise you.
38:28 It's only about like max a 10 minute walk away from campus.
38:33 So it's super accessible, their prices
38:36 are definitely college budget friendly
38:38 which is always a huge plus.
38:41 So definitely take down My Thai Vegan Cafe.
38:45 But Logan, what's your like recommendations for restaurants?
38:51 - Well, I just said Bovas earlier,
38:53 but like you,
38:54 I am definitely college friendly budget restaurant choices.
I mean, I just mentioned Bovas, but I will say the McDonald's that is right next to Smith Hall. I visit that one too many times, (laughs) but yeah like that one's open to like 11:00 PM, you know, it's worth it, but yeah, my two years in Smith Hall, I visited that maybe like once a week, you know maybe sometimes more, baked chicken was really it for me. So my roommate and I are really huge fans of chicken wings (laughs) so we order chicken wings, and fries from Wings Over quite a lot. It's not like, I don't know if there's one like definitely not near where I live, but we order it in and I don't have Wings Over where I'm from so it's kind of like a treat when we get it, and also JP Licks for milkshakes. We love them, they're very good. And you can like go in and customize like what you want in them. We like, like the cake batter with peanut butter and like Oreos, mhh just gets amazing. JP Licks red eye, the milkshake with the espresso shot is amazing. But for everyone who mentioned Italian, I know it's not like true Italian, but I'm gonna go with pizza here. So in the North End, there's this little place called Ernesto's and Ernesto's is like buy the slice pizza it's best at lunchtime, it's like three or $4 for a slice last time I was there, and a slice of pizza is a third of like a whole pizza. So it's definitely a place if you're into pizza I would definitely recommend checking it out. It's fantastic. But I guess we should probably move on before we take up all the time here. I just wanna let you know that Boston really is a foodie city. A lot of my go to's and a lot of student experiences I think are really centered around food in the city of Boston, but beyond our local restaurants what is one thing that makes Boston a unique city to study and live in? and we're gonna actually open this up to all our panelists here and let's start with Maddy. Yeah, so I will touch on the accessibility factor, so I had kind of mentioned earlier,
you know, I came from a suburban area and living here, like I can just hop on the train and go wherever and access all of these really cool things like the museum of fine arts and things like that.

I just, something I really value about our campus and our school is that we're right at the heart of everything, and it's really easy and accessible to kind of step out of your comfort zone and experience new things here, which is something that I was really looking for in my college campus.

Yeah, I definitely agree with you Maddy. I think that like for myself, it's the accessibility of all the different opportunities that we have. So like for myself, whether that's the internships or the service learning classes, I've taken where I'm able to work with the Boston community.

I think that our professors really work with our students and they want you to succeed, and so they are there to really help you take advantage of everything in the city, whether it's like Logan said going for, you know, Benjamin Franklin stuff, to Michael being able to find different internships around. So I think that is the biggest thing for me that I've seen throughout my three years at Suffolk, is that they want you to take advantage of all the different opportunities in the city, and they make it really easy for you to do that.

Yeah, I was gonna say the just the diversity of the city and just the diversity that you get at the university. Boston is riddled with history. (laughs) Every part of Boston is different than the rest of it. It's so cool, just to be able to walk around the city and just be so in link you know, and it all because there's so much going on but also just like at our school level as well too, we have over 120 different clubs and organizations. There's so much to do at our school and around the area and the opportunities afforded to you by, you know just talking to professors, getting to know them, the internships that you can get off of them, the random emails that you'll get of a professor saying, "Hey, do you wanna try out this? I just thought you were good at this in my class, and I think you might be interested in this."

Like just the diversity of all, the amount of different things
43:26 that I've been able to experience at my time here
43:28 has been insane compared to like the rest of my life.
43:31 My three years in Boston has been really great.
43:35 I mean, it's mostly because of how diverse Boston is.
43:41 - Yeah, definitely going off of that,
43:42 I feel like Suffolk in general
43:45 just has a really great,
43:47 and I feel like unique sense of community.
43:49 We have professors that are lovely
43:52 and they're always more than willing
43:54 to set aside a time to meet with us,
43:57 just have a chat.
43:58 They even remember our faces and our names
44:01 after a couple years.
44:02 So when I was a first year here,
44:03 I took a class and then with one of my professors,
44:05 and then a couple years later
44:07 I took his class again and he was like,
44:08 "Hey Hoaka, how's it going?"
44:10 How are you doing with this and that?"
44:11 So it's nice to know that our professors
44:14 still remember our names and our faces.
44:15 And then also we have fabulous students
44:19 as you can see here,
44:20 many clubs and organizations that can really just
44:23 make Suffolk feel homey and really harbor
44:27 that sense of community that we absolutely love
44:30 and thrive of of
44:31 and for me personally,
44:32 that was super important when I chose to come to Suffolk
44:36 for college, because like I said,
44:37 I am from Florida,
44:39 so finding that place that felt like home
44:42 and that really wanted me to be here was super important.
44:46 And that was Suffolk for me,
44:48 because we have such a great community
44:49 where I definitely felt like I could fit in and thrive.
44:58 - All right,
44:59 so thank you so much everyone.
45:00 Now we want to hear from all of you.
45:02 I know that we do have some questions
45:04 coming through the Q&A
45:06 but if you do have any questions,
45:07 please feel free to drop it in there
45:08 and then we could help you.
45:11 - All right.
45:12 Hi, Michael, and hi everyone again.
45:15 I have some questions here from our audience
45:18 and our first one is,
45:20 how safe is campus and especially for women
45:23 or identifying as women on campus?
45:28 Clara, would you like to answer this question
45:30 about security on campus for the whole student population?
45:33 - Sure, yeah.
So I have lived on campus for all of my three years here at Suffolk. So I'm pretty experienced on safety here. So the way that it works is we have our security guards who are in all of our academic buildings and residence halls. In academic buildings, you have your ID card, your Suffolk ID that you're able to tap at the front desk to show that you are a Suffolk student, but in residence halls we even take it a step further by having a two tap system, so you have to tap your ID card to even get into the building, and then once you're in the building you tap that card again by the security desk. And that is where they're gonna make sure that the person tapping the card is the person who is the card holder. So as we see, we are in the middle of Boston, things happen, maybe you drop your ID card in the middle of the Boston Common. This makes sure that at that second tap when they're checking that the ID card is you that like if I drop my card, Maddy couldn't pick it up and just get into my residence hall. So that's one way that we keep our students safe but we also have something called Leavers Safe. And in here you're able to have people track where you're going. So say that you are going from Modern Theater after catching one of our theater shows and then you wanna go over and work out in the gym. And that is probably gonna be the longest walk on campus maybe about 12 minutes depending on how fast you're walking, if it's raining, all that different stuff. If you, you know, get into a tour group, that's looking at the freedom trail and you have to walk around them. So just a lot of different things, but about 12 minutes and say that you just not quite feeling it and you want a little bit extra security you can have your location sent to someone through the app and they can watch you walk. And if you stop for too long or you take a really large detour they can actually through the app contact our Suffolk University Police Department and they will come to your location to make sure everything is okay.
47:29 I think that's a really great option for people.
47:30 I personally don't use it just
47:33 because I will stop too many times to pet dogs,
47:36 and then people think that I'm in danger,
47:37 but in reality I just wanna pet the puppies.
47:39 But it is a really great option for people
47:40 and we also have in person walking escorts,
47:45 so again,
47:46 if you feel like you would want
47:47 a little bit extra security
47:48 you can have one of our Suffolk University
47:50 Police Department officers
47:52 come and walk you from one location to the next.
47:55 I had a friend who I lived with my sophomore year,
47:58 her name was Paige,
47:59 and she did that a couple of times
48:01 when she would have really really late night rehearsals
48:05 over in our Sawyer building
48:07 and she would want to walk back
48:08 with one of our police officers to 10 West.
48:12 That just gave her a little bit of extra security
48:14 but that's in general about security that we have here.
48:18 And just from my own personal experience,
48:21 I do identify as a woman,
48:23 and I would say that I have felt very safe on campus
48:26 through those procedures,
48:28 and also I think that it's just a lot more safe
48:32 than you might expect at first.
48:34 So that's just my personal experience.
48:37 Yeah.
48:39 - Wonderful, thank you so much for sharing Clara,
48:41 I think you really hit the nail on the head
48:43 with all aspects of safety on campus
48:45 and also for myself as an alum
48:48 and now as a professional,
48:49 and having been in Boston for quite some time, you know
48:52 I think we are in a really safe area.
48:53 I myself had very late night classes
48:56 and would oftentimes just walk with my friends
48:58 back to our residence halls
48:59 since we lived together which was really great,
49:01 but certainly you can take advantage
49:03 of all of our security measures.
49:05 And we also have assistance
49:07 through Suffolk where both students and parents
49:10 can be notified of any emergency situations
49:14 that may be happening on campus too.
49:16 So that way you're still as a student
49:18 and even as a parent if you so choose to stay informed
49:21 about what's going on on campus.
49:23 So thank you again for sharing Claire,
49:25 that was great.
49:26 And then for a second question,
49:30 about more professional work opportunities
49:33 that has students that you've been able to access.
49:38 And how about Logan and Michael
49:40 why don't you both touch upon a little bit
49:41 about your experiences
49:43 and what you've been able to access as a Suffolk student
49:46 for professional development?
49:48 - Yeah, well,
49:50 right now I'm in my search for an internship at the moment.
49:54 So I used, well
49:56 I had my resume built when I was,
49:58 when I was a freshmen,
49:59 I took, I was in the business school in my freshman year.
50:02 I took a course where we worked on our resumes and stuff,
50:07 and I kinda started building up my resume
50:08 from my freshman year.
50:11 But since I was going into internships this year,
50:13 I kinda wanted to get it checked over
50:14 because I'm sure I was gonna change,
50:18 and I don't know if all my updates were gonna look right.
50:21 So I used the career development center
50:22 just to check over my resume.
50:24 I also use my friend, Gretchen, (laughs)
50:26 who as actually in some of the freshmen classes
50:29 with those resumes,
50:30 she's a really great resume builder.
50:32 She's available to freshmen as a tutor
50:34 but since she's my roommate, I just use her sometimes.
50:38 But I mean, I have built my resume through that
50:40 as well as the cover letter.
50:42 And then I've been looking for my internships currently,
50:45 like through Handshake.
50:46 The most interesting ones that I've applied to already.
50:50 I really wanna go into the Department of Transportation.
50:53 There's the rail and transportation internship.
50:57 I am really interested in trains and just transit
51:00 and it's been something I wanted to do
51:03 and I found that opportunity through Handshake initially.
51:06 And then I had people from Suffolk.
51:09 One of, I was an RA in my second year
51:11 I had my Residence Director who was my old boss
51:14 write me a letter of recommendation
51:16 as well as my current boss,
51:17 the Assistant Director
51:19 the Residents like Department
51:20 Danielle Remigio,
51:22 they both wrote me a professional recommendation letters
51:25 for this job and you know,
51:27 their contacts as well too. (laughs)
51:29 So they've been really helpful
51:31 in getting together this application,
51:33 and you know, I feel really prepared
51:35 if they do contact me and they say
51:37 they wanna interview me.
But I've been working through my internships mainly through Handshake. I will say too, I'm currently in a class called data analysis and politics with Elena Ladet, and she works as Suffolk as an instructor but also at Harvard as an instructor, and she teaches art coding. I haven't had an opportunity through her yet, but my roommate Nina who's also a Trustee Ambassador actually got an internship at MIT, working with graduate students on their thesis papers completely through Elena. Elena had this opportunity to reach her, and then because I'm Elena knew that Nina did so well in her coding class, and knew that Nina was like up to it and capable of it, she recommended that. That was a really cool opportunity that Nina got, and she's actually still doing that, and she's doing some things at Harvard too now. So, you know the opportunities for me, I've just been really using the Career Development Center as well as Handshake, but I will say too, like professors will send out emails of just internship opportunities. And then of course, professors too if you get to know them well enough sometimes they'll just contact you and say, "Hey I got this cool opportunity available, are you interested?" You know, so that's been my experience but I'll give it back to Michael. Sure, so I think I'm a little bit further on in my kind of professional career than you. I guess, you know you'll get there slower. I think you're a junior, but beyond that. So I've had a lot of professional opportunities while at Suffolk here. So as I mentioned, I had the opportunity to work with students and people from around the City of Boston helping prepare their tax returns. That's kind of the career that I'm going into right now, so that was some great experience that I had my sophomore year at Suffolk. Besides that I've also worked with a publicly traded biotech company in Cambridge at the time it was fantastic opportunity, but while I was there, they were actually acquired by Johnson & Johnson. So I got to really see some very interesting accounting issues that came up along those lines,
53:48 and now I'm currently working with one
53:50 of the largest public accounting firms in the country.
53:53 So I've had a lot of professional opportunities
53:55 and what we've talked about, Handshake and professors a lot
53:58 but I also want to mention,
54:00 that almost every major has a major specific club.
54:04 So as I said at the beginning,
54:05 I'm the President of Beta Alpha Psi,
54:07 which is an honor society for accounting majors.
54:10 So every Tuesday and Thursday,
54:12 we actually bring in accounting firms
54:14 from around the City of Boston in the country
54:16 that are actively looking to hire.
54:18 And we bring in the recruiters
54:20 for them to meet our accounting students.
54:22 It's entirely run by the students ourselves.
54:25 So that's a fantastic way
54:26 that a lot of people actually
54:28 do get accounting internships specifically.
54:31 But those types of clubs are available
54:32 for most majors on campus.
54:35 So I think I'm gonna leave it at there,
54:37 I hope I answered your question.
54:40 - That was perfect.
54:41 Thank you, both Logan and Michael for your responses,
54:44 I think you both have very unique experiences
54:47 in how you've been able to work
54:49 with our student development on campus
54:52 in terms of looking for career opportunities
54:54 and internships
54:55 and certainly with your own
54:57 already existing internships too.
54:59 And Michael touched upon a great point
55:00 that here at Suffolk through involvement
55:03 in clubs in our organizations,
55:05 you can really hone in on your academic passions too
55:08 so, you know, really developing that
55:10 outside of the classroom as well.
55:13 So with that,
55:14 we're gonna wrap up our Experience Boston panel
55:17 with our current students.
55:19 I wanted to thank everyone who's in attendance today
55:22 for joining us today.
55:23 If you do have any questions
55:25 or wanted to chat further with our current students,
55:28 we do have a chat Monday through Friday
55:31 where you can, you know connect directly to everyone,
55:34 on our panel today,
55:35 and even more of our current student team as well.
55:39 Certainly if you have any questions for admission
55:42 please don't hesitate to reach out
55:44 at admission@suffolk.edu.
55:47 Otherwise we wanna thank you all again
55:49 for joining us this afternoon
55:51 and we hope you have a great rest of your weekend.
55:54 Thank you.