All right, good evening, everyone.
I'm Amy Zeng, the Dean of the Sawyer Business School.
On behalf of the entire school,
I'd like to welcome all of you,
to this celebration of the 75th anniversary
of the Bachelor of Science
in Business Administration Program, thank you.
(tenuees clapping)
Tonight, is a very special occasion.
And we are so glad to have you,
that come to join us tonight.
I'd like to extend a special welcome
to the members of the board of trustees,
including Chairman Bob Lamb, he's somewhere, right?
And representatives from the Dean's Cabinet
and Alumni Board.
We are also pleased, that some former members
of the school's leadership team are here with us tonight.
I haven't seen them,
but I like to mention that my predecessor
former Dean Bill O'Neill.
Hi Bill.
Is your wife here?
No, no.
No, just yourself, okay.
She's not gonna be able to go back (indistinct).
Right, yeah.
Well, all of you know Bill.
And I'm often referred to as,
"Oh, you are the new Dean of the Sawyer Business School."
So they don't remember my name that well (laughs).
But welcome Bill.
And Susan Atherton,
is Susan here?
She has registered, Susan, at the back.
Hi Susan.
Hi.
Hi, Susan was the very first
Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs
at the Sawyer Business School.
So it's great to have both Bill and Susan
to be with us here tonight.
This is one of the business school's first in-person events
in over two years.
Certainly, the very first in-person school event for me,
after I joined Suffolk University in August, 2020.
So I'm very thrilled to meet all of you here tonight,
and I think it's even more exciting
we are here to celebrate the 75 years of business education
at Suffolk University.
The degree has evolved over the decades,
as our business school,
the College of Business Administration,
which was called in 1937, when the college was started, initially offered only two classes, two nights a week. And there were only two courses available in the first year. And some of the classes had only two students, but today, guess what? We are offering more than a hundred undergraduate courses, and we have over 1600 undergraduate students that are studying in Boston, and Madrid Campuses, and other parts of the world. Since the degree was inaugurated in 1946, the school has become a dynamic and a diverse institution, that emphasizes, immerses, experiences, service learning, and global education for hundreds of students every year. The school has also achieved global recognition from several ranking outlets worldwide, including the CEO Magazine, the Princeton Review, U.S. News & World Report, and many others. Most importantly, we are the only business school in the nation, that has earned three important accreditations in the areas of business and accounting, healthcare, and the public administration. This Triple Crown is really one incredible achievement of the business school. (attendees clapping) Our students know how to make the most of their learning experiences taking advantage of internships, and securing jobs at places like Amazon, Deloitte, JPMorgan Chase and Boston Children's Hospital to name just a few. They are experiencing what it's like to live, work, and study in the heart of Downtown Boston. And they are traveling abroad, or studying at our Madrid Campus. We are proud that Sawyer Business School supports the university's mission, of providing access to education, regardless of one's particular circumstance, location, or future passions. We're providing abundant access to the benefits and opportunities of our home city, Boston offers. And Boston continues to innovate in many ways across many sectors. At the same time, through our Global Travel Seminar course, internship opportunities, a variety of global engagement activities, and international faculty. We are also ensuring that our students are prepared to work and succeed in the Interconnected Global Economy. So tonight, we're celebrating 75 years of excellence.
05:17 We have a few speakers who are excited
05:19 to share their thoughts with us today.
05:22 And after that, we'll have more time to catch up,
05:25 to meet with old and new friends,
05:27 and maybe even do more networking.
05:30 So let's get started.
05:31 So, we have started, but now here's the real program.
05:36 I like to introduce our first speaker,
05:39 who has been a strong advocate of the Sawyer Business School
05:42 since she started her journey at Suffolk University.
05:46 She has been very supportive
05:48 of the business school to stay competitive
05:50 in undergraduate business education.
05:54 Let's welcome the 11th president
05:56 of Suffolk University, Dr. Marisa Kelly.
05:59 (attendees clapping)
06:07 Thank you, Amy.
06:08 And good evening and welcome everyone.
06:11 It is really fun to be here, isn't it?
06:14 Fun to be here together in person
06:17 to celebrate the 75th anniversary
06:19 of the full-time Bachelor of Business Administration Program
06:23 here at Suffolk.
06:25 It's wonderful to see so many faculty
06:28 and staff, alumni leaders, members of the board of trustees.
06:34 Thank you so much for being here.
06:35 And it's really fabulous to have so many student leaders
06:38 with us here.
06:40 So glad you could join us.
06:43 This is an important night.
06:45 The business school founded in 1937, as you heard.
06:50 It struggled in its early years, to find its footing
06:55 and to be given the serious focus,
06:58 the attention that it really required to thrive.
07:02 The law school,
07:03 and the College of Arts and Sciences dominated
07:07 the attention of suffix leaders at that time.
07:11 But the vision that had driven the establishment
07:15 of what later would come to be called
07:17 the Sawyer Business School,
07:19 that vision was a really powerful one.
07:22 The commitment to providing education that combined
07:25 and I quote here, "Educational theory
07:29 and daily wage earning experience,
07:32 to working men and women."
07:35 It really aligned with the original 1906 access
07:40 and opportunity founding mission of Suffolk University,
07:43 or Suffolk Law School, originally in 1906.
07:46 And that is a mission that is still absolutely central
07:50 to who we are today.
07:52 And so in 1946, the first full-time faculty members
07:57 were hired in the business school,
07:58 and the first full-time BSBA Day Program was launched.
08:04 And of course, there were ups and downs
over the years, absolutely,
but as you've already heard a little bit about
the BSBA program and the Sawyer Business School as a whole,
grew to its present stature and size.
The BSBA today, is a incredibly vibrant learning community,
I think learning community is really the right way
to describe it.
With about 1500, 1600 undergraduate majors.
And is still a program that combines theory and practice,
and is driven by faculty, administrators, and staff,
committed to opportunity,
to providing transformational learning
that leads to professional and personal success
for our graduates.
Our BSBA students now come from across the nation
and across the globe.
And also still from our region, from New England
and from the city of Boston,
because our commitment is to be both global and local,
as a university and as a business school.
Many of those students live in our residence halls,
but others still commute, just like they did 75 years ago.
Our students are diverse in their passions, their goals,
their geography, their race, their gender,
and their identities really in all respects.
But they do all have in common access
to the power of the BSBA educational experience.
And so at 75 years old, we are proud of this program,
we are proud of our BSBA alumni,
many of whom are with us tonight, which is fabulous,
proud of our students.
This is an important anniversary celebration,
because this has been and continues to be
such an impactful program.
So thank you all for joining us tonight to celebrate
this important anniversary.
I look forward to continuing to speak with you
as the evening progresses.
And now, it is my pleasure
to turn the podium over to another big supporter
of the Sawyer Business School,
and the BSBA, our Provost Julie Sandell.
So, good evening everybody, and welcome.
It isn't easy to follow the dean and the president,
but I wanted to share just a few reasons
why I think the Sawyer Business School is so special,
and why the Bachelor of Science and Business Administration
is really a degree that's worth celebrating,
and that's what we're doing here tonight.
Many business schools teach practical skills
and they use real world examples,
but the Sawyer BSBA was way ahead of its time,
in the way that it deliberately
11:13 helped students layer their skills
11:16 and deepen their experiences.
11:17 And that's across multiple years across multiple classes,
11:22 and with the guidance of really skilled faculty members.
11:25 The students in this program,
11:28 don't just study real world business cases,
11:31 I think you're all aware, they work with real clients.
11:34 And they don't just learn about domestic
11:37 and international businesses.
11:39 They have the opportunity to travel to the business,
11:43 whether that's across the city, or across the globe.
11:46 And of course, they don't do this on their own,
11:48 they do it as part of a structured plan,
11:51 with the guidance and mentorship of faculty members,
11:54 who really know the industry,
11:56 and that's what makes a huge difference.
11:59 The travel experiences for our business school students
12:02 are now so embedded in the culture of the school,
12:06 that I think it's easy to forget that once upon a time,
12:09 this was a new idea.
12:10 And it really took a lot of four site
12:13 and a great deal of planning.
12:15 Former Dean Bill O'Neill recognized that it was so important
12:19 for our students to have what he said,
12:22 "What's the chance to get on an airplane.
12:24 Go overseas, go someplace
12:26 where people don't speak the same language,
12:29 where the food is different, the culture is different.
12:32 And just about every business has a global dimension."
12:36 And then it took our faculty
12:38 taking up Dean O'Neill's challenge
12:40 to craft these travel experiences.
12:43 And I'm really confident that under Dean Zeng's leadership,
12:46 the school's international partnerships
12:49 and opportunities for students will just grow.
12:51 Just tonight I had the chance to speak for a few minutes
12:54 with one of our international partners in Switzerland,
12:57 who we just arranged a partnership three weeks ago.
13:00 So, it is moving and growing as we speak.
13:05 So the BSBA was also way ahead of its time
13:08 in the genuine teamwork that's built into the curriculum.
13:12 So, students in all disciplines these days
13:15 are expected to collaborate with one another.
13:18 And learning to work as part of a team
13:20 is an important skill.
13:21 But I think our BSBA program takes it to another level,
13:26 is by harnessing the natural entrepreneurship
13:30 and competitiveness of business school students
13:34 to make the teamwork so much fun.
13:36 So whether it's part of a class or a special event,
13:39 the problems that our students solve
13:42 when they take part in a business competition
13:44 or a hackathon, let them practice those skills.
13:48 And it makes the next problem that they need to solve
much more approachable. And I'm really convinced it makes the solutions a lot more creative. And that wouldn't be possible without the tremendously creative faculty in the business school, and many of them are here tonight. So, we know they make it look easy, but there's a tremendous amount of skill and care that goes into crafting these activities that are so engaging and so hands on. So finally, I just wanna say that, the Sawyer Business School has also built a wonderful network of alumni over its 75 years. And some of the most engaging conversations I've had at Suffolk since I've come here, are with SPS alumni, who really are excited about the chance to share their knowledge, share their experience, give a leg up to current Suffolk students. They're really proud of their own experience at Suffolk, and they wanna give back to the future of the business school. So 75 years, represents a lot of generations of students, a lot of faculty, and a lot of staff who have worked here, but it's really just the beginning for this creative and dynamic community. And I wanna say, congratulations.

I've had at Suffolk since I've come here, are with SPS alumni, who really are excited about the chance to share their knowledge, share their experience, give a leg up to current Suffolk students. They're really proud of their own experience at Suffolk, and they wanna give back to the future of the business school. So 75 years, represents a lot of generations of students, a lot of faculty, and a lot of staff who have worked here, but it's really just the beginning for this creative and dynamic community. And I wanna say, congratulations.

And now Dean Zeng will continue.

Our success over the decades is still in no small part to the extraordinary efforts and contributions of our alumni, friends, supporters, just like you. Thank you so much. And thank you for everything yet you do, whether you offering a job opportunity or internship opportunity to our students, judging a presentation, going to a classroom, inviting our students to your company, these things are very valuable to our students. And of course, a lot of you are also making donations. So in fact, this week is Suffolk University's week of giving, and today, just happens to be the Sawyer Business School day of giving (laughs). This year's theme is "Moving forward together" and your gift, whatever it says, will just help us do that. You can make a gift in the Bluesky launch right outside this room. You can even text your donation,
16:31 we're trying to be high-tech here.
16:33 (attendees laughs)
16:34 You will find the information on every table,
16:37 if you have paid attention,
16:39 we will use QR code to take you to
16:43 the payment or donation site.
16:46 So, for tonight, any amount that starts with seven, five
16:51 will especially be welcome for tonight.
16:54 (attendees laughs)
16:57 And before I invite student speakers
17:01 to share their experiences,
17:02 I'd like to show you a very interesting video
17:06 that celebrates Sawyer Business School alumni
17:08 and students over the past decades.
17:12 So let's watch the video together.
17:15 (upbeat music)
17:23 I graduated from Suffolk University
17:25 with my BSBA in Finance
17:30 Hi, my name's Anthony Ross.
17:33 I graduated in 1997.
17:38 1982.
17:39 I graduated in 2015.
17:41 I graduated 1949.
17:43 Hi, my name is Arbisa Trebicka,
17:45 and I'm graduating in December of 2022.
17:48 My major is ISOM with concentration in Big Data.
17:51 75 Years is a long time, wow!
17:57 Suffolk was amazing to me, it was my home,
18:00 both personally and professionally.
18:02 It allowed me to do so many amazing things.
18:04 Being at Suffolk from 1978 to 1982,
18:08 were the best four years of my life.
18:10 Of course, Suffolk is known as like
18:12 a really generous school,
18:14 so many opportunities here,
18:15 and of course, it's in the City of Boston.
18:18 I am really grateful for the Sawyer Business School
18:21 and for all the Suffolk University community,
18:25 because really they have me become who I am now,
18:29 and I will be forever grateful for that.
18:32 So I'm a first generation college graduate in my family.
18:36 I was the first to get a college degree
18:39 of the siblings I have.
18:41 So, for my parents at the time was very important
18:43 that we went to college,
18:45 and for me as well.
18:46 And so, getting accepted to Suffolk
18:49 was exciting time in my life, and coming here
18:52 and being part of the community was just wonderful.
18:54 One of my favorite things about being here at Suffolk,
18:57 is the amazing community of students.
and of professors that we have here.

I've always felt part of this amazing diverse community,
and I've had some of the best experiences on campus
and in the classroom.

Suffolk afforded me the opportunity
to go to school during the day, and for the morning,
and then do an internship during a school year
at an investment company here, Downtown Boston.
So that gave me what I call real life experience
connected to what I was learning in school.
So I did a semester at Dakar Campus,
and then finished my BSBA program at Suffolk, Boston.
The Sawyer Business School got me the confidence
that I have now.
So it gave me the self-esteem that I needed
for my professional career.
One of my favorite experiences about Suffolk,
was definitely the faculty.
They were super helpful,
and that's what's so nice about being in a smaller school.
Everyone knows each other,
and I think the most important part is you get to interact
and just know your faculty and know your professors.
The faculty were...
It just intricate part of my experience
at Suffolk university.
I don't know how I did all the things I did
while I was at Suffolk.
I look at the yearbook and I said,
"How did I do all that?"
Go to school and work while I was at Suffolk."
I worked all the time as a Suffolk as well,
I don't know how I did it.
I don't know how I did it.
I loved Suffolk so much,
that I ended up taking the Amtrak Downeaster
from Saco, Maine to Boston, Massachusetts,
three times a week to attend classes.
I loved my friends, the faculty,
or staff that weren't professors.
I just loved being there so much that I did that.
Listen, I love Suffolk (laughs).
Call me up when I'm 60, I'll still say it.
(upbeat music)
Congratulations to Sawyer Business School
for 75 years of the BSBA Program.
Happy 75th anniversary BSBA.
75 years of the Sawyer Business School, BSBA,
Congratulations.
I wanna congratulate the Sawyer Business School
on its 75th anniversary of its BSBA Program.
Congratulations for our 75 years anniversary.
(speaks in foreign language)
Thank you, and congratulations
21:30 to the Sawyer Business Schools for the 75 years of the BSBA.
21:34 Again, congratulations.
21:36 It's been 75 years of the BSBA
21:38 here at Sawyer Business School,
21:40 and I know we're all proud to be a part of this legacy.
21:43 (upbeat music)
22:03 What an amazing video.
22:06 And I like to thank the video production team
22:09 for putting this together.
22:10 And of course, our alumni office has helped identify alumni
22:15 from different decades and to put the information together.
22:18 I also wanna mention that we do have
22:23 a very great alumn here from class 1962
22:27 to be with us tonight.
22:30 Wanna stand up and let us applaud for you?
22:32 (attendees applauding)
22:41 For the final part of the speaking program,
22:43 I like to invite two current undergraduate students,
22:46 to share their experiences and stories with us.
22:49 First of all, I like to invite Alex Kontis
22:52 from class of 2023 to the podium, Alex, where are you?
22:59 Oh, right there.
23:05 Thank you.
23:13 Good evening, everyone.
23:14 attendees>Good evening.
23:16 My name is Alexander Kontis.
23:18 First and foremost, I would like to thank Dean Zeng
23:20 and Larkin for inviting me to speak
23:22 to all of you here today.
23:24 Had you asked me three years ago,
23:26 if I saw myself speaking in front of faculty and alumni
23:29 at such a prestigious and historic event,
23:31 I would've never thought
23:32 the opportunity would present itself,
23:34 but that's Suffolk for you.
23:36 A tight-knit community that offers its students
23:38 a wealth of opportunities for personal growth, leadership,
23:42 and achieving our professional goals.
23:44 Suffolk has taught me skills
23:46 with practical applications in the real world.
23:49 Afforded me opportunities to teach and help students grow,
23:52 into better versions of themselves,
23:54 and allowed me to pursue my legal aspirations.
23:58 The mandatory career build classes
23:59 that all builds new students are required to take
24:02 throughout their time in undergrad,
24:03 taught me properly write
24:05 and tailor my resume to a job posting.
24:08 Thanks to my experiences in the classroom,
24:10 I have been able to appeal to my employers
24:12 by tailoring my resume and nailing my interviews.
24:17 And now, as a teaching assistant for Suffolk University
24:20 in the Business Writing classes and Career Build 100,
24:23 I utilize these lessons and my real world experiences
to help my students learn, and be successful when job hunting. In the eyes of my students, classmates, and friends, I have become a subject matter expert on resumes, and job searching, to the point that they have come to me as their second pair of eyes, because they know I will devote as much time to them as they need, to feel confident in their work. For example, I had a student in my first class as a TA, who improved so much through my guidance and by attending my office hours, that she has gone on to become a first year teaching assistant herself. On top of being a teaching assistant, I am a full-time Honor student taking five to six courses each semester. An executive board member of three clubs here at Suffolk, work part-time on the weekends, and am a soccer coach and referee. People ask me, "Why do you take on so much?" I would attribute this hyper involvement to knowing I'll have one less year than my classmates to enjoy it. Allow me to explain. Part of the reason why I chose Suffolk, was for its 3+3 Program. For those of you who may not be familiar with this program, the 3+3 Program allows Suffolk Honors students, who are also part of the Suffolk Law Scholars, to follow an accelerated track into the law school. As a participant, you must complete the majority of your major requirements by the end of your junior year. Then apply and be accepted to law school where your one L year will satisfy the remainder of your undergraduate credits. This opportunity is open to both Sawyer Business School and College of Arts and Sciences students. However, most SBS students are not aware of the program, and those that are, do not follow through with it. I am proud to be the first SBS student to complete this program, and am happy to report that I have achieved my goals through hard work and determination over the past three years. And look forward to starting Suffolk Law School in the fall. (attendees applauding) Thank you. I am grateful to the Sawyer Business School for the opportunities it has afforded me as a student leader and 3+3 participant, and hope that my journey can be a testament to future students that at Suffolk, anything is possible. Congratulations Sawyer Business School on 75 years of the BSBA, may you inspire and support future students.
26:54 for many years to come, thank you.
26:56 (attendees applauding)
27:03 Thank you, Alex.
27:04 Our next speaker is Maria Leticia Carneiro
27:08 from class of 2022.
27:26 So, good evening everyone.
27:28 My name is Maria Leticia Carneiro,
27:30 I'm honored to be here today, speaking in front of you.
27:34 And I appreciate Dean Zeng's invitation.
27:37 I'm a Finance and Accounting Major
27:40 at the Sawyer Business School.
27:41 I'm the President of the Finance and Investing Club
27:44 here at Suffolk.
27:46 I'm also an international student from Brazil.
27:49 I moved to the U.S. in the fall of 2017
27:53 to study and learn English,
27:54 because I did not speak any English,
27:57 and I wanted to go to college in the U.S.
28:00 So, I studied English for about eight months,
28:04 and then I got into the University of Rhode Island.
28:08 But after a few months there,
28:09 I realized that I wanted to transfer,
28:12 I wanted to study at a college that had more people like me,
28:15 who had different backgrounds,
28:17 and may not had perfect English.
28:21 I wanted to go to a place where I had opportunities to grow
28:25 and make a difference somehow.
28:27 I also wanted to be in the city,
28:30 and I found all of that here at Suffolk University.
28:34 When I joined Suffolk, I never imagined
28:36 that I would love so much this place as I do.
28:40 Suffolk has given me so many opportunities.
28:43 Here, I got to meet so many people from all over the world.
28:48 I started the Women in Business Club during the pandemic,
28:51 where I was also the Vice President
28:58 I also joined the Finance and Investing Club
29:01 when the club was founded in the spring of 2020.
29:05 After being an active member of the club,
29:08 I decided to run for president
29:10 for the 2021-2022 academic year.
29:14 Surprisingly, I got elected.
29:17 I never imagined that I'll ever become the president
29:21 of the Finance and Investing Club,
29:23 which is one of the biggest clubs here at Suffolk university
29:27 and where most of the members and group are male.
29:31 I have had so many amazing, oh, sorry.
29:35 After I have had so many amazing opportunities
29:40 since I joined Suffolk
29:41 and became President of the Finance and Investing Club.
29:44 I have met amazing people here that I'm grateful for
29:49 and will always be thankful for the rest of my life.
29:54 To give you an idea of one of the terrific opportunities
29:58 we had in the club.
30:00 We hosted Greg Abel, who is the chairman and the CEO of Berkshire Hathaway Energy, and the future successor of Warren Buffet at Berkshire Hathaway is speaking for the club in May of 2021.
30:16 Can you imagine that?
30:18 That was an unforgettable experience and opportunity that would not be possible without the fantastic and supportive people that we have here at Suffolk.
30:29 After graduation, I plan to go to graduate school, to get my MBA in Finance, start an NGO to help female owners of small businesses better manage their business, and manage their money.
30:43 I also plan to find a job in the finance industry, either in the Boston area or New York City and open my own company in the future.
30:54 I've learned and grown so much since I started studying here at Suffolk University. I feel that people care a lot about each other here.
31:03 We are willing to help each other in any way we possibly can.
31:08 And that is so important to me, that I'm part of a welcoming war and empathetic community.
31:14 I am glad and grateful to have chosen Suffolk.
31:17 Congratulations BSBA Program for your 75th anniversary, and all of the people who is involved in the program.
31:26 And thank you so much, everyone.
31:28 (Attendees applauding)
31:40 Well, great stories, right? From our current students, very encouraging, very inspiring.
31:46 Well, they are only two examples, but we have many like them.
31:50 So we are very proud of the students, very proud of the alumni that have graduated from our program.
31:54 Before we end this part of the program, I like to point out the posters that you have seen around the room.
32:01 They are arranged in three themes, representing the faculty and students' fabulous work, both that take place inside and outside the classrooms.
32:13 So, this class over here is featured by service learning projects, and some of the students are standing next to the posters and feel free to talk to them.
32:24 We have another cluster, actually two clusters in the Bluesky launch.
32:31 And one is focused on, sorry, global education, and the other is focused on immersive consulting.
32:38 So these three approaches, really represent the hallmarks of education at Sawyer Business School.
32:48 And I encourage you to take a look, and perhaps chat with some of the students.
I would also encourage you to learn more about another interesting venture we started recently called Suffolk in the Hub Marketing Agency. It is completely a student-run marketing agency. Yes, it's completely run and organized by the students, and they are at the table also right outside this room. Finally, I'd like to thank all the speakers for tonight, that have shared their experiences. I'd like to thank everyone who has organized tonight's event. As you can imagine, it takes a village to pull all the pieces together for this large event. The list is very long, so I'm not gonna read their names, but I do want us to give a big round of applause to SPS Ambassadors who are helping out tonight. (attendees clapping) Once again, thank you all for coming. Thank you all for joining us for this celebration, and thank you all for making this tonight event, such a huge success. There's still food available, and beverage available, please hang out and talk to each other, make new friends, and enjoy the rest of the evening. Thank you. (attendees clapping)