

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Boston for the Second Biennial John Updike Society Conference to be held next week, June 12-16, at Suffolk University. We've planned a rich, full week of panels and activities that will help advance interest in and appreciation of "America's Man of Letters," as William Pritchard called him. The forecast looks relatively splendid, and the summer tourists are only beginning to trickle into Boston, enhanced by throngs of basketball fans supporting the championship-bound Celtics.

I have attached two documents that will also be in your registration packet. You may want them before you arrive. One includes directions from the airport to Suffolk University via subway; the other includes some local restaurant recommendations and tourist attractions. (The former may be unnecessary in the era of smart phones and Google Earth, and the latter is not really a thorough or objective tourist guide, but rather something I came up with. I hope they're useful if you need them).

At registration, you will receive a packet including these materials as well as others that might be useful while you're here. You will also receive your name tag, your program, a "Charlie Ticket" (i.e. subway pass) good for a week, and your ticket to the opening event: the keynote speech by Joyce Carol Oates. **On June 12 registration will take place in the Law School at 120 Tremont Street.** (NOTE: You will be asked to produce a photo i.d. both at the Law School and at the main conference building at 73 Tremont. Please take care to have one on hand). The registration table will be open from 5-6 that day. The opening reception will follow immediately in the Function Room on the first floor of the Law School (from 6-7:45). The keynote address will take place at the Modern Theatre at 525 Washington Street, a short walk from the Law School, at 8:00. I'd recommend leaving the reception no later than 7:40 to ensure that you are seated when the talk begins.

If you know that you are not going to arrive in time to attend the keynote by Joyce Carol Oates, please send me a quick e-mail to that effect so we can give your ticket to someone else.

All other on-site events will take place at 73 Tremont Street, where registration will take place on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. We are setting up an exhibit of items on loan from the Updike family in the

Amenities Conference Room, the site of many of the panels and talks. The exhibit will be on display throughout the duration of the conference.

If you have last minute questions, feel free to e-mail me. I will be out of town this weekend (in Lancaster, PA, ironically!), so if you have questions over the weekend, please contact Jim Plath at [jplath@iwu.edu](mailto:jplath@iwu.edu), or Bernie Rodgers at [brodgers@simons-rock.edu](mailto:brodgers@simons-rock.edu). Two other good e-mail addresses to have on hand are Jen Lee's ([jhlee@suffolk.edu](mailto:jhlee@suffolk.edu)) and Jeremy Solomons' ([jsolomon@suffolk.edu](mailto:jsolomon@suffolk.edu)) who are providing invaluable support during the conference.

Enough? Maybe. Enough.

Best wishes,

Quentin Miller, Site Director  
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