Zanele Mutepfa, M.B.A. student, dreams that someday, people in southern Africa will have access to basic healthcare. She visualizes a world where money donated to help developing nations is spent for the purposes it was intended, a world where governments are held accountable for their actions and policies are in place to help the truly needy. She is working to make her vision more than just a dream.

Zanele came to the United States from Zimbabwe to care for her brother, who had cancer. Zanele enrolled at Southern New Hampshire University and earned her bachelor’s in business administration. After graduating, she worked for a chain of nursing homes as an assistant to the center’s administrator for a year, and then decided to get her M.B.A. in healthcare administration. A friend had gone to Rivier and liked it, so Zanele applied.

Photo by Jodie Andruskevich
Zanele says that Rivier’s M.B.A. program is rich with knowledge. “It challenges you and exposes you to so much information,” she says. “It empowers you to be comfortable to make sound decisions.”

Zanele wants to return to Zimbabwe and use her business skills to improve healthcare and policies. She would like to be involved in the general management of donated funds, ensuring that they go to the right people and are accounted for properly. “It’s a huge goal for me—I know it doesn’t always happen,” she says.

* JENNIFER LISKOW works as a Public Relations and Web Writer in the Office of Marketing and Communications and teaches in Rivier’s Professional Communications program. Jenn earned her bachelor’s in English and communications from Notre Dame College in Manchester, N.H. in 1996. In 2002, she completed her master’s in writing and literature at Rivier. She began writing in junior high school; since then, she has had poems, short stories, features, and essays published. In her free time, Jenn enjoys practicing yoga, ten-pin bowling, and listening to live music with her husband, Tim.