Rivier College’s first capital campaign, Designing the Future, exceeded its $7 million campaign goal, totaling $10.5 million in gifts and contributions. The campaign, which officially concluded on December 31, 2007, will support facilities, technology, academic program development, and scholarships.

“Support from the community was essential in surpassing our $7 million goal. We are privileged to have received such an outstanding level of support from alumni, trustees, faculty, staff, and friends of the College,” says President William Farrell.

The campaign included the largest pledge in Rivier’s history, $2 million from the Conway family to support renovations and an addition to Regina Library. The 11,500 square-foot expansion project is on schedule for a late spring completion. In addition to the library construction, campaign contributions supported the BAE Student Research Lab, the McLean Center for Finance and Economics, and the Reynik Memorial Playground at the Early Childhood Center. Donors also designated gifts toward future work on the Muldoon Fitness Center. Significant contributions were made to scholarship funds, increasing the College’s ability to attract and retain high caliber students.

“We are profoundly grateful for the donors who have each judged Rivier worthy of their financial support,” says Dr. Jamison Hoff, Chair of the Board of Trustees. “Their generosity, based on their experiences with the College, is an inspiration to other friends of the College, and a true asset as we move forward in our work together.”

The College has invested in new academic programs, including the state’s first doctorate in education, which will begin in May; a five-year combined bachelor’s and master’s in psychology, an undergraduate evening communications program, online computer science degrees, an online certificate in homeland security and emergency and disaster management, an undergraduate finance major, and a five-year bachelor’s in management/M.B.A. program. Rivier has also increased the number of online, hybrid and accelerated courses available.

In addition to the generosity of alumni and friends of the College, the support of the local business community was also essential says Farrell, pointing to contributions from Oracle Corporation valued at $2.7 million. “We truly appreciate the support of the community in exceeding our campaign goal, and
we look forward to future collaborations to further strengthen the College and to serve the needs of the Greater Nashua community,” says Dr. Farrell.

* KAREN COOPER is the Executive Director of Development and Marketing in Rivier College. As a Senior Staff member, she directs the Office of Development & Alumni Relations and the Office of Marketing & Communications. Karen has been with the College for seven years. Cooper is a graduate of Merrimack College in North Andover, Massachusetts, with a degree in English and Psychology. She earned her M.B.A. with a marketing concentration from Rivier in 2003. In addition to her responsibilities at Rivier, she serves on the steering committee for IUGO, an organization for young professionals in the Greater Nashua area, and was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Academy of Notre Dame in Tyngsboro, Massachusetts.