The family of Dr. Paul V. Hajjar established the Paul Hajjar Scholarship award in 1999 in order to recognize outstanding academic achievement for students pursuing a business degree who exhibit strong moral character and commitment to ethical business practices. Dr. Hajjar was a beloved and respected professor who directed the Accounting program at Rivier College. He inspired many students to achieve academic success while maintaining ethical business standards. Dr. Hajjar was admired and respected by all who knew him and is very much missed to this day.

This year we honor a student who emigrated from Belarus with parents and her brother in spring 2007. The family came to the US to begin a new life and to offer more opportunities to their children. Viktoryia Batsevich attended Nashua High School, North, beginning May 2007 and graduated in June 2008 with honors having taken college-bound, honors, and advanced placement courses. She accomplished all of this while learning English. She is fluent in Russian, Polish, Lithuanian, and English.

Viktoryia is currently a Finance Major in the Division of Business Administration with a GPA of 3.8. She is a work study student and member of the Rivier Business Student Association. Viktoryia embodies all of the characteristics that we ascribe to at Rivier.

On behalf of Professor Eric Drouart, Dr. Karen Spohn, Dr. Kevin Wayne and Professor Maria Matarazzo, the Paul V Hajjar Scholarship is awarded to Viktoryia Batsevich for her academic achievement and her strong ethical standards.

* Professor MARIA MATARAZZO is Chair of the Division of Business Administration at Rivier College and has served as a faculty member for the past 20 years. Matarazzo has a comprehensive background in business management, business communications, and business software applications. Matarazzo has previously held full-time faculty positions at Southern New Hampshire University and Manchester Community College. Professor Matarazzo has served on the Board of many professional organizations. She is past president of the New Hampshire Business Education Association and has held memberships in the National Business Education Association, the Eastern Business Education Association, the Academy of Management, the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs, the National Campaign for Tolerance, and local organizations such as the Nashua Chamber of Commerce. She serves as a marketing advisor for Business Week. Matarazzo has been named several times to Who's Who Among America's Teachers, as well as being inducted into several honor societies—Pi Omega Pi, Alpha Sigma Lambda, and Alpha Delta Kappa. She has been honored with the State of NH Excellence in Education Award, 2005. Additionally, Matarazzo has been honored with the State of NH/BPW “Excellence in Advocacy” Award, and the 2003-2004 “Megaphone Award” for her advocacy of legislative issues that impact working women, families, and minorities. Matarazzo has presented to the International Management Council, the New England Council of Lions, and the National Regional Conference of the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs, the New Hampshire Business Education Association, and other professional organizations. She has recently published a paper “Shifting Hemispheres: Age, Altruism, and New Markets” that will be presented at the 9th International Conference on Knowledge, Change, and Culture in Organizations. Professor Matarazzo resides in Nashua, New Hampshire.