The Division of Student Affairs at Rivier University serves students based on the ideal that learning occurs beyond the classroom. Offices in this division challenge and support students by providing cocurricular and extracurricular programs and activities that are linked to the University’s Roman Catholic tradition and core mission: ‘transforming hearts and minds to serve the world.’

By focusing on the education of the whole person, the Division of Student Affairs invites students to enter into experiences that promote growth in faith, development and formation of character, and lifelong learning and service to the community.

Members of the Student Affairs staff encourage responsible decision making, physical and emotional wellness, respect for all members of the Rivier community and beyond, and appreciation of diversity. This is strengthened through collaboration and cooperation with academic affairs and other campus student services.

Rivier University is dedicated to providing students with meaningful opportunities to enhance their academic experience. Developing leadership skills, promoting social interaction and awareness, and encouraging community building are just a few of the ways Rivier strives to enrich a student’s time on campus. Involvement in clubs and organizations provides students with the opportunity to meet new people, gain experience, enhance leadership skills and have input into what is happening on our campus.

Members of the Division of Student Affairs at Rivier University utilize AACU learning outcomes (adapted to Rivier’s Core Curriculum), National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) data, the Principles of Good Practice for Student Affairs at Catholic Colleges and Universities, together with their respective professional association standards, to advance their work as student development professionals in Catholic higher education.

Kurt Stimeling
Vice President for Student Affairs
Rivier University
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As a result of interacting with Student Affairs educators, students will:

**Develop Intrapersonal Skills**
- Learn behaviors, attitudes, and skills that promote well-being, resilience, and personal safety and that reduce risk to self and others
- Learn to be self-reliant, appropriately assertive, and resourceful so that they may be their own advocates

**Value Faith, Diversity, Social Justice, and Global Citizenship**
- Learn to recognize, understand, and appreciate differences while respecting the ideas and dignity of all
- Learn to challenge and work productively against injustices, locally and globally
- Learn to actively engage with and positively affect the communities of which they are members, including identity-based groups, residential self-governing campus, City of Nashua, nation, and world

**Think Critically**
- Learn to challenge assumptions and consider alternative perspectives
- Learn to apply existing knowledge and experience to new situations

**Relate to Others**
- Develop the capacity to establish healthy, mutually-beneficial relationships with others
- Enhance communication skills to effectively listen, reflect, and convey ideas
- Develop behavioral maturity and awareness of how their actions impact individuals or groups, and manage interpersonal conflicts effectively and civilly

**Live with Integrity**
- Learn to identify values and principles in decision making and to act in congruence with their beliefs
- Enhance leadership skills by collaborating with others to reach their goals and positively effect change
Rivier University’s motto Altiora et Meliora, “Higher and Better,” encourages us to expect the best from one another and aspire to be better tomorrow than we are today. In fall 2014, the Student Affairs Division launched the REACH program.

Our academic Core Curriculum is guided by the questions: Who am I and What Is the World? Who is My Neighbor? How Shall We Live? What, then, Shall We Do?

We answer these questions through intentional self-reflection, curricular, cocurricular, and extracurricular opportunities.

We strive to be the best we can be; acknowledging that our REACH should exceed our grasp.

At Rivier University, community members...

**Respect**
Respect themselves and others with civility at all times.

**Engagement**
Are active participants in education, learning, leading, and serving beyond the classroom to the greater global community.

**Accountability**
Have an obligation to accept responsibility for their words and actions.

**Compassion**
Embrace our Catholic heritage and are committed to upholding the dignity and value of all human life and the care of all creation, seeking the common good and the well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

**Honesty**
Are authentic intellectually, spiritually, and socially, celebrating the open exchange of ideas and beliefs.
**New student ORIENTATION 2014**

**Our Mission**
The new student orientation program is committed to providing a program that is designed to ease the transition of our new students and their family members. Every part of the orientation program is meant to foster a sense of belonging to the Rivier University community.

**What we offer**
- Opportunities to become an active member of the Rivier community
- Information on support services offered by the University
- Communication on the expectations of Rivier regarding academic responsibilities
- Positive role models through trained paraprofessional orientation leaders
- Opportunities to meet fellow students, faculty and staff in a non-threatening environment
- Understanding in the adjustment students make while transitioning to college

**Develop Intrapersonal Skills**

**Outcomes**
Incoming first-year students are required to attend the overnight orientation program. As a result of the orientation program experience, students will:
- Be able to articulate the core Rivier Mission
- Know the summer reading and related assignment
- Be able to list five campus resources
- Know that Rivier is a Catholic institution
- Be able to list three campus buildings and a service/resource within each building
- Be able to list at least three clubs or organizations
- Know the name of their academic and faculty advisor

**Evaluation Data**
In June 2014, 155 first-year students attended orientation (78 at Session I and 77 at Session II). During that week, there were 162 deposited first-year students resulting in a 96% attendance rate. We welcomed approximately 225 parents and family members at two sessions.

**Overall, students rated the orientation program a 4.64 on a 5-point scale. (2013’s score was a 4.52.)**
From student comments, the top three most common responses were:
- Evening entertainment
- Ice breakers and opportunities to meet new people
- Interacting with their orientation leader

**Overall, parents and families rated their orientation program a 4.71 on a 5-point scale. (2013’s was a 4.69.)**
From parent and family comments, the top three most common responses were:
- Everyone is knowledgeable, helpful, and friendly
- Excited their student will be part of the Rivier community
- Quality of presentations and speakers
Our Mission
The Residence Life Staff (RLS) at Rivier University provide a unique experience in community living that extends learning beyond the classroom. Students and staff work cooperatively to establish and maintain a living environment that supports the University’s mission, promotes student growth, and respects students and staff as individuals. We strive to create a community in which everyone is included and encouraged to actively participate in the developing and changing nature of our campus. It is the hope of the RLS that each resident will give and receive respect, support, and encouragement to grow, change, learn, and develop through their experiences living on campus.

What we do
• Provide housing for all full–time, undergraduate day students in a community environment
• Coordinate programs, activities, and events designed for social, cultural, and educational development
• Process roommate matching, placement, and mediation
• Offer 24-hour paraprofessional and professional staff support
• Manage campus duty rotation for health, safety, and policy enforcement

Relate to Others
• Develop the capacity to establish healthy, mutually-beneficial relationships with others.
• Enhance communication skills to effectively listen, reflect, and convey ideas.
• Develop behavioral maturity and awareness of how their actions impact individuals or groups, and manage interpersonal conflicts effectively and civilly.

60% of students in our first-year residence hall responded to the resident student survey and...

94% agreed: I have established positive relationships with others while living in the residence halls.

87% agreed: I have learned to value people who are different than me during my time living in the residence halls.

82% agreed: Living in the residence halls has helped me to develop stronger and more positive relationships with my peers.

77% agreed: While living in the residence halls, I have learned to be more responsible in my actions and behaviors.

73% agreed: Living in the residence halls helped me to show respect for myself, as well as others.
Our Mission

We strive to provide opportunities to enhance the academic experience, foster leadership development, promote social interaction, and encourage community building.

Engagement

Students are active participants in education, learning, leading, and serving beyond the classroom to the greater global community.

Involvement in student clubs and organizations provides students with the opportunity to meet new people, gain experience, enhance leadership skills, and have input into what is happening on the Rivier campus.

Cocurricular and extracurricular programming provide students with experiences that further their classroom learning as well as engage them in the Rivier community.

Highlights of the cocurricular calendar from 2014-2015 were:

- Hispanic Heritage Month
- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks faculty panel
- Defamation, the play
- Rivier Night at the Currier Museum (in conjunction with Student Success: Campus to Community)
- Class of 2018 Day of Service (in conjunction with Student Success: Campus to Community)

The Student Programming Board, a student club on campus, plans many extracurricular programs to engage students outside of the classroom. Each month a programming calendar is sent out to students that includes offerings from the Student Programming Board, athletic home games, volunteer opportunities and the Mass Schedule.

During the 2014-2015 academic year, the Student Programming Board coordinated over 75 programs ranging from daytime, make-your-own activities, evening comedians and gameshows, bingo night, Friday night coffeehouse and late-night, first-run movie events and various day trips.
Our Mission
Along with a commitment to the education of the total person, Rivier University has a commitment to excellence. The athletic program hopes to foster the pursuit of excellence. Student-athletes are encouraged to develop to their fullest potential. The intercollegiate athletics program is one area where student-athletes can use their talents to excel.

What we do
Physical Education & Athletics
The Muldoon Health and Fitness Center (HFC) houses the physical education and intercollegiate sports programs. The HFC and athletic fields are open to students, faculty, and staff for recreational use when available.

Intercollegiate Athletics
Rivier University is a member of the NCAA Division III. Institutions in Division III place highest priority on the overall quality of the educational experience and on the successful completion of all students' academic programs. Rivier seeks to establish and maintain an environment in which a student-athlete's activities are conducted as an integral part of the student-athlete's educational experience. Rivier also seeks to establish and maintain an environment that values cultural diversity and gender equity among the student-athletes and the athletics staff. There are seven women's varsity teams and six men's varsity teams at Rivier University. The women compete in soccer, volleyball, cross-country and field hockey in the fall, basketball in the winter, and softball and lacrosse in the spring. The men compete in soccer and cross country in the fall, basketball in the winter, and volleyball, baseball, and lacrosse in the spring. Rivier is a member of the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC). Full-time baccalaureate students are eligible to compete at the varsity level. Information concerning these programs is available from the Athletics Department.

Recreation and Intramurals
The Physical Education and Athletics department sponsors opportunities for students to participate in varied intramural and recreational programs. Each year there is a unique series of on-and off-campus activities based on student interest and need. On campus, The Muldoon Health and Fitness Center fitness room and gym are open for recreational use by students, faculty, and staff. Information is available from the Athletics Department.

Live with Integrity
• Learn to identify values and principles in decision making and to act in congruence with their beliefs
• Enhance leadership skills by collaborating with others to reach their goals and positively effect change

What did student-athletes do this year?
Students from all 13 Rivier teams participated in Victory Academy—a year-long leadership series with sessions on the attributes of winners, team and individual leadership skills, personal branding, and networking and communication. The goals of the Victory Academy leadership series were:
• To build a leadership foundation
• To help each student recognize and develop strengths to maximize potential
• To make a positive impact on individual student-athletes and their teams

Outcomes of Victory Academy
94% of the student-athletes who attended rated the experience as Beneficial to Extremely Beneficial
94% of the student-athletes who attended would like the series to continue and have an interest in participating again.
Here is what students had to say about their experience in Victory Academy based on the question

What things will you take away from this series that are most meaningful for you?

“The importance of teamwork, being a leader, and promoting yourself”

“Be a leader. Be genuine. Have a purpose. Be persistent.”

“This allowed me to become a better captain both on and off the field by showing me the positives and negatives of what I’ve been doing.”

“I will take away aspects of leadership, preparation, goal-setting, and other things that help you succeed.”

Think Critically

• learn to challenge assumptions and consider alternative perspectives
• learn to apply existing knowledge and experience to new situations

What did student-athletes do this year?

Student-athletes were asked to evaluate all areas of their experience on a Rivier team this year. They were asked to comment on coaching, athletics administration, athletic training, facilities and various other areas.

On a scale of 1-5, with 4 = Agree and 5 = Strongly Agree

I feel like I grew as a person off the court/field this season.
87% of male student-athletes responded with a 4 or 5
79% of female student-athletes responded with a 4 or 5

The members of the athletic department treated me fairly and with respect this season.
87% of male student-athletes responded with a 4 or 5
91% of female student-athletes responded with a 4 or 5

I am proud to be a Rivier Student-Athlete.
91% of male student-athletes responded with a 4 or 5
89% of female student-athletes responded with a 4 or 5

How did your overall experience as a student-athlete contribute to your overall experience as a student at Rivier?

“I would not be the person that I am today without Rivier athletics, and I wouldn’t have friends or be known without the team. It’s that simple. All of my closest friends are athletes, I have the best relationship with coaches and being a student-athlete has made me a more well-rounded, stronger person.”

“Helped me personally come out of my shell and keeps me up-to-date on my academics.”

“It was the best experience of my life.”

“I love being a Raider!” “It is the reason I love this place.”
COUNSELING AND WELLNESS Center

Our Mission

The Counseling and Wellness Center at Rivier University is dedicated to providing students with psychological services in such a way that students can meet their academic needs while having the opportunity to develop emotionally, intellectually, spiritually, and physically. The Center also provides a professional response to individuals or groups in emotional crisis and offers consultation to the University faculty, staff, and administration.

What we offer

• Yoga
• Therapy dogs
• Stress-buster evenings
• Mindfulness-based stress reduction
• Individual, group and couples counseling
• Crisis intervention and assessment
• Psycho-educational workshops
• Suicide assessment

Develop Intrapersonal Skills

What did students do this year?

Goal: Students will develop intrapersonal skills, learn behaviors, attitudes and skills that promote well-being, resilience, and personal safety and that reduce risk to self and others

Counseling and Wellness Services have provided Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) training to over 120 students, staff, and faculty. QPR is used in suicide prevention and is intended to teach those who are in a position to recognize warning signs, clues and suicidal communications of people in trouble and to act vigorously to prevent a possible tragedy. Counseling staff members are certified QPR instructors.

Participants learned

• General awareness of suicide through education
• The warning signs of suicidal thinking and behavior
• Three basic intervention skills that can help avert the tragedy of suicide

“As a registered nurse working in the Mental Health field, the QPR course was extremely helpful and so useful in identifying people at risk for suicide. Learning how to ask the question is a skill we don’t necessarily know how to ask. QPR not only gave me skills but increased my confidence when asking.” – Senior nursing student
Department of **PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Our Mission**

The Department of Public Safety maintains the campus as a safe and pleasant place in which to live, work and study. We are committed to building cooperative relationships within the University community by providing quality service while striving to provide a level of personal accountability to our students that will assist them in making good decisions and taking responsibility for themselves and their community.

**What we offer**

- Campus and Building Safety & Security
- Operation Identification Engraving
- Lost and Found
- Medical Assistance
- Rivier Van Certification
- Student ID cards and parking stickers
- Silent Witness crime reporting
- Escort Service between campus buildings
- Crime Alerts

**By the numbers...**

3029 ...... total calls for service  
308 .......... escorts provided  
165 ........ motor vehicle assists  
120 .......... shuttle transports

**Live with Integrity**

Learn to identify values and principles in decision making and to act in congruence with their beliefs.

While campus safety has always been a priority at Rivier University, today’s higher education climate has heightened our collective attention toward violence against women, sexual assault and discrimination based on gender.

**To that end, Rivier University has initiated several programs this year to educate our campus community on these important issues.**

- Launch of the 360 Proof program. NCAA Division III and the NASPA Small Colleges and Universities Division have joined forces to offer 360 Proof, a comprehensive, evidence-based program that helps participating schools reduce the consequences of high-risk alcohol use and enhance collaboration between athletics and student affairs.
- All first-year students complete My Student Body, an online alcohol and drug education program that also includes modules specific to sexual assault education.
- Rivier’s Conduct and Appeals Board has been trained on Title IX investigation and case management.
Our Mission

The life and spirit of Blessed Anne Marie Rivier kindled the mission of the institution of ‘transforming hearts and minds to serve the world.’ The Office of Campus Ministry serves the spiritual, social, and personal needs of the campus community, providing opportunities where values are challenged and faith is affirmed. Activities stem from Jesus’ call to live in imitation of his commitment to faith, justice and compassion. Rooted in the Roman Catholic tradition, Campus Ministry welcomes people of all faith traditions.

What We Offer

• Celebration of the Eucharist
• Prayer and Community Building
• Service Opportunities
• Faith Formation and RCIA
• Retreat Ministry
• Leadership Training
• Liturgical Ministry
• Evangelization

Value Faith, Diversity, Social Justice, and Global Citizenship

Goal: Students will learn to challenge and work productively against injustices, locally and globally.

What happened this year?

The alternative spring break service trip to Portland, Maine involved students in several projects at a variety of locations—food pantries, soup kitchens, city resource centers, and parishes. The goals of the program are:

• To immerse participants in a different cultural context in a respectful, responsible way.
• To raise awareness about social injustices and the structures that perpetuate them and their possible participation in them.
• To move this awareness to an integrated, active part of participants’ everyday lives.
• To encourage theological reflection and spiritual examination in the context of service in a way that encourages its further application in other areas of their lives and vocational discernment.

This year students learned...

• The participants learned and experienced some of the history, social issues, politics, economics, and culture of Portland.
• They came to understand that although many people see Maine as an ideal vacation spot, there is a lot of poverty in the state, which leads to homelessness and hunger.
• They also learned about the importance of interrelatedness as well as about the dynamics of community and community-building.

Student reactions...

“Working with a new and diverse group of people really stretched me. It taught me patience and the importance of really listening.”

“The trip gave me new insights into the causes of hunger and homelessness.”
Goal: Students will learn to actively engage with and positively affect the communities of which they are members... the City of Nashua.

What happened this year?

Sharing the Feast – Thanksgiving Basket Project and Interfaith Prayer Service

- Approximately 240 people attended the interfaith prayer service
- 93 individuals/clubs/departments donated money/food
- 90% of active student organizations contributed money/food
- 100% of academic departments participated
- 22 non-academic departments participated
- 83% of senior staff made a monetary donation
- Approximately 50% of student-athletes assisted with the food distribution, representing 100% of Rivier teams.
- The University collected 465 baskets of food, $4,300 in donations, and contributed to 12 local agencies.

This year students learned....

Based on discussions after the prayer service, students reported that they had no idea there was so much need in Nashua. They committed to continue their service to the community.

Goal: Students will enhance their leadership skills by collaborating with others to reach their goals and positively effect change.

What happened this year?

Campus Ministry, in cooperation with the Diocese of Manchester, offers daylong retreats for high school students. The Foundations Retreat focuses on helping young people to discover their gifts, identify their values, name role models of faith, pray with scripture, and experience different forms of prayer.

This year students learned....

The Foundations Retreat is facilitated by a team of student leaders and the Director of Campus Ministry. The student leaders are trained in developing the following skills:

- To present on topics of faith to the large group of participants
- To facilitate small group discussions
- To gain confidence in leading prayer
- To engage in positive reinforcement
- To manage conflict

What some student leaders had to say:

“For me, the retreat day was a breakthrough moment because I decided to do the things that I usually say no to, such as reading and speaking in public. This is very important to me because English is my third language, and I lack confidence when it comes to reading and speaking in front of a crowd.”

“Thanks for seeing in me a leader. It’s good to know that my efforts are being noticed. This makes me more positive about the future because these kinds of activities are related to my future career.”

“I am very glad that I volunteered for this retreat, and I took the opportunity it offered me to become a better person and to learn valuable leadership skills.”
Our Mission

The Multicultural Affairs Office strives to promote diversity and multiculturalism on campus and a respect and appreciation of the spirit of diversity among the campus community. The office has a twofold goal: to prepare the University community in a variety of ways to respond to our culturally diverse society with insight, sensitivity and skill; and to assist in developing over time a student body, faculty and staff more reflective of that diversity in its composition.

What we offer

• Diversity workshops and trainings
• Student Advocacy/Referrals
• Opportunities to promote learning and leadership within diverse communities
• Cross-cultural dialogues

Value Faith, Diversity, Social Justice, and Global Citizenship

• Learn to recognize, understand, and appreciate differences, while respecting the ideas and dignity of all
• Learn to challenge and work productively against injustices, locally and globally.
• Learn to actively engage with and positively affect the communities of which students are members, including identity-based groups, residential self-governing campus, City of Nashua, nation, and world.

In celebration of Black History Month, the Multicultural Affairs office hosted “Today’s Civil Rights: Living the American Dream Panel Discussion.” This culmination event was designed as a weeklong, interactive program focused on inequality and injustice in today’s American society. During the week, the Rivier University community had an opportunity to share their reflections on current societal concerns in response to daily posted questions that involved achieving “the American Dream.” All responses to questions were captured in a PowerPoint presentation and shown at the panel discussion. Panelists shared their personal commentaries on the U.S. educational system meeting the needs of public school students from low-income families and the possible racial and cultural biases that may arise from the new analysis of the 2013 federal data.

Outcomes

Rivier University community gained an awareness of how current issues of denied access, equity, injustices, and inequality impact social injustices in American society.

Several student responses:

• “I just wanted to say that I really enjoyed responding to the question of the day about injustices, because it stated facts that I had no idea about. When I wrote down how I was treated unfairly on the whiteboard, I noticed how others felt about the topic and how they were treated with injustice as well.”

• “We should keep doing these activities that bring up discussions and opinions from others.”

• “I really loved the discussion board and the daily questions leading up to the big event… I just loved the whole process and hope that there is more to come. Thank you.”

Some of our annual events include:

• Multicultural Student Welcome Reception
• Cultural Heritage Month programs
• Cultural Dance Lessons
• Brown vs. Board of Education Program
• Martin Luther King, Jr. Program
Our Mission
We are committed to educating, engaging, and empowering students as they pursue meaningful career and life goals. Our goal is to help individuals acquire lifelong career development skills, allowing them to navigate and manage occupational choices and life transitions, being mindful as well, of the unique contributions that they can offer in service to the greater community.

What we offer
• Major & career exploration
• Job search strategies
• Graduate school exploration
• Resume & cover letter development
• Comprehensive professional development website
• Individual counseling/classroom workshops/cocurricular programs

Think Critically
• Learn to challenge assumptions and consider alternative perspectives
• Learn to apply existing knowledge and experience to new situations

What happened this year?
Career Development partnered with faculty to bring professional development programming into the classroom. Workshops were offered as part of the academic curriculum serving to educate students on the job search process.

Here’s what students learned
• The art of writing resumes that highlight their academic and experiential accomplishments
• The art of networking and importance of establishing and maintaining informal relationships with people whose acquaintance could bring advantages, such as job or business opportunities
• The skills of successful interviewing; developing both verbal and non-verbal techniques that demonstrate solid communication and self-confidence

The facts...
• Over 15 professional development workshops held
• Over 400 students attended

Here’s what students shared
• “Classroom presentation was very straightforward & detailed.”
• “Very helpful and knowledgeable about the topic”
• “So helpful in highlighting important content to include”
• “Presentation was well-organized, clear and concise.”
Value Faith, Diversity, Social Justice, and Global Citizenship

• Learn to recognize, understand, and appreciate differences while respecting the ideas and dignity of all.
• Learn to challenge and work productively against injustices, locally, and globally.
• Learn to actively engage with and positively affect the communities of which they are members, including identity-based groups, residential self-governing campus, City of Nashua, the nation, and the world.

This year
As a part of the Journeys of Transformation Core Curriculum, all students enrolled in the Student Success: Campus to Community course will attend the “REACH Those in Need & Serve” Career Development Center event. These students and the campus community will be exposed to both global and domestic service organizations, and their representatives, learning about volunteer opportunities. This will serve to bridge the institutional mission of serving the poor and the powerless while developing a values- and skills-based learning experience. This is a cocurricular event sponsored by the Division of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs.

Here’s what students learned
• An awareness of service opportunities available during and after college
• The personal rewards and benefits of participating in community service
• A variety of professional skills gained while serving in the community

Here’s what the freshmen shared
• 98% identified “making a difference” in their community as important.
• The service event helped 96% to name one or more service organizations and their available opportunities.

The facts...
• More than 250 students were in attendance.
• The event brought 17 service agencies to campus to share their mission and available opportunities with students.