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RIVIER NEWS

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Academic Dean Dr. Al DeCiccio was one of nine leaders for the 2006 International Writing Centers Association’s Summer Institute, held at Stanford University, July 22-28, 2006. The Institute, having just completed its fourth year, was limited to 45 participants from the U.S., China, Japan, and Europe. The Institute’s presentations and discussions addressed questions such as “How do I start and direct a writing center? How do I plan for a writing center career? How do I present and publish my scholarship on writing centers? Will writing center work prepare me for on-campus leadership positions?” Dean DeCiccio’s primary responsibilities included presentations about budgeting, becoming a campus leader, publishing writing center scholarship, and writing center work in the civic community.

Dr. Mihaela Sabin, Associate Professor of Computer Science, presented “Evaluation of Solving Methods for Conditional Constraint Satisfaction Problems” in the poster program at the 21st National Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Boston.

Nursing Instructor Susan Feeney, MS, ARNP lectures and presents annually at NP certification review courses for Fitzgerald Health Education Associates in Atlanta, San Diego, San Francisco, Buffalo, and Baltimore. At the National Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Symposium in Keystone, Colo. she presented “Sleep Disorders: A Comprehensive Look at What Disturbs Our Sleep” and “Simple Office Procedures,” an instructional workshop on simple dermatological procedures.

Dr. Charles Mitsakos, Division of Education Chair and Professor of Education, challenged social scientists and educators at the Annual Conference of the Social Science Education Consortium in Prague, Czech Republic in June 2006 to play a leadership role in developing a culture in their schools that addresses the need for all students to become effective citizens. SSEC is an affiliate of the National Council for the Social Studies of 150 social scientists, teacher educators, classroom teachers, and dissemination/diffusion specialists in institutions or organizations in countries around the world. It has played a major role in defining the concepts and structures of the social science disciplines and facilitating their integration in school curricula for more than 40 years.
Regina Shearer, Executive Director of Academic Administration, was a keynote speaker for the Massachusetts Nursing Association Convention held at the Sturbridge Host Inn and Conference Center in Sturbridge, Mass. in October 2006. Her presentation was titled “Nurses: Our Heroes in Healthcare.”

In September 2006, Dr. Elizabethada Wright, Associate Professor of English and Communications, presented a paper, “Come See the Memorial in my Backyard” as part of the panel “Commemoration and Conflict: Remembering the Civil War” at the Tenth Annual Conference on Cultural and Historic Preservation, at Salve Regina University. In November, she participated in the Women’s Caucus panel “Making Our Own Way: Successful Career Strategies for Situated and Place-Bound Scholars” at the National Communication Association’s 92nd Annual Conference, “Creating Sites for Connection and Action” in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Wright co-hosts the radio show “Portsmouth at Large” on WSCA-LPFM on Mondays at noon, with Peg O’Neil and Ellen Ratner.

On October 1, 2006, Eric Drouart (left), Professor of Business, became a lay associate of the Presentation of Mary order. “This is the culmination of a two-year personal journey to increase my knowledge of the spirituality and the charisma of the foundress of the order, Blessed Anne-Marie Rivier,” he says. During the past summer, he visited the mother-house in Bourg Saint-Andeol in Ardeche, France as well as Anne-Marie Rivier’s birth place, Montpezat, and Thueyts, the place where she started the congregation.

Br. Paul Demers, s.c., D.Min., Chaplain and Associate Professor of Religious Studies, was chaplain and translator at an international meeting of lay and religious administrators and teachers in English-speaking schools administered by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. The three-week sessions in Lyon, France, were designed to help people “walk in the footsteps of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart and make theirs the charism and mission of the order.” The meeting included representatives from schools in the U.S., Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
Dr. Sue Cooke, Assistant Professor of Biology, presented a poster at the annual Animal Behavior Society meeting held in Snowbird, Utah in August 2006. Her poster was titled “Development and Implementation of a Service-learning Course Based in Animal Behavior.”

Dr. Vladimir Riabov, Associate Professor of Computer Science, gave a presentation at the 25th Congress of the International Council of Aeronautical Sciences (ICAS) held in Hamburg, Germany, from Sept. 2 to Sept. 6, 2006. The presentation, “Numerical Simulation of Kinetic Effects in Low-Density Hypersonic Aerodynamics,” was published in Proceedings of the 25th ICAS Congress, Paper 104. Riabov presented “Networking Simulation Labs in Web-enhanced IT Classes” in July 2006 at the 9th NCTT Summer Workshop, organized by the National Center for Telecommunications Technologies and sponsored by the National Science Foundation. At the 56th Northeast Quality Council (NEQC) Conference in Mansfield, Mass. in October 2006, he presented “The Structured Testing Methodology for Software Quality Analyses of Networking Systems.”

Dr. George Kaloudis, Professor of History, Law, and Political Science, presented a paper, “Second Period of Modern Greek Diaspora, 1830-1939” at the Northeastern Political Science Association Conference in Boston in November 2006.

Dr. Andy Gersten, Associate Professor of Counseling, presented two workshops recently: “Understanding Mental Illness in Children” for the staff at Pine Haven Boys Center in Suncook, N.H. and “School Counselor Role and Responsibilities” for school counselors, teachers, and administrators at SERESC in Bedford, N.H.
Dr. Herman Tavani, Professor of Philosophy, recently had the second edition of his book, *Ethics and Technology: Ethical Issues in an Age of Information and Communication Technology* published by John Wiley and Sons. In addition to updating and expanding upon the previous edition of the book, the second edition includes a new chapter devoted to ethical aspects of emerging and converging technologies such as ambient intelligence, bioinformatics, and nanocomputing.

Dr. Diane Connell, Director of the Graduate Learning Disabilities program, presented two workshops in October 2006. The first workshop, for Massachusetts Council for Exceptional Children, was presented at McLean’s Hospital in Belmont, Mass. The presentation was based on the strategies in Connell’s book published by Scholastic. Her second presentation was for the LTR Tutoring Associates’ annual professional development day to benefit the 32 Masonic Learning Center for Children. “Looking Inside the Teacher’s Mind—Brain Based Strategies to Reach Every Learner” was held at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Nashua.

Rivier College education faculty presented workshops at the National Education Association Statewide Fall Conference in October 2006. The conference draws over 800 teachers each year and sponsors workshops in major content areas and in pedagogy. Associate Professor of Education Dr. Ann Ackerman and Adjunct Professor of Education Robyn Griswold led a workshop called “Information Literacy: A Necessity for Today’s Classroom.” Adjunct Professor of Education Audrey Rogers facilitated a workshop on “Colonial America and Cooperative Learning.”

Audrey Rogers also presented a workshop, “Colonial NH Lessons and Activities,” at the New Hampshire Council for the Social Studies (NHCSS) Annual Conference in Manchester, N.H. in October 2006. Rogers is president of the NHCSS, and Ackerman is a member of the NHCSS Executive Board.

Dr. Martin Menke, Associate Professor of History, presented “Nullification, Tariffs, and Diplomacy: A Multi-Strand Lesson in American History” at the NHCSS conference. Dr. Menke has written several entries in the Encyclopedia of Modern Christian Politics, published by Greenwood Press, including entries for Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German Center Party (Deutche Zentrumspartei), Jakob Kaiser, Carl Schmitt and Josef Wirth. He also organized the New England Popular Culture Conference, held at Rivier in October 2006. The conference drew participants from all over New England and as far away as the University of Sydney in Australia. Dr. Brad Stull, Divisional Chairperson for Liberal Arts, presented a paper titled “Father as Fool in Children’s Books and Comic Strips” and Dr. Marjorie Marcoux Faiia, Professor of Sociology, presented a paper titled “Gendered Images in the Media: How Images Reproduce Our Definitions of Social Reality.”
Associate Professor of Education **Dr. Susan Gately** spoke at the Annual Conference of Massachusetts Federation for the Council of Exceptional Children in November. She presented a full-day workshop, “Literacy Assessment Tools to Help Differentiate Instruction for Students with Disabilities.” She also presented a poster session at the Annual Conference of the Teacher Education/Technology and Media Conference Divisions of the International Council of Exceptional Children in San Diego, Cal. Her presentation was titled “Helping Students Access the General Education Curriculum through Electronic Books.” Dr. Gately was also recently elected membership chair for the MCEC, which will host the Annual Convention for CEC in the spring of 2007.

**Mary Ann Oppenheimer**, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, is co-chair for CONFR’s spring conference. CONFR, Continuing Education in Fund Raising, is a New Hampshire-based regional professional development organization for people in fundraising and development. The conference will take place in March 2007.