Gateways to Distinction
A series of landscape design projects will transform the Rivier campus

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Welcoming Alumni home for Reunion Weekend 2013

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3rd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

December 6, 2013 • 7 p.m.

Join the Rivier Community for this festive annual Christmas celebration. Bring the family and have photos taken with Santa. Photos are available prior to the ceremony from 6-7 p.m.

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From the President

Dear Friends of Rivier,

Our 2013-2014 academic year is a special one, as we celebrate our 80th anniversary and take several important steps to fulfill components of our strategic and campus master plans. First, our newly renovated Dining Center opened in September. This new Center enhances community in a contemporary facility that has made quite an impression on students and members of our community.

This fall, we are excited to share with you, and to begin work on, the Rivier University Gateway Projects, a series of landscape design projects which will transform the campus over the next several years. The projects have begun with the renovation of Resurrection Chapel in October and will continue with the addition of gateways marking our campus entrances, the creation of a Heritage Plaza, development of our Campus Quad, and more. I encourage you to view our plans in this issue of Rivier Today and to take a tour of the Gateway Projects online.

In celebrating our 80th anniversary, we invited you to help identify ‘80 Points of Pride’, special aspects of the Rivier experience that you are proud of and that make us unique. Our feature in this issue is a compilation of the submissions received from alumni, students, Sisters, faculty, staff, and friends, and represents the collective pride of the Rivier community. I hope you will enjoy this feature and take pride in knowing that these 80 distinctive aspects of the Rivier experience are among our many points of pride.

Rivier has been honored with the academic leadership of Sister Therese Larochelle, pm, who is retiring after 15 years of service as Vice President for Academic Affairs. Under her guidance, the University has implemented a new academic core, undergone a recent NEASC decennial accreditation, and developed a variety of new academic programs including two doctoral degrees. We are thankful for Sister Therese’s leadership and wish her a very well deserved retirement.

It was wonderful to meet so many of you at this year’s Alumni Reunion Weekend in September, an opportunity to reconnect with your classmates and with Rivier. I thank you for coming home to your alma mater and for your continued dedication and support. As we move forward with new plans and initiatives, we do so by standing on your shoulders and the shoulders of all those who laid the foundation for Rivier’s future.

Sincerely,

Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM
President
Alumni and Rivier community to celebrate 3rd annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony in December

Alumni, Sisters, faculty, staff, students, friends, and family members are invited to celebrate the Christmas season with a tree lighting ceremony at Madeleine Hall on December 6 at 7 p.m. “This event has quickly become very popular for alumni and friends of all ages,” says Director of Alumni Relations and Special Events Mary Bollinger. “It provides an opportunity to come together early in the Christmas season and to celebrate as a community.”

Displayed on the front lawn of Madeleine Hall, the tree remains lit each night throughout the Christmas season and the New Year. The evening includes photos with Santa from 6 to 7 p.m., as well as musical performances. Registration is available online at www.rivier.edu/alumnievents.

Alumni Reunion Weekend 2014
Save the Date!
September 26-28, 2014


Plans for our 2014 weekend are underway. The schedule will be published online in the spring and invitations will be mailed to reunion classes. A room block at the Radisson Hotel in Nashua will be established during the summer of 2014.

Sister Madeleine of Jesus Award
2014 Nominations

The Sister Madeleine of Jesus Award is presented each year at Alumni Reunion Weekend in honor of Rivier’s foundress. The award is presented to a Rivier alumna or alumnus who has distinguished herself or himself through exceptional dedication to Rivier, outstanding service to his or her community and profession, and significant civic, professional, or humanitarian efforts. For more information and a nomination form, please visit www.rivier.edu/alumniawards.

Alumni Class Representatives

Alumni reunion class representatives assist the Office of University Advancement to spread the word about Alumni Reunion Weekend and encourage classmates to attend. If you are interested in participating as a reunion class representative this year or in the future, contact Director of Alumni Relations and Special Events Mary Bollinger at (603) 897-8521 or mbollinger@rivier.edu.

Alumni Reunion Weekend 2013 took place September 27-29, 2013. Check out the feature on page 19 and view photos online at www.rivier.edu/reunion.
Sister Therese Larochelle, pm will step down from her position as Vice President for Academic Affairs at the end of this year, completing 15 years of distinguished service to the University.

Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, President, emphasized Sister Therese’s many contributions to the University. “River’s academic initiatives have been uniquely strengthened by Sister Therese’s academic philosophy, her work ethic, and her ability to create consensus.”

She took on the role of Vice President for Academic Affairs in 1998, spearheading the first of the two core curriculum changes that she oversaw and, just this fall, the new Journeys of Transformation core. “The most important work of the Academic Vice President is to insure the integrity of the curriculum and the quality of the faculty,” said Sister Therese. “Working with faculty, I have always striven to improve the curriculum, to seek innovative ways to deliver the curriculum, and above all to serve our students well.” This is evident to all those that work closely with her. “She knows how to get things done and is driven by one agenda; what is best for students and what is best for the University,” said Associate Vice President for Student Success Regina Shearer.

Sister Therese not only led faculty during the core revisions, she empowered them by providing the tools necessary to develop programs and the core, honoring the mission of the University. “Sister Therese steered the team during the creation of the new academic core,” said Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Professor of English Dr. Brad Stull. “She sent the team to the Association of Colleges and Universities Conference in Chicago to get the training they would need for this task.”

She has co-authored two New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) decennial self-studies for Rivier, led two reaccreditation processes, and served as a NEASC evaluator. “Having worked with Sister Therese on the NEASC self-study and looking at the institution as a whole over a ten-year period, the changes and accomplishments enumerated in that accreditation document related to mission, governance, planning and assessment, academic programs, and faculty are surely all a part of the legacy that Sister Therese leaves to Rivier University,” said Dean of Arts and Sciences and Professor of Psychology Dr. Paul Cunningham.

Another significant legacy she leaves is that of a leader who develops leadership in others. “I have been ‘transformed’ because of her,” said Co-Director of the Center for Faculty Excellence and Professor of English Dr. Tim Doherty. “I owe this person a lot. She provided experience, support, approval and encouragement. She made all the difference and transformed my career as a faculty member.”

Her deep commitment to faculty is apparent in her development of the Center for Faculty Excellence, her attendance at all Faculty Commons events, and the establishment of a faculty governance and leadership structure. “I learned the personal, supportive ways of responding to everyone in our academic community from her example,” said Dean of Education, Director of the Doctoral Program in Leadership and Learning, and Professor of Education Dr. John Gleason. “Indeed, it is her communications and interactions that are emblematic of the prayerful and spiritual life of all that we do here.”

Sister Therese’s significant contributions to the academic vitality of the institution have left a lasting legacy at Rivier. “In my time at Rivier, I have never encountered a leader as positive, polite, and trustworthy as Sister Therese,” said Dean of Business Amir Toosi. She has truly lived Rivier’s mission of ‘transforming hearts and minds to serve the world.’

“She will be missed in her leadership role,” said Dean of Nursing and Assistant Professor of Nursing Dr. Paula Williams. “Sister Therese is a ‘teacher’s teacher,’ loved and respected by peers and students alike. She is a woman of great faith, insight, strength, integrity, good humor and compassion.”

The Rivier University Alumni Association presented Sister Therese with the Sister Madeleine of Jesus Award this fall at Alumni Reunion Weekend (read article on page 20).
For the **RECORD**

**Davis Educational Foundation awards grant for new core curriculum**

The Davis Educational Foundation has awarded a $105,000 grant to Rivier University for its newly developed undergraduate core curriculum, which was implemented this fall.

Rivier’s **Core Curriculum: Journeys of Transformation** invites students to explore how to think in new ways by taking on a new perspective of self, world, and others. The 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? These questions are intended to initiate a journey of self-awareness and inquiry, perspective taking and creativity, and service. The core offers opportunities for service learning, servant leadership, civic engagement, and community service supporting the intellectual growth of students and enhancing student leadership.

“Rivier University is honored to receive the generous financial support of the Davis Educational Foundation,” said Dr. Brad Stull, Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Interdisciplinary Programs. “Approved with overwhelming support of the faculty, Journeys of Transformation will provide our students with a comprehensive four-year core experience and allow them to participate fully and robustly in the University’s ongoing story. The Davis Educational Foundation saw the importance of the University’s mission and the core’s place in it, and generously supported our efforts.”

The Davis Educational Foundation, established by Stanton and Elisabeth Davis after Mr. Davis’s retirement as chairman of Shaw’s Supermarkets, Inc., provides support for colleges and universities throughout New England.

**Tamposi scholarship fund increased to largest award in its history**

The Samuel A. Tamposi scholarship at Rivier University reached a record award level, making it the largest award in its history for the University’s 2013-2014 academic year.

Established in 1995 by the late Samuel Tamposi’s business associates, family and friends, the Samuel A. Tamposi, Sr. Scholarship Fund was created with the intention of assisting students in financing their college careers and achieving their educational goals.

“This is a special year for this highly competitive award, as its value has been dramatically increased to a total of $100,000 to be distributed amongst four deserving students over four years, making it the largest award in the fund’s history,” said Valerie Patnaude, director of Financial Aid at Rivier University.

“My father recognized the importance of opportunity as an element to any individual’s personal success. He truly believed that if one member of society advances because of opportunity, the entire community benefits,” said Samuel Tamposi, Jr.

Throughout his life, Mr. Tamposi was known as one of the most successful real estate developers in New England. He was involved with the design, development, and management of many residential, commercial, and industrial centers in New Hampshire.

Samuel Tamposi, Jr. currently serves on Rivier’s Board of Trustees, and the Tamposi Foundation contributes to the scholarship fund in his father’s name.

**President’s Circle Leadership Forum featured New Hampshire’s Attorney General Foster**

New Hampshire Attorney General Joseph Foster spoke to a group of business and community leaders at a Leadership Forum hosted by the Rivier University President’s Circle in October. Attorney Foster spoke about the scope of responsibilities of the Attorney General’s office. The President’s Circle supports Rivier’s educational mission and hosts business and community leaders on campus to discuss issues that impact the businesses and citizens of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. For additional information, visit [www.rivier.edu/presidentscircle](http://www.rivier.edu/presidentscircle).

N.H. Attorney General Joseph Foster speaks to business leaders at the October President’s Circle Leadership Forum.
Global Experiences at Rivier University

Haiti is our classroom
For 10 participants in Associate Professor Dr. Susan Barbaro’s biology class, Haiti was their classroom for a week this summer. During this biology field experience, the group tested and analyzed various sources of water throughout the Pignon region of Haiti with the goal of assessing its safety for human consumption. The team then educated the Haitian people about the importance of safe drinking water and introduced them to causes of water borne illnesses. Students observed first-hand the challenges of enriching the lives of people in an impoverished area.

Dr. Barbaro and some of the students who accompanied her on the trip shared some insights about their experience.

What did you expect going into this trip? How did your experience differ from your perceptions of what you might experience?

Dr. Barbaro: I expected to expect the unexpected. I knew that we needed to be flexible and that we would be facing challenges that would require some imagination and rethinking to work through. We did a great job. I also expected to be emotionally affected by what I saw.

Chris Brooks, Class of 2013: I expected hardship, poverty and misery, and I got those in spades, but what I didn’t expect was the beauty of the land and the strength of the people. They know they have it bad, and they take nothing for granted, but they constantly surprised me with the sheer amount of effort they put into living.

Jonathan Nutt, Class of 2012: To be perfectly honest, I had no expectations going into our trip to Haiti. I think this is the ideal way to travel—to go forward with an open mind and no specific expectations. It allows you to truly live in the moment and have a greater appreciation of the overall experience.

Alie Nutt, Class of 2014: I really didn’t have many expectations going into this trip because I have never experienced a country as poor as this one. When we got into Port-au-Prince and drove into Jacksonville we saw poverty at its worst and it was truly heart wrenching and opened my eyes to the reality of how these people live their everyday lives.

In what ways did this trip change you?

Dr. Barbaro: We have so much, consume so much, and want so much. Since my arrival home, I’m now looking at my own life and personal needs differently. I’m reassessing what makes me happy and changing priorities.

Chris Brooks: I take nothing for granted. Not the electricity I use or the education I’m receiving or the water I drink. I have become somewhat jaded, looking with disdain at the extravagant excesses of our culture and the frivolous things we hold important.

Jonathan Nutt: So much about me was changed as a result of this trip. I saw the reality of what our world is truly like outside of the walls of our privileged nation. I came to realize that

Estate and Planned Giving Seminars
The Office of University Advancement hosted an Estate and Planned Giving Seminar in October, designed to provide alumni and friends with strategies for long-term planning and opportunities to consider Rivier and other charities in one’s financial plans. The seminar was presented by Mr. Thomas Tessier of Weisman, Tessier, Lambert, and Halloran, a life-long Nashua resident and friend of the University.

“Rivier is extremely appreciative of the generous support received through estate and planned gifts through the years, and we sincerely thank alumni and friends for their vision and planning that helps ensure for the future of our University and our students,” says Karen Cooper, Vice President for University Advancement. The Rivier University Bequest Society recognizes alumni and friends who have considered Rivier in their estate plans. Visit www.rivier.edu/planyourfuture for more information.

Rivier University honored with COLLEGE OF DISTINCTION AWARD for third consecutive year
http://collegesofdistinction.com/school/rivier-university/
New offerings to enhance nursing programs

Rivier launches new M.S. Nursing Leadership in Health Systems Management (online) and Ed.D. in Leadership and Learning with Nursing Education Specialization

BY JULIA AGRESTO

Two new nursing degree programs will build upon Rivier’s already robust nursing offerings. An online Master of Science in Nursing Leadership in Health Systems Management and a Nursing Education Specialization track in its existing Doctorate of Education (Ed.D.) in Leadership and Learning program were launched this fall and spring 2014.

M.S. Nursing Leadership in Health Systems Management

The Master of Science in Nursing Leadership in Health Systems Management prepares nurses for supervisory and management responsibilities in all practice environments, building the necessary skills for leadership career tracks. Nurse leaders facilitate and deliver quality patient care while coordinating workflow and managing nursing care. A nurse administrator may run a small team of nurses, several nursing units, an entire department or entire health system.

“These nurses are well versed in nursing practice as well as in administrative procedures. Nurses drawn to this specialty typically aspire to be leaders in health care and often seek executive and policy making roles,” said Dean of Nursing and Assistant Professor of Nursing Dr. Paula Williams, RN, CNE.

Leadership roles for nurse leaders often include nurse-managed clinics, managed care firms, community-based clinics, ambulatory care centers, hospitals, data management firms, practice management organizations, and corporate organizations.

The program will focus on health care systems, health care finance, management, and evidence-based decision making for the nurse administrator as well as health policy skills critical for today’s high performance oriented nurse executive. It also teaches nurses how to solve problems, make decisions, resolve conflict, and operationalize the mission and goals of the health care delivery system. This program focuses on the development of leadership skills and knowledge in areas such as fiscal management, legal/ethical issues, strategic planning, organization structures and marketing.

Ed.D. in Leadership and Learning with Nursing Education Specialization

Rivier brings education and nursing together at the highest level through the Doctorate of Education in Leadership and Learning with a specialization in Nursing Education. The program is designed for working professionals who hold a master’s degree in nursing, and who have an interest in learning, researching, and advancing their knowledge about leadership in teaching and learning, human growth and development, and the policies and practices that enhance learning.

“We are very excited to offer the new addition of the Ed. D. in Leadership and Learning with a Specialization in Nursing Education,” said Professor of Nursing Dr. Denise Baxter, APRN, CNE. “This program will offer masters-prepared nurses an opportunity to continue their education at the doctoral level.”

➤ continued on page 32
Celebrating 80 years with ‘80 Points of Pride’

As Rivier celebrates its 80th anniversary this year, we have taken this opportunity to reflect on our proud history and heritage, as well as the impact of the Rivier experience on members of our community—students, alumni, Sisters, faculty, staff, and friends. We invited all members of the Rivier community to submit ‘Points of Pride,’ special aspects of the Rivier experience that make our institution unique. This special feature is a compilation of submissions received and demonstrates the collective pride of the Rivier community. The ‘Points of Pride’ included in this feature are distinctive aspects of the Rivier experience, and while there are certainly more aspects that bring pride to the University, we are proud to share these ‘80 Points of Pride’ with you on the occasion of our 80th anniversary.

1. The Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, and our Founder Sister Madeleine of Jesus, created a lasting legacy when they established Rivier in 1933 during the height of the Great Depression—and today, we proudly celebrate 80 years made possible by their vision and dedication.

2. Our institution bears the name of Blessed Anne Marie Rivier, Founder of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, and is the oldest institution of higher education in Nashua.

3. Rivier’s mission of ‘transforming hearts and minds to serve the world’ is alive and vibrant on our campus and is at the heart of all that we do as a community.

4. Our Catholic heritage and values guide our new core curriculum, Journeys of Transformation, and our distinctive academic programs feature faith and reason as pillars of academic vitality.

5. The Sisters of the Presentation of Mary serve in 20 countries around the world, providing compassion to those in need and serving as an inspiration to students and alumni.

6. Rivier’s faculty, staff, administration, and students are proud stewards of the legacy created by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, ensuring the ideals set forth in Rivier’s mission are fulfilled.

7. 18,000 alumni across the country and the globe are living Rivier’s mission and making a difference in their communities and professions, serving at all levels including as CEOs, superintendents, principals, teachers, nurses, health care leaders, and more.

8. The Rivier community offers a dynamic student leadership experience, with service opportunities integrated in the curriculum, in the culture, and in the hearts and minds of our students.

9. The Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, including two past presidents, reside on campus and their presence contributes to the sense of community and enhances the life of the University.

10. Sister Adrienne Beauregard, pm celebrated her 101st birthday in 2013 and proudly shares memories of her direct collaboration with Sister Madeleine of Jesus, preserving Rivier’s history and heritage.

11. Rivier’s dynamic new President has made strategic and campus master planning priorities for the University, ensuring that Rivier compares and competes in the higher education marketplace.

12. The Board of Trustees is comprised of a dedicated group of business and community leaders with a commitment to advancing Rivier’s mission through board governance.

13. Rivier College became a University on July 1, 2012, a designation that fully represents the breadth and scope of our undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs.

14. The city of Nashua presented Rivier with the ‘key to the city’ in recognition of its University transition in 2012, the first and only organization to receive this honor.

15. Rivier’s logo includes a cross as a sign of our Catholic heritage and ‘Riv’ within a blue circle, symbolizing our place within the world.
16 Rivier received its ten-year accreditation and was praised by NEASC for our preparation of a comprehensive, candid self-study describing the significant progress the University has made in the last decade. NEASC also noted the clarity of the institution’s mission and the enthusiasm with which the mission is supported by all members of the campus community.

17 Our academic programs reflect the University’s commitment to Catholic values, creative thinking, and social responsibility.

18 The motto of Altiora et Meliora, “higher and better,” has been a guiding light from our foundation into the 21st century, leading graduates to contribute to a better world.

19 The University is recognized as a ‘College of Distinction’ for its engaged students, great teaching, successful outcomes and vibrant community.

20 Rivier has been named to Victory Media Inc.’s Military Friendly Schools® list for five consecutive years, providing resources to support the education of veteran students and participating in the Yellow Ribbon program.

21 Rivier was recognized as one of ‘NH’s Top Women-Led Companies’ in the nonprofit category by Business NH Magazine this fall.

22 The new core curriculum, Journeys of Transformation, allows students to explore new ways of thinking central to the faith heritage, intellectual tradition, and social teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and is aligned with essential learning outcomes.

23 The Davis Educational Foundation awarded Rivier a $105,000 grant to develop new programs and resources to support the new core curriculum.

24 Our Student Success program guides first-year students on their journey by introducing them to the wide variety of resources, services, activities and experiences that Rivier has to offer. All first year students take the year-long Student Success: Campus to Community course, and are assigned a peer mentor to assist in all academic aspects of their first year.

25 Rivier faculty members are distinguished academicians and expert practitioners in their fields. The impact of their teaching, scholarship, and service is far-reaching and profound.

26 Faculty members present at national and international conferences and have earned countless awards and honors, including NH Business Educator of the Year, NH Nurse Practitioner of the Year, and many more.

27 In addition to doctoral credentials, faculty members bring real-world experience into their classrooms and ensure that experiential learning takes place across all disciplines and levels.

28 Rivier offers programs of academic distinction and incorporates cutting edge teaching and learning technologies in face-to-face, online, and hybrid courses and programs.

29 Rivier applies current technology to connect students, including the Canvas online learning management system and the use of iPads in classrooms for interactive learning.

30 We demonstrate that Nashua is our home and the world is our classroom through global partnerships, study abroad opportunities, teaching trips, and service experiences in Greece, Turkey, China, Costa Rica, Haiti, and other parts of the world.

31 The University supports international education that advances learning, builds understanding and respect of all citizens of the world, and enhances global awareness in the community.

32 Diversity and multiculturalism are promoted on campus with immersive, culturally rich events and resources.

33 The Global Leadership program engages students with leaders, issues, and professional opportunities around the world.

34 Through the Rivier Institute for Global Health, Rivier students and nursing faculty will partner with the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary in Senegal to provide direct care in this underdeveloped country.

35 Rivier students and community members volunteer at a variety of agencies throughout the city, and the Freshmen Day of Service provided a collective 675 hours of service to Nashua’s deserving non-profit organizations.

36 Through an annual Thanksgiving Basket drive, Rivier provides hundreds of food baskets to families in need each year at the start of the holiday season, and students and community members provide service and support to the Nashua Soup Kitchen and other agencies.

37 Service trips, alternative spring breaks, and Habitat for Humanity programs within the United States and beyond provide valuable assistance to those in need and teach Rivier students the value of service and compassion.
38 Service learning programs and initiatives integrate active, socially significant service into the educational experience, extending the learning experience beyond the classroom.

39 With clinical sites and partnerships throughout New England and programs from the associate to the doctoral level, Rivier is the region’s leader in nursing education.

40 Rivier is the only college or university in New Hampshire with accreditation for nursing programs at all levels from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). All programs have met nationally recognized standards and criteria for educational quality in nursing.

41 State-of-the-art simulated clinical and nursing skills laboratories, equipped with SimMan patient simulators, provide nursing students at all levels with unparalleled training opportunities.

42 Rivier is home of the state of New Hampshire’s first Doctorate of Education and the first of its kind Doctorate of Psychology in Counseling and School Psychology.

43 Education professors and programs provide a model of best practices, inspiring teachers to shape the future of education.

44 Our nationally-accredited Landry Early Childhood Center provides education majors with hands-on learning opportunities observing and working directly with children, providing valuable experience beginning in the freshman year.

45 The Sister Mary Jane Benoit Outstanding Educator Award is given to an individual who brings the highest distinction to themselves and their communities through their teaching and mentoring of students in education and/or mental health.

46 Rivier’s undergraduate and graduate business programs develop future business leaders with a focus on values and ethics, inspiring graduates to serve the world through a commitment to their professions and communities.

47 Programs in the arts and sciences offer academic excellence in the liberal arts and prepare students to pursue careers in biology and chemistry, English, history, political science, criminal justice, mathematics, computer science, modern languages, psychology, and sociology.

48 Students contribute to meaningful original work through faculty-led research and doctoral dissertations.

49 Rivier’s Art Gallery has provided a continuous array of thought provoking work including a recent exhibit of Saint John’s Bible.

50 Rivier’s Center for Faculty Excellence offers faculty development events, services, and resources to enhance instructional innovation and effectiveness and to support scholarly and creative activities.

51 Academic ceremonies including the Academic Convocation, Baccalaureate Mass, and others provide a strong sense of tradition and community.

52 The institution has awarded honorary degrees to business and world leaders, academic scholars, philanthropists, and dignitaries.

53 Rivier has hosted a variety of renowned speakers including world leaders, Presidential and gubernatorial candidates, CEOs of top companies, local and state government officials, and many more—providing opportunities for our students to experience a diverse array of viewpoints, thoughts and ideas.

54 Rivier is the most affordable private institution in the state of New Hampshire and 98 percent of our full-time students receive financial support each year.

55 Rivier’s endowment is strong and growing. From 2009 to 2013, it has increased by close to $9 million.

56 Alumni and friends have established and funded more than 60 endowed scholarships providing assistance to Rivier’s deserving students, today and into the future.

57 Rivier has received excellent Financial Responsibility scores from the Department of Education over the last several years, earning the highest score of 3.0 several times—a score that only about 13 percent of higher education institutions achieve.

58 With the generosity of the Conway family of Nashua through the largest gift in its history, Rivier transformed Regina Library, the academic center of the campus.

59 The Regina Library provides a competitive collection of print and electronic resources to meet the needs of our diverse student populations, including the research needs of doctoral students.

60 Our Dining Center was recently renovated through a partnership with Sodexo, our dining services provider, and offers healthy dining options and a comfortable gathering space for students and community members.

61 The University enjoys partnerships with local corporations, donor investors, volunteers, and service agencies throughout the state and beyond, providing opportunities for philanthropic support, internships, outreach, service, and more.

62 The University’s first capital campaign concluded in 2007, surpassing its goal and providing support for a variety of capital initiatives and endowed scholarships.

63 With the support of the University’s generous donor investors, the Annual Fund reached a record level for the fourth consecutive year in 2013.
Our strategic and campus master plans have inspired the Gateway Projects, a series of landscape design initiatives that will transform the campus and provide opportunities for donor investors to support Rivier’s future.

A renovation of Resurrection Chapel began in October and is the first step in Rivier’s plans to enhance its sacred spaces and reflect its Catholic heritage.

Rivier’s impact on the local and regional economies is significant and impactful, and the University contributes to a vibrant and dynamic workforce.

The Rivier University President’s Circle, created by business leaders, serves as a resource for the business communities of New Hampshire and Massachusetts, providing opportunities for the exchange of ideas on critical issues impacting business and citizens.

Rivier’s hometown of Nashua has twice been named “The Best Place to Live in America” by Money magazine, and our location in the heart of New England provides the ideal environment for our students to live and learn.

With approximately 500 members, the Rivier Institute for Senior Education (RISE) provides opportunities for lifelong learning and serves as a vital resource for the Greater Nashua community.

Rivier’s 13 intercollegiate athletic teams compete as Division III members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), representing the University throughout the United States and the world. Rivier student-athletes have received Great Northeast Athletic Conference honors and national recognition through the NCAA.

Our nationally ranked men’s volleyball team has placed in the top four in NCAA Division III and the top eight in the country in recent years. Rivier’s coach was also recognized as Division III National Men’s Volleyball Coach-of-the-Year, as well as being one of only two New Hampshire Division III head coaches to reach 300 career wins.

Rivier coaches care about each student’s success on and off the playing courts and fields. They have successfully launched and built new teams, and many have earned GNAC Coach-of-the-Year honors.

The renovated Muldoon Fitness Center, artificially turfed athletic field, and world-class sand volleyball court known as ‘Riv Beach’ provide venues for a variety of health and fitness programs and activities, including varsity athletics and intramural sports.

A variety of clubs and organizations, as well as extracurricular and co-curricular activities and intramural sports, provide opportunities for student engagement.

Our Raider mascot contributes to the Rivier spirit at sporting, community and alumni events.

Annual events such as Alumni Reunion Weekend, Family Weekend, Senior Send Off, the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony, and others provide opportunities for alumni, students, and families to connect with Rivier and the campus community.

Since its establishment in 1974, the Sister Madeleine of Jesus Award, presented by the Alumni Association, has recognized more than 50 outstanding alumni for their dedication to Rivier, their communities, and their professions.

The University was presented with a Health Innovator Award by the New Hampshire Business Review and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care. This award recognizes our work in developing employee-centered wellness programs and initiatives.

Rivier leaders have been recognized with countless community awards and honors such as The Telegraph’s ‘Nashua 50’ top business leaders and the Nashua Chamber Citizen of the Year.

Rivier is a ‘point of pride’ itself for the Nashua community, contributing to the city’s vibrancy in many ways. Our students are involved in city events and volunteer at local organizations, and we host a number of events that are open to the Nashua community and the public.
By PATRICIA GARRITY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH RIVIER’S FOOD SERVICE provider, Sodexo, Inc., renovations to the Dining Center—an integral initiative in the University’s strategic and campus master plans—were completed over the summer. Connor Architecture of Lexington, Mass., an award-winning firm specializing in providing innovative architectural solutions, designed the new layout and worked with Sasso Construction from Wilmington, Mass. to complete the project.

“The renovation of the Dining Center has resulted in a more welcoming and comfortable gathering space for the Rivier community,” said Vice President for Finance and Administration Brent Winiger. “We appreciate our partnership with Sodexo and the great work done by Mark Conner and Sasso Construction in completing this project. We intend for this to be the first of several campus transformations that will better serve our students, friends, faculty and staff.”

New design elements were incorporated into the space to enhance the dining experience, including pounded copper, glass tiles, tinted windows and window treatments, no-finish sustainable tile, carpeted flooring and new textures which add to the contemporary appeal.

The new dining environment creates a modern restaurant feeling with weathered and handmade accents influenced by old mill buildings with waterwheels and barns, according to the architects. This is evident in the visually interesting shapes such as the waterwheel-inspired 360-degree action station. The canopy window treatments on the banquette wall were intended to carry the mill feeling through the loom-inspired copper metal mesh draping overhead. The space also features a new seating arrangement, making the room more open and increasing seating capacity with round tables and booths. A new palette of paint colors featuring vibrant earth tones of green, gold, and orange complete the feeling of an upscale restaurant.

Like many other upscale dining establishments, guests enjoy spending time outside of eating—socializing and studying as well. “I find the renovated Dining Center to be an inviting place where students can hang out and study, not only eat,” says Aimee Ruetzel, Class of 2015, a biology education major.
‘Fresh 2’—exceptionally healthy eating

Executive Chef Kate Dolan greets diners at the new 360-degree action station and prepares fresh dishes to their specifications. There is a variety of healthy and delicious foods to choose from, including ‘Fresh 2’ meals which are exceptionally healthy dishes with ‘clean’ proteins—without additives—and steamed vegetables. ‘Fresh 2’ is a world class menu selection developed by experts in culinary arts, health and wellness, consumer insight and sustainability. Food is made to order with guests observing staff preparing the meals and large, open coolers with fresh foods in full view.

“The space is open and welcoming,” said biology major and Student Government Association Chairperson Michael Carr, Class of 2016, of Brookline, N.H. “It has a warm atmosphere that invites you to spend time, and not just eat and run. I also like being able to see the chefs at work, as well as the interactions with the cooking staff.”

Ingredients are purchased locally whenever possible from vendors including Hood, Green Mountain Coffee, Fantini, and Stonyfield Yogurt. Produce from local farms is delivered fresh to the campus every day with the exception of Sundays.

In addition to local options, vegan, vegetarian, gluten free and organic choices are available.

Registered nutritionists are accessible to discuss special diet options which can accommodate just about any dietary requirement. The “entrée” station has daily offerings that are made by eliminating seven of the top eight major food allergens—wheat, tree nuts, peanuts, dairy, shellfish, eggs and soy. The flavors at the entrée station are fresh and bold, proving that you can eat healthy without eating bland meals.

The brick oven pizza station is another centerpiece that is visually appealing and offers delicious pizza choices daily. Fresh fish options are also offered, as well as popular food choices such as pasta dishes, salad bar, deli sandwiches, burgers and fries, fresh fruit, ice cream with all of the toppings, and a selection of desserts and beverages.

“Providing healthy options is now at the forefront of the dining experience,” said Assistant Professor of Biology Dr. Benjamin Philip. “This demonstrates to the Rivier University community the importance of making responsible, healthy food choices.”
Supporting fitness

Sodexo partners with MyFitnessPal—a website and smartphone app—to allow diners to scan the bar code on every food item and track the nutritional information. By connecting the Fitbit Tracker—a wireless device that measures steps taken, distance walked, and calories burned—to the MyFitnessPal account, all of the data tracked by the Fitbit will be synchronized with the MyFitnessPal account. The daily calorie budget will automatically be adjusted to take into account the activity level as measured by the Fitbit. Combined with Fitbit, MyFitnessPal becomes an even more effective way to reach fitness and weight loss goals.

Responsible, sustainable and accessible

A socially responsible company, Sodexo donates meals to area soup kitchens and participates in other similar efforts. Their ‘14 Better Tomorrow Commitments’ (www.tomorrowstarts2day.com/commitments.html) highlight their pledge to provide healthy food which is sustainable and good for the planet and the community.

As part of their sustainability directive focused on a healthy planet, Rivier University’s Dining Services provides ‘to go’ containers, allowing diners to purchase a container, take their meal on the go, and return the container afterwards for a new clean container or a token to be used for a new container in the future.

The Dining Center will offer extended hours—from 7:30 a.m. to 6:45 p.m., Monday – Friday, and brunch and dinner are served during the weekend. Students and other visitors can gather during off-peak times and enjoy a cup of coffee or ice cream with their friends, or order off of a specialty menu, enjoying fresh baked breads, the salad bar, soups and beverages. Rivier University’s Dining Center is now a more comfortable and accessible place to gather.

“The renovations are remarkable,” said SGA President and history major Magnolia Dixon, Class of 2014, of Avon, Maine. “They have transformed the Dining Center into a comfortable and community-forming environment, encouraging an atmosphere that is favorable to great conversations and connections. It is only a couple months into the new academic year, and already this exciting change has reenergized our campus and student body.”
Introducing the Rivier University Gateway Projects

Gateways to Distinction

The Rivier University Gateway Projects will transform the Rivier campus

The Gateway Projects are comprised of the following key projects:

A. Addition of gateways at campus entrances
B. Renovation of Resurrection Chapel and creation of a Chapel Quad
C. Enhancements to the Sunken Garden
D. Improved access to Madeleine Hall
E. Construction of a Heritage Plaza
F. Development of the Campus Quad

Transformation begins with you.

The Gateway Projects will be made possible through the generous support of Rivier alumni and friends. Shared for the first time at Alumni Reunion Weekend in September, the presentation of the projects received an outstanding response. “Alumni were impressed by the virtual tour highlighting the transformational impact of these projects,” says Karen Cooper, Vice President for University Advancement. “Regardless of their year of graduation, alumni of all ages have expressed an appreciation of the University’s plans to enhance sacred spaces and to provide a campus environment reflective of our Catholic heritage.”

A variety of naming and recognition opportunities are available. To learn how you can support the Gateway Projects, visit www.rivier.edu/support.
Take a tour of the Rivier University Gateway Projects online at www.rivier.edu/support
Resurrection Chapel

A new exterior façade and interior renovation of Resurrection Chapel and the creation of a Chapel Quad will enhance Rivier’s sacred spaces.

Campus Entrances

Native granite gateways will create a welcoming entrance and increase the University’s presence on both ends of South Main Street.
GATEWAY PROJECTS

Heritage Plaza
New plaza with sculpture of Blessed Anne Marie Rivier will reflect Rivier’s Catholic heritage and open access to the Campus Quad.

Sunken Garden
Landscape upgrades will transform this historic garden into a welcoming, reflective space for the entire campus community.
An easy to navigate entrance and parking at the front of the building will enhance the presence of this historic building and improve the first-time visitor experience at our Admissions Welcome Center.

Increased functionality, including the addition of terraced seating and an outdoor fireplace, will transform the Quad while maintaining green space and promoting student engagement.
Welcoming alumni home

Alumni Reunion Weekend 2013 celebrates reunion class years and Rivier’s 80th anniversary

WHEN THE CLASS OF 1963 GATHERED ON THE RIVIER campus for their 30th reunion in 1993, they proudly celebrated this milestone reunion and wondered where the years had gone. The experience was even more profound this year when they returned home once again, 20 years later, to celebrate their 50th reunion. For the 19 ladies and one gentleman from the Class of 1963, Alumni Reunion Weekend 2013 was a very special occasion as they celebrated their continued friendship, camaraderie, and connection to Rivier 50 years after their graduation.

Through the Golden Society induction ceremony, each classmate was recognized and received their Golden Society pin, designating their special status in the 50th reunion class and representing Rivier’s appreciation of their lifetime achievements and connection to their alma mater.

The fall weekend celebration recognized the anniversaries of reunion classes ending in 3s and 8s, as well as the 80th anniversary of Rivier’s founding in 1933. Reunion classes kicked off the weekend on Friday night with class dinners and an alumni social at the Radisson Hotel in Nashua.

Returning to campus on Saturday, alumni enjoyed a beautiful fall day and a full schedule of events that began with presentations showcasing the University’s strategic initiatives. Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, President, welcomed alumni and unveiled the Rivier University Gateway Projects, a series of landscape design projects that will transform the physical campus (read article on page 14) and provide opportunities for donor investors to help shape the Rivier campus.

Associate Vice President for Global Engagement Dr. Mark Meehan followed Sister Paula’s presentation with an overview of the University’s global engagement programs and initiatives designed to bring the world into the classroom, and students and faculty out into the world. Dr. Meehan showcased partnerships and learning opportunities in Haiti, Senegal, Turkey, Greece, and other areas of the world.

Members of the Golden Society, Class of 1963

Camille Leclair Boucher
Nancy Sedlewicz Caruso
Marie DeMarmels
Pauline Gosselin Desautels
Claudette Durocher

Mariette Beaudoin Facques
Maureen Brand Grillo
Madeleine Delisle Haley
Richard Harrington
Mary Ford Holland

Elaine Caron Landry
Ninette Maynard Mordaunt
Jeanette Beausoleil Mueller
Julienne Langlois Nicoletti
Claire Pied-Hailu

Martha Fitzgerald Sackovich
Helene Branchaud Sheahan
Judith Mackey Shephard
Claudette Thibault
Sister Martha Villeneuve, pm
In addition to the Golden Society induction ceremony, the Alumni Awards luncheon included the presentation of the Sister Madeleine of Jesus Awards, the highest honor bestowed on an alumna or alumnus by the Rivier Alumni Association. This year’s honorees were Sister Therese Larochelle, pm, Class of 1972 and 1975G, and Sharon Tamposi, Class of 1991 and 1995G (see photos at left). Established in 1974, the Sister Madeleine of Jesus Award is presented each year during Alumni Reunion Weekend to a Rivier graduate who has distinguished herself or himself through outstanding service and contribution to Rivier University and to her or his community and profession.

Sister Therese was recognized for her 15 years of distinguished service as Rivier’s Vice President of Academic Affairs, providing outstanding leadership and contributing significantly to the academic vitality of the institution. Sharon was honored for her tremendous and admirable commitment to the Greater Nashua community and beyond to organizations including Rivier, St. Joseph Hospital, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Nashua, the YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs of Nashua, and more.

Following the luncheon, alumni spent time at Rivier House, where Sister Paula welcomed alumni for a cocktail reception, and recognized the University’s donor investors and the exceptional quality of Rivier’s faculty. Several faculty members greeted alumni at the event including Associate Professor of Biology Joel Stake, Dean of Business Dr. Amir Toosi, and Associate Vice President for Global Engagement Dr. Mark Meehan.
The evening continued with the Reunion BBQ on the Dion Center patio, with a special appearance by the Rivier Raider mascot, and ended with the Saturday evening anniversary celebration in the newly renovated Dining Center. The new facility provided the perfect venue for the vocal performance of Rivier’s talented Associate Vice President for Student Success Rev. Regina Shearer. Rev. Shearer performed songs from a variety of decades in celebration of Reunion Class anniversaries and Rivier’s 80th anniversary. Alumni joined the fun, participating in a ‘Name that Tune’ contest to songs of the decades.

On Sunday morning, alumni gathered in Resurrection Chapel for the Reunion Mass, the last Mass many alumni will celebrate in the Chapel prior to its renovation, which began in October. Alumni concluded the weekend with the annual Champagne Brunch with the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, a popular annual tradition.

Members of Reunion classes ending in 3s and 8s have proudly supported Rivier’s Reunion Giving campaign, providing Annual Fund support for today’s students and the University’s greatest needs. To join your classmates in making a gift for the 2013 Alumni Reunion Weekend, or to make a gift in recognition of the 2014 Alumni Reunion Weekend for classes ending in 4s and 9s, visit www.rivier.edu/makeagift.
16th Annual Golf Classic supports health and fitness

The 16th Annual Rivier University Golf Classic raised more than $45,000 to support health and fitness programs and resources, as well as Rivier’s Division III athletic programs. The event took place at the Nashua Country Club on Monday, Sept. 30. Twenty-five teams participated in the tournament, made up of business leaders, alumni, friends, parents, and students.

“We are very appreciative to be in our 16th year and recognize that these many years have been possible because of the generous support of alumni, friends, and the business community. We were honored to partner with more than 50 sponsors this year to raise additional funds for health and fitness programs and resources for our Raiders athletic program and for all of our students,” said Vice President for University Advancement Karen Cooper.

Rivier Raiders compete as Division III members of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the Eastern College Athletic Conference, the Great Northeast Athletic Conference, the North Atlantic Conference and the New England Collegiate Volleyball Association.

“It’s great to have an athletic event where the proceeds have a direct impact on Riv’s student-athletes,” said Director of Athletics Joanne Merrill. “The generosity of our sponsors and golfers has helped Raider teams travel and compete in Europe, California, Florida, and South Carolina, to name a few. Without a successful tournament, these opportunities would not be possible.”

Tournament sponsors were recognized at the dinner and awards ceremony, including Premier Sponsor People’s United Bank and Dinner Sponsor Spectrum Marketing Companies. The 17th Annual Golf Classic will take place on Monday, Sept. 29, 2014 at Nashua Country Club.

For a complete list of sponsors and to view the photo gallery, visit www.rivier.edu/golfclassic.
A long and rewarding path

BY JULIA AGRESTO

Shiri Spear is living proof that a Rivier education can transform more than just your heart and mind, but your whole life.

YOU MIGHT RECOGNIZE THIS TELEVISION personality—the morning meteorologist for FOX25 News, on air from 4 to 10 a.m. weekdays. What you may not know, however, is the long and at times trying path that she traveled to get to where she is today.

Spear graduated from Rivier in 2005 with a degree in secondary mathematics education. At the time, her husband and high school sweetheart Matt—whom she married at age 19—had been sent on a series of deployments with the Marines to Iraq and Afghanistan. After transferring from a Canadian university, where she studied atmospheric and oceanic sciences, to a college in North Carolina, Spear decided to come home to southern New Hampshire to finish her undergraduate education. Rivier was the first school that came to mind, and the only one she applied to.

“My mother graduated from Riv and I always had a great impression of the education and support she received,” says Spear. “I needed a good support system while my husband was overseas, and found it in Rivier’s faculty and staff.”

Attending the same school that she grew up watching her mother attend rooted a desire to learn in Spear at a young age—part of her passion for learning, she says, came from her mother, whose passion came from Rivier.

Spear taught preschool full-time while earning her degree from Rivier. When she transferred, she had so many math and science credits that she felt education was a natural choice. She also recalled fondly her high school math and science teachers, who she says were responsible for sparking a love of learning in her, and she wanted to do the same for future generations.

She says she attended Rivier during a time when her personal life was in disarray, but was able to find comfort in the bonds she formed with faculty and fellow students. Despite balancing a full-time job with completing her education, which made it more difficult to get involved in campus life, Rivier made her feel like part of a community again. “I always felt like I belonged to a family at Rivier,” she says. “I felt like part of the Rivier family before I stepped foot into my first class.”
Spear’s undergraduate experience was a nontraditional one—because she was married and working full-time, she wasn’t able to participate in extracurricular activities, clubs or athletic teams the way many other students did. Although she would have loved to be more involved, many of her classes were scheduled in the evening so that she could put in a full day of work first. But that didn’t stop her from being transformed by her Rivier experience.

“Rivier’s mission to ‘transform hearts and minds to serve the world’ can take on different meanings for different people,” she says. “Personally, I attended Rivier when I was struggling with my husband’s deployment. I was challenged in the required religion course to consider ideas I had never encountered or contemplated, and it turned out to be the most wonderful lesson on believing in myself and finding comfort in aspects of all different faiths and religions. Somewhere along the line, I collected a series of ideas that I had faith in that helped me find peace in my own life, which in turn helped me cope with what I was going through.”

Although she graduated from Rivier ready to conquer the job market, Spear decided to instead pursue higher education, earning a master’s in environmental and atmospheric sciences. She was certified to teach in New Hampshire, but she ultimately felt that she needed to fulfill her interest in weather.

After completing graduate school, Spear landed her first on-air position at WWLP in Springfield, Mass., where she served as the weekend morning meteorologist and environmental reporter from 2007 to 2010. She then worked as a meteorologist in Miami/Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., until she got the opportunity to come home to Boston in November 2012—where she plans to stay for good. She enjoys the fact that there is always room to learn and grow in her field, especially as technology continues to evolve, and says that it is “humbling and an honor” to deliver the daily forecast, especially being in the position to provide potentially lifesaving information in severe weather situations.

Being a part of FOX25 is “pretty unbelievable,” Spear says—growing up in southern New Hampshire, she watched the Boston stations every day with her father, who commuted into the city daily for work.

“I’m proud of myself for continuing to travel the path ahead of me,” she says. “I learned so much about being an adult, a wife and a professional at Rivier through taking my nontraditional path. I wouldn’t change a thing about it.”

Now a parent herself, Spear is thankful to have a job and schedule that allows her to not only do what she loves every day, but spend valued time with her family in the evenings—and hopes to become a trusted source for weather information as her career in Boston continues to grow.

She credits Rivier with helping her to build a solid foundation for her eventual career path and her entire life—teaching her valuable lessons beyond the skills and knowledge she acquired in the classroom and providing her with a well-rounded education that helped her to grow through study, discussion and real-world experiences.

“Rivier is a community-oriented environment where you can find welcoming people of all interests and walks of life,” Spear says. “The faculty and staff encourage learning through study and real-life experience. Along the way, expect to learn not just about your major or trade, but about yourself.”

“I always felt like I belonged to a family at Rivier. I felt like part of the Rivier family before I stepped foot into my first class.”
Following a passion

BY JULIA AGRESTO

A star volleyball player and an exceptional student, this Rivier senior is hardworking and passionate both in and out of the classroom.

IT DIDN’T TAKE LONG FOR SHANE SPELLMAN TO know that Rivier University was the place for him. Originally from Norwich, Conn., Shane was playing in a men’s open indoor volleyball tournament and had been thinking about playing volleyball in college. His teammates knew Rivier men’s volleyball head coach Craig Kolek well, and suggested that Shane meet with him—so he connected with Coach Kolek, visited campus, and “was sold,” he says.

One month later, he was enrolled as a student at Rivier.

In addition to being a valuable member of the men’s volleyball team, Shane also serves as vice president of Rivier’s Student Athlete Advisory Committee, as well as one of three managers for the women’s volleyball team. And, he excels in the classroom as a marketing major.

Among many proud moments during his time at Rivier, including helping to lead the men’s volleyball program to its sixth straight Great Northeast Athletic Conference Championship and a semi-finalist finish in the 2013 NCAA Division III National Championships, Shane was selected to the USA Beach Volleyball National Training Team this past summer. The USA Training Team is an A1 Program, a prestigious group of athletes in the under 21-under 26 age groups who USA Volleyball invests in with free training and entry to the USA Beach High Performance Championships. The team practiced twice a week in Hermosa Beach, Calif., and the main competition for the Training Team was the USA Beach High Performance Championships in July.

While all of this may be overwhelming for some, Shane takes it all in stride, acknowledging that he is forging some of the greatest memories of his life along the way.

“I enjoy telling stories about how we have won the last two GNAC championships and been awarded bids to the NCAA tournament,” he says. “Those memories will stick with me forever and have been life-changing experiences.”

Shane credits Rivier and his volleyball experience with fueling his passion for coaching, which was present before enrolling at the University but has only grown since. “I have continued to follow that passion wherever it takes me,” he says. “My ultimate goal when I finish school is to coach volleyball at the collegiate level and turn a program into a powerhouse.” Shane also plans to pursue a master’s degree in coaching and athletic administration.

In addition to his love for Rivier volleyball and athletics, Shane shares that he has had a quality educational experience and can’t say enough good things about Rivier’s faculty.

“Rivier has taught me many skills both inside and outside of the classroom that will prepare me for my future career,” he says. “I have been fortunate to be taught by professors with real world experience, and they have done a great job of conveying that to students.”

Coach Kolek has watched Shane grow and progress as a student-athlete, and says he is a “great student ambassador for Rivier.”

“Shane is an extremely focused and goal oriented individual, characteristics that allow him to achieve on the volleyball court and in the classroom,” says Kolek. “He is able to take what he learns and apply it to all situations, plus he will put in the extra time to work at the things he may struggle with. He has a very outward personality with tons of energy and enthusiasm, and a general zest for life.”

Coach Kolek’s praise for Shane is echoed by Associate Professor of Business Administration Dr. Kevin Wayne.

“Shane exhibits a strong sense of confidence and conviction, especially in interactive situations,” says Wayne. “He is very good at supporting his positions and arguments with solid rationale. He also listens well and has the capability to quickly adapt to new information, always open for ways to improve whatever he is working on.”
Karen Spohn, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Business Administration

“I enjoy helping people. I get a good feeling from helping students become confident in their abilities and understand concepts that they had considered difficult at first.”

Faculty PROFILE

Investing in students

BY JULIA AGRESTO

There are two things Dr. Karen Spohn is passionate about: encouraging economic literacy and helping students achieve their full potential.

AFTER SPENDING THE EARLY PART OF HER CAREER as an economic forecaster in the private sector, Spohn later joined a university where she worked full time in research and taught classes during her lunch hour. This experience motivated her to return to school and pursue a doctorate in economics. Upon completing her degree, she moved to New Hampshire with her family and began searching for a teaching position.

“I found Rivier University and discovered a warm, caring community that was student centered and founded on Catholic tradition,” Spohn says.

Today, she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in economics and finance and is co-chair of the Division of Business’s Finance Advisory Board, which includes regional financial service employers as well as graduate finance and accounting faculty. Spohn also serves as the Division’s representative at the Regional Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) conferences.

In the classroom, she teaches and encourages economic literacy and emphasizes the importance of knowing how to understand an economy in voting, investing and other major life decisions. She also tries to keep her classes interesting and engaging for her students.

“I am constantly experimenting with new ways of teaching,” she says. “I try to make use of the latest technology and resources that are available. In a typical course, I present the information necessary to understand the models and data needed to analyze a problem. I then give students opportunities to apply these concepts to an area of their interest.”

Working with students is Spohn’s favorite part of her job—she gets fulfillment from guiding them and helping them to succeed.

“I enjoy helping people,” she says. “I get a good feeling from helping students become confident in their abilities and understand concepts that they had considered difficult at first.”

Spohn currently teaches a course titled Environmental Social Governance (ESG), in which students learn about the ESG factors used in sustainable investing strategies. The course is a hands-on workshop where students practice sustainable investing using Stock-Trak portfolio simulation, and is recognized on Stock-Trak’s website as well as in an ACBSP Best of Region 1 award for addressing corporate social responsibility in the classroom.

She welcomes every opportunity to invite new technology and teaching methods into the classroom, and has begun incorporating iPads into her classes this semester to help introduce real-time case analysis in the classroom.

In the spring of 2014, Spohn will be on sabbatical continuing her work on Environmental Social Governance factors and their role in sustainable investing and estimated firm value.

➤ continued on page 32
Associate Professor of Education Dr. Ann Ackerman co-authored an article, “Getting the Story Right: Developing Critical Analysis Skills through Children’s Literature,” in the September/October 2013 issue of “Social Studies and the Young Learner.” Ackerman presented two workshops this October—“Making it More Than Fiction: Using Children’s Literature to Teach Social Studies” and “Effective Technology for Social Studies Classrooms” at the Annual Conference of the New Hampshire Council for the Social Studies. She also co-presented “They Don’t Bite—We Don’t Bite” at the 36th Annual Fulbright Conference in Washington, DC.

Nursing instructor Bobbie Bagley was recently appointed chair of the NH Nurses Association (NHNA) Government Affairs Commission. This committee identifies health policy issues and legislation that the NHNA will focus on for the health, safety and wellbeing of New Hampshire residents and the nursing profession.

Senior lecturer John Caiazzo published a book last spring, “The Disunity of American Culture: Science, Religion, Technology and the Secular State”—exploring and describing the different forces that are influencing culture today (www.transactionpub.com).

Professor of Special Education Dr. Diane Connell was invited back for the second year in a row to speak to students in the MBA program at Assumption College in Worcester, Mass. Her presentation was titled “Building Success in the Market Place using your Multiple Intelligences.”

Connell also co-wrote a chapter, “Neuroscience: The Genesis of Our Individual Brain Strengths,” in the book “Early Childhood and Neuroscience—Links to Development and Learning” (www.springer.com). The chapter features Rivier University’s Landry Early Childhood Center. Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and licensed by the New Hampshire Child Care Licensing Unit, the Center offers early education and care for children from six weeks through kindergarten. The Center also provides hands-on experience for Rivier University education students.

Associate Professor of Education Dr. Susan Gately spent the month of June in Antigua, West Indies, continuing her ethnographic study of the schools in this Caribbean nation which she began during her sabbatical in the spring semester of 2012. While there she worked with teachers and their students on storytelling and writing. Gately spoke with primary school principals, reading specialists and first grade teachers about language learning and the classroom environment. She was also invited to six primary schools and worked with children on developing “Keeper of the Earth” houses. These simple structures were built with only natural materials from the environment. This was a small step toward the development of a “place-based” education program on the island. Gately plans to return in March to continue her work in the primary schools.

Professor Larry Maness, who retired from Rivier last year after 22 years teaching in English and communications and continues teaching online courses, had his book The Voice of God published in October. This is Maness’s sixth book and fourth novel. In addition, he is the author of two books of plays: 3 Plays, introduced by Pulitzer Prize-winner William Inge, and This House Has Quiet Rooms. His plays have been produced in New York, Boston, and other venues around the country and in Europe.

Associate Vice President for Agreements and Reich Concordat: Winners and Losers,” at the Seminar in Italian Jewish Studies which was held at the Simon Wiesenthal Center/Museum of Tolerance this October.

Dr. Menke also presented at the fifth annual Social Studies Honors Symposium, “1968: Crucible of a Nation,” last June at Nashua High School North.

Rivier art majors and Associate Professor Sheli Petersen attended the New Hampshire Creative Club “Google Glass” event in October hosted by SilverTech, a digital marketing agency in Manchester, N.H. The NH Creative Club is a networking organization for...
professionals and students in the visual communication field. Rivier students learned about the latest in wearable computing technology and practiced their professional networking skills.

Assistant Professor of Biology Dr. Benjamin Philip attended the Fifth International Symposium on the Environmental Physiology of Ectotherms and Plants (ISEPEP5) in London, Ontario where he presented a poster titled “Seasonal stability of supercooling points in spiders living in a temperate ecosystem.” The conference was attended by more than 80 scientists representing a dozen countries—many of the researchers are the most well respected scientists in the area of environmental physiology.

Dr. Benjamin Philip

Associate Professor of Psychology and Education and Director of the Behavioral Science Laboratory Dr. Jerome Rekart recently published a book, “The Cognitive Classroom, Using Brain and Cognitive Science to Optimize Student Success”—describing how cutting-edge and classic research findings from the fields of brain science and cognitive psychology may be applied to classroom teaching (www.rowman.com). Rekart also contributed three brain illustrations to Dr. Connell’s book chapter referenced above.

Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Joel Stake participated on a panel of experts for the Nashua Science Café New Hampshire in October. The topic “The science of genetically modified organisms,” explores the science and technology of this issue by answering the following questions: How does GMO work? What’s possible with this technology, and what isn’t possible? What’s likely to happen down the road?

Associate Professor of Business Administration Dr. Karen Spohn (read article on page 27) was selected to receive the State of NH Excellence in Education Award from the NH Business Education Association. She was recognized as the Business Educator of the Year at the State of NH Eddie’s Award event in June. Also in June, Spohn and Dean of Business Dr. Amir Toosi attended the ACBSP (Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs) Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah (see photo above). Spohn presented at the conference titled “Teaching the ESGs of Sustainable Investing with Portfolio Simulation.” Toosi will be serving on the ACBSP’s Region 1 Scholarly Practitioner Publications Committee.

Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Professor of English Dr. Brad Stull was interviewed on the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce’s “Chamber Report” radio show on Nashua’s WSMN 1590 last month. Dr. Stull discussed Rivier’s recent grant from the Davis Educational Foundation for the new core curriculum, Journeys of Transformation.
Class notes

50’s
Rita Frechette ’57 is currently retired with seven children, 11 grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. She keeps busy looking after her husband Robert and two of her brothers, who are all in the same nursing home.

Susan Carroll-Hamblen ’78 has been working for ROI Properties for two and a half years and has just recently changed positions there. She is now a REALTOR® specializing in residential assets for bankruptcy trustees and fiduciaries. Susan has been married for 12 years to Scott Hamblen. They were married underwater and held the Guinness World Record for the largest underwater wedding from 2001 to 2003. Susan and Scott met through scuba diving (both were scuba instructors) and thought that getting married underwater was suitable for them.

60’s
Patty Landry ’68 has retired from teaching elementary school in Connecticut and has moved to Lake Norman in Cornelius, N.C. Her son, daughter-in-law and two grandsons live nearby in Huntersville. She loves being a Carolina girl!

G. Louise Derbyshire ’73 is volunteering at Merrimack River Valley House in Lowell, Mass. She spends her free time gardening and remaining connected to family, friends, and church family.

Marilyn Sanford ’77 is currently the owner and principal of Ames Hill Tax and Financial Planning Services. She is an IRS Enrolled Agent and holds Series 7 and 65 securities licenses with Ameriprise Financial. Marilyn is also insurance licensed in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. She teaches financial planning online with the University of Phoenix.

70’s
John R. O’Shea ’80 currently holds the position of Chief, Air Operations for the Secretary of the Air Force. He had previously served as Chief, Strategic Communications/Education for NASA’s Dryden Flight Research Center at Edwards Air Force Base. He worked for 12 years on Capitol Hill and is a veteran of 31 years on active and reserve duty in the U.S. Army, where he enlisted as a private and is retiring as a colonel.

80’s
Kirsti Sandy ’90 was recently promoted to full professor at Keene State College, where she teaches writing. This July, she began her new role as English Department Chair.

Colleen Newton Pause ’93 left her position in the Admissions Office at Vermont Law School to become the Visitor Relations Coordinator in the Undergraduate Admissions Office at Dartmouth College.

Lisa Roy ’94 became engaged to Thomas Evangelista of Easton, Mass. in July. They are happily planning their nuptials.

Jim Moher ’94 retired in the fall of 2012 and is spending his time traveling. Recent trips include visits to Curacao, Italy and Ireland.

Chris Davis ’97 recently moved to Utah to work as Ancestry.com’s Director of Performance. Previously, Chris worked for Microsoft for 15 years as a Principal Performance Architect.

Nelly Padua ’98 earned her doctorate degree in nursing practice (DNP) from the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Joan Bienvenue ’99 became the new Director of the University of Virginia’s Applied Research Institute in June.

90’s
Lynn M. Lessard ’11 visited the Rivier campus on a trip to New Hampshire this summer. She currently resides in Albuquerque, N.M.

10’s
Erin Wheeler ’04 has recently been promoted to the position of Director of Admissions and Student Recruitment at Union Graduate College where she has worked since leaving Rivier.

Lisa Lastella ’05 was recently appointed to the position of Marketing Director at GFA Federal Credit Union in Gardner, Mass. In this role, she will lead community outreach and marketing initiatives for the organization. Lisa previously worked at HealthAlliance Hospital and Heywood Hospital, as well as Jones & Bartlett Publishers and Girls Incorporated of New Hampshire. She currently resides in Groveland, Mass.

Holly Medeiros (Mathews) ’06 became an Assistant Teacher Aide at Next Generation Children’s Center in September and works with children ranging in age from infants to kindergarten. According to Holly, it is an amazing and life changing experience and she is loving every minute of it.

Sue Carroll-Hamblen ’78

Susan Carroll-Hamblen ’78

John R. O’Shea ’80

Lynn M. Lessard ’11
Ways for alumni and friends to stay in touch

Visit our website
Check out alumni news at:
www.rivier.edu/alumni

Attend an alumni event
Check out our calendar at:
www.rivier.edu/alumnievents

Sign up for our alumni email newsletter

Update your contact and employer information

Submit your class notes online!
www.rivier.edu/alumniupdate

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www.facebook.com/RivierUniversityAlumni

Connect on LinkedIn:
Search for and join our Rivier University Alumni group.

Follow us on Twitter:
Sign up to follow the Rivier University page on twitter.com/RivUniversity

Follow us on YouTube:
View Rivier videos on our YouTube channel at www.rivier.edu/YouTube

Weddings

Nick Couturier ’03 and Amanda Shultz,
Aug. 17, 2013

Ashley Snell ’08 and Roger Larochelle Jr.,
Nov. 2, 2013

Births

Colleen Rice ’00 resides in Nashua with her husband Daniel and their children. Her daughter Julianne Marie was born on May 6, 2013.

Rita Depres ’07 and her husband Chris had their first child on July 25, 2012. Asher just celebrated his first birthday and is planning to be a future graduate of Rivier University’s Class of 2034!

Deaths

Arthur W. Julier ’89
July 9, 2013

The Rice Children

Asher Depres

SUBMIT YOUR NOTES ONLINE
www.rivier.edu/alumniupdate
According to Baxter, the 2010 Institute of Medicine government report titled “The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health” includes the key message that “Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression.” This report is leading the current nursing education reform in the United States. In keeping with the goal of developing programs that are innovative in recognizing the need for change, a partnership between Rivier University’s Ed.D. program in Leadership and Learning and the nursing program has been developed. “Nursing education needs teachers with a deep nursing knowledge who also know how to teach and conduct research on nursing education, and who engage in the scholarship of teaching and learning,” Baxter said.

Nurses with a master’s degree in a variety of specializations may qualify for the Nursing Education track of the Ed.D. program, including nursing education, family nurse practice, psychiatric mental health nurse practice, nursing leadership, acute care nursing, adult nursing, geriatric nursing, neonatal nursing, palliative care nursing, pediatric nursing, obstetrics nursing and gynecological nursing.

The nursing shortage and complex demands of the nursing profession put nursing education in a unique position of opportunity and responsibility to expand and improve the field. Over the last decade, the number of available nursing faculty has decreased to the extent that schools face severe shortages of teachers. Rivier’s Nursing Education specialization includes courses and content that help qualify nursing professionals to become faculty in this critical need area.

The program also allows students to continue developing their career goals, meet personal aspirations and expand their professional network while reaching the highest level of nursing education.

For more information on these programs, please visit www.rivier.edu/gradnursing.

This December and again in January 2014, Rivier nursing students and faculty will travel to Senegal for the ‘Rivier University Institute for Global Health’ project to complement coursework and academics with real-world experience and service in another country. Rivier’s Division of Nursing recognizes the value of an immersion clinical experience, and this is a unique opportunity for a transcultural health care experience. The project is intended to connect and support communities by creating and sustaining two related care centers, providing comprehensive health care, and more—and aims to connect students, refugees, faculty and staff. Several Sisters of the Presentation of Mary—Rivier’s founding order—who reside in Senegal, will also participate, tying the project into Rivier’s history, heritage and mission.

**Speaking global languages**

The Departments of Global Engagement and Modern Languages kicked off a new Global Language Tables program in September, offering an opportunity for Rivier students, faculty and staff to enjoy a meal in Rivier’s newly renovated dining center while conversing with others in another language. Every Wednesday afternoon throughout the semester will offer a Spanish language opportunity, and every Thursday will focus on the French language. Speakers at all levels are encouraged to participate in these lively on-campus global discussions.

This work will lay the foundation for future business student research projects as well as an online ESG course.

Spohn has much to be proud of over the course of her career, but says receiving the 2013 New Hampshire Business Educator of the Year award recently was a “special honor.” In general, some of the most rewarding moments, she says, are when former students contact or visit her after graduating to update her on what they are doing and how they are applying what they learned at Rivier to their current positions.

Rivier’s mission of ‘transforming hearts and minds to serve the world’ is something that Spohn says she has seen first-hand during her years teaching at the University. “Rivier attracts students interested in having a positive impact in the community and the world,” she says. “As faculty, we offer different avenues for them to consider.”
Putting names to the faces that your gift can help

As a graduate, you know that the Rivier experience is unique. You know that Rivier is a place where service and learning go hand in hand, a place where values and ethics matter, and where real-world learning takes place across all disciplines.

While you know all of this about Rivier, did you know that the undergraduate and graduate student experience is directly shaped by the generous support of alumni? Your experience as a Rivier student was shaped through the generosity of the alumni who came before you.

This is a powerful statement and means that you have the power to shape the Rivier experience for the next generation.

Your support of the Rivier University Annual Fund makes it possible for students to attend Rivier and to receive the unique educational experience that you received. In addition, your support makes it possible for the University to continue to offer the most up-to-date academic programs and resources, ensuring that a Rivier degree continues to be a valuable asset to employers.

Your gift to the Rivier University Annual Fund will have a direct and lasting impact on Rivier and its students, continuing the tradition of alumni support that has supported Rivier students for generations.

For additional information about the Rivier University Annual Fund and to make your gift, visit [www.rivier.edu/makeagift](http://www.rivier.edu/makeagift).