

BAE STUDENT RESEARCH LAB OPENS ON CAMPUS

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(From: *Rivier Today*, Fall 2006)



The facility offers students an opportunity to gain hands-on experience by assisting in faculty research and conducting their own independent research.

The College celebrated the official opening of the BAE Student Research Laboratory on the second floor of Mendel Hall in April. BAE Systems contributed \$54,000 to the College to renovate existing lab space and purchase new equipment. Faculty, staff, students, alumni, and representatives from BAE Systems viewed the new equipment and lab space at the opening celebration.

Rivier now has extensive lab instrumentation for protein characterization, microbe identification, tissue culture, and anaerobic growth analysis. Students will gain hands-on experience by assisting in faculty research and developing their own independent research projects. **Dr. Mark Bolt**, Associate Professor of Biology says, "Our goal is to prepare students to make significant contributions in the sciences and we know that begins with hands-on experience in the laboratory."

The new lab will not only benefit students majoring in biology, but also approximately 600 students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate nursing programs. BAE Systems Vice President Aaron Penkacik says, "Our company is committed to being a good corporate citizen. We recognize that the expansion of Rivier's research laboratory will add to the pool of well-prepared medical professionals in the region and also help to develop tomorrow's bioengineers, biochemists, and others in science." ■

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