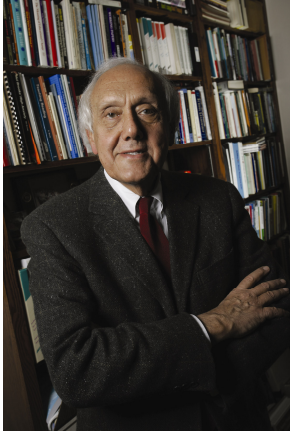


## RIVIER NEWS

(From: *Rivier Today*, Spring 2005)



When there was a vacancy in the treasurer's position of the Social Science Education Consortium (SSEC), **Dr. Charles L. Mitsakos**, *left*, professor and chair of the education department, accepted the position. "It's hard to say "no" when I know the work of the organization is so worthwhile," says Mitsakos, a 30-year member and former two-term president of the international group. SSEC promotes collaboration among social scientists and social studies educators and is one of the largest producers of publications in the field. "We're always looking for ways to improve the teaching of the social sciences," Mitsakos says. The organization helped to develop teaching materials and methods following the introduction of democracy to the former Soviet Union and Armenia in the 1990s, for example, and more recently, received a grant to produce materials for Colonial Williamsburg.

Mitsakos, a former superintendent of schools in Winchester, MA and longtime social studies specialist, is the author or co-author of several textbooks and social studies programs, including *America! America!*, a junior high school American history text; *Study America*, an interdisciplinary high school American history/literature program; *The Family of Man*, a primary grade social studies program; *Earth's Geography and Environment*, a high school geography text; and *Ginn Social Studies*, a K-9 social studies textbook series.

Following up on a panel discussion on campus this fall on *Brown v. Board of Education*, four people from Rivier College have had a paper accepted for presentation at a conference this spring. The conference, titled "With All Deliberate Speed... Looking Back, Moving Ahead," will be held at Eastern Connecticut State University on April 15 and 16. Rivier presenters have included **Dr. Al DeCiccio**, academic dean of the College; **Attorney Carol Rolf**, assistant professor of history, law, and political science; **Dr. James Young**, an adjunct professor in sociology; and **Dr. Michael Tramonte**, associate professor of education. The title of their paper is "Brown v. the Board of Education 50 Years Later: Legal, Social, and Educational Outcomes." The group has offered the thesis that 50 years after the historic *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, America may be headed toward resegregation.

**Mary Ellen McGuire**, director of campus ministry, was quoted in the January/February issue of *Next Step* magazine, in an article titled "When to Choose a Religious College." McGuire is quoted in part as saying, "At a religious college, you're encouraged to reflect on your relationship with God and your responsibility to the world as a result of your faith." *Next Step* is a national magazine targeted primarily to high school students.

**Dr. Mihaela Sabin**, associate professor and chairperson of mathematics and computer science, attended the 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Principles and Practice of Constraint Programming in Toronto. Sabin had the opportunity to discuss her research interests in constraint satisfaction formalism and its application to modeling and solving configuration and data storage management problems.

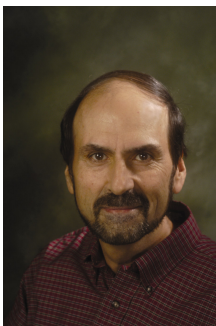


**Dr. Susan Gately**, *left*, associate professor of education and director of the general special education certification program, attended a National Invitational Forum in Charleston, South Carolina, sponsored by the Center for Improving Teacher Quality (CTQ). The purpose of the forum was to help state teams improve their licensing systems for teachers with students with disabilities. Gately and others will work with the CTQ for the next five years and serve as the leadership force for reform in New Hampshire. Gately also presented a poster session titled “Moving Beyond Emergent Literacy: The Development of Concept of Word” at the Biennial Conference of the Council for Exceptional Children’s Division of Developmental Disabilities in Las Vegas.

**Dr. Al DeCiccio** has a chapter titled “There’s Something Happening Here: The Writing Center and Core Writing” in the forthcoming book *The Writing Center Director’s Resource Guide*, edited by Byron Stay and Christina Murphy and published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc. In November, DeCiccio offered remarks to those in attendance at the annual conference of Learning Assistance Association of New England (LAANE) hosted by Rivier College. He spoke to the relationship between effective classroom teaching and learning and strategies utilized by those in academic achievement areas (Writing Center, ESOL Center, Specialized Student Services, etc.). He also made a presentation, with Dean Angela Renaud (Johnson and Wales University), for the New England Resource Center in Higher Education (NERCHE) Think Tank for Academic Deans on the relationship between faculty evaluation and faculty development.

**Dr. Paul Cunningham** began his term as president of the New England Psychological Association (NEPA) in the fall of 2004. In his inaugural address at Rhode Island College, Cunningham presented an overview of transpersonal psychology—its historical origins and its importance for the future of psychology. The field of transpersonal psychology has emerged in the past 35 years, partly as a result of growing interest in issues related to spirituality, exceptional human experiences, and extraordinary human transformative capacities, according to Cunningham.

**Dr. Diane Connell**, director of graduate programs in learning disabilities, gave a presentation titled “The Growing Gender Gap,” at the National Educational Association of New Hampshire in Penacook.



**Dr. Herman Tavani**, *left*, professor and chairperson of the philosophy department, recently presented an invited paper in Karlsruhe, Germany at the 2004 Symposium of the International Center for Information Ethics. His symposium paper, titled “The Internet and Community Building at the Local and Global Levels: Some Implications and Challenges,” will be published in a forthcoming issue of the *International Journal of Information Ethics*. Tavani also recently had a paper titled “Genomic Research and Data-Mining Technologies: Implications for Personal Privacy and Informed Consent,” published in the journal *Ethics and Information Technology*.

**Dr. Tavani**, **Dr. Lloyd Carr**, and **Dr. Jerry Dolan**, professors of philosophy, attended a conference of the Northern New England Philosophical Association held at Dartmouth College. Tavani presented a paper titled “Applying Locke’s Theory of Property to the Contemporary Debate About Intellectual Property Rights Involving Digital Information.”



**Dr. Martin Menke**, *left*, associate professor of history, law, and political science, presented a paper at a New England Historical Association (NEHA) conference in Rutland, Vermont. Menke presented “Jacob Kaiser: A Catholic Nationalist?”

**Dr. Carol Langelier**, associate professor of education and director of graduate counseling programs, gave a presentation titled “Mood Management: A Cognitive Behavioral Skills Building Program for Adolescents” at the New Hampshire School Counselors Association Fall Conference in Waterville Valley.

Dr. Langelier has also had an article accepted for publication in the American Counselor Association’s publication, *VISTAS: Compelling Perspectives on Counseling 2005*. Her article, titled “Mood Management: A Cognitive Behavioral Skills Building Program for Adolescents,” will be published in the spring 2005 edition.

**Dr. Andrew Gersten**, associate professor of education, co-presented a workshop with Dr. Gail Mears of Plymouth State University at the North Atlantic Regional Association for Counselor Education and Supervision held in Mystic, CT. Their session was titled “Counselor Intentionality: How Important is it to Counselor Educators?”

**Drs. Sharon Dean** and **Elizabethada Wright**, of the English and communications department, traveled to Rensselaerville, NY for the Sixth Biennial Constance Fenimore Woolson Society Conference. Dean presented a paper titled “The Admired Aunt: Constance Fenimore Woolson and Susan Cooper” and Wright presented “Burial, Memorial, and Forgetting in Three Woolson Stories: A Metaphor.”

**Attorney Carol Rolf**, assistant professor of history, law, and political science, presented a paper on “Appalachian Women’s Music as a Statement of a Traditional Lifestyle” at a conference on Women of Appalachia in Zanesville, Ohio. Rolf’s presentation focused on a historic survey of early women musicians from Appalachia and explored how their song lyrics described their family life and the beauty of the area.



**Dr. Paul Lizotte**, *left*, professor of English, and **Dr. Virginia Ryan**, associate professor of religious studies, co-presented an invited paper on “‘Ecothinking’ and Sustainable Education: A Freshman Honors Course,” at a conference at the University of Notre Dame last fall titled “Faith, Ethics, Environment: The Response of a Catholic University.”



**Maria Matarazzo**, *left*, associate professor of business, was nominated for the 21st Century Award for Achievement by the International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England. The honor is conferred on those who have been previous recipients of Who's Who awards and are recognized for achieving excellence in their fields.

**Dr. George Kaloudis**, professor of history, law, and political science, presented a paper at the Northeastern Political Science Association Conference in Boston titled "The Greek Military Dictatorship, 1967–74: Lessons Learned."

**Pamela Graesser**, director of counseling services, was the guest speaker at a staff retreat for the physician's practice managers at Catholic Medical Center. She presented a workshop on identifying and working with difficult personalities in the workplace. ■

## Rivier Faculty and Students Published in Professional Journal

Students in Rivier's M.A.T. in English program were recently published in the "Teachers Writing" issue of *The Leaflet*, a juried journal of the New England Association for Teachers of English (NEATE). **Stephanie Nunn, Christine (Radcliffe) Deneault, John Williams, Lana Quenneville, Lauren Chenelle, Michael Ellen (Mickey) Wood**, and program director and Professor of English **Patricia Roberts**, were among 18 authors included in the Winter 2004 issue of the publication featuring works of poetry, fiction, commentary, and memoirs. "To be published in such a journal distinguishes our students as writers/teachers and it distinguishes Rivier College as well," says **Al DeCiccio**, academic dean of the College. *The Leaflet* is published by the New England Association of Teachers of English three times during the academic year. ■