

## RIVIER NEWS

(From: *Rivier Today*, Spring 2006)



**Br. Paul R. Demers**, s.c., D. Min., college chaplain and campus minister, participated in “Campus Ministry Across the Americas Experience.” The trip to Peru and Bolivia, sponsored by Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, provided an opportunity for U.S.-based campus ministers to become familiar with the Latin American reality through visits and interchange with campus ministers there.

**Dr. Andrew Gersten**, associate professor of education, led a roundtable discussion on the changing role of school counselors at the Association of Counselor Education and Supervision Conference in Pittsburg, PA. Gersten drew his presentation from the results of a multi-year elementary school counseling grant project, “Prime Time: Building a Solid Foundation for Learning,” conducted in the Nashua School District. (See “*Nashua Schools enjoy Prime Time success*,” page 27.)



**Dr. Diane Connell**, associate professor of education, co-authored an article in the winter 2006 issue of *Educational Horizons Journal*. Titled, “The New Gender Gap: Social, Psychological, Neurobiological and Educational Perspectives,” the piece addressed problems and provided strategies for boys experiencing difficulties in schools today. Connell also presented a session, “Getting to Know the Teacher’s Mind: Brain Based Strategies to Reach All Learners,” at the International Learning and the Brain Conference in Cambridge, Mass.

**Dr. Marjorie Faiia**, professor of sociology, participated in an Oxford Round Table discussion about Women in Leadership. Faiia was a discussant for a paper on “Women’s Role in the Bolivian Revolution.” The program, which drew more than 30 educators from around the world, was held at St. Anthony’s College at the University of Oxford. While on sabbatical in Fall 2005, Faiia also wrote six chapters for a textbook, *Substance Use and Abuse: Current Issues in Sociology*. Her contributions to the text focused on special populations—including women, children, ethnic groups, and gays and lesbians—and their use of both legal and illegal substances.



**Dr. Vladimir Riabov**, associate professor of computer science, had an article titled, “Networking Software Studies with the Structured Testing Methodology” published in the book, *Computer Science and Information Systems* (Athens Institute for Education and Research).



**Dr. Al DeCiccio**, academic dean, presented a session at the National Conference on Peer Tutoring hosted by the Writing & International Writing Centers Association. His paper was titled, “And Justice for All: Writing Center Work and the Goals of Brown v. the Board of Education.” DeCiccio has also been elected to a four-year term on the Lilly Fellows Program (LFP) National Network Board. With more than 80 member institutions nationwide, The National Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities works to strengthen the religious nature of church-related institutions. In other news, DeCiccio, wrote a chapter, “There’s Something Happening Here: The Writing Center and Core Writing” in the forthcoming book, *The Writing Center Director’s Resource Guide* (Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.).

**Mary Ellen McGuire**, director of campus ministry, was recently certified by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, through the Catholic Campus Ministry Association (CCMA). McGuire, who earned a Master of Divinity degree at Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Mass. has been director of campus ministry at Rivier College since June 2004. In completing the certification program, she was required to demonstrate competency in personal, theological, and professional areas through a process of self-evaluation, reflection, prayer, and peer assessment.



**Dr. Bryan Higgs**, assistant professor of computer science, presented “Towards Using Online Portfolios in Computing Courses,” a paper he co-wrote with **Dr. Mihaela Sabin**, assistant professor and department coordinator for mathematics/computer science, at the Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group For Information Technology Education Conference.

**Dr. Darien Lauten**, associate professor of mathematics, gave a presentation titled “The Many Faces of Proportional Reasoning” at the Annual Conference of the Association of Math Teachers in New England.



**Clifford Davis**, associate professor of art (left); **Dr. Virginia Ryan**, associate professor of religious studies, and **Sr. Theresa Couture**, professor of art, were presenters at an on-campus program sponsored by the Rivier Fine Arts Society. Held in conjunction with “The Artist and The Bible” exhibition in the Rivier College Art Gallery, the event brought together faculty from art and religious studies to reflect on the relationship between visual art and the Bible as verbal expression.



**Maria Matarazzo**, associate professor and divisional chairperson for business (*left*), was inducted into the New Hampshire Department of Education's Wall of Fame in the fall. She joined other honorees who were 2005 recipients of the Excellence in Education Awards.

**Dr. Karen Spohn**, assistant professor of business, co-presented a paper, with Thomas Fitzpatrick of St. Anselm's College, on "A 25th Anniversary Redux of the Julian Simon and Paul Ehrlich Global Sustainability Wager" at the Annual Conference of American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences in Las Vegas.

**Dr. Elizabethada Wright**, associate professor of English and communications, had an article, "Rhetorical Spaces in Memorial Places: The Cemetery as a Rhetorical Memory Space/Place" published in the fall 2005 issue of the *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*. Wright also presented a paper, "The Evolution of Public Memory and the Andersonville National Cemetery" at a conference titled, "Contesting Public Memories" at Syracuse University.



**Erin Callahan**, associate admissions director, was quoted as an expert source in *Next Step* magazine, a nationally distributed publication for college-bound high school students. In an article directed at parents, titled, "Watch Out! Five Warning Signs that Your Teen's Postsecondary Plans are Off Track," Callahan advised parents to continue to encourage their teens to visit campuses even if they begin to balk at the idea.

**Dr. Teresa Magnus**, associate professor of mathematics, presented a session titled, "Using Peer Review to Improve Student's Proof Writing," at a Joint Mathematics Meeting in San Antonio, Texas.



**Dr. Kevin Wayne**, assistant professor of business, attended the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Launch Conference at Babson College. The GEM project, begun in 1999 and sponsored by Babson and the London Business School, is an ambitious worldwide project that measures and compares entrepreneurial activity throughout the world. The research aims to uncover factors and policies that enhance successful entrepreneurship. ■