

## RIVIER NEWS

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**Maria Matarazzo**, Divisional Chair of Business Administration, has been invited to serve on the College Faculty Advisory Council for the High School of Business™, a national academy-style program that prepares high school students to excel in college business programs.



Academic Dean **Dr. Al DeCiccio** presented a paper, “Preparing to Sit at the Head Table’: Writing Center Work and Campus Leadership,” at the Annual International Writing Centers Association (IWCA) Conference in Houston, Texas. In the presentation, he investigated characteristics customarily associated with leaders as well as those associated with managers. Dean DeCiccio highlighted the essential differences between the leader and the manager, illustrating writing center work as campus leadership that brings about constructive changes in campus and civic communities. At the meeting, the Dean was honored with the International Writing Centers Association’s 2006 Muriel Harris Outstanding Service Award. The award is given only every three years; the selection committee unanimously chose Dr. DeCiccio as this year’s recipient in recognition of his extraordinary record of service to the writing center community.

**Dr. Rose Arthur**, Director of the Rivier Institute for Senior Education, was named an Empowering Woman by the General Federation of Women’s Clubs New Hampshire Nashaway Woman’s Club. She was recognized at a luncheon in Concord, N.H. in April 2007.



Associate Professor of Computer Science **Dr. Vladimir Riabov** had two papers accepted for presentation at the 26<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Shock Waves, held in July 2007 in Göttingen, Germany. The papers are titled “Numerical Simulation of Interactions Between Dissociating Gases and Catalytic Materials in Shock Tubes” and “Rotational-Translational Relaxation Effects in Diatomic-Gas Flows.” He also presented “Exploring Singular Differential Equations With Exponential Box-schemes,” at the 19<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Technology in Collegiate Mathematics (ICTCM) in Boston, Mass. in February 2007.

The National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) presented the Academic Advising Excellence Award for the State of New Hampshire to **Marie Cloutier** ’04. Cloutier was recognized for “her demonstrated excellence in Academic Advising.” NACADA annually chooses one winner from each U.S. state and one from eastern Canada for the Excellence in Academic Advising Award.



At the end of February 2007, **Dr. Paul Cunningham**, Divisional Chair of Sciences and Professor of Psychology, presented a poster at “General Education and Assessment: Engaging Critical Questions, Fostering Critical Learning,” the Association of American Colleges and Universities Conference. The poster was titled “Back Mapping: Tracking General Education Outcomes Across the Curriculum.” He also had an article published in *The International Journal of Transpersonal Studies*. “Transpersonal Education: Problems, Prospects, and Challenges” appeared in Vol. 25, 2006 issue. Dr. Cunningham is working with Harris Friedman, Ph.D., to co-author a book in transpersonal psychology.

**Dr. Jerome Rekart**, Assistant Professor of Psychology, has recently had two articles published. “Presynaptic Structural Plasticity and Long-lasting Memory: Focus on the Learning-Induced Redistribution of Hippocampal Mossy Fibers,” co-authored with Matthew Holohan and Aryeh Routtenberg, was included in *Neural Plasticity and Memory: From Genes to Brain Imaging*. With Jimena Sandoval and Aryeh Routtenberg, Dr. Rekart wrote “Learning-induced Axonal Remodeling: Evolutionary Divergence and Conservation of Two Components of the Mossy Fiber System within *Rodentia*,” which was published in *Neurobiology of Learning and Memory*.

**Dr. Michael Tramonte** presented two papers at the National Association of School Psychologists Convention held in New York City in March 2007. His papers were titled “Lessons Learned from Disaster Intervention: Implications for School Psychologists” and “Responding to Terrorism: Through the U.S. Department of Education’s Lens.”



During the spring 2007, Director of the Graduate Learning Disabilities Program **Dr. Diane Connell** presented a writing workshop to high school sophomores at the Westford Academy in Westford, Mass. She also conducted a workshop at St. Ann’s Home in Methuen, Mass. Teachers of students with special needs attended the workshop, titled “Brain Based Strategies to Reach All Learners.” She spoke in Stratham, N.H. at the LAANE Regional Workshop at the NH Community Technical College on “Knowing Yourself and Knowing your Students via Brain Based Learning.”

In the spring 2007, three members of Rivier’s art faculty had works accepted in the Biennial Regional Juror’s Choice Competition at the Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery at Keene State College. **Loretta Hubley**, **Ron McClure** and **Pat Schappler** each had two pieces accepted for exhibition.



**Regina Shearer**, Executive Director of Academic Administration, spoke to a group of teenage girls at Girls, Inc. in April 2007. She discussed how to cope with family issues and peer pressure in order to successfully graduate from high school and go on to college, and the benefits of a college education. She was also keynote speaker at the FEA (Future Educators Academy) annual conference, where her topic was “Being a Constant Gardener.” She addressed high school juniors and seniors, as well as teachers, principals, and school superintendents, about planting seeds of inspiration in students that will help grow them into great learners and teachers.



In the spring 2007, **Dr. Elizabethada A. Wright**, Associate Professor of English and Communication, attended the Popular Culture Association/American Cultural Association's 2007 National Conference in Boston where the Cemeteries and Gravemarkers Division released the belated publication of Georgia State University's Volume 39.1 of *Studies in the Literary Imagination*. This special edition, titled *Literature of the Graveyard*, includes her article "Keeping Memory: The Cemetery and Rhetorical Memory in Constance Fenimore Woolson's 'Rodman the Keeper'." In July 2007, she participated in "Biblical Studies Across the Curriculum: Discerning Scripture for the Disciplines," the Lilly Fellows Program

Summer 2007 Seminar Series. The program took place at Calvin College in Michigan. Designed for scholars across the disciplines primarily outside biblical studies and theology, the seminar provided an opportunity for state-of-the-art biblical scholarship to discern how biblical wisdom can inform scholarship, creative production, and teaching across the university.



**Dr. Fiona McDonnell**, Associate Professor of Education, presented research concerning her work with pre-service teachers at the American Educational Research Association 2007 Annual Meeting held in Chicago. The presentation was titled "Critical Exploration in the Science Methods Classroom: Supporting Student Knowledge of Natural Phenomenon and Insights into Learning and Teaching in Science." The research was presented as part of a symposium, "Wonderful Ideas in Critical Explorations: Science and Art with Perspectives of History and Teacher Education."



**Dr. Ann Ackerman**, Associate Professor of Education, was appointed recently to the NH State Social Studies Frameworks Implementation Committee. Dr. Ackerman was a member of the NH Frameworks Revision Committee in 2004 and represented the group as a responder at several of the State Public Hearings in 2005-2006. In her capacity as a member of the NH Council on Social Studies (NHCSS) and Chair of the Legislative Liaison Committee, Dr. Ackerman testified before the joint NH Senate-General Court on the NHCSS's position on Education Adequacy. She also served as a dialogue facilitator for Community Dialogues, a program sponsored by the City of Nashua's Ethnic Awareness Committee and the U.S. Department of

Justice. The series of five meetings brought together diverse community groups. The program focused mainly on immigrant groups, city government, and city services.



In March 2007, **Dr. Virginia Ryan**, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, served on a panel, "Ethics of Abortion and Contraception: A Jewish and Christian Perspective." The program was sponsored by Merrimack College's Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian Relations.



Professor of Art **Sr. Theresa Couture, p.m.** '64/'72G was one of 12 participants at the Lilly Fellows Network Exchange Program focusing on Catholic Studies, held at Loyola College in Baltimore in April 2007. Lilly Network Exchange Programs allow schools to showcase distinctive projects, institutes, or curricula that highlight the Christian or church-related characteristics of their schools. They provide for an extended visitation by faculty and leaders from other Network colleges so that they may learn from the host institution's experience and perspectives.

Associate Professor of Business **Eric Drouart** attended the 14th Annual Conference of the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences in February and presented "Insourcing of U.S. Jobs: Are We Gaining Jobs Relative to Jobs Lost to Outsourcing." In May 2007, he presented "An Introduction to Japanese Business Culture" at the Real World Education Conference at Southern New Hampshire University. ■