

## THE YVONNE GREENLEAF SCHOLARSHIP

**Patrice O'Donnell, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology,  
Member of the Women's Studies Committee, Rivier College**

As a long time member of the Rivier College community, Yvonne Greenleaf played many important roles: student, faculty member, avid fan of campus athletes, mentor, department chair, and faculty leader.

Professor Greenleaf first came to Rivier College in 1960 as an undergraduate student of humble means, from a rural background. She was the first her in her family to attain a college education when she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1964. She went on to receive a Master of Arts degree in mathematics from the University of New Hampshire in 1968, and a Master of Science degree in computer science from Rivier College in 1989. At the time of her death in August, 2000 she was a doctoral candidate at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell.

After working as a public school teacher, Professor Greenleaf returned to the college full-time as a faculty member in 1979. She received tenure in 1991 and was promoted to the rank of full professor in 1998. She taught at the college for a total of 22 years and chaired the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science from 1993 to 1999. During her career at Rivier College, she served on numerous committees and was a long time member of the Women's Studies Committee. Most notably, she was elected by her colleagues to two terms as the chair of the Faculty Forum.

Professor Greenleaf was respected and admired by faculty and students alike for her devotion to the Rivier College community. She labored tirelessly and without fanfare in service to the best interests of the community as a whole. She has been fondly remembered for her accessibility to students, the guidance she provided to young men and women, and the special attention she provided to international students. She was, in particular, dedicated to encouraging young women to enter the field of mathematics as demonstrated by her work with Project Role Model and the establishment of Sonia Kovalevsky Day, a Rivier program which brought young women from area high schools on campus to explore careers in the field.

Given her devotion and contributions to Rivier College, Professor Greenleaf's two sons and her colleagues on the Women's Studies Committee have established this scholarship to honor her as an example of the best Rivier College has to offer.

\* \* \*

The Yvonne Greenleaf scholarship is administered by the Women's Studies Committee at Rivier College. In order to apply, a student will need to fill out the application and write a brief essay.

The deadline for submitting applications is Monday, December 1, 2008. The application could be sent to Dr. P. O'Donnell's office in Memorial Hall 302B by mail or e-mail: [podonnell@rivier.edu](mailto:podonnell@rivier.edu).