

ACADEMIC CONVOCATION

(September 4, 2012)

Convocation introduces first-year students to academic life at Rivier University



Academic Convocation

*Transforming Hearts and Minds
to Serve the World*

September 4, 2012

Welcome First-Year Students



Academic Convocation Program

10 a.m.

Students and faculty line up

Processional

Prélude du Te Deum by Marc-Antoine Charpentier
Richard Given, New England Musical Artists
Michael Joseph, Adjunct Professor of Music

Musical Prelude

Michael McAdam, Adjunct Professor of Music

10:30 a.m.

Welcoming Remarks

Sister Therese Larochelle, pm, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Opening Prayer

Mary Jane Silvia, Director of Campus Ministry

Prayer response:

Lead us and guide us, Spirit of wisdom and truth

Musical Interlude

Veni Creator Spiritus by Louis Lambert
Lindsay Rinaldi, Adjunct Professor of Music

Introduction of Rivier University President

*Dr. Bradford Stull, Dean of Undergraduate Studies
and Interdisciplinary Programs*



About the Keynote Speaker

Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM
President

A member of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Immaculata, PA, Sister Paula brings to Rivier more than twenty-five years of experience in higher education administration. Formerly Executive Vice President of Administration at Seton Hall University, she has served in senior roles at Anna Maria College, Mount St. Mary

University and Immaculata University. She holds an Ed.D. in Higher Education from the University of Pennsylvania, an M.A.L.S. in Catholic Studies from Georgetown University, and an M.B.A. from Villanova University.

Sister Paula's professional service has included extensive experience in the development and implementation of comprehensive master plans and programs which support teaching and learning excellence. As an educator and leader, she has a deep appreciation of the history, vision, and mission of Rivier University to "transform hearts and minds to serve the world." This mission resonates deeply with the mission of Catholic higher education, the value of the liberal arts, and the community of service engendered by programs of professional study. Sister Paula's research interests include issues of organizational governance and leadership in higher education.

Keynote Speaker

Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, President of Rivier University

Presentation of Rivier University Pins for Class of 2016

Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, President
Sarah Fronckwicz, President of Student Government Association

Welcome from Student Government Association

Sarah Fronckwicz, President of Student Government Association

Closing Prayer

Dr. Joel Stake, Associate Professor of Biology

Rivier University Song

Rev. Regina Shearer, Associate Vice President for Student Success

Recessional

11:45 a.m.

Lunch
Dion Center Dining Hall

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

First Year Seminar Sessions
Benoit Education Center

Academic Convocation

Academic Convocation celebrates renewal. Rivier University is renewed by its entering first year students, who bring with them the energy of their generation. First year students are renewed as they transition from high school to university, moving from one stage of their lives to another.

In preparation for Convocation, the class of 2016 and their first year seminar professors read *Grace Notes*, a collection of reflections in which the author, Brian Doyle, considers the "spiritual essence of everyday life." "Everyday life" includes everything from youth basketball, to monasteries, to marriage, to walking down his street. This range is, of course, the province of university study: all the world is included.



Rivier University Song

Rivier, to you we proudly sing,

Our hearts with love brim o'er,

Our voices rise in praise;

For you we'll make the echoes ring

Faithful evermore

In memory of these days.

Within your halls we've found a noble, lasting truth,

An ideal great and strong;

For this receive our thanks and accept from our youth

This pledge, our loyal song.

For higher things, then daily let us pray and strive,

No matter what life's frays—

Still through it all, Rivier, we'll ever keep alive

Your lessons of God's ways.



Mission Statement

Founded in 1933 by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, Rivier University is a Catholic institution dedicated to transforming hearts and minds to serve the world.

As a co-educational institution of higher learning, the University is dedicated to the education of the undergraduate and graduate students in both the liberal arts and professional courses of study.

Committed to the faith heritage, intellectual tradition, and social teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, the University educates the whole person in the context of an academic community that cultivates critical thought, sound judgment, and respect for all people. This community supports the intellectual growth of all its members while offering them opportunities for social, cultural, moral, and spiritual development. The challenge of the University community is to search for truth through the dialogue between faith and reason.

Rivier creates an environment in which integrated learning is the shared responsibility of students, faculty, staff, and administrators, and is pursued in all the curricular and co-curricular programs of the University. To participate in the life of Rivier University is to strive for academic excellence, to take responsibility for ourselves and for others, and to engage in dialogue about basic human issues facing society, especially the plight of the poor and powerless. The University extends to all of its members and also to the greater community an invitation to join in intellectual inquiry and dialogue.