

RIVIER UNIVERSITY RECEIVES GRANT FROM DAVIS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR NEW CORE CURRICULUM

(Rivier News, October 24, 2013)

Rivier University has been awarded a \$105,000 grant from the Davis Educational Foundation for its newly developed undergraduate core curriculum, which was implemented this fall.

Rivier's Core Curriculum: *Journeys of Transformation* invites students to explore how to think in new ways by taking on a new perspective of self, the world, and others. The core curriculum is guided by the questions: Who am I and What Is the World? Who is My Neighbor? How Shall We Live? What, then, Shall We Do? These questions are intended to initiate a journey of self-awareness and inquiry, perspective taking and creativity, and service. The core offers opportunities for service learning, servant leadership, civic engagement, and community service supporting the intellectual growth of students and enhancing student leadership.

"Rivier University is honored to receive the generous financial support of the Davis Educational Foundation for our new core curriculum, *Journeys of Transformation*," said **Dr. Brad Stull**, Dean of Undergraduate Studies and Interdisciplinary Programs. "Approved with overwhelming support of the faculty, *Journeys of Transformation* will provide our students and faculty with a comprehensive four-year core experience and allow them to participate fully and robustly in the University's ongoing story. The Davis Educational Foundation saw the importance of the University's mission and the core's place in it, and generously supported our efforts."

Stull added that the grant will be used for curriculum development, including stipends for faculty and staff to develop courses for the first two years and attend conferences; assessment planning; and technology needs, such as the development of an educational technology center.

The University's new academic core is aligned with the American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) LEAP Goals, a national initiative that champions the importance of a twenty-first century liberal education.

Davis Educational Foundation trustees performed a site visit at Rivier in early June to discuss the core curriculum revision process and the University's proposal. In late June, the University was informed of the grant award.

The Davis Educational Foundation, established by Stanton and Elisabeth Davis after Mr. Davis's retirement as chairman of Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc., provides support for colleges and universities throughout New England. ■

URL: <http://www.rivier.edu/news/default.aspx?id=22549>