## **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**

## JULIA AGRESTO is a writer for *Rivier Today*.

**SUSAN E. BARBARO**, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Biology at Rivier University. She obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, and Master of Science and Doctorate from the University of Waterloo, Ontario. Susan's desire to understand and protect the environment has always played an important role in determining her research interests. In particular, she is interested in the microbial ecology of fresh water and soil ecosystems. Susan has studied and conducted research related to microbial physiology, biological control, and bioremediation. She joined the faculty at Rivier College in 2003.

**ABIGAIL BERGEN** is a Doctoral student at Rivier University. Her research interests include special education and the development of self-efficacy in students. She has been teaching special education in various environments for over 12 years and is a member of the advisory board for the Doctoral Conference in Leadership and Learning at Rivier University. Abigail resides in southern New Hampshire with her husband and two children.

**MICHAEL M. BICHREST** is a member of the 2010 cohort in the Doctorate of Education in Leadership and Learning program at Rivier University. He is currently assisting with research at the National Center for Veterans' Studies at the University of Utah and completing specialization courses in Veterans' Services at Empire State College.

**ELIZABETH BONIN** holds a Masters of Arts in Teaching in English. She is currently a doctoral student in Rivier University's Ed.D. Leadership and Learning program. As the Director of Student Success at Rivier University, she oversees a multi-faceted, comprehensive program that strives to ensure academic, social, cultural, and spiritual development for first-year students.

**Sr. THERESA COUTURE** is an artist in digital and combined media. She received her M.F.A. from Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island; D.Min. in Theology and the Arts from Graduate Theological Foundation, South Bend, Indiana (partially coordinated with studies at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California and the Andover Newton Theological School, Newton, MA); and M.A. and B.A. in English from Rivier College. Theresa Couture combines an active studio life with a full professorship in art at Rivier University, a Catholic liberal arts institution sponsored by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary of which she is a member. She has served as Co-chair of the Department of Art and Music and Director of the Design Program. She is currently Director of the Rivier College Art Gallery. Her work on paper has been exhibited throughout the United States. Many of her pieces are in private and university collections as well as in the collections of the Arts, Washington, D.C. Her work has appeared in Art New England, Christianity and the Arts, Insight, Face of the Deep, and publications of Christians in the Visual Arts (CIVA).

**TIMOTHY DOHERTY**, Ph.D., is Professor and Coordinator of the Department of English and Communications at Rivier University, where he also directs the campus writing program and the Center for Faculty Excellence. He received his Ph.D. in English from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 1996. His scholarship focuses on the integration of dialogue and deliberation in college writing instruction. His most recent publication is entitled "Lessons from the Believing Game," which appeared in the Winter-2010 issue of *The Journal for the Assembly on Expanded Perspectives on Learning*.

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**PAUL A. LIZOTTE**, Ph.D., is Professor of English at Rivier University. He teaches courses in literature and writing with a focus on 10th Century British Romanticism.

**LARRY J. MANESS** is the author of four novels--*Nantucket Revenge, A Once Perfect Place, Strangler,* and his latest, *The Voice of God* published in the fall of 2013 by Mainly Murder Press. Duke University selected *A Once Perfect Place* for inclusion in its Literature for Social Change collection. *Strangler* was a Detective Book of the Month Club alternative. Maness is also the author of two books of plays--*3 Plays* introduced by Pulitzer prizewinner, William Inge, and *This House Has Quiet Rooms*. His plays have been produced in New York, Boston and theatres around the country and in Europe. After 22 years teaching in the English/Communications Department at Rivier, Maness retired in 2011 to focus on his writing. He is currently working on a new play set in Rome, Italy where he spends winters with his wife, Marianne.

**MIA L. MANNING-OSBORN** is a former elementary teacher and current adjunct instructor in Elementary Education at Keene State College. She holds an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Hamilton College and a Masters degree in Education from Wheelock College. Mia is currently a doctoral student at Rivier University, and is planning a dissertation study on first generation college students and their college self-efficacy. She resides in Peterborough, NH with her family.

**TED D. MONCHAMP** is a software developer at Creative Logistics Solutions. He graduated from Rivier University in 2011 with a B.S. in Computer Science, and is currently pursuing a Master's in Computer Science there as well. In the little free time he has left over, Ted mentors students interested in programming with Londonderry High School's FIRST Robotics team, and enjoys studying chemistry and foreign languages.

**JENNIFER MURDOCK-SMITH** earned her certification as a school guidance counselor as well as her Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Counseling at Rivier University. She is currently the Director of Student Services at Polaris Charter School in Manchester, N.H. Polaris is a public elementary school and its student body represents a wide variety of learners. The School was founded to give academically advanced students a place to work at their own individualized level with a move on when ready approach. Ms. Murdock-Smith is committed to working toward meeting children's social, emotional and educational needs.

**Dr. BENJAMIN PHILIP** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology at Rivier University. Dr. Philip holds a B.A. in Zoology from Miami University, M.Sc. in Biology from Eastern Michigan University and a Ph. D. in Zoology from Miami University. Dr. Philip's research interests fit into the broad scope of physiological responses of organisms to environmental stress. He is particularly intrigued by how organisms contend with the challenges of winter, especially the rare capacity of some frogs, turtles and insects to tolerate freezing. As a teacher and mentor, he strives to enable every student to think like a scientist.

**Dr. VLADIMIR V. RIABOV**, Professor of Computer Science and Department Coordinator at Rivier University, teaches Introduction to Computing, Algorithms, Networking Technologies, Computer Security, Software

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**DAN SPEIDEL** is the Library Director of The Rivier University Regina Library.

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**KAI WANG '14G** is a senior medical device and system product design engineer in Philips Healthcare Corp. He is a major contributor to several prime medical projects on software systems design, development, test and implementation in Philips Healthcare Corp. He completed Master Degree in Computer Science at Rivier University, Nashua, NH, in January 2014. He also holds B.S. Degree from Harbin University of Science and Technology and M.S. Degree from TianJin University.

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