

A MAN WITH A MISSION

Michelle Marrone
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Knowledge, discovery, and sparking creative innovation in others drives this professor to maintain “a holy curiosity.”

Faculty PROFILE

Vladimir Riabov, Ph.D., M.S.C.I.S., M.S.P.

*Professor and Department Coordinator of Mathematics & Computer Science
Director of Computer Science Programs*



*“Never lose a holy curiosity”
- Albert Einstein*

Dr. Vladimir Riabov is a man with a mission—to continuously search for knowledge, enjoy its discovery, and share it with colleagues, students, and the global community. A true scientist and academic, his goal to expand the base of human knowledge, and to teach and encourage others to do the same, benefits all humankind.

Piloting the future

Dr. Riabov’s career began in Russia where he was a Senior Research Scientist for the Central Aerohydrodynamics Institute (TsAGI), one of the largest scientific research centers in the world and Russia’s counterpart to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). His work focused on hypersonic aerothermodynamics, rarefied gas dynamics, and the creation of many numerical algorithms. Also, he participated in the research and development of the Russian Space Shuttle “Buran.”

Dr. Riabov rose to the position of Deputy Director at the Institute, serving on the Research Council and Technical Council, before immigrating to the United States. Prior to joining Rivier University, he taught at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and the University of New Hampshire.

Teaching at Rivier fulfills Dr. Riabov’s life mission and fuels his intellectual curiosity. “I cherish a rapport with my students, and consider them the continuation of my mission and also contributors to the progress of the global community,” says Dr. Riabov.

A holy curiosity

Albert Einstein said, “The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity.” This maxim was embraced by many other scholars, philosophers, and

writers. Dr. Riabov brings this spirit of inquiry to his classroom and challenges his students to exceed their own expectations of achievement.

“I cherish two features in my students: a “holy curiosity” and motivation to accept the challenges and go the ‘extra mile’ in their studies,” says Dr. Riabov. “I am proud of my former students, most notably the 26 who have published their research summary reports in various academic journals and presented at international and national conferences. A few of them have continued studies in Ph.D. programs at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, University of Massachusetts at Lowell, University of New Hampshire, and other universities.”

Advancing the mission

Dr. Riabov’s mission fully supports the University’s mission to ‘transform hearts and minds to serve the world.’

“I encourage my students to develop true values in their hearts and minds—pride, self-esteem, empathy, professionalism, dedication to lifelong learning, and the passion to serve the global community—and to apply these values in their studies, learning, daily lives, and careers,” says Dr. Riabov. “Wide knowledge and the acquired skills that are mounted on the foundation of these values will help the students not only survive in this turbulent world, but contribute to the prosperity of civilization.”

Since January 2014, the Computer Science master’s degree programs have experienced exponential growth with more than 200 students currently enrolled. This growth has been fueled largely by an influx of international students. Dr. Riabov, as Director of Computer Science Programs, has worked collaboratively with nearly every campus office to support this rapid growth and provide an excellent academic experience for all students.

Inquiring minds

Dr. Riabov and his students’ contributions are most evident in their research endeavors and scholarly publications and presentations. Dr. Riabov published his first article as a graduate student at Moscow Institute of Physics & Technology, and he has authored more than 130 articles and papers during his career.

Dr. Riabov takes great pleasure in working with students who share his passion for research and scholarly presentation. “I am a very lucky person, who has had a chance to teach and supervise many talented graduate students,” he shares.

With his mentorship, several of his students have completed research projects that have been successfully implemented at local businesses, engaged Mars researchers at NASA, and contributed to other scientists’ research through academic publishing and presentations.

“Students who accept the challenges of innovations achieve the summits of academic excellence by delivering presentations at conferences, publishing articles in professional journals, and promoting their findings among peers, colleagues, and the global community,” says Dr. Riabov.

An intellectual treasure

In addition to teaching and advising at the University, Dr. Riabov has served as the editor-in-chief of the *Rivier Academic Journal* for the last 10 years. Publishing 18 editions during that time, the Journal provides a chronological history of events in Rivier’s academic community including faculty and student research articles, fiction, travel stories, poetry, art, photography, and speeches.

“These materials are read, cited, and used by millions of people around the globe,” says Dr. Riabov. The Journals’ contents not only contribute scientific and literary works to the wealth of public history, but also inspire and advance ongoing innovation and discovery.

Greatest achievements

Dr. Riabov credits academic freedom and his colleagues' support at all levels for advancing his work at the University. "In March 2011, I was nominated by Rivier colleagues for the New Hampshire Excellence in Education Award. This is a great honor to me," says Dr. Riabov.

However, he finds his greatest joy in supporting others' successes. He adds, "Mostly I am proud of the great achievements of my students and colleagues that have been occasionally inspired by my pedagogy and scholarly contributions through collaborative research, publications, and presentations."

Dr. Riabov encourages continuous inquiry and innovation to meet the cultural, academic, and professional needs of our students, and the challenges of the future. For continued success, he encourages all to maintain *a holy curiosity*. ■



Bio: Dr. Vladimir Riabov

- Ph.D., Mathematics & Physics, Moscow Institute of Physics & Technology, Moscow, Russia
- M.S., Computer Information Systems, Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH, USA
- M.S., Physics, Moscow Institute of Physics & Technology, Moscow, Russia

Specialties & Research Interests

- Networking Technologies
- Numerical Methods & Algorithms
- Rarefied Gas Dynamics
- Software Engineering
- System Simulation & Modeling
- Aeronautics & Astronautics

Classes Taught

- Networking Technologies
- Computer Security
- Software Engineering
- Software Quality Assurance
- Object-Oriented Analysis & Design
- Numerical Methods

Publications

Dr. Riabov has published more than 130 articles and conference papers. His work can be found in scientific journals and professional association publications including the *Journal of Engineering Physics*, *Journal of Thermophysics and Heat Transfer*, *Journal of Spacecraft and Rockets*, the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and International Council of Aeronautical Sciences conference and exhibit papers.

Academic Philosophy

"Three passions guide my life: the ecstasy of discovery, the search for knowledge, and the sharing of it with my students and global community. The search for knowledge helps me stay at the cutting edge of science and technology. Both discovery and knowledge lead me to my teaching mission of sharing knowledge and expertise, which is reflected in the endeavors of my students and everyone who accepts the challenges of these passions."

engineer, explorer, educator