

## EDITOR'S NOTE

### "The Mesmerizing Solar Eclipse"

Dear Readers,



Composite of 13 images during the August 21, 2017 Solar Eclipse as seen in Colorado, USA. Photograph (©) by Olga B. K. Barron.

The Fall-2017 edition of the *InSight: Rivier Academic Journal* is dedicated to Rivier students, faculty, staff, and alumni, who have participated actively in building tomorrow's workforce, expanding partnerships with companies, and launching The Center for Behavioral Health Professions and Workforce Development. The main theme of this edition is introduced by Dr. Susan E. Barbaro and Dr. Joseph W. Spadano in their article "2017 Biology Field Camp: The Niagara Escarpment Trip", which introduces a new pedagogical approach in motivating freshmen and juniors to explore the wonders of the Earth and supporting them in acquiring skills for their careers. The search for new pedagogical methods and the stories of success and failure have been described in the article, "Applying 'Flipped Classroom' Methodology in Computer Science Courses" written by Prof. John J. Cupak and Dr. Vladimir V. Riabov. This theme has been continued in the article "The Role of Linguistics, Psychology, and Physiology in Various Computing Applications" (by Dr. Vladimir V. Riabov) and in faculty profiles "Creating Brighter Futures: Karyn Heavner, Ph.D., Assistant Professor and Director of Public Health Programs", "The Business of Learning: Innocentus Alhamis, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Business and Program Director for Business Administration", and "Coach Craig Kolek Makes NCAA History".

This edition offers two research overviews: "Kindred: A Story of Appropriation, Bonding, and Power Relations" (by Arifa Ghani Rahman) and "Veteran Health Information Exchange White Paper" (by Michael M. Bichrest, Ed.D. Candidate). The other authors share with us their life stories (e.g., the powerful verse "Where I Come From" written by Carrie Frederiksen, a student in B.S. Nursing Program) and notes from business trips ("Discovering India", by Seth Osher).

One theme is notable in this *Journal* edition: the reflection on the unique event in astronomy and society described in the photo essay "The Great American Solar Eclipse of 2017 That I Wasn't Prepared For!" (Olga B. K. Barron). In her letter to the Editor Olga wrote: "...My camera was aimed right at the sun. It was dark, and cold and it felt really eerie, but I was overwhelmed with emotion. I wondered what everyone else was thinking who was looking up at the sky in that moment, trying to take in this rare phenomenon. In this age of polarizing politics and a world so divided, it didn't matter what anyone believed that day. So many of us stopped what we would normally do on a Monday, and stared at the sun. **It was larger than us, it was larger than life and for a moment, it brought us closer together.** Scientists say that the next full solar eclipse visible from the continental United States is not until April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. I plan to watch it and photograph it in the path of totality, hopefully on a more peaceful planet..."

In the Art & Creative Work section, readers can find information about art exhibits ("Prayers from the Earth: The Sculpture of Samuel Fuller" and "Stories to Tell: Selected Works of Contemporary Art") at the Rivier Art Gallery, and Rivier Theater's play "The (Somewhat) True Tale of Robin Hood". The *Chronicle* section covers Faculty, Student and Alumni Profiles; information about articles, which have been recently published by faculty and staff in other publications; 2017 Commencement events, and various distinction awards.

This 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the *InSight: Rivier Academic Journal* could not have been published without the active support of many members of the Rivier community to whom I am most grateful. In particular I wish to thank the contributors for their submissions, the Editorial Board members for their guidelines, and all reviewers for their rigorous reviews and recommendations. Special thanks to the Office of Marketing & Communications (Patricia Garrity and Michelle Marrone) — for providing information updates; the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs — for production support, and faculty from the departments of Biology, Business, Education, English, History, Nursing, Mathematics & Computer Science, and Psychology — for encouraging their students and faculty in publishing research articles, project papers, and essays.

We look forward to your contributions to the *InSight: Rivier Academic Journal* in the future.

Sincerely yours,

*Vladimir Riabov*

Vladimir V. Riabov, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief