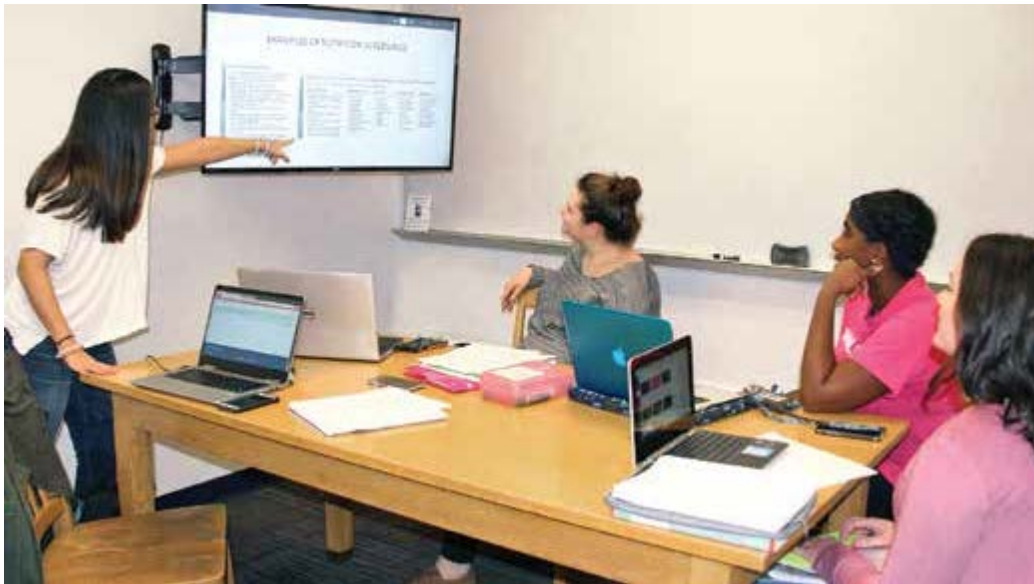


VISION 2020: Advancing Rivier's strategic priorities

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Students study in a collaborative learning space at Regina Library

Rivier's Vision 2020, announced earlier this year, identifies three strategic priorities that are key to the University's success: innovation in the sciences, information technology and learning, and philanthropy and partnerships.

"Initiatives in each of these areas have advanced over the past few months," says **Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM**, Rivier's President. "Our progress is notable, and I'd like to acknowledge the effort put forth by faculty, staff and our professional partners to build forward momentum."

Innovation in the Sciences

In preparing students for the 21st-century workforce, the University acknowledges that science has a role in all professions.

> *Science Center* – The University is committed to enhancing its existing science facilities, which will entail the design and construction of a new science center. The building will serve as a focal point for engaged learning and faculty-student research.

> *Nursing and Social Sciences* – The Center for Behavioral Health Professions and Workforce Development opened in early November 2017. The Center supports innovations in nursing and the social sciences and expansion of the labor force.

> *STEM Grants* – To advance STEM disciplines education, the University secured a \$650,000 National Science Foundation grant to support students in the life sciences and a \$1.1 million Health Resources and Services Administration grant to fund the education of psychiatric mental health nurses.

Information Technology and Learning

This strategic priority encompasses refurbishment and renewal of the University's learning spaces. The plan calls for collaborative learning areas, and incremental and scalable technologies integrated into classrooms, lecture spaces, and program delivery.

> *Online Learning* – The University has launched an online M.S. in Computer Information Systems program, designed to build students' business expertise and technical competence. The first student cohort will begin classes in spring 2018.

> *Technology and Network Upgrades* – During the summer and early fall 2017, the University upgraded its Virtual Desktop Infrastructure and the WiFi network in the residence halls improving network responsiveness. Group study spaces with computer display capabilities and large and small video conference rooms are being installed in Regina Library and the Learning Commons.

Philanthropy and Partnerships

The University Board of Trustees has embraced philanthropy and partnerships as a strategic priority, knowing that the next phase of Rivier's development will be driven by donor investors—dedicated alumni and friends who recognize the tremendous impact they can make in the lives of students.

> *Research and Support* – Several months ago, the University engaged Sage Advancement Group to conduct foundational research and support enhancements to the University's advancement operations. An initial survey of the alumni community, with the aim to see Rivier through alumni's "eyes," has been completed.

> *Strategic Partnerships* – New and existing partnerships continue to enrich the Rivier experience and advance the University's strategic priorities. Alumni, friends, and University partners connect Rivier to the people in our community and support the University's mission and growth. ■