

INNOVATION IN THE SCIENCES

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Bethany Haight '22 and Blake Romano '21 conduct an experiment in current lab facilities.

A hunger and a drive to always know more led sophomore transfer student Blake Romano to Rivier where he enrolled as a biology major this fall. “When I see something, I question why,” he shares. Originally enrolled at another institution, his love of science made him rethink his plans and select a University committed to innovation in the sciences. He sees a future in microbiology and immunology where he can apply his research skills to advance scientific inquiry and discovery.

For freshman Bethany Haight, a third-generation Rivier student from Nashua, a desire to help others contributed to her decision to major in biotechnology. Even though her college career is just beginning, she has already set her entrepreneurial sights on creating a new style of treatment to shorten the detoxification process for those in drug and alcohol rehabilitation. “I want to help those suffering in our community by increasing survival rates and lowering recovery costs,” says Bethany, who recognizes that the opioid crisis touches every one of us in some way.

For both Blake and Bethany, a 10-day summer field study along the Niagara Escarpment through the ARGYLES program solidified their interest in science and in the hands-on experience that Rivier provides.

They are inspired by the University’s commitment to biology and biotechnology through the construction of the Science Center planned to open in the fall of 2020. Blake eagerly anticipates the opening of the new facility and the opportunities it will provide for “more students, more professors, and more community connection in the sciences.” Bethany agrees, highlighting that the new facility will provide more lab space for high quality collaboration between students and professors. They both look

forward to working in state-of-the-art laboratories designed to prepare students for the 21st-century workforce. ■



Architectural Rendering of Science Center

Rivier's *Vision 2020* will bring to life a Science Center truly worthy of the teaching and learning that takes place within its walls

The facility will serve as a beacon for the city of Nashua and beyond, providing a community resource for the pursuit of scientific discovery. Inclusive of microbiology, biotechnology, anatomy and physiology, genetics, organic and inorganic chemistry, physics, and environmental science, the facility will serve the needs of students pursuing degrees in the sciences and healthcare, as well as the general education of all Rivier students.

Learn more at www.rivier.edu/vision2020