

NEW SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT HONORS STUDENT LEADERS

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Supporting the University's *Vision 2020* goal of expanding access to a Rivier education, the Student Government Association (SGA) created and funded the SGA Leadership Scholarship. The endowed scholarship recognizes that Rivier students possess outstanding leadership qualities that prepare them for personal and professional success.

Qualifying criteria includes having served as a club or organization officer, sports team captain, peer mentor, resident assistant, orientation leader, SGA officer, or in another leadership role.

SGA President **Hope Cataldo '20** says "The members of the Executive Board felt that those students who go above and beyond to better themselves and the campus community through leadership should be recognized for their time, commitment, and service. This scholarship honors them and shows gratitude for their continuous support of this wonderful community of learners and achievers."

Dr. Paula Randazza, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, cites the volume of research highlighting the critical impact student engagement has on the overall undergraduate experience. "Knowing this, SGA leaders want to support and encourage students who engage in campus life while managing the multiple responsibilities of academics, work, family, sports, clubs, and social obligations. This scholarship recognizes the dedicated students who contribute to the campus community through these important leadership roles," says Dr. Randazza.

In addition, the SGA recently created a student emergency fund to support students who encounter unavoidable emergency expenses from accidents, illness, housing/food insecurity, and other emergent needs. "Unexpected challenges can easily derail academic focus and this emergency fund will aid a student in a time of crisis by covering a variety of critical expenses and supporting the student as they continue their educational journey," says Dr. Randazza. ■