

HONORING VISIONARY LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATED SERVICE

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The Honorable Joseph Laplante, *Trustee Emeritus and Founders Medal Recipient*



The Honorable Joseph Laplante was recognized for his many years of sustained leadership and service to the University and its students as a member of the Board of Trustees. He was honored with Trustee Emeritus status and presented the Rivier University Founders Medal at a reception in September 2022. The award recognizes his vision and distinguished contributions to advancing Rivier's mission and service to the Greater Nashua community.

"Judge Laplante is a visionary and strategic leader for the University and state of New Hampshire," says Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, President. "He has contributed to building a strong, diverse Board of Trustees, always leads by example, and maintains a strong focus on student achievement."

A United States District Judge for New Hampshire and Chief Judge from 2011-2018, Judge Laplante joined the Rivier Board of Trustees in 2009 and has diligently worked to support the University's vision and mission during his 12-year tenure. Appointed Vice Chair of the Board and Chair of the Trusteeship Committee in 2013, he has extended the Board's reach throughout the region and has been instrumental in increasing Board diversity as he led the recruitment of new members from healthcare, banking, technology, manufacturing, and several other industries. He also served on the Mission and Academic Affairs Committees.

In addition to his service to the University, his community impact extends throughout Greater Nashua and New Hampshire where he has served on the boards of the NH Charitable Foundation (Nashua Region) and Nashua PAL, and currently serves on the board of Southern NH Health Care and the St. Paul's School ASP Board of Overseers. He has received numerous awards for legal, professional, and civic endeavors.

Created in 2012, the inaugural Founders Medal was presented to Sister Adrienne Beauregard, pm at the celebration of her 100th birthday. A contemporary of Sister Madeleine of Jesus, she was recognized for her founding vision, leadership, and transformative heart and mind in service to the world. Judge Laplante is the first to receive the medal following the inaugural award a decade ago. ■