

RIVIER ACCREDITATION— A TESTAMENT TO EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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The University has completed its decennial accreditation review by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE; formerly the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, NEASC).

“Rivier has been successfully accredited since 1948, assuring our students receive a quality education,” shared **Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, Rivier’s President**. “NECHE accreditation is recognized by other colleges and employers. Students who attend NECHE-accredited institutions can be confident that they will receive a transformative educational experience that prepares them for a successful future.”

The University-wide, 18-month process focused on assessment and projections addressing the Commission’s nine *Standards for Accreditation* including areas of mission, academic programs, student life and institutional resources with a focus on continual improvement. The NECHE team visited the campus in the fall and were impressed that the Rivier mission of transforming hearts and minds to serve the world is widely embraced and informs decision-making at every level. Based on the Commission’s assessment Rivier’s accreditation has been continued with a typical fifth year report due in fall 2027.

“Accreditation review is a rigorous and challenging process that requires a comprehensive examination of all aspects of an institution’s operations, from academic programs to administrative systems,” says **Dr. Brian Ernsting, Vice President for Academic Affairs**. “Receiving reaccreditation is a tremendous achievement that reflects the dedication and hard work of faculty, staff, and administrators in upholding the highest standards of excellence in higher education.”

In their final report, the NECHE evaluation team noted, “We congratulate Rivier University on its 90th anniversary celebration, and we share the institution’s confidence that, with the continued support of an engaged Board combined with capable leadership and well-qualified, dedicated faculty and staff, the University is well-positioned to continue achieving its mission and addressing its challenges well into the future.” ■