

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE HOSTS FORUM ON CRISIS PLANNING

Jennifer J. Liskow'02G*
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The newly formed Rivier College President's Circle held its inaugural forum, 21st Century Crisis Planning: New Problems, New Solutions, in October 2008. More than 115 people attended the program, which included a panel presentation, a case study, and a keynote address.



PHOTO BY JODIE ANDRUSKEVICH

“The President’s Circle will provide opportunities for business, government, and community leaders to network and discuss topics that are relevant to their industries,” said President William Farrell. Events have been planned to open dialog and promote the exchange of ideas, he said.

Christopher Pope, State of N.H. Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, delivered the keynote address. He discussed the State’s emergency operations plan, hazard mitigation, homeland security, and the state’s emergency operations center. He also discussed collaborations between the public and private sectors. “All of us are leaders, we all have the responsibility to be prepared,” Pope said. He advised the audience to go home and discuss emergency plans with their families, then to take time to make sure their businesses are ready to respond to an emergency. “You have to be able to recover.”

Prior to Pope’s address, there was a panel presentation moderated by Fred Kocher, president of the New Hampshire High Technology Council and host of “N.H. Business” on WMUR –TV. Fran Dupuis, EMS & Emergency Operations Manager at St. Joseph Hospital; Ilana Freedman, CEO of Gerard Group

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International; Lt. Col. Tom Haydon of the N.H. National guard; Jack McStravok, Vice President of Human Resources at Kollsman, Inc. and Mike Mansfield '97, chief of the Andover, Mass. Fire Department, served as panelists. Douglas Dickson, Vice Rector for Students at St. Paul's School, presented a case study on the 2006 floods at St. Paul's.

Executive Director of Development and Marketing Karen Cooper said that those who attended the forum gained valuable insight on developing successful strategies for responding to emergencies. "Director Pope and the members of our panel offered a variety of perspectives on crisis planning; we hope that people left inspired to think of ways their businesses and organizations can prepare to respond to an emergency." ■

* **JENNIFER LISKOW** works as a Public Relations and Web Writer in the Office of Marketing and Communications and teaches in Rivier's Professional Communications program. Jenn earned her bachelor's in English and communications from Notre Dame College in Manchester, N.H. in 1996. In 2002, she completed her master's in writing and literature at Rivier. She began writing in junior high school; since then, she has had poems, short stories, features, and essays published. In her free time, Jenn enjoys practicing yoga, ten-pin bowling, and listening to live music with her husband, Tim.