

RIVIER NEWS

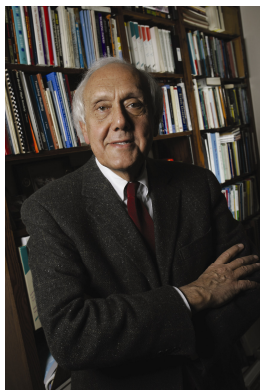
(From: *Rivier Today*, Spring 2008)



Sharron Rowlett '99/'01G, Director of Multicultural Affairs, was one of three women honored with the African American Women in Higher Education's Legends of Higher Education award last year. Rowlett received the award in November 2007 at a luncheon program hosted by the University of Massachusetts—Dartmouth. **Dey Barriga**, Assistant to the Vice President for Student Development, nominated Rowlett for the award. In her nomination, Dey wrote, "Sharron has been a leader and activist in her job and her community. She dedicates her time to improving lives, especially for people of various ethnic, racial, and cultural heritages."



Associate Professor of English and Communication **Dr. Liz Wright** presented a paper titled "Woolson Signifyin(g) Reconstruction" at the American Literature Association Conference in Boston in May 2007. In June, she read and acted as table leader for Educational Testing Services English Language Advanced Placement Reading in Daytona Beach, Fla. She also attended the Association for Gravestone Studies Conference at Rivier and participated in a workshop. "Rhetorics of Place," at the Rhetoric Society of America Institute held in Troy, New York at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. In July, she testified before the Federal Communications Commissioners in Portland, Maine regarding the media and its relationship to the community. She also participated in the Lilly Fellows Program Summer 2007 Seminar Series "Biblical Studies Across the Curriculum: Discerning Scripture for the Disciplines" held at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan in July. In September, she attended the 50th meeting of the Linguistic Circle of Manitoba and North Dakota, which focused on the issue of memory. The meeting was held at North Dakota State University in Fargo. She chaired the panel "Violent Events and Aftermaths" and presented a paper, "Remembering the Body: The Body as Sacred and Profane" as part of a panel titled "Images and Death." She co-authored the paper with R. Michael Jackson from University of New Hampshire and Mary Fitzgerald, a former Rivier graduate student.

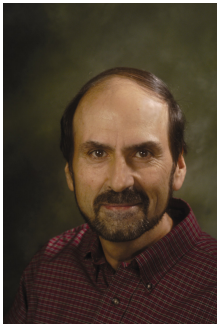


Dr. Charles L. Mitsakos, Professor and Divisional Chair of Education, presented "Perspectives on Teacher Education in Social Studies" at the annual Conference of Social Science Education Consortium. The conference was held in Vancouver, British Columbia.



Br. Paul R. Demers, s.c., D. Min., College Chaplain and Professor of Religious Studies, served as chaplain and translator at a special session in Lyon, France over the summer 2007. The program, “Walking in the footsteps of our Founder,” was a 15 day program to familiarize administrators and key personnel of Brothers of the Sacred Heart schools with the charism of the order. Over 20 participants from New England, New York, New Orleans, the Philippines, Zambia and Zimbabwe attended. Br. Paul met up in Paris for the final stage of the Tour de France with Associate Professor of Business **Eric Drouart** and his wife **Antoinette**, alumna and former teacher of French at Rivier.

In July 2007, Associate Professor of Business **Eric Drouart** visited Blessed Anne-Marie Rivier country in France with a group of 20 lay associates from the provinces of Manchester and Methuen for an international meeting of lay associates. Lay associates met in the Mother House in Bourg-Saint-Andeol and visited Montpezat, the birthplace of Anne-Marie Rivier, and Thueyts, where she started the order. The theme of the meeting was “The Marie Rivier Family: An Expression of the Church.” It was also a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the beatification of Blessed Anne-Marie Rivier. Close to 200 lay associates from 16 different countries were present and had plenary sessions on the increasing role and responsibilities of the laity in the Catholic Church, and in the order of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, as well as special reflections on the charisma and spirituality of Blessed Anne-Marie Rivier.



Dr. Herman Tavani, Professor of Philosophy, presented a paper at the Seventh International Conference on Computer Ethics—Philosophical Enquiry (CEPE 2007) at the University of San Diego in July. His paper, titled “Floridi’s Ontological Theory of Informational Privacy,” will be published in a forthcoming issue of *Ethics and Information Technology*. Dr. Tavani was recently elected President of the International Society for Ethics and Information Technology (INSEIT). His four-year term began on January 1, 2008. Between 2001 and 2006, Tavani served as INSEIT’s Co-Executive Director and as Editor of the *INSEIT Newsletter*. In December, he presented at the Yale Law School in New Haven, Conn. His invited talk on ethical aspects of the *Verizon v. RIAA* case (co-presented with Frances Grodzinsky of Sacred Heart University) was sponsored by Yale’s Information Society Project-Speaker Series. Tavani guest-edited a special issue of *Computers and Society* (Vol. 37, No. 2, November 2007). The special issue of the journal includes selected papers from the Seventh International Conference on Computer Ethics-Philosophical Enquiry, which was held at the University of San Diego in July 2007.

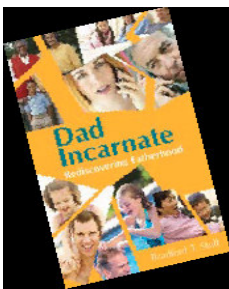


Dr. Virginia Ryan, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, presented “Is it better to be right or good: Ethics at the bedside” at the St. Joseph Hospital Nursing Grand Rounds in November.



Academic Dean **Dr. Al DeCiccio** led a session, “Inclusive Leadership: Models for Integrating Disparate Views and Building Shared Support for Change,” at the September-2007 Deans Think Tank, sponsored by the New England Resource Center for Higher Education (NERCHE). Dean DeCiccio spoke about inclusive leadership that fosters investment in and support for change in a diverse environment. He pointed out that inclusive leaders are often simultaneously building consensus and leading change in ways that involve integrating disparate views and positions. Though this is not always easy, Dean DeCiccio argued, building a shared agenda is central to the future success of college and university campuses.

Assistant Professor of Art **Sheli Petersen**’s Billy the Patriot Mouse illustrations were accepted for the 2007 New Hampshire Creative Club Juried Exhibition, displayed during the summer in Manchester, N.H. Billy is designed as a guide for grade school children to learn about the American Revolution in the ongoing *Sowing the Seeds of Liberty* exhibition at the National History Museum. In the fall, Petersen had work included in *The Children’s Hour*, a group exhibition at Chimera Gallery in Nashua.



Dr. Bradford Stull, Divisional Chair of Liberal Arts, has a new book published. *Dad Incarnate: Rediscovering Fatherhood* offers an exploration of competing ideas of fatherhood. In post-modern culture, explains Stull, ideas of father are caught somewhere between two competing extremes: deadbeat dads who abandon their offspring or Mr. Mom toting his infant in a baby carrier. In analyzing these stereotypes in various novels, cartoons, and films, Stull advocates the development of a much healthier understanding of fathers.

Kathleen Patenaude, Instructor in the Division of Nursing, has passed the NLN Nurse Educators exam and is certified as a nurse educator (CNE). She is the first graduate of Rivier’s master of science in nursing education program to sit for this exam. She earned her master’s in 2003. According to the NLN (2006), “Certification recognizes academic nursing education as a specialty area of practice and an advanced practice role within the nursing profession, communication to students, peers, and the academic and health communities that the highest standards of excellence are being met.”



Dr. Kevin Wayne (*left*), Associate Professor of Business Administration, has been selected to the Board of Directors for SafeStitch Medical, Inc. Headquartered in Miami, Fla. with a research and development center in Omaha, Neb., SafeStitch develops novel medical devices for minimally invasive procedures.

Adjunct Professor of Business **Len Deneault** has been named Executive Director of MassExcellence, a nonprofit organization that administers the MassExcellence Award for Performance Excellence.



The NH Department of Education invited **Dr. Fiona McDonnell**, Associate Professor of Education, to be one of two Institute of Higher Education representatives for New Hampshire at a meeting for science, technology, engineering and mathematics faculty involved with the Mathematics and Science Partnerships programs. The conference was co-sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the U.S. Department of Education. Held in Washington, D.C. in December 2007, the meeting brought together higher education faculty who are working to improve K-12 mathematics and science learning throughout the nation.

In October 2007, Associate Professor of Education **Dr. Andrew Gersten** attended the Association of Counselor Education and Supervision workshop in Columbus, Ohio. He participated in a discussion of national accreditation standards for mental health counseling programs and various workshops related to his ongoing research on counselor intentionality.

Assistant Professor of Nursing **Dr. Karen Frenn** successfully defended her dissertation at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell in October 2007, earning her Ed.D. Her dissertation is titled "Analysis of Registered Nurse Characteristics, Attitudes and Experiences Regarding Self-Evaluation."



Dr. Ann Ackerman, Associate Professor of Education, led a workshop, "Teaching the Vietnam War: An Unclear Conflict" at the NEA Statewide Instructional Conference in Bow, N.H. in October 2007. Dr. Ackerman facilitated activities and discussions among middle and high school teachers using primary source materials as well as some of her research and travels. She also presented a workshop, "Teaching the New Hampshire Primary and Other Elections," at the New Hampshire Council for Social Studies annual conference held in Manchester, N.H. in October. Fifty-five middle and high school teachers as well as representatives of educational support groups attended the workshop where Dr. Ackerman provided a

brief history of the Primary, ideas and sample lessons, and copies of election ballots from prior elections. She also set up artifact tables with albums of prior campaign literature, letters, photos, and campaign buttons and memorabilia. Each participant also received a packet with campaign literature from 14 of the current 2008 candidates to use in their classrooms. Dr. Ackerman is a former Nashua alderman and incorporated some of her first-hand experiences in political elections.



In October 2007, Associate Professor of History **Dr. Martin Menke** attended the Northeastern Popular Culture Association's annual conference, where he was elected to the organization's executive board. He will serve a two-year term. He also served on a panel at the New England Historical Association's fall meeting held in Worcester, Mass. in October. He gave a presentation to graduate students entering the job market, offering them insight into the hiring institution's perspective, especially the interests and priorities of search committees. Dr. Menke is a member of the Association's Executive Committee.

Director of Campus Ministry **Mary Ellen McGuire** had an article on socially responsible investing, "Catholic Social Teaching Meets Wall Street," published in *America* magazine (November 2007).



In June 2007, **Dr. Vladimir Riabov**, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, presented a paper, "Numerical Simulation of Shock Interference in Hypersonic Rarefied Flows About a Cylinder" at the Fourth M.I.T. Conference on Computational Fluid and Solid Mechanics held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass. He also served as chairperson of one of the conference sessions, "Fluid-Surface Interaction-III." He participated in the 10th National Center for Telecommunications Technologies Summer Workshop, sponsored by the National Science Foundation. He gave a presentation and tutorial workshop, "OPNET Labs and Student Research Projects in Online IT Classes." He also attended the 26th

International Symposium on Shock Waves in Göttingen, Germany, where he presented two papers: "Numerical Simulation of Interactions between Dissociating Gases and Catalytic Materials in Shock Tubes" and "Rotational-Translational Relaxation Effects in Diatomic-Gas Flows." Dr. Riabov has had two chapters published in *The Handbook of Computer Networks* (Wiley & Sons Publishing Company). "SMTP: Simple Mail Transfer Protocol" appears in Volume 2 and "Storage Area Networks Fundamentals" is included in Volume 3.



In August 2007, Professor of Education **Dr. Susan Gately** traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico with a Witness for Peace delegation. The delegation explored the effects of United States policies on the indigenous people of southern Mexico. Dr. Gately met many advocates for the human rights of indigenous people, including members from Flora Conte, who discussed last year's social uprising. The Mexican and Oaxaca state governments repressed the uprising, resulting in police assaults, arrests and 23 confirmed deaths. Dr. Gately will hold a discussion with the students in the junior year seminars in the spring 2008 on this topic. In October, Dr. Gately presented "Beyond Packaged Reading Programs: Working with Children with Severe Disabili-

ties" to groups of teachers from the Metrowest Educational Collaborative. In November, she co-presented a session at the New Hampshire School Administrators Association 2007 Best Practices Conference with Rivier alumna **Jan Mounsey '06** M.Ed. Their presentation was titled "Using Universal Design for Learning to Enhance Curriculum in General Education." Later in November, Dr. Gately presented "Using Technology to Enhance Planning in Universal Design for Learning" at the Christa McAuliffe Technology Conference. **Susan E. Gately, Ph.D.**, had also an article published in the January 2008 issue of *Teaching Exceptional Children*. "Facilitating Reading Comprehension for Children on the Autism Spectrum" explores a variety of methods based on effective reading practice that have been designed and tailored to work with children with autism spectrum disorders. She has also coauthored an article with Christie Hammer, Ph.D., titled, "A Textual Deconstruction of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer: Utilitarian, Mechanistic, and Static Constructions of Disability in Society and in Schools," which was published in the January 2008 issue of *Essays in Philosophy*.

Dr. Karen Spohn, Assistant Professor of Economics and Finance, was recently elected to the Academy of Finance (AOF) Advisory Board. The AOF is a nationally acclaimed curriculum model sponsored by the National Academy Foundation. The program prepares high school students for careers in financial

services. Rivier College is one of three colleges in the state that has articulation agreements with New Hampshire's Academy of Finance.

Vice President for Student Development **Lynn Jansky** has accepted an invitation to serve on the 2008 editorial board for *Recruitment & Retention in Higher Education*.

Vi Dagdigian, Writing and Resource Center writing consultant, attended the New England Association of Teachers of English (NEATE) annual fall conference, held in Nashua. The conference, titled "Teaching Reading and Writing in New England," featured luncheon guest speaker Amy Belding Brown, author of *Mr. Emerson's Wife*, who discussed the process she followed in writing this book, as well as the many difficulties she faced while meeting with the necessary sources to gather the information. NEATE conference workshops included "What is It, Anyway? The Mystery of College-Level Writing" and other college composition sessions.



Professor of Education **Dr. Diane Connell** presented a workshop in Chile in January 2008 based on her book, *Brain-based Strategies to Reach Every Learner*. Fifty teachers attended the two-day workshop in Santiago; the teachers worked with students from kindergarten through college level. After the workshop, Dr. Connell spent two days consulting with college faculty and administrators at Universidad Andres Bello in Valparaiso.



Executive Director of Academic Administration **Regina Shearer** received a 2007 Woman of Achievement award from GIRLS, Inc. of New Hampshire at their Annual Women of Achievement Awards Brunch. The brunch was held at the Derryfield Inn. in Manchester, N.H. in November 2007.



Sally Booth, Director of the Social Work program, was moderator of the Annual Fall Symposium on Identity Development in Adopted Adolescents at the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute in October 2007.



Br. Paul R. Demers, S.C, D.Min. (*left*), chaplain and Associate Professor of Religious Studies, was selected to take part in a pilgrimage/ retreat to Guatemala and El Salvador in January 2008. Participants walked in the footsteps of modern day martyrs in these countries. They visited the tomb of Archbishop Romeo and celebrated Mass where he was assassinated as he offered Mass. They also visited the site in El Salvador where four American churchwomen were raped and murdered 25 years ago and the University of Central America where six Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter were killed. In Guatemala, the participants visited beautiful Santiago Atitlan on a lake at the foot of an active volcano where Fr. Stan Rother

from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma gave his life for his Mayan Indian parishioners. Br. Paul expressed his thoughts on the experience, “Now I better understand why Christians have traditionally had such devotion to celebrating the Eucharist over the tombs of the martyrs. I also realized in a new way what is meant by the words, *The blood of the martyrs is the seed of Christians.*” ■