

EDITOR'S NOTE

Impressions

Dear Readers,



"Mayflower", Plymouth, MA.

The Spring'2010 edition of the *InSight: Rivier Academic Journal* is dedicated to Rivier students, faculty, alumni, and global community. It offers a variety of pedagogical themes on innovation in education offered by new Rivier's Doctoral Program; resolving retention issues (*Jennifer Liskow*); challenges of running a Computer Security course (*Dr. Vladimir V. Riabov* and *Dr. Bryan Higgs*); research studies of water quality in the Nissitissit River (*Dr. Susan Barbaro*), cognitive-behavioral therapy of the disorder of child and adolescent depression (*Nancy Lucci*), and the cosmological value of human life (*Dr. John Caiazza*); poetical voices; photographic statements, including "Discovering San Miguel de Allende, Mexico" by *Robert Shaffer* and "Daybreak" by *Dr. Joseph R. Allard*; and campus news. The authors (alumni, students, faculty, and staff members) share with us their memoirs ("Where She Is ..." by *Pamela Graesser*) and reflections on society; on charity and cultural values.

Three themes are notable in this edition of the *InSight: Rivier Academic Journal*: the article, "The Cuban Missile Crisis in Context" (*Joseph T. Thompson '10*), which includes new and interesting research on the tragic events in the modern history that would result in catastrophic nuclear disaster; outstanding photo images of Mexican city community in San Miguel de Allende (*Robert Shaffer*, a resident of Arlington, Mass.) that has become a mecca for Mexican artists and expats from the United States and Canada; and poetry by faculty (*Aimee Burke Valeras* and *Dr. Elizabethada E. Wright*), gifted students (*Jeff Wyman* and *Ruby Robbins*) and alumna (*Kassie Rubico*), and poetical translations of Russian and French romances by *Yelena Dudochkin*, a lyric soprano from Opera Boston.

In the *Creative Work* section, readers can discover fiction story, "Technical Breakdown" by *Kassie Rubico '08G* and photo images of Japanese stone gardens (*Dr. Vladimir V. Riabov*). In the *Art* section, readers can find a graphic-design statement of *Patricia Granger '10* and brief reviews of recent art exhibits ("Michelle Arnold Paine: L'Attesa e L'Ascolto", "Words & Beyond: The Books Re-defined", and "Keeping Rhythm") at the Rivier Art Gallery (*Sr. Theresa Couture*).

The *Chronicle* section covers various remarkable events in Rivier campus life, such as Rivier Scholars Convocation, Biology Lecture Series, Senior Honors Thesis Presentations, Professional Seminar in Computer Science, and others. Here the readers can find information about Kappa Gamma Pi Catholic Honor Society, Rivier-St. Joseph Nursing Honor Society, Beta Beta Beta Biology Honors Society, President's Awards for Community Service, Faculty Profiles, and information about articles, which have been recently published by faculty, students, and staff in other publications.

This tenth edition of the *InSight: Rivier Academic Journal* could not have been published without the active support of many members of the college community to whom I am most grateful. In particular I wish to thank the contributors (faculty, staff, alumni, students, and community members) for their submissions, the editorial board members for their guidelines, and the reviewers for their rigorous reviews and recommendations. Special thanks to the Office of Marketing & Communications (*Jennifer Liskow* and *Brad Wuorinen*) — for providing information updates and outstanding technical support; the Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs — for production support, and faculty from the departments of English & Communications, Art, Education, Biology, Nursing, Social Work Studies, History, Philosophy, and Mathematics & Computer Science — for encouraging their students and faculty in publishing research articles, project papers, art, poems, and memoirs.

We look forward to your contributions to the *InSight: Rivier Academic Journal* in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Vladimir Riabov

Vladimir V. Riabov, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief