

## **RIVIER COLLEGE LAUNCHES TWO NEW ONLINE DEGREE PROGRAMS**

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**James Lockwood**

**Staff Writer & Editor, Office of Marketing & Communications, Rivier College**

**I**n order to meet the needs of the fast-growing healthcare and technology industries and equip today's professionals with the tools to more effectively serve their respective employers and advance their careers, Rivier College is adding two new online degree programs to its curriculum.

Beginning in January 2012, Rivier College will offer **M.B.A.'s in Healthcare Administration** and **Information Technology Management**. Both programs are 36 credits, involving students in both core and concentration courses.

"Our target market for these programs is working professionals who benefit tremendously from an online delivery," said Director of Online Education **Monika Bissell**. "By offering this format, we can allow them the flexibility that their work and home lives demand and provide them a quality education that will enable them to be assets in their respective industries."

The Healthcare Administration program explores topics such as policy development, compliance, and information management.

"The program is designed for those who want to advance in the profession, those who seek to transition from administrative to management roles within their organizations," Bissell said.

Interim Division of Business Chairperson **Rick Johnson** said that the program will meet the needs of a fast-growing industry.

"With the healthcare industry rapidly expanding, there is an increased demand for individuals who can competently direct and implement healthcare policies that will affect the lives of so many people," Johnson said.

Similar to Healthcare Administration, Rivier's new Information Technology Management program is being started in order to address industrial demands.

"Technology is a burgeoning industry," Bissell said. "Along with an increased demand for technological services, there is a growing need for people to manage those functions."

Johnson added that the program addresses issues of information assurance, protecting confidentiality, and avoiding information breaches, facets of the industry in which today's professionals must be highly skilled.

The program will include eight core M.B.A. courses and four specialty courses delving into topics such as security, E-business, and systems improvement.

Rivier now offers four completely online degree programs, including a B.A. in psychology and a B.S. in Nursing, RN-BS. A number of classes in various academic departments are also offered in a hybrid format, combining online and classroom instruction. ■

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