

## THE RIVIER UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE HOSTED BUSINESS LEADERS ON CAMPUS FOR TWO SUCCESSFUL EVENTS

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### The N.H. Gubernatorial Debate



Republican candidate Ovide Lamontagne and Democratic candidate Maggie Hassan debate at Rivier University in September 2012.

In September 2012, the President's Circle hosted a New Hampshire Gubernatorial Debate. **Christopher Williams**, president and CEO of the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce, moderated the spirited debate between Democratic candidate **Maggie Hassan** and Republican candidate **Ovide Lamontagne**.

The debate was styled after the 90-minute Lincoln-Douglas debates, focusing on the values and morality behind the policies discussed. Rivier University student **Maria Dominguez** explained this format to the audience at the start of the debate.

### Canada-U.S. Business Symposium

In collaboration with the New Hampshire International Trade Resource Center and the Consulate General of Canada, Rivier presented a Canada-U.S. Business Symposium on the Rivier campus entitled "Doing Business with Friends."

In the opening keynote, **Patrick G. Binns**, Consul General of Canada to New England, explained the importance of the trade relationship between the United States and Canada, saying, "In terms of overall trade, sometimes people don't realize how big it is between Canada and the U.S. We are the largest trading partner by far. There is a big focus on trade and the economic relationship, and we need to reduce the impediments to trade." The symposium included a panel discussion between local businesses who have been involved in trade between the two countries, their experiences and best practices.

The President's Circle hosted a private reception for a select group of business leaders and friends of the University prior to the debate. ■

### About the President's Circle

The Rivier University President's Circle brings together business leaders to discuss issues that impact the businesses and citizens of New Hampshire and Massachusetts, and strives to strengthen connections with the business community by serving as a valuable resource for large and small businesses and organizations. Comprised of presidents, CEOs, and business leaders, the President's Circle hosts events during the University's fall and spring semesters.