

RIVIER UNIVERSITY HOSTED THE THIRD ANNUAL DOCTORAL CONFERENCE ON LEADERSHIP & LEARNING

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Rivier University hosted its annual conference in education focusing on scholarship at the doctoral level on Saturday, March 7, 2015.

Now in its third year, the Doctoral Conference on Leadership and Learning (DCLL) is an annual conference that offers doctoral students an opportunity to present their current, innovative and scholarly work in education and related fields.

“The sharing and dissemination of peer-reviewed research is a hallmark of doctoral scholarship” said **Dr. Naomi Schoenfeld**, associate professor of education and DCLL faculty advisor. “As a peer-reviewed conference, DCLL lets our doctoral students not only present their research, but are instrumental in organizing an event that brings together students and scholars throughout the region.”

In addition to fostering academic discourse within and between area doctoral programs, the conference provided a venue for regional doctoral students to strengthen their skills in essential areas such as research, publication, ethics and collegiality. The presentation roster was filled early this year, and all members of the educational research community were encouraged and welcomed to participate, especially current and prospective doctoral students.

The keynote speaker was **Barbara Johnson Stemler**. Ms. Stemler is the Manager of Access Programs at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City, where she is responsible for ensuring the Museum is a welcoming and accessible learning environment for children and adults with disabilities. She regularly presents and promotes accessibility-related best practices at regional and national conferences to fellow museum professionals. Prior to working at the Intrepid Museum, Stemler launched access programs and worked for diverse organizations that include City Access New York, Inc., the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, the Museum of Modern Art, the American Folk Art Museum, New-York Historical Society and the Rubin Museum of Art.

Stemler earned her B.A. in Art History from Hobart & William Smith Colleges and holds teacher certifications in general and special education. She is currently pursuing an M.S. in Education at Bank Street College of Education. ■

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