

NATIONAL AND STATE PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERS HOST ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS AT RIVIER UNIVERSITY

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Photo: Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, Rivier's President, welcomes Thomas Quade, President of the American Public Health Association, to Rivier University.

Rivier's Public Health program faculty and students welcomed **Thomas Quade**, President of the American Public Health Association; **Katie Robert**, President of the New Hampshire Public Health Association; and several other representatives from Greater Nashua public health organizations to campus on Monday, November 14, 2016. Quade and Robert engaged students, faculty and staff with presentations and discussions on contemporary topics and careers in public health.

Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, Rivier's President thanked all who attended and commented, "Our partners play an important role in preparing Rivier students for their first professional positions. Students benefit from exposure to many different career paths in the public health field, and they are able to make valuable contacts for internships and potential employment after graduation."

In addition to Quade and Robert, speakers included **Betsy Houde**, Executive Director of The Youth Council; **Adelaide Murray**, Project Associate at the Community Health Institute; and **Katelyn Gagnon**, Volunteer Coordinator at the International Institute of New England.

The roundtable discussions allowed public health students to meet with each of the speakers and ask questions in a series of informal discussions. Assistance to multiple populations, including refugees and youth, Peace Corps and AmeriCorps opportunities, and student engagement in the American and New Hampshire Public Health Associations were a few of the discussion topics.

"Being able to meet and speak with public health practitioners and leaders in the field is a tremendous opportunity for our students," says **Dr. Karyn Heavner**, Assistant Professor of Public Health. "Proactive career planning and preparation are priorities at Rivier, and these experiences provide students with a real-world view of the public health profession."

Rivier University launched its [Employment Promise Program](#) in early 2016, identifying that career success is a combination of opportunity and self-investment. The Program promises invested graduates that they will secure full-time positions in their fields within nine months of graduation. If they do not, the University will provide additional financial or education support in the form of federal loan repayment or tuition-free graduate study.

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Rivier University offers both a [bachelor's degree](#) and a [master's degree in Public Health](#). The Master of Public Health program is delivered online, providing maximum flexibility for working adults seeking a graduate degree in this growing field. ■

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