

## **RIVIER WELCOMES NEW DEAN OF ARTS AND SCIENCES: DR. LESLEY DENARDIS**

*(From Rivier's News, May 9, 2024)*



*“Dr. Lesley DeNardis has accepted my invitation to serve as Dean of Arts and Sciences.”*

*- Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, President of Rivier University  
May 9, 2024*

**Dr. Lesley DeNardis** has served the last two years as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty at Holy Apostles College and Seminary focusing on academic program review, assessment, new program development and accreditation. From 2006 to 2021, Dr. DeNardis served at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut, leaving Sacred Heart as a tenured Associate Professor of Political Science in the Department of Government, Politics, and Global Studies. In addition to teaching, her accomplishments include the creation of a new Master in Public Administration program (MPA), leadership as the Executive Director of the Institute for Public Policy and Sacred Heart University Poll, and Director of the Global Studies program, as well as service on numerous university-wide committees.

Dr. DeNardis earned her B.A. from Connecticut College where she double majored in Political Science and Hispanic Studies, an M.A. in International Affairs from the Elliot School of International Affairs at The George Washington University, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Connecticut. Her research interests include American state and local government, Public Policy, Education Policy, and Latin American Politics. In addition to her position at Sacred Heart University, she served as a visiting instructor of political science at the University of Monterrey in Mexico where she taught comparative politics, political theory, public administration, and public policy.

Dr. DeNardis is committed to liberal education, the value of the core curriculum, and the opportunities present within the Division of Arts and Sciences to expand its profile and curriculum offerings. Dr. DeNardis will begin her new role on July 1, 2024. ■