



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Rivier University professors recognized for educational excellence and service to the community**

Two Rivier University professors have received prestigious awards recognizing their leadership in the classroom, on campus, and in the community. Dr. Elizabeth Harwood and Tracy Hardy, MS, APRN-BC, were honored by the New Hampshire College and University Council and Campus Compact for NH, respectively, for their efforts to build awareness of substance abuse and its prevention, and to improve public health education and practices in New Hampshire.



[Dr. Elizabeth Harwood](#), Assistant Professor of Psychology and Psychology Department Coordinator, received the 2016 New Hampshire Excellence in Higher Education Award at a June 11 ceremony sponsored by the New Hampshire College and University Council (NHCUC). This award is given annually to one professor at the college or university level, recognizing her or his professional accomplishments and excellence in inspiring students to learn in the classroom.

In addition to teaching at the University, Dr. Harwood is an active researcher and noted speaker. Much of her research relates to best strategies for active classroom engagement, depression, and relationship conflict and resolution.

Recently, she has lent her expertise to the dialogue on substance abuse in New Hampshire by speaking on the science of addiction at public forums in Milford and Nashua and at "The Mayor's Fall Summit: Our Community Working towards Substance Abuse Solutions." She has also become a member of the Greater Nashua Substance Misuse Prevention Leadership Team. As part of the Leadership Team, she helps coordinate regional efforts to raise awareness and guide substance abuse prevention.

"Spreading awareness in the community and participating on the Leadership Team are my ways of giving back—of contributing to the community as we work to resolve this crisis," says Dr. Harwood.



[Nursing Instructor Tracy Hardy](#), MS, APRN-BC, was honored with the 2016 Presidents' Good Steward Award by Campus Compact for NH in recognition of her service contributions to state communities and her efforts to advance public service on the Rivier University campus. Hardy serves as the community health screenings coordinator for Rivier's graduate nursing programs. She has led health screenings at local schools and nonprofit organizations and coordinated Rivier faculty and students to staff grant-funded clinics at St. Joseph's Hospital.

For information on Rivier University's Psychology and Nursing programs—or any of the more than 60 associate, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral programs offered—visit [www.rivier.edu/programs](http://www.rivier.edu/programs).

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Notes to editors:

Founded in 1933 by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, Rivier University is a Catholic institution recognized for distinctive academic programs, offering many of the region's leading programs at the undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, and doctoral levels. With Nashua as our home and the world as our classroom, the Rivier experience ensures that students develop leadership skills as well as an awareness and appreciation of diverse cultures in New England and around the world.