

CONNECTING COLLEGE GRADUATES AND THE COMMUNITY

Karen Cooper '03G*
(From: *Rivier Today*, Fall 2007)



PHOTO BY KATHY MACKAY

Thomas Horgan, President and CEO of the New Hampshire College and University Council delivered the Commencement address and received an honorary Doctor of Laws.

Horgan, an advocate for the retention of New Hampshire's young professionals, urged graduates to consider staying in the state of New Hampshire as they begin their professional careers. "We need your knowledge, your values, your commitment, your skills," he said. Horgan shared statistics about college graduates—they enjoy better health and greater earnings, they are more likely to vote and volunteer, and they are less likely to require social services. "You add to the economic vitality of our society," he said.

The NHCUC is one of the nation's premier higher education consortiums and the only multi-purpose public/private statewide consortium of colleges and universities in the country. As President, Horgan has been instrumental in advancing the cause of higher education in the Granite State. He has helped increase funding for students and schools alike and has fostered collaborations that have helped strengthen higher education throughout the state. ■

* **KAREN COOPER** is the Executive Director of Development and Marketing in Rivier College. As a Senior Staff member, she directs the Office of Development & Alumni Relations and the Office of Marketing & Communications. Karen has been with the College for seven years. Cooper is a graduate of Merrimack College in North Andover, Massachusetts, with a degree in English and Psychology. She earned her M.B.A. with a marketing concentration from Rivier in 2003. In addition to her responsibilities at Rivier, she serves on the steering committee for IUGO, an organization for young professionals in the Greater Nashua area, and was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Academy of Notre Dame in Tyngsboro, Massachusetts.