

## RIVIER UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT-2018 HIGHLIGHTS INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND SERVICE

(From *Rivier Today*, Spring 2018)



Rivier University celebrated its 83rd Commencement on May 12, 2018 awarding 689 doctoral, post-master's, master's, bachelor's, and associate degrees to graduates. The celebration took a forward focus, highlighting the importance of innovation, technology, and service to the 21st-century workforce and to making a difference in the world.

Rivier University honored two exceptional New Hampshire business and social entrepreneurs, **Jeremy and Elizabeth Hitchcock**, with honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees. Best known for their contributions to entrepreneurialism and technological innovation, the Hitchcocks' business development efforts play a key role in advancing the state's economy. Deeply committed to community and workforce development, they support the growth of startup companies and invest in causes devoted to education, technology, public service, and the arts and culture.

Mr. Hitchcock's Commencement address focused on STEM innovations as tools to make a difference in graduates' lives and in the lives of others. "Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) is a basic skill of the 21st century," said Jeremy Hitchcock. "But STEM is a how — a tool which creates a new art of the possible ... We can use these tools to feed the world, to heal the world, to teach the world." He encouraged graduates to set goals with specific intention for themselves and for their future contributions to the world.

**RIVIER UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT-2018 HIGHLIGHTS  
INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND SERVICE**



Undergraduate class speaker Haley Goodspeed reflected on graduates' preparation for civic engagement, and Scott Congdon, representing students in graduate programs, urged classmates to find fulfillment in service to others. "I challenge you to make a significant difference in the life of another; in doing so, you will make a most significant difference in your own."





RIVIER UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT-2018 HIGHLIGHTS  
INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND SERVICE





RIVIER UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT-2018 HIGHLIGHTS  
INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND SERVICE



A Rivier tradition, **Rev. Regina Shearer** closed the ceremony with a song specially written for the Class of 2018. Her adaptation of the song H.O.L.Y. by Florida Georgia Line brought cheers from Rivier University graduates and guests throughout the stadium. ■

To view the full story, photos, and Rev. Shearer's performance, visit [www.rivier.edu/commencement2018](http://www.rivier.edu/commencement2018).

