

LEADERS IN FAITH, EDUCATION, AND HEALTHCARE

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In recognition of their efforts to advance the common good through faith-in-action, education, and advocacy, the University conferred honorary doctoral degrees on four national and local leaders.



Rev. Dennis H. Holtschneider, CM, Ed.D.

The Reverend Dennis H. Holtschneider is President of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities representing 230 institutions serving nearly 700,000 students. Deeply engaged in the work of higher education, his past positions include academic leadership at St. John's University, Executive Vice President at Niagara University, and thirteen years as President of DePaul University, Chicago, the country's largest Catholic University, serving 23,000 students. A prominent writer and speaker, he has been widely recognized for his work on social issues, most notably on immigration reform, homelessness, and enhancing diversity and equity.



Margaret C. Gilmour

Margaret C. Gilmour has combined the skills of a nurse with healthcare advocacy and public service. As a nurse, she established the first hospice in southern New Hampshire and then led the organization as President and CEO of Home Health and Hospice Care in navigating the challenges of illness and end-of-life care. She serves on the Board of Directors for the National Hospice Foundation, Gateways Community Services, the Steering Committee for the Hillsborough South Drug Court, and as a member of Rivier's Nursing Advisory Council.



Lucille A. Jordan

Lucille A. Jordan was recognized for 25 years of innovative accomplishments as President of Nashua Community College. Under her leadership, the institution has become a hub of opportunity and a catalyst for economic growth. She has worked to expand educational access for underrepresented populations, created new programs to meet workforce needs, and built partnerships that support the region's fastest-growing industries. She has served as vice chairman of the National Campus Compact Board, and chair of the New England Community College Council and the Greater Nashua United Way Youth Venture Partnership.



Rabbi Jonathan Spira-Savett

Rabbi Jonathan Spira-Savett of Temple Beth Abraham is a faith leader devoted to education, social justice, and inclusivity. He has served as the spiritual leader of Nashua's Jewish community for fifteen years. Acknowledging the sacredness of every person, he works to foster greater understanding and cooperation among all faith communities as the past president of the Nashua Area Interfaith Council and now as Co-Coordinator of the Greater Nashua Faith Leader group. Rivier University has been enriched by more than 30 years of collaboration with Temple Beth Abraham in the Holocaust Remembrance Day commemoration.