



# COMMENCEMENT

*Class of 2017*

**GRADUATE STUDIES**

Providence, Rhode Island  
May 19, 2017





Dear Graduates of the Class of 2017,

Congratulations on your graduation from Johnson & Wales University, a significant accomplishment for you and all who have supported your efforts.

We are grateful for your contributions here. You have honored us with high achievement, a sense of purpose and humor, a determined spirit and a commitment to the Wildcat Way. Thank you.

Your time at JWU has been remarkable. I share the immense pride of our faculty and staff at what you have accomplished. You took full advantage of all that Johnson & Wales has to offer, experiencing your futures through the intellectual challenges of the classroom and the opportunity for discovery in the laboratory and beyond. You immersed yourselves in our community, sharing your time and skills with all of us.

Time and again, you exhibited those intangible tenets of a Johnson & Wales University experience that will make you a valuable and productive citizen and a leader in your chosen fields of endeavor. Now, make the most of the advantages you have gained to leave an imprint on our world that is lasting and impactful.

Remember, too, that you always have a home at JWU. As you add your voice to more than 105,000 individuals across the globe who proudly call JWU their alma mater, know that Johnson & Wales University is a place where you can reconnect with friends, nourish your interests and share your stories with our next generation of leaders.

The entire university community shares my pride in what you have done for JWU. Your contributions honor those who came before you and have done much to strengthen our university. You have our gratitude and our best wishes for what lies ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mim L. Runey". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Mim L. Runey, L.P.D.  
Providence Campus President  
Chief Operating Officer

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## **JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY: FUTURE LEADERS START HERE**

Founded in 1914, Johnson & Wales University is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution with more than 15,000 graduate, undergraduate and online students at its four campuses in Providence, Rhode Island; North Miami, Florida; Denver, Colorado; and Charlotte, North Carolina. An innovative educational leader, the university offers degree programs in arts and sciences, business, culinary arts, design and engineering, education, health and wellness, hospitality, nutrition and physician assistant studies. Its unique model integrates arts and sciences and industry-focused education with work experience and leadership opportunities, inspiring students to achieve professional success and lifelong personal and intellectual growth. The university's impact is global, with alumni from 166 countries pursuing careers worldwide. For more information, visit [jwu.edu](http://jwu.edu).



## **A GLOBAL UNIVERSITY**

At Johnson & Wales, we have always been committed to embracing diversity and an international perspective to help foster a richly inclusive educational experience for all of our students.

As such, the university has a long and proud history of welcoming students from across the globe. In fact, our more than 9,700 international alumni — representing 166 countries — are a testament to our unique approach to experiential education, and to our welcoming and supportive culture.

Today, we are honored to host more than 1,300 international students representing 78 countries who are such an integral part of our university community. Because of this, we rank as the 126th overall institution in the United States for international student enrollment.

We are equally committed to enriching and expanding opportunities for global learning, and to enhancing opportunities for global citizenship. Our students completed internships in 32 countries last year and took advantage of our 75 study abroad and exchange programs across six continents. Because of this, we rank as the 26th master's level institution in the United States for number of students who studied abroad.

To all of our international graduates celebrating with us today, we thank you for your significant contributions to the JWU experience, and we wish you much success in all your personal and professional endeavors.

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## *Order of Exercises*

### **PROCESSION**

Commencement Marshal — George S. Bottomley, D.V.M., PA-C, dean of the College of Health & Wellness

Commencement Marshal — Louis A. D'Abrosca, Ed.D., dean of the School of Business

Commencement Marshal — Cynthia L. Parker, Ed.D., dean of the College of Online Education

Commencement Marshal — Angela Renaud, Ed.D., dean of the John Hazen White College of Arts & Sciences

Candidates for Degrees

Faculty of the Schools and Colleges

Platform Party led by Mace Bearer — Lily S. Hsu, Ed.D., vice provost

### **WELCOME**

Mim L. Runey, LP.D., Providence Campus president and chief operating officer

### **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Kim M. Frenze

### **PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

Mim L. Runey

### **CLASS OF 2017 STUDENT ADDRESS**

Maria Helga Melgar '17 MBA

### **GREETINGS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Marie Bernardo-Sousa, LP.D., '92, senior vice president of administration

### **PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE CANDIDATE**

Thomas L. Dwyer, vice chancellor and provost

### **CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE**

Neil D. Steinberg, president and CEO, Rhode Island Foundation

Conferred by John J. Bowen '77, chancellor

### **COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

Neil D. Steinberg '17 Hon.

### **PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL AND GRADUATE DEGREE CANDIDATES**

Lily S. Hsu

### **CONFERRAL OF DOCTORAL AND GRADUATE DEGREES**

Mim L. Runey

### **RECESSIONAL**

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## Student Speaker

### MARIA HELGA MELGAR '17 MBA

Maria Helga Melgar is an immigrant earning her first American degree. After graduating in 1989 with dual bachelor's degrees in marketing management and communications from St. Scholastica's College in Manila, Philippines, she began her career as a public relations manager at the Manila Diamond Hotel and the Holiday Inn Manila. She later became head of marketing communications at Eastern Telecommunications Philippines Inc. and eventually assistant vice president for marketing of the MDI Group in Manila.

In 2002 she moved to Los Angeles to build her career in marketing and public relations in the U.S. She was publisher and editor-in-chief for WOW Telecom and a reservation sales agent for L'Ermitage Beverly Hill and Luxe Hotels Rodeo Drive and Bel-Air. She diversified her career in business development, account management and marketing consulting before enrolling at Johnson & Wales University for her MBA.

Melgar's guiding motto is to raise the bar in everything she does and empower others to do the same. She describes her work style as mentoring and inclusive. In her spare time, she is an advocate for health and wellness programs as well as animal compassion. She is also starting Rhode Island's first state chapter of the National Association of Asian-American Professionals.



## Alumni Speaker

### MARIE BERNARDO-SOUSA, L.P.D., '92

*Senior Vice President of Administration*

*Johnson & Wales University*

Marie Bernardo-Sousa has been invested in Johnson & Wales University since she arrived as a student in 1988 and joined the Registrar's Office. After five years she moved to Admissions and became director of special events. In 1999, she was promoted again to have oversight of admissions for the College of Business, The Hospitality College and the School of Technology. Prior to assuming her current position in 2014, she served as senior vice president of student services, vice president of student services, university registrar, and executive director of student academic & financial services.

In her current role, Bernardo-Sousa leads the areas of Student Academic & Financial Services, Student Affairs, Athletics, JWU Global, Auxiliary Services, Institutional Research and Enrollment Management. With a keen commitment to the student experience, she has a long history of fostering collaboration among departments and across campuses, including leading the student services teams through the conversion to a new student record management system and launch of the student communications portal, jwuLink. She is also responsible for managing staff through ongoing change initiatives to ensure students receive exceptional customer service.

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## Honorary Degree Recipient



### NEIL D. STEINBERG

*Doctor of Business Administration*

Neil D. Steinberg is president and chief executive officer of the Rhode Island Foundation. The organization works to address the needs of Rhode Island's diverse communities through philanthropy, grant making and community leadership. In 2016, with assets of more than \$800 million, the organization raised nearly \$60 million and distributed over \$45 million in grants.

Steinberg came to the Rhode Island Foundation in 2008 from Brown University, his alma mater, after serving as vice president of development. For three decades prior to that, he worked for FleetBoston Financial, where he rose to the position of chairman and chief executive officer of Fleet Bank Rhode Island.

Steinberg co-chaired Rhode Island's Race to the Top Steering Committee, and has served as a director of the Providence Foundation, the Rhode Island Public Expenditure Council, the Providence Performing Arts Center and the Urban League. He currently serves as a trustee of the Rhode Island Commodores and the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce, and is a member of the Healthy Rhode Island Steering Committee.

In 2017, he was named one of the 10 most influential leaders in the region's business community by *Providence Business News*. In 2016, *Providence Business News* named him one of the 30 Driving Forces of Rhode Island's business community. In 2015, he was bestowed with an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters by Bryant University. In 2013, he received the Rhode Island School Superintendent Association's Paul Crowley Award for his commitment to improving the quality of education for the children of Rhode Island. He was also awarded Leadership Rhode Island's David E. Sweet Leadership Award for his leadership and commitment to the community. In 2010, he was named one of Rhode Island's Most Influential People and one of the 25 Driving Forces in the Rhode Island business community during the past 25 years by *Rhode Island Monthly*.

Steinberg holds an A.B. degree in Applied Mathematics from Brown University, and was inducted into the Brown Hall of Fame in 2007. His hobbies include sports, spending time with family and reading spy novels.

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## *Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership*

### *Degree Recipients*

Mark Andrade  
Anthony Mark-Augustus Baird  
Jessica Blanco-Busam  
Michael L. Comella  
Kenneth A. Duva

Dariel Henry  
Nicole L'Etoile  
Paula J. Minchello  
Karoline N. Oliveira  
Laura Diao Qin

Sara Quagliaroli  
Erin Fleming Quinlan-Crandall  
Christine Rowader Stevens  
Margarida Baganha Vieira



## *Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies*

### *Degree Recipients*

Lauren Marie Almonte  
Matthew Ian Bartolotti  
Jillian Christine Bensko  
Rebecca Elizabeth Brierley  
Ashley Marie Clinger  
Alex Sousa Costa  
Katie A. Dansereau  
Phyllis Jamie Dolcy

Jessica Lynn Fall  
Nicholas Andrew Faucher  
Morgan Putnam Foster  
Rachel Lydia Goulart  
Melissa Hazard  
Elizabeth K. Heisler  
Katelyn Mae Higgins  
Benjamin James Javery

Matthew Ka Lok Kan  
Ida Kruse  
Anisha Mistry  
Gregory Keith Morgan  
Courtney Rachael Neves  
Katelyn Pires  
Amy Fenimore Snyder  
Sarah Beth Staples



## *Master of Arts in Teaching*

### *Degree Recipients*

#### **CULINARY ARTS EDUCATION**

Judith Natalie Bik  
Ryan Joseph Dzierzawski

Sophia Greenia  
Marie-Claire Catherine McKillip

Monet Y. Smith



## *Master of Education*

### *Degree Recipients*

#### **TEACHING & LEARNING**

Marisa Lee Vincent Jackson  
Michele Lee Kennett-Fick



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*Master of Business Administration*  
*Degree Recipients*

|                                   |                              |                                |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Kaylyn Rose Abbott*               | Samantha Megan Chung         | Jessica Lynn Goss*             |
| Bryan Acheampong*                 | Nil T. Clarno*               | Sylvia Gouw*                   |
| Kyle Dean Adams*                  | Stephanie M. Coleman*        | Abigail Lauren Grabow*         |
| Devon M. Allio*                   | Kyle William Corkery         | Keri J. Green*                 |
| Gina Magaly Angeloni              | Keith Cornell*               | Shanelle Ruth Elizabeth Groce* |
| Antonilia Aisha Anthony           | Marlene J. Cortez-Matias*    | Yu Gu*                         |
| Infant Grenvil Vivek Anthony Raj* | William Herbert Costa IV     | Aaron Christopher Guckian      |
| Estefania Arango Giraldo*         | Arthur Michael Crandall      | Hans Gulrajani                 |
| Hayley Rose Armstrong             | Cara Cutaia                  | Jiayun Guo                     |
| Natasha N. Arroyo*                | Han Thi Ngoc Dao*            | Siyuan Guo                     |
| Prakash Babu Aryal*               | Jason Robert Darnell*        | Kangna Gupta                   |
| Ledya Asfuroglu*                  | Jared P. DaRocha             | Zachary J. Haden*              |
| Dweep Ashar                       | Emilia L. DaSilva-Tavarez    | Kimberley Lynn Hall            |
| Aimee E. Bacon                    | Jeleeza Janay Davis          | Connor J. Harding              |
| Sidike Bahaguli                   | Victor DePina                | Angelica Sarah Hardy*          |
| Suzana Bajracharya                | Antonio Desimone             | Nathan A. Hatch                |
| Jaime Jose Ballesteros Lopez*     | Edwin Diaz*                  | Lyaja Nian Hayslett*           |
| Stefani Jon Barnes*               | Fatoumata Dienta             | Caiyi He                       |
| Zineb Belhassan*                  | Alexandria Margaret Difeo    | Ge He*                         |
| Mirza Raquel Berganza             | Krystal Susan DiGiovanni     | Yunfei He                      |
| Maria Blanco*                     | Stephanie G. DiMaio          | Kory Allen Heck*               |
| Cecelia Bland*                    | Emilee M. DiMenna*           | Darci Sheihezala Henderson     |
| Marc Laurent Boman                | Yirui Ding                   | Angelica Maria Hendrix         |
| Courtney Reeves Bonardi*          | Cathleen Dionne*             | Alyson Herrera*                |
| Brittany L. Boncorddo*            | Zhuo Du                      | Taylor D. Hirsch*              |
| Tawny J. Bowen                    | Jasimine Dalana Marie Dyson* | Tzu-Yu Hu*                     |
| Matthew Brazauskas*               | Andrea Ehmke*                | Wenzhu Huang                   |
| Nicole Patricia Brito             | Daleshia Sinora Elliott      | Richard Anthony Interrante     |
| Alessandra Marie Bruno            | Narine Emdjian*              | Aravind Jadala*                |
| Diana Marie Buckless*             | Manuel Ernst                 | Deewakar Jaiswal*              |
| Kristen Buffery*                  | Kreta Rasha Evertsz          | Houaida Janoudi*               |
| Nicole Lynn Buono                 | Janice A. Falconer*          | Stephen Jarrell*               |
| Emily Burr*                       | Yu-Wei Feng                  | Kerri A. Jesse*                |
| Timothy J. Butler                 | Carina Flamand*              | Soo In Ji                      |
| Stephen Scott Campbell*           | Beth Ann Fletcher*           | Mikayla S. Johnson             |
| Hui Cao                           | Luisa Fernanda Fortich       | Richard C. Jones               |
| Zhongda Cao                       | Gael Francois                | Sahil Kamboj                   |
| Keri Lynn Castro*                 | Gabriela L. Frazier*         | Amarnath Karuvatil Aravindan*  |
| Kendrick L. Cauthen               | Latoya Freelove              | Wael Khali*                    |
| Kaitlyn Cecile Cedergren*         | Jinting Gang                 | Birat Khatri                   |
| Yuchen Chai*                      | Shanjaleta Gardner*          | Hyunkee Kim*                   |
| Pathareeya Chairuangsang          | Ellyn Q. Gerrmann*           | Analise Nicole Kononchik       |
| Preerati Chaisarn                 | Shahina Ghanie               | Christian W. Koprowski*        |
| Manzhen Chen                      | Nishit Ghelani               | Nai Kang Kuo*                  |
| Yunqing Chen*                     | Chad R. Goldman              | Tzu-I Kuo*                     |
| Yi-Lin Christina Cheng            | Marshall B. Goldstein*       | Susan Sunita Kuruvilla         |
| Pei-Tzu Chiu                      | Mengyu Gong                  | Mark Arthur Lacy*              |
| Raghavender R. Choula*            | Trevor V. Goodman*           | Ben Laforet-Klein*             |

\*Post-May Graduate

Andrea Landy  
 Joshua A. Lanni  
 Loretta Kar Pui Lau  
 Andrew L. Lauer  
 Tuyen Ngoc Le  
 Charles Leduc  
 Jacqueline Le'Mon  
 Christopher Scott Lemperle  
 Aidi Li  
 Mingyu Li\*  
 Shen Li  
 Xiaohong Li  
 Xin Li  
 Yuetong Li  
 Weiwei Liang  
 Yufan Liao\*  
 Simon Michael Lichter  
 Natasha Liriano  
 Yaoyi Lu\*  
 David Joseph Macedo\*  
 Christopher James Stewart MacKenzie  
 Orlan P. Madriaga\*  
 Akshay Mahantashettar  
 Ankitkumar Bhupendrasinh Mahida  
 Alvaro Roberto Maldonado Estrada  
 Ratnakar Mandal\*  
 Christopher M. Mark\*  
 Christina Marzullo\*  
 Daniel Masterson\*  
 Kristin N. Matson  
 Ashley Mazzone\*  
 Erin Nicole McDougall\*  
 Robert Edward McGowan\*  
 Brittany Nicole Meinsen  
 Maria Helga Melgar  
 Xinting Miao  
 Ogabiela Ochi Michael  
 Jordan John Moniz  
 Sarah Melea Morrison\*  
 Theresa Anne Neumann  
 Caroline Nguyen\*  
 Tod Alan Nissle  
 Harry B. Oakley III  
 Elissa Coletta O'Brien  
 Erin Elizabeth O'Brien  
 Ahmet Ozgun Oncel\*  
 Adam Onwan\*  
 Amarachi Onwumelu\*  
 Darlene Ortega\*  
 Alexis A. Orton  
 Shawna Gilheeny Ostiguy

Jennifer M. Otero\*  
 Anthony R. Pacchioni\*  
 Jiajing Pan  
 Abhishek Vinodbhai Pandya  
 Alpitabehen Kamleshbhai Patel\*  
 Arpitkumar Patel  
 Jeenal Sunilkumar Patel\*  
 Mitul Patel\*  
 Ravi Dilip Patel\*  
 Arun Paul  
 Chrystyna Joy Penelton\*  
 Joanna M. Pentaris  
 Kassandra Michele Petrocelli  
 Shangxian Piao  
 Kerri Ann Pietragallo  
 Rocco Eric Possemato  
 Eshan Prasad\*  
 Gabriella Leigh Pulley  
 Susant Puri\*  
 Joseph William Rainone\*  
 Amanda Lynne Reese  
 Andrew C. Reh\*  
 Mahboob Ur Rehman\*  
 Brittney Rich  
 Avanesa Arasheba Amouree Richardson\*  
 Ricardo Robert  
 Kendra Lynn Rocha  
 Nicholas James Romagnoli  
 Edwin Oliver Sach  
 Evelyn Jeannette Salazar  
 Lorraine Milagros Sanchez  
 Anthony Alexander Santana\*  
 Jennifer Lee Santilli  
 Meredith Vaughn Savill  
 Adriana Scarcella  
 Aaron A. Semanski  
 Moriah M. Shafer  
 Darshan N. Shah  
 Nitin Sharma  
 Allison L. Shartrand  
 Caitlin Marie Shearon  
 Yufei Shi  
 Brihat Shrestha  
 Elina Shrestha  
 Andreas Paul Sialatis\*  
 Spencer B. Smith  
 Hee Elizabeth So  
 Peter J. Soguero  
 Brayan Alfonso Solano\*  
 Dongdong Song  
 Marcella M. Spezzacatena

Casandra R. Spillane  
 Christopher Miller Spirnak  
 Dioneysia Stewart\*  
 Ariana Nicole Stratis  
 Patrick Vincent Straus  
 Alissa Maria Stuckey  
 Geena V. Sundaram\*  
 Bethany N. Sutherland\*  
 Deanna Rose Sweeney\*  
 Aia Jean Rase Taguinod\*  
 Shi Tang\*  
 Eric Robert Taylor\*  
 Ciara Jade Thibodeau\*  
 Matthew Thompson\*  
 Sophea S. Thuong\*  
 Bowen Tian\*  
 Leah Elizabeth Trevino  
 Andreas Maximilian Ulrich  
 Megana Vasireddy\*  
 Cara Danielle Vennard\*  
 Vishal Satishsinh Vihol  
 Mauricio A. Villa Jr.  
 Shakira A. Walker\*  
 Tian Wang  
 Yingrui Wang  
 Yunhe Wang  
 Evan K. Webber\*  
 Meijiao Wei\*  
 Qiwen Wei  
 Christopher R. Weill  
 Maya Wilson  
 Chengdong Wu  
 Chien Wu  
 Zhenyu Xu  
 Chenxi Xue  
 Mingxi Yang  
 Qiantong Yang  
 Kevin Michael Yon  
 Peng Yu  
 Weixin Yuan  
 Lu Zhang  
 Min Zhang  
 Xiaofu Zhang  
 Xiaozhu Zhao\*  
 Yani Zhao  
 Chunyi Zhou  
 Sophia Louise Zon\*

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## ACCOUNTING

Maimaitiming Aihemaitijiang  
Suofeiya Alifu  
Mohammed Abdul Hafeez Baig\*  
Jennifer L. Belisle  
Elizabeth M. Bento  
Zouhair Boukhari\*  
Jalpa Devangbhai Brahmbhatt  
Amber Lynn Charette  
Bingyan Chi  
Steven John Croteau  
Jeison F. Cruz  
Amarilis Lopes DeSousa  
Xinran Duan  
Amine El Hasnaoui\*  
Siqi Fang  
Haojin Feng\*  
Petar Stoyanov Ganchev\*

Tania Maria Grace\*  
Sara Grzebien\*  
Christopher David Gustafson  
Lamia Hasansoy  
Xiaoyang Hu  
Henry Oheri Ipeli\*  
Jonathan B. Jillah Sr.  
Zheng Jin\*  
Zhengrun Jin  
Yana Igorevna Leonard  
Jiayi Li  
Silin Li  
Ying Liu  
Michelle Dana Mathewson-Voyer  
Aini Munila  
Scott Anthony Orwig  
Jingya Qiu\*

Julianne Jenny Schwallie\*  
Dolan Conway Simmons Jr.  
Lauren Rita St. Pierre\*  
Ryan Francis Stewart\*  
Long Wang\*  
Shiyang Wang\*  
Crystal L. Wild\*  
Yili Xiadiya  
Mingzi Xiang  
Chi Yang  
Youchao Yang  
Chris K. Yengbeh  
Jiayue Zhang  
Yaming Zhang\*  
Yufan Zhang

## FINANCE

Tajuana Ciara Ball\*  
Ricardo Boutin

Yaya Dante  
Samantha H. Kim

Marjorie A. Moorehead\*  
Eric S. Nguyen\*

## HOSPITALITY

Lydia Monserrate Acevedo  
Schyonne Christina Adderley  
Maher Abdullah Alhaidar\*  
Nawaf Hassan Alhumaidi  
Anna Jacqueline Allegro\*  
Abdullah Mohammed A. Almasoud  
Nouh Ali Alrajab  
Schellie E. Andrews  
Ankit  
Mukul Arora\*  
Staci-Leigh Kidane Ashwood\*  
Jordan Taylor Augustyn\*  
Elizabeth Anne Bain  
Wendy Lynne Baker  
Hunter Renee Beals\*  
Feras Mohammed Binmenea  
Kristin Bonnell\*  
Heather J. Boogertman\*  
Ryan M. Bowen\*  
Sandra M. Braxton\*  
Kimberly Noelle Bredbenner\*  
Nancy Kiobassa Britton  
Ronald Brown\*  
Sasha-Lee Harriett Brummer\*

Rhea Ann Buckmire\*  
Natalie Sheree Buckner  
Na'Kia Kesa-Olivia Burrell\*  
Danielle E. Buxton  
Ozgur Buyukcelebi\*  
Jace William Cairns\*  
Corey W. Campbell  
Jonathan Canario  
Gwendolyn Capers-Wilson\*  
Jared Lynn Cappers  
Brittany Carlson  
Amanda Rene Caseltine\*  
Jennifer Chadwick\*  
Varun Anand Chandavarkar\*  
Che-Wei Chang  
Thomas P. Charpentier\*  
Aditya Chawla\*  
Stephanie Kym Cheever  
Xiaohan Chen\*  
Yijun Chen\*  
Wei-Yun Cheng  
Jihyung Choi  
Ruijia Chu  
Christopher Allen Cizek\*

Lane Andrew Compton  
Justin Philip Conlon\*  
Lauren Michelle Cooke\*  
Caitlin Nicole Craig  
Elizabeth N. Dau  
Nikhilesh Debasish Dey\*  
Sophie Lara Dicks  
James Anthony Donlin  
Tracie Marie Durda  
Bryan H. Fatini  
Paige Leighann Fletcher\*  
Shaina A. Forbes\*  
Kelly Mae Fox  
Ashley Elizabeth Frezza\*  
Kyle M. Fuller  
Joseph C. Galeotalanza\*  
Hali T. Geller\*  
Liza Michelle Gentile\*  
Melanie Elizabeth Gioquindo  
Christina Lea Godfrey  
Diana Marie Gomes  
Gabriella Green\*  
Alexandria Barbara Griebel\*  
Yimin Gui

\*Post-May Graduate

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Melissa N. Haines\*  
Carly June Hale  
Yiwen Han\*  
Ann Marie E. Hannisian\*  
Hanxiao He\*  
Nicole Lynne Heinz\*  
Lindsay Nicole Heuschneider\*  
Audrey Lynne Heutz\*  
William Justin Holley\*  
Jeremy James Houghton\*  
Shidan Hu\*  
Yuliya Yaroslavivna Itskovska\*  
Yuan Jiang  
Eric Wade Johnson\*  
Azari Glenis Jones\*  
Muhammad Hussain Jummah\*  
Rachit Umeshkumar Kapadia  
Jasmi Karki  
Brock M. Katz  
Emma M. Kelly  
Mushfique Mohammed Khokon\*  
Seunggu Kim  
Taehee Kim  
Justin V. Kohlmeier\*  
Jhony Kosasih  
Pasang Khendo Lama  
Annie K. Langan\*  
Shawn Michael Lawrence\*  
Fahad Khaled Lazher\*  
Euijin Lee\*  
Jonghyun Lee\*  
Rebecca Faye Lerman  
Jiaxi Li\*  
Jingwen Liu\*  
Paul James Lobeck Jr.  
Lester A. Locklear  
Christina Rose Logan\*  
Nicholas Andrew Long  
Emily Rose Lopez  
Bianqing Lu\*  
Nicholas John Lugbauer\*  
Jacqueline Marie Mackey\*  
Kayla Lynn Martin  
Brian Scott Maruszczak  
Alec R. Marvin  
Kimberley Ann Masterson  
George Mathew  
Qualanda Michille Mathis

Yaitza Enid Matos-Rodriguez  
Layton Javier McKenzie\*  
Brittni Lauren Menard  
Richa Madhusuthan Menon  
Una V. Merced  
Kristina Diane Mills  
Subhash Sunil Modasra\*  
Jette Momant\*  
Natalia Montilla Portes  
Andrea Jenee Moore\*  
Tiara Pauline Moten\*  
Zitong Mu  
Marilyn Muljat\*  
D'Anna Lynn Murphy  
Michael D. Muse  
Yolanda Annette Naudin\*  
Richard Christopher Neal Jr.  
Benjamin Joseph Nelms\*  
Haylee Jean Nelson  
Dan Ngoc Linh Nguyen  
Dante J. Nicastro  
Nicholas Occhipinti\*  
Joshua James Oliver  
Karin LinNea Ornerberg  
Pei-Ling Ou  
Robert John Patchak  
Angela Michaela Picazio\*  
Ken Lawrence Polk  
Shavona Potter\*  
Sheryl Ann Queen  
Reema Rai\*  
Cara A. Rainford\*  
Steven Ryan Raymond  
Mandy Marie Robidoux  
Michael Rosenfeld\*  
David Allen Rutherford  
Cheryl Ann Ruzak  
Matthew Joseph Safko  
Lindsey Sanford  
Neeracha Sanguansub  
Stephen A. Savage\*  
Jesse Robert Scroggins\*  
Amanda Rose Seigal  
Waseem Akrama Shaikh\*  
Kshipra Ravindra Shelke\*  
Chang Shi  
Hongyan Shi\*  
Mengyu Shi\*

Andrea Elizabeth Smith  
Ashleigh M. Smith\*  
Crystal Ann Smith\*  
Tia Denise Smith\*  
Xiang Song\*  
Vivek Surya Kiran Reddy Sripathi\*  
William Frances Stenger  
Kiley Dianna Stewart  
Marie L. Stuart\*  
Ashley Sumner\*  
Travis Clifton Swaby  
Julie Marie Szamatulski\*  
Vicki Taft\*  
Wua Huan Tan  
Adrian Bruce Tarbox  
Kellen Shelagh Tensen  
Rebecca Tett\*  
Amanda Gail Thacker  
Brandon Guillory Thomas\*  
Yu Tung Tien\*  
Yen Ling Tien\*  
Ryan Patrick Tobin\*  
Josenia Esmeralda Toribio\*  
Marlex Torres\*  
Steven Townsend  
Emily Anne Trudeau  
Brian Patrick Tubolino  
Harlee Susan Turell  
Ivan Josiah Valcin\*  
Laura Villanueva\*  
Yang Wang  
Matthew James Weingard\*  
Michael Aaron Weinstein\*  
Sylvia Elaine Williams  
Sydney Cook Wolf  
Kathryn Rose Wolstenholme\*  
Shan Wu  
Yidan Xu  
Cicong Ye  
Jie Yu  
Tongtong Yu  
Christy A. Zawatski  
Kikho Zephania  
Liwei Zhai  
Wujun Zhang\*

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## HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Jennifer C. Reece Browne  
Nashawn Latressa Davis\*  
Dwede A. Dennis\*  
Rebecca J. Lander\*

Gregory Mark Laporte  
Bobbie Louise Major\*  
Christine Dawn Meehan\*  
Samantha Ricks\*

Brian Tierney  
Kieanta Nicole Tillman\*  
Tna'sheo Nyre'e Watkins\*

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Varun Reddy Alte  
Dewin E. Andujar\*  
Atanur Arapoglu\*  
Mohammed Ashfaq\*  
Priyanka Avula  
Seshavardhana Badrinath  
Kiran Kumar Belde  
Bikram Bhadel\*  
Gautam Bhatt\*  
Rakesh Bhima\*  
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*Diplomas will be awarded upon completion of all university requirements.*

The commencement program listing contains the names of students meeting eligibility criteria and submitted for publication as of April 26, 2017. Names that are printed in the commencement program should not be used as an indicator of degree completion. Students must satisfy all graduation requirements before officially graduating and receiving a diploma.



For the safety of everyone in attendance and to comply with local fire department regulations, guests are requested to remain in their seats during the program. Ushers are stationed at the foot of each aisle should you need assistance.

After the ceremony, guests may join the graduates outside under the marquee of the Dunkin' Donuts Center. For your convenience, the commencement ceremony is being professionally photographed (and videotaped) by Grad Images®. For information on ordering photos (or a DVD of the ceremony), please contact Grad Images® at 800-261-2576 or online at gradimages.com. Grad Images® has agreed to provide a free 5x7 of the graduate's choice to each graduate that provides his/her email and mailing address to Grad Images®. The ceremony is also being streamed live at <http://portal.stretchinternet.com/jwuri>.

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## Symbols of Commencement

### UNIVERSITY SEAL

The university seal represents Johnson & Wales University's roots. The year at the top of the shield, 1914, is the year that the university was founded by Gertrude I. Johnson and Mary T. Wales. The dragon of St. George on the upper portion of the crest honors the Wales family, while the lower portion of the crest bears the cross of St. John and honors the Johnson family.

### MACE

The Johnson & Wales University mace symbolizes the ideals and values of JWU's educational philosophy. Cast of silver and bronze, it is engraved with the names of our founders and presidents, past and present. Our campus locations are engraved on the golden bands. On ceremonial occasions, university officials carry the mace to display the unity and continuity of Johnson & Wales University.

The mace dates to medieval times, when it was first used as a weapon. Forbidden to use swords, medieval European bishops were allowed to enter battle with a mace — typically an iron or steel club designed to split armor. By the 16th century, the mace had become a symbol of authority that colleges and universities began using ceremonially. That tradition continues today, and the mace is carried as part of formal academic occasions like these at colleges and universities across the globe.

### ACADEMIC DRESS

The tradition of wearing distinctive dress for academic reasons dates back to the Middle Ages. Today, academic costumes are usually worn in the United States by people participating in academic ceremonies.

The faculty and platform party wear regalia representative of the degrees they possess.

### HOODS

Originating from the cowls of monastic orders, the hoods are the most dramatic part of the academic regalia. Their shape and size indicate the level of degree attained, and the colors reflect both the academic field as well as the institution that granted the degree.

The fields of study most frequently represented in academic processions are the following:

| FIELD OF STUDY              | COLOR      |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Arts, Letters, Humanities   | White      |
| Business, Commerce          | Nugget     |
| Education                   | Light Blue |
| Fine Arts                   | Brown      |
| Law                         | Purple     |
| Physician Assistant Studies | Green      |
| Social Work                 | Citron     |

### CAPS

There is more variety in the shape and color of academic hats than in any other area. Master's and doctoral degree recipients wear the tassel on the left throughout the ceremony, and the doctoral soft-cap often features a gold tassel.

#### To attendees of this event:

Johnson & Wales University has hired professional photographers/videographers to capture images of this graduation for use in educational and promotional materials. Attendance at this event constitutes each individual's consent to Johnson & Wales University to have their image and voice recorded and retransmitted for any and all purposes at the university's discretion. *If you do not agree with the foregoing, please see a university special events staff member.*



