“For 126 years, the students, staff, and faculty have made, and will continue to make, the University of Rhode Island a force for good in America and the world. Our community embodies respect for higher learning, individual expression, and people of all backgrounds, and we hold these values foremost in our beliefs and actions.” – David M. Dooley

Dear Class of 2018,

It is my hope for each of you that during your time at the University of Rhode Island you have gained knowledge, wisdom, and vision. I also hope that you have defined what you would like to do to transform the world and make it a better place.

You have the opportunity to join with others in creating a better future. Graduates of this 126-year-old institution are powerful and inspirational reminders of the most important outcome of the University’s work—the education of people who are better prepared and empowered to pursue their hopes and aspirations, and to do so with respect, understanding, and appreciation for others.

With the foundation you have acquired at URI, you can become the innovators and architects of a vibrant and sustainable future for Rhode Island, our nation, and the world. You now join more than 125,000 members of the worldwide URI alumni community, who are led by their creative and entrepreneurial spirit while pursuing their passions and embodying the University’s values.

This University has served the ideals of public education, diversity, and innovation for more than a century. We can’t wait to take all that we have learned as an institution and leap into the decades ahead, always thinking big. As our newest alumni, we hope you will join us on the journey.

Congratulations to the University of Rhode Island’s Class of 2018!

Sincerely,

David M. Dooley
President, University of Rhode Island
ALMA MATER

All hail to thee, Rhode Island,
We pledge our faith anew,
While our heroes bring thee honor
With our banner of white and blue.
In truth we owe her much, for she's shown us the way
To achieve and be of service to the world.
So all hail our Alma Mater,
Rhode Island, our guide whate'er we do.
Think Big. It's what we do every day at URI. The University of Rhode Island came to be because a few people acted on a big idea more than 125 years ago. In 1888, several South Kingstown residents, the South Kingstown Town Council, and the state of Rhode Island made a collective donation of $5,000 to purchase the 140-acre Oliver Watson Farm to establish a state agricultural school and experiment station. Their action exemplified the earlier vision of President Abraham Lincoln and the Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862, that education of the people and for the people was, and is, America's and the world's best hope for enduring prosperity and peace.

We became the Rhode Island College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts in 1892, and we graduated our first 17 students in 1894. Those 140 acres have grown into a 1,200-acre Kingston Campus, plus the Alan Shawn Feinstein Providence Campus, Narragansett Bay Campus, W. Alton Jones Campus, and the new Rhode Island Nursing Education Center.

In November 2017, the U.S. Department of the Interior recognized the beauty and architectural and educational significance of our campus core. The area around the Quadrangle has been designated the University of Rhode Island Historic District, now part of the National Register of Historic Places. It was a fitting way to conclude the year-long celebration of our 125th anniversary.

Even in the University’s earliest days, our innovative ideas, adaptive intelligence, and breakthrough research were apparent. We’ve long since branched out from our agricultural roots and are recognized as a preeminent research university tackling global issues.

Our Colleges of Nursing, Pharmacy, Business, Engineering, Arts and Sciences, Environment and Life Sciences, Health Sciences, and Education and Professional Studies, and our Graduate School of Oceanography are signature centers of scholarship and research. More than 85 undergraduate and 70 graduate degree programs inspire our students and spark their creativity.

To respond to the world’s changing needs, we’ve created new degree programs—like our interdisciplinary health studies major and programs such as neuroscience, criminal justice, and forensic chemistry—and we blend disciplines such as languages with textiles and pharmaceuticals, and underwater archaeology with engineering. Our pharmaceutical engineering program was one of the nation’s first, and our dual-degree International Engineering Program is a national model.

We’re one of the world’s foremost marine research institutions, home to a national center of excellence in digital forensics and cyber security, and a premier center for research in behavioral psychology.

In more recent history, our Center for Biotechnology and Life Sciences, the George & Anne Ryan Institute for Neuroscience, and the new Academic Health Collaborative have furthered our reputation as a premier public research institution. Our programs in diversity and inclusion serve as national models, and we were the first American university to build a freestanding Gender and Sexuality Center. Our size and location are tremendous assets. We can think big and execute nimbly.

In the last 20 years, more than $1 billion has been invested into building, rebuilding, or renovating more than 50 facilities, increasing our capacity for transformative research, teaching, and outreach. In 2013, the George & Anne Ryan Institute for Neuroscience was established, launching a new era in brain science teaching and research. In 2016, we opened the Richard E. Beaupre Center for Chemical and Forensic Sciences. Today, construction is in progress on a $150 million complex for our College of Engineering, slated to open in 2019.

Last fall, the Rhode Island Nursing Education Center opened at South Street Landing in Providence, offering upperclassmen and graduate students in the College of Nursing unparalleled access to the most sophisticated simulation technology available and opportunities for experiential learning at the state’s leading health and health-care institutions nearby.

We continue to raise our game as a sustainability leader in higher education, with 11 LEED-certified buildings, energy-savin initiatives, and a solar energy project, developed with the towns of South Kingstown and Narragansett, which will deliver environmental and economic rewards to the University, surrounding communities, and the state for years to come. This summer, we will open our new Welcome Center on Upper College Road. And work is underway on Brookside Apartments, a 500-unit apartment-style residence hall for upperclassmen that will open in 2019.

Now in our 126th year, enrollment has grown from 17 to 18,318 undergraduate and graduate students. Our 125,807 alumni live and work throughout the nation, in three U.S. territories, and 80 countries. On May 19 and 20, 2018, our eleventh president, David M. Dooley, is proud to confer undergraduate and graduate degrees upon more than 4,500 of our newest alumni.

The audience is requested to remain seated during the recessional. A sign language interpreter will translate part of the Commencement Exercises from the right side of the podium. For special seating, please consult one of the ushers. Graduates and guests are asked not to release helium-filled balloons. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited during Commencement Exercises. We appreciate your cooperation.
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
MAIN COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
On the Quadrangle at 12:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 20, 2018

PRELUDE
The University of Rhode Island Commencement Ensemble
English Folk Song Suite, Ralph Vaughan Williams
First Suite in E-flat, Gustav Holst
Irish Tune, Percy A. Grainger
Shepherd’s Hey, Percy A. Grainger

PROCESSIONAL
Flourish for Wind Band, Ralph Vaughan Williams
Academic Procession, J. Clifton Williams
Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams
Pomp and Circumstance, Edward Elgar (arr. Sterrett)

OPENING DECLARATION
Associate Professor Hilary Leonard, Vice Chairperson,
Faculty Senate; Grand Marshal

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
Gina Maria Tonno, Class of 2017

DEDICATION
Reverend David L. Hefter, Minister, Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of South County and URI Chaplain

GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTIONS
David M. Dooley, President
Her Excellency Gina M. Raimondo, Governor of the
State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

REMARKS
Barbara S. Cottam, Chair, Rhode Island Board of Education
William Foulkes, Chair, Rhode Island Council on Postsecondary Education

CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREES
President Dooley, assisted by Donald H. DeHayes, Provost
and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Dharam V. Abashiri, Honorary Doctor of Science
Akihiro Nikkaku, Honorary Doctor of Business
Anne Mimi Sammis, Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts
Jim Taricani, Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters

RECOGNITION OF FACULTY EMERITI
Provost DeHayes

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE AWARD RECIPIENTS
Provost DeHayes

STUDENT SPEAKER
Ellis Iacono, Class of 2018

CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE
President Dooley, assisted by Provost DeHayes
Regina McCarthy, Honorary Doctor of Science

ADDRESS
Regina McCarthy

CONFERRAL OF BACCALAUREATE DEGREES
President Dooley
assisted by Provost DeHayes

AND DOCTORS OF PHARMACY
ALUMNI WELCOME
Thomas M. Ryan ’75, Chairman of the Board,
University of Rhode Island Foundation

SOLO
Gina Maria Tonno
God Bless America, Irving Berlin

ALMA MATER
Mallory Leonard, Class of 2018

BENISON
President Dooley

RECESSIONAL
High Altitudes, Zachary Friedland
Second Suite in F, Gustav Holst

Music is provided by the Commencement Ensemble, conducted by Brian Cardany,
associate director of Bands at URI. The Commencement Ensemble is composed
of musicians from the URI Department of Music: the University Concert Band, the
Marching Band, and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble.

A sign language interpreter will translate part of the Commencement Exercises from
the right side of the podium.
For special seating, please consult one of the ushers.
The audience is requested to remain seated during the recessional.
Due to environmental concerns, graduates and guests are asked not to release
helium-filled balloons.
The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited during
Commencement Exercises. We appreciate your cooperation.
INDIVIDUAL COLLEGE CEREMONIES
Saturday, May 19, 2018 and Sunday, May 20, 2018

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018

3 p.m.
ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES
Dean John Kirby, presiding
Thomas M. Ryan Center

7 p.m.
HEALTH SCIENCES
Dean Gary Liguori, presiding
Thomas M. Ryan Center

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2018

9 a.m.
ENGINEERING
Dean Raymond M. Wright, presiding
Keaney Gymnasium

9 a.m.
PHARMACY
Dean E. Paul Larrat, presiding
Mackal Field House

9 a.m.
ALAN SHAWN FEINSTEIN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
Dean R. Anthony Rolle, presiding
Edwards Hall

Afternoon ceremonies immediately following the Main Commencement Exercises.

ARTS AND SCIENCES
Dean Jeanette E. Riley, presiding
Quadrangle
(Ryan Center, in case of rain)

BUSINESS
Dean Maling Ebrahimpour, presiding
Keaney Gymnasium

NURSING
Dean Barbara E. Wolfe, presiding
Mackal Field House

THE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
AND ACADEMIC PAGEANTRY

Over the centuries, banners and flags have lent drama to public ceremonies, and the flags you see today represent the University, the history of the state, and some of the Rhode Island and international communities from which our students come. These flags help to deepen our sense of tradition and community history.

The backdrop for the Commencement Exercises consists of the banners of the 10 degree-granting colleges and schools that make up the University, as well as University College for Academic Success. Traditional colors of the academic disciplines have been used: Arts and Sciences, white and golden yellow; Business, drab; Education and Professional Studies, light blue; Engineering, orange; Environment and Life Sciences, maize; the Graduate School, blue and gold; Health Sciences, sage; Nursing, apricot; Oceanography, aqua; and Pharmacy, olive green.

The flags framing the Commencement stand are associated with early Rhode Island history: the Flag Act of 1777; the flag of the Battle of Rhode Island (1778); the Grand Union flag (1776); the Rhode Island First Regiment flag (1775); the Rhode Island Colony flag (1774); the Meteor flag (1707); the Union flag (1707); and the Red Ensign (1620 in New England).

The international flags remind us of the growing importance of cultural diversity, internationalization, and global awareness.

The University of Rhode Island color guard will present colors and lead the academic procession. The Grand Marshal, carrying the University Mace, will follow the color guard. The faculty and the candidates for degrees will follow the Grand Marshal.

Academic dress has its origin in the colorful gowns and hoods of the Middle Ages. In the United States, a common code of academic dress was not adopted until 1895. This decreed three kinds of gowns and three hood lengths for bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees. Hoods are lined with the color or colors of the university conferring the degree and are bordered with a color representing the subject of study for which the degree is conferred.

Throughout the Commencement Exercises, one may see reflected the pomp and ceremony of a feudal society and the intricacies of the medieval art of heraldry—in the ritual, the dress, the ceremonial accoutrements, such as the University Mace, and in the wording of the degrees conferred.

UNIVERSITY MACE
The University Mace was donated by the graduating class of 1963. It is made of gold-plated sterling silver and is mounted on a three-foot rosewood staff. The URI seal, three inches in diameter, crowns the staff, with a sketch of Davis Hall on the back. Davis is one of the University’s oldest buildings and is the site of the college bell tower.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION
The medallion worn by the president was donated to the University as a 100th birthday gift by goldsmith and University of Rhode Island alumnus Robert C. Corio, Class of 1973. Of 18-karat gold and about the size of a half dollar, it is stamped with the University seal and is bordered by an elegant, rounded setting. The chain is made of small gold oval links together, each engraved with the name of a University president emeritus. Through the years, the name of each new president will be added to the medallion.

GONFALONS
Within the commencement procession, each college will process behind gonfalons carried by one of their own graduates. Gonfalons are flags or banners, hung from crosspieces or banners, hung from crosspieces on poles, that have been used since medieval times as symbols of state or office and are now traditionally used by colleges and universities. The background of each college’s gonfalon is the official URI dark blue; the stripes on the gonfalons are the traditional colors of the academic disciplines.
THE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
AND ACADEMIC PAGEANT
continued

RHODE ISLAND
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Barbara S. Cottom, Chair
Amy Benetta
Colleen A. Callahan
Heather D. Crosby
Karen Davis
Timothy J. DeGiudice
Dennis J. Duffy
Gara Brooke Field
William Foultz, Chair of the Council on Postsecondary Education
Jo Eva Ganes
Rhachelle Green
Mike Grey
Thomas Izzo
Manuela Lucaj
Marta V. Martinez
Daniel P. McNaghy, Chair of the Council on Elementary and Postsecondary Education
Thalia Philippe
Stephan Pryor
Lawrence Purtill
Jeffrey A. Williams
Brenda Dann-Messier, Commissioner of Postsecondary Education
Ken Wagner, Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education

SHERIDAN
ADMINISTRATORS,
VICE PRESIDENTS,
AND DEANS OF THE COLLEGES
David M. Dooley, President
Donald H. DeHayes, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Kathy Collins, Vice President for Student Affairs
Abagail Rider, Vice President for Administration and Finance

Peter J. Snyder, Vice President for Research and Economic Development
Thor D. Bjorn, Director of Athletics
Michelle Curren, Chief of Staff
Kelly K. Mahoney, Executive Director, External Relations and Communications
Lil Breul O’Rourke, President

URI Foundation

Rhode Island Higher Education Commissioner

Jeanneke E. Riley, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

R. Anthony Rolle, Dean of the Alan Shaw Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies
Barbara E. Wolfe, Dean of the College of Nursing
Raymond M. Wright, Dean of the College of Engineering
Nasser H. Zawia, Dean of the School of Graduate Studies

COMMENCEMENT MARSHALS
Grand Marshal
Zaher A. Shaikh
University Marshal
Rachel L. DiCiccio
Marshals
Ashley Buchanan
Bongsoo P. Cho
Lynee Derbshire
Jill K. Doerner
Debra Erickson-Owens
Mayrai Gindy
Leslie A. Mahler
Adam Moore
Kory Ospital
Aimee D. Phelps
Brian J. Quilliam
Anne M. Seitzinger
David C. Smith
Martha Waitkun

MAIN COMMENCEMENT MARSHALS
Grand Marshal
Hillery Leonard
University Marshal
Rachel L. DiCiccio
Marshals
Mathew Ebrahimpour
Lee Ann Jorsak
Lauren Lamb
Travis W. Pendergrass

COMMENCEMENT BAND
Conductor
Brian Cardany
Piccolo
Laura Berard
Flute
Amanda Rash
Scott Travers
Maiya Fernandez
Lauren Bertsch
Julia Curran
Clarinet
Tyler Tashjian
Casey Turner
Samantha Hackenson
Aaron Eightrey
Jennifer Hammond
Brandon Windisch
Bass Clarinet
Rebecca Filaggi
Bassoon
Mallory Leonard

Academic Health Excellence Award

Academic Health Excellence Award: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Engineering
Dana DiCicco, College of Arts and Sciences

Academic Health Excellence Award: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Engineering
Chad Rigby, College of Environment and Life Sciences

Early Career Faculty Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities
Austin Becker, Assistant Professor, College of the Environment and Life Sciences

Early Career Faculty Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities
Rebecca Filaggi, Assistant Professor, College of the Environment and Life Sciences

Grant Student Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities
Peter Stempel, College of the Environment and Life Sciences

Graduate Student Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Engineering
Dana DiCicco, College of Arts and Sciences

Postdoctoral Fellow Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Engineering
Chad Rigby, College of Environment and Life Sciences

Advanced Career Faculty Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Engineering
Bethany Jenkins, Professor, College of the Environment and Life Sciences

2018 URI RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Undergraduate Student Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities
Ana M. Loberoi, College of Arts and Sciences
Undergraduate Student Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Engineering
Alex Baranowski, College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Graduate Student Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities
Peter Stempel, College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Graduate Student Research and Scholarship Excellence Award: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Engineering
Dana DiCicco, College of Arts and Sciences

Outstanding Service Award

Tao Wei, Associate Professor, College of Engineering

2018 SHEILA BLACK GRUBMAN FACULTY OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Fritz K. Wenisch, Professor, College of Arts and Sciences

2018 PART-TIME FACULTY TEACHING AWARD

Nets-Viggo Holbs, Department of Biological Sciences

2018 A. ROBERT RAINVILLE/ILLE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Student Employee Award
Romuald Percy, Class of 2018

Student Leadership Award
Hailey Flavin, Class of 2018

Servant Leadership Award
Shannon McIsaac, Class of 2018

Team Excellence Award

Thrive

COMMISSIONED IN THE U.S. ARMY

Emily R. Jardos
William A. Kiernan
Antonio G. Manzotti
Colin M. McGowan
Michelle A. Runge
Brittany Stanszuk

11
LIFETIME SERVICE SOCIETY
We offer our gratitude and congratulations to these 2017 retirees who served our University for 40 or more years.

Winifred E. Brownell
Lawrence F. Brucie
Richard A. Casagrande
Robert A. Cornerfield
Robert H. Fugeza
Thomas P. Husband
George E. Kent
Amak K. Lahiri
William R. Matteson
Barbara J. Ray
Karen F. Stein
Timothy W. Tiemey
Wayne F. Velicer (posthumous)

COMMITTEE

Chair
Shana Greene
Facilities Coordinator
Bonnie Jacob
Samuel Adams
Kim Anderson
Tracey Angel
Katie Babula
Stephen Baker
Kimberly Balch
Kathleen Beck
Jared Beshos
Jessica Boitclair
Laurne Bouthilier
Peg Boyd
Jeanne Browning
Brian Cardany
Barbara Caron
Daniel Cartier
Mike Chalek
Sheleen Clarke
Jessica Conrandy
Gregory Couturier
Christine Dias
Rachel DiCioccio
Mike Donohue
Nancy Eaton
Joan Eppolito
Lara Fayanyjuila
Dominic Ferraro
Mark Fester
Ashley Frezza
Lisa Furdom
Shebby Gallher
Wendy Gallo
Nancy Gillespie
Dartene Golinto
Denise Gorenski
Christina Haas
Heather Hanwood
Jodi Hawkins
Ethan Hicks
Susan Hovanesian
Jack Humphrey
Michael Jagoda
Annie Jones
Carroll Jones
Nancy Kelley
Martin Koski
Dave Lavalle
Rosemary Lavigne
Nora Lewis
Susan Mainella
Jessica Manfredo
Carol McCarthy
Maureen McDermott
Barbara Meagher Smith
Doug Michael
Joe Mukayee
Alex Nurkin
Lorne Olson
Joe Paradise
Dan Persaud
Caroline Phillips
Ryan Pincince
Erik Postemsky
Dainy Read

Office of the President
Office of the Provost
Parking and Transportation Services
Printing Services
Property and Support Services
Public Safety
Publications and Creative Services
Purchasing
Spectra Venue Management
Strategic Security Group
The Ryan Center
University Events
URi Alumni Association
URi Campuses
URi Foundation
URi Master Gardener Program

Visitors Center

CCRI Police Department
Charlestown Police Department
Hopkinton Police Department
Kingston Fire Department
Narragansett Police Department
North Kingston Police Department
Rhode Island Capitol Police
Rhode Island Division of State Fire Marshal
Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency
Rhode Island State Police
Richmond Police Department
South Kingston Police Department
Westerly Police Department

2018 HONORS PROGRAM GRADUATES
Morganne Adroved
Marisa Albert
Brittney Andersen
Dwight Anderson
Jordan Ballard
Rachel F. Bellisle
Molly Bennett
Victoria M. Bidlo
Alyshei Ciladans
Katelyn Cameron
Haley Cedarholm
Danielle Codere
Zoe E. Corrigan
Nicholas Continis
John T. Curran
Connor H. Curtis
Sarah Danko
Jessica L. Decker
Laurny P. Devine
Brandon Donohoe
Hayley E. Doyle
Kyla Duffy
Aaron Eighmey
Meghan Ellis
Meghan Flanagan
Hailey Flanagan
Emily C. Gallagher
Allison M. Gallant
Lindsey A. Geitz
Autum E. Glouette
Caroline L. Haucada
Bridget C. Hall
Samantha Hafled
Eileen Holovac
Ilsen Iacono
Lauren Intravaia
Dean Karemee
Katherine Kellenberger
Claire Kenna
Shannon Kolaisinski
Kaitlyn S. Krajanski
Krystyna Krupinski
Megan Kurose
Emily R. Kutok
Ileana M. LaGutta
Doris Lee
Steven Leon

Samanthu R. Lindquist
Naama S. Malomet
Alissa M. Margraf
Caitlyn Martinez
Juliana Mastroluanni
Victoria Matulio
Caidicicy McCurtan
Meghan R. McLoone
Emily Miller
Harrison P. Miller
Paige Montanaro
Samuel R. Moore
Lucy Moyes
Jeffrey Munoz
Samuel E. Murray
Shannon Ornyak
Jessica Parker
Bethany Parlow
Isabella Pelino
Katherine Penkala
Nisa Pennyfeather
Stephie K. Peramas
Joshua Perkins
Cody Poulion
Ashley Rigano
Elena M. Rikvin
Emma Rohrstock
Owen Sammarone
Kanya Shah
Jessica Shaw
Patricia Shea
Evelyn M. Siler
Caitlyn M. Sloan
Africa Smith
Hannah Smith
Francesca Soluri
Angela Stahl
Heather Stull
Brenna M. Sullivan
Topaz Szewczok
Amy C. Vigneau
Michaela J. Warren
Miranda Wangara
Victoria G. Zeyl
Denise Zhirkovich
Jenna Ziegelmayer

2018 NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS
Some national scholarship programs are so prestigious that one can apply only if nominated by the University. This year, the following students have been recognized in such competitions.

Five URI students have been selected as 2018 Boren Scholars: Salita Darpash '19 (Mandarin/China), Chase Hall '19 (Mandarin/China), Emily Hadfield '19 (Mandarin/China), Tabatha Lewis '18 (Indonesian/Indonesia) and Christopher Pariela '19 (French and Wolof/Senegal).

An initiative of the National Security Education Program (NSEP), the David L. Boren Scholarship provides funding opportunities for U.S. undergraduate students to study less commonly taught languages in world regions critical to U.S. interests. In exchange for funding, Boren Scholars commit to working in the federal government for at least one year after graduation.

Wilfredo Tangui '18 and Jenna Ziegelmayer '18 have been offered 2016 Fulbright U.S. Student Awards to Colombia and Spain, respectively. Written into law by President Truman in 1946, the Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Government.

Ryan Gei '19 and Dean Karemee '19 received Honorable Mention from the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program. Established by the U.S. Congress to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue research careers in the fields of mathematics, sciences, and engineering, the Goldwater Scholarship is the premier undergraduate award of its type in these fields.

Andrew Boardman '19 has been selected as a 2018 Truman Scholar. The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation recognizes college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to making a difference through careers in government, the nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education, or elsewhere in the public service.

Emma Mather '20 received Honorable Mention in the Udall Scholarship competition, which recognizes college sophomores and juniors for leadership, public service, and commitment to issues related to American Indian Nations or the environment. The Udall scholarship honors the legacies of Morris Udall and Stewart Udall, whose careers had a significant impact on American Indian self-governance, health care, and the stewardship of public lands and natural resources.

THE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
AND ACADEMIC PAGEANT
continued
HONORARY DEGREES

DR. DHARAM V. ABLASHI
Doctor of Science
A renowned virologist and humanitarian, Ablashi has influenced the lives of thousands. He is internationally known for his research on human and simian herpes viruses and the connection between viruses and cancer.

Ablashi was a senior research virologist at the National Cancer Institute’s Tumor Virus Laboratory for 23 years and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University School of Medicine. He co-authored more than 300 scientific papers, wrote or co-edited 13 books, received three patents, co-discovered human herpes virus 6 (HHV-6) with Dr. Robert Gallo in 1986, and advised NASA on the risk of viral infection to astronauts traveling to space with primates.

He is co-founder and scientific director of the HHV-6 Foundation, which supports research on HHV-6. He also co-founded the International Association on Epstein-Barr Virus and the International Association for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Born in India, he holds a doctorate in veterinary medicine from Panjab University Veterinary College, a diploma in bacteriology from the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, and a master of science in pathology and Veterinary Research Institute, and a diploma in bacteriology from the Indian

GINA MCCARTHY
Doctor of Science
Throughout her career, McCarthy has advocated for the protection of public health and the environment.

An independent thinker, consensus-builder, and authoritative voice on environmental issues, McCarthy served five administrations in Massachusetts and was Connecticut’s commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection.

She joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2009 as assistant administrator for the Office of Air and Radiation, and President Barack Obama named her agency administrator in 2013. She led efforts to meet historic public health and environmental protection goals, establishing the Climate Action Plan and signing the Clean Power Plan, which set the first national standards for reducing power plant emissions.

She is a recipient of the Harvard Law School Horizon Award, National Wildlife Federation’s Conservationist of the Year Award, and the Roosevelt Institute Distinguished Public Service Award.

In 2017, McCarthy was named a fellow at the Institute of Politics at Harvard Kennedy School and a Richard L. and Ronay M. Menschel Senior Leadership Fellow at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, where she is a professor and director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment. She is an advisor to Pegasus Capital Advisors, a private wellness and sustainability equity fund.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in social anthropology from the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and a master’s in environmental health engineering, planning and policy from Tufts University.

AKIHIRO NIKKAKU
Doctor of Business
As president, chief executive officer, and chief operating officer of Toray Industries, Inc., Nikkaku embraces the Toray Group’s philosophy of “contributing to society through the creation of new value with innovative ideas, technologies and products.”

For Nikkaku, who began his career at Toray in 1973 after receiving a master’s degree in industrial machinery from the University of Tokyo, business growth is inseparable from sustainable business practices. He guides Toray to build sustainable, low-carbon, recycling-based communities by developing innovative technologies that address global environmental issues. He has implemented processes that guarantee corporate social responsibility throughout Toray’s supply chain while prioritizing workplace safety.

In addition, Toray Plastics America, headquartered in North Kingstown, R.I., has a history of supporting education and has been an extraordinary partner of the University.

Under Nikkaku’s leadership, Toray pledged $2 million toward construction of URI’s College of Engineering complex and endowed $2 million in engineering fellowships and scholarships. Toray consistently extends internship opportunities to students and is involved in the International Engineering Program. Of the more than six dozen degreed engineers employed at Toray, 23 are URI graduates.

He is the recipient of prestigious international awards, including the Darjhan Selia Pangkuant Negeri Award from the governor of Penang and the Legion of Honor from the French Republic.

ANNIE MIMI SAMMIS
Doctor of Fine Arts
Sammis is an internationally acclaimed artist and one of Rhode Island’s most recognized sculptors and painters. Her celebrated sculpture in Narragansett, “Dance of Peace,” is a local landmark.

In 2002, Sammis was commissioned by the Archbishop of Canterbury to create a sculpture in honor of Queen Elizabeth’s Golden Jubilee, “He Has the Whole World in His Hands,” on permanent display in Lambeth Palace, London. Her exhibition of 30 bronze sculptures, One Thousand Years of Peace, was shown at the United Nations in 1999 and later in The Hague, Netherlands.

In 2005, she began working on her first series, “Painting with Mimi,” which featured painting techniques and insight into the creative process while encouraging viewers to enhance their lives through art.

Sammis holds weekly gatherings at her home, where attendees share their work, encourage each other, and discuss topics related to art, spirituality, creativity, and inner peace. Her artwork and her willingness to share her gifts and support others’ creativity has inspired thousands of URI students, Rhode Islanders, and visitors.

Sammis’ work often depicts dancing children, loving families, angels, and peace doves to convey her belief that peace and harmony begin within each individual. She believes that art depicting love and joy has a positive effect on its viewers, and through her work, she strives to inspire peace in the world.

JIM TARICANI
Doctor of Humane Letters
An award-winning investigative reporter with NBC’s Rhode Island affiliate, WJAR-TV, Taricani reported on organized crime and government corruption during a career spanning nearly four decades. His unwavering pursuit of the truth has long set him apart.

Respected nationwide for his integrity, Taricani was convicted of contempt of court and sentenced to six months of home confinement in 2004 for refusing to disclose a confidential source who provided him with a surveillance tape showing a City of Providence official accepting a bribe.

Taricani became a national advocate for a federal shield law for journalists, the Free Flow of Information Act, making dozens of speeches around the country in support of the legislation and testifying before the U.S. House Judiciary Committee.

He served four years in the U.S. Air Force and received a presidential letter of commendation in 1968 for helping secure the transfer of Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassin, James Earl Ray, after he was captured in England, where Taricani was stationed.

He is a member of the nonprofit Investigative Reporters & Editors, Inc., as well as the prestigious McCormick Foundation’s Freedom of Press Committee.

Among his many accolades are a Press Freedom Award from the Reporters’ Committee for Freedom of the Press; the Radio Television Digital News Association’s Edward R. Murrow Award; five regional Emmy Awards; and the Yankee Quill Award from the New England Newspaper & Press Association.
This program includes faculty members who were granted emeritus status as of May 1, 2018.

GÉRARD BAUDET
Associate Professor of Computer Science

Gérard Baudet graduated from École Polytechnique in Paris, France. He earned his Doctorate de 3ème Cycle in applied mathematics from Paris VI in 1973, and his Ph.D. in computer science from Carnegie Mellon University in 1978. After eight years doing research at Irina (the French National Institute for Computer Science and Applied Mathematics) and Brown University, he joined the URI faculty in 1987. He led the NSF-funded EnVision project to provide computer science students with an environment for the visualization of computer concepts. His interests lie in the complexity of VLSI circuits, architecture of parallel machines, and parallel algorithms. Outside of URI, he is training his dogs for sheep herding competition at the national level.

ROBERT COMERFORD
Professor of Management

A Naval Air Force veteran, Robert Comerford earned his Ph.D. at UMass, Amherst, after working for Welex Corp., and came to URI in 1975. He researched the financial structure of marine-related businesses; co-authored strategic management textbooks; and held various URI administrative positions, including interim vice president for business and finance, associate and acting dean of the College of Business, department chair, and head of URI’s first small business center. He taught on- and off-campus graduate and undergraduate courses for 43 years. He is an instrument-rated private pilot, and enjoys sunfishing and racing sailboats. He and his wife Christine have three children and seven grandchildren.

ALBERT J. DELLA BITTA
Professor of Marketing

Albert Della Bitta received his Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts and joined the URI faculty in 1971. In 1979, he became associate director of the Research Center in Business and Economics; he was appointed director in 1981, and served in that role for 10 years. He was appointed chair of the Marketing Department in 1991. He has presented lectures and seminars nationally and internationally and has served as a consultant for business firms. He has been a reviewer for academic journals and conferences, and his research has been widely published. His principal teaching and research interests include consumer behavior, pricing, and marketing research.

RUBY ROY DHOILAKIA
Professor of Marketing

Ruby Roy Dhoilakia earned her Ph.D. from Northwestern University, came to URI in 1981, and retired as professor of marketing in the College of Business. During her career, she has been a prolific publisher of books, journal articles, and book chapters, and has presented her research extensively in international forums. She has chaired 10 doctoral dissertations in marketing and received several URI awards, including the URI Foundation Scholarly Excellence Award, the Sheila Black Grootman Faculty Outstanding Service Award, and the Advanced Career Faculty Research and Scholarship Award in the Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities. She was awarded a Fulbright Scholar Award to conduct research in Brazil in 2018-2019.

NANCY DOYLE-MOSS
Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing

Nancy Doyle-Moss earned her Master of Science in nursing education from URI in 1996. She served as second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force, graduated from flight nurse school, and was assistant chief nurse executive and nurse manager of immunizations for the Rhode Island National Guard, achieving the rank of lieutenant colonel. She joined the URI College of Nursing in 1997 and provided consistent leadership to the college. Her experience, enthusiasm, and knowledge have been invaluable assets to the College of Nursing.

JOANNE MADAMOU-SULLIVAN
Professor of French

JoAnn Madamou-Sullivan earned her Ph.D. at the Ohio State University and has been a URI faculty member since 1988. She has served as coordinator of URI’s Foreign Language Education Program, training many of Rhode Island’s world language teachers. She has published extensively on second language reading comprehension and in 2005 was the recipient of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages National Award for Outstanding Research in Foreign Language Education. She is the founder and original editor of an annual book series entitled Research in Second Language Learning and serves on the editorial board of a national journal, Foreign Language Annals.

YVETTE HARPS-LOGAN
Associate Professor of Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design

Yvette Harps-Logan earned her Ph.D. from Virginia Tech in 1990. She was a faculty member in the Department of Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design for 28 years. She taught courses in fashion retailing, consumer behavior, and fashion promotion. Her research on consumer behavior led to a joint appointment in the Department of Psychology. In addition to her faculty appointments, she served on numerous university committees and was the URI Faculty Athletics Representative to the NCAA. She received numerous URI awards, including the Faculty Excellence Diversity Award (2012), APAW Woman of the Year (2012), and the University College Advising Award (2010).

SURENDRAS. MALIK
Professor of Physics

Surendra Malik earned his Ph.D. at Agra University in 1960 and joined the URI faculty in 1962. He was instrumental in establishing the Ph.D. program in physics in 1964. During his tenure, he mentored many graduate students in the field of neutron physics. He served as chair of the Department of Physics from 1985–2000, where he presided over the rapid development of the department’s research program. In addition, he was heavily involved in university governance, serving for many years on the Faculty Senate. He is known for his devotion to the Department of Physics and his concern for the well-being of his graduate students.

MAUREEN MOAKLEY
Professor of Political Science

Maureen Moakley earned her Ph.D. in political science from Rutgers University. She spent four years at Connecticut College before coming to URI in 1992. She taught state politics, political theory, and American politics for 22 years. She taught the large, introductory lecture course on American government. She has published books and articles, mainly on Rhode Island politics, and has been a regular commentator on NPR and PBS on politics in Rhode Island. She was chair of the Department of Political Science and was active in university service, including developing and leading J-term courses in the Dominican Republic and Cuba.

JOHN J. POGGIE
Professor of Anthropology

After earning his Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Minnesota, John Poggie joined the URI faculty in 1969. While at URI, he became an internationally renowned scholar in cultural anthropology and human ecology, contributing to studies of modernization, fisheries, psychological anthropology, and research methods around the globe. He was a two-term editor in chief of the prestigious Journal, Human Organization. At URI, he chaired the Department of Sociology and Anthropology for many years, served on numerous graduate committees, and trained generations of URI anthropologists in anthropological theory and research methods. He continues to be active at URI, doing research and mentoring junior colleagues.

DEBORAH E. ROSEN
Associate Dean, College of Business

Deborah E. Rosen received her Ph.D. in marketing, with a minor in logistics, from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Her research focused on channel relationships and the early days of internet marketing. Supported by a grant from the University of Rhode Island Transportation Center (URITC), she developed the undergraduate major in supply chain management for the College of Business, a natural extension of her graduate studies. As executive director of the URITC from 2006–2017, she facilitated cross-disciplinary transportation research at URI. Her tenure as associate dean for the College of Business allowed her to continue to support college initiatives and innovations in business curriculum.
BARBARA MEAGHER SMITH
Associate Professor of Journalism
Barbara Meagher Smith began her journalism career in 1976 in a cable access television studio in Somerville, Massachusetts. Authoring and reporting at WPTZ-TV in Plattsburgh, N.Y. led her to WLNE-TV in Providence, where she specialized in investigating government waste. She entered academia at the University of Connecticut, then served on the journalism faculty at URI for four years. For many years, she was on the leadership of ACCESS/RI, the state’s freedom of information coalition, where she wrote about and advocated for keeping public information open and free.

GERALDINE THEADORE
Clinical Associate Professor of Communication Disorders
Geraldine Theadore enjoyed a 27-year career in the Department of Communication Disorders. She was an outstanding clinical supervisor in URI’s Speech and Hearing Centers, where students work alongside faculty experts, learning to provide speech and language services. Many Rhode Islanders, including children and families of URI staff and faculty, have been served by this program. She also developed a program for preschoolers with autism, a reading clinic for people with dyslexia, and provided opportunities for research and scholarship to URI students. She taught diagnostic methods and counseling, and was a beloved advisor.

WAYNE VELICER
Professor of Psychology (posthumous award)
Wayne Velicer received his Ph.D. in quantitative psychology from Purdue University in 1972 and joined the URI faculty in 1973. An engaging and knowledgeable educator, he taught essential topics in quantitative psychology. In addition, he pioneered the application of time series analysis to the behavioral sciences and he refined methods for measurement development. He was a principal developer of the transtheoretical model of behavior change, and, with colleagues at the Cancer Prevention Research Center, was awarded more than $60 million in grant funding. He was identified as one of the highest impact authors in psychology, and his work has been cited more than 46,000 times.

CLEMENT WHITE
Professor of Spanish
Clement White received his Ph.D. from Brown University, and has dedicated 30 years to teaching Spanish and Latin American literature at URI. He has been director of the Spanish Master’s Program for more than 20 years, inspiring students to pursue doctoral degrees. For more than two decades, he also served the Institute for Recruitment of Teachers, which awarded him a Distinguished Service Award for his extraordinary work. In addition to his productive scholarship, he is an accomplished poet. Among his many works are Decoding the Word: Nicolás Guillén as Maker and Debunker of Myth and From Here to There: Uneven Steps Marking Time, a collection of poems.

CHRISTIAN WITTWER
Associate Professor of Lighting Design
Christian Wittwer earned his M.F.A. in theatre at the University of Georgia in 1973, with postgraduate sabbaticals at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Westminster (U.K.). After working in Maryland’s professional and academic theatres as a scenic and lighting designer (Western Maryland College, the Maryland Ballet), he had a 37-year career at the University of Rhode Island, designing for many productions here, and for Pfizer Industries, Westerly’s Colonial Theatre, and the Alias Stage Company (now the Gamm). Following a sabbatical spent studying Jacobean theatre in England, he has recently focused on teaching and researching theatre history.

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Cum Laude *
Magna Cum Laude **
Summa Cum Laude ***
De reperaeam compesaed in 2017

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Catherine E. Cronin
Angélique A. Cruz
Jeremy M. Cullen **
Brian Vincent Cunningham
Ryan Curtis †
David L. Cushing
Aparicio Zunun Cum *
Amanda Rose Daluz
Casey E. D'Andra
Angélica D'Amore
Christina Franci D'Amore †
Francesca D'Angelo *
Jared Francis L. D'Angelo
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Sarah Elizabeth De La Cerda
Joe
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIROMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS

BACHOLER OF SCIENCE IN CELL AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

BACHOLER OF SCIENCE IN MARINE BIOLOGY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MEDICINE AND MEDICAL SCIENCE

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE
GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
SEATING AND LINE OF MARCH

RESERVED SEATING
GRADUATE FACULTY
MAJOR PROFESSORS
Ph.D.
D.N.P.
D.P.T.

MAJOR
DISABILITY SERVICES STATION

PLATFORM

GRADUATES ENTER

RYAN CENTER

NORTH LOBBY

GUESTS ENTER

SOUTH LOBBY

HOOD TRIM COLORS FOR GRADUATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS
*Ph.D. degrees are awarded during Sunday’s Main Commencement Ceremony

Doctor of Philosophy, Ph.D.—blue and white
Doctor of Nursing Practice, D.N.P.—apricot
Doctor of Pharmacy, Pharm.D. —black
Doctor of Physical Therapy, D.P.T.—spruce green
Master of Arts, M.A.—white
Master of Science, M.S.—golden yellow
Master of Business Administration, M.B.A.—drab (light brown)
Master of Environmental Science and Management, M.E.S.M.—gold
Master of Library and Information Studies, M.L.I.S.—lemon
Master of Marine Affairs, M.M.A.—white
Master of Music, M.M.—pink
Master of Oceanography, M.O.—golden yellow
Master of Public Administration, M.P.A.—peacock blue
Professional Science Master’s, P.S.M.—gold

TASSEL COLORS FOR UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGES

Arts and Sciences, B.A.—white
Arts and Sciences, B.S.—golden yellow
Arts and Sciences, B.M.—pink
Arts and Sciences, B.F.A.—brown
Business—drab (light brown)
Education and Professional Studies—light blue
Engineering—orange
Environment and Life Sciences—maize
Health Sciences—sage
Nursing—apricot
Pharmacy—olive
Complimentary shuttles will provide transportation between the Quadrangle and all other Commencement venues and parking lots from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**STOPS/ROUTES FOR SHUTTLES**
- RIPTA Flex Shuttle: Plains Road and RAM Lots to the Quadrangle area and back.
- RIPTA Flex Shuttle: Keaney and Boss Arena Lots to the Memorial Union and back.
- URI Vans: All Lots to the ceremonies and Commencement venues.
- Do not drive between venues.

**DISABILITY SERVICES STATIONS**
Located next to East Hall (at the northeast corner of the Quadrangle) and in front of Mackal Field House; or, in case of rain, at the Ryan Center (for ticket holders) and the Memorial Union Atrium.

**ADVISORIES**
- Vehicle and pedestrian traffic will be heavy throughout the day.
- Utilize shuttles to and from parking areas and Commencement venues.

**PARKING LOCATIONS**
- Plains Road
- To West Kingston Research Center
- General Commencement Parking
- 29

**MAPPING OF IMPORTANT BUILDINGS**
- TURF RESEARCH
- CROPS RESEARCH
- SKOGLEY
- GARDNER
- 177 PLAINS CENTER
- ROAD
- 50

**SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2018**
**GETTING AROUND CAMPUS**
- URI Vans: All Lots to the ceremonies and Commencement venues and parking lots from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- RIPTA Flex Shuttle: Plains Road and RAM Stops/Routes for Shuttles
- Do not drive between venues.
- Utilize shuttles to and from parking areas and Commencement venues.

**DISABILITY SERVICES STATIONS**
Located next to East Hall (at the northeast corner of the Quadrangle) and in front of Mackal Field House; or, in case of rain, at the Ryan Center (for ticket holders) and the Memorial Union Atrium.

**ADVISORIES**
- Vehicle and pedestrian traffic will be heavy throughout the day.
- Do not drive between venues.
- Utilize shuttles to and from parking areas and Commencement venues.

**GETTING AROUND CAMPUS**
Undergraduate Commencement Ceremonies
Sunday, May 20, 2018

The University of Rhode Island prides itself in providing premier public safety and emergency services.

In the event of an emergency, URI staff and emergency response officials may provide specific verbal guidance. For everyone’s safety, follow these instructions. Emergency messages may also be communicated by loudspeaker, emergency vehicle PA systems, and the URI All Campus Alert system.

At each venue throughout the day, please take the time to identify the nearest fire exit, locations of fire extinguishers, etc., and ensure that you and your family have a designated area to meet outside of the building. If you or someone else needs emergency assistance (police/fire/medical) at URI, please call:

**URI EMERGENCY Public Safety Dispatch: 401.874.2121**

Non-emergency public safety assistance may be obtained by dialing 401.874.4910. Please note that first aid medical assistance may also be obtained in person on the first floor of the Carlotti Administration Building. Emergency services are provided by: URI Campus Police Department, URI Emergency Medical Services, the Kingston Fire District, and several other assisting departments. These uniformed officials are posted throughout the campus.
WELCOME TO THE ALUMNI FAMILY

Congratulations to the Class of 2018! On behalf of more than 125,000 alumni worldwide, we are pleased to welcome you to the URI Alumni Association community.

As a member of the Alumni Association, you’ll find many ways to stay connected to URI, including social gatherings, special events, and great networking opportunities. Log in and create your profile in the URI Alumni Association online directory at alumni.uri.edu/youngalum so that you and your friends can stay in contact with each other, no matter where you are.

THE CENTER FOR CAREER AND EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION CONGRATULATES THE CLASS OF 2018

Congratulations! You may be graduating, but you’re still part of the URI community. Alumni Career Services is proud to help you along your career journey. We provide free support to alumni by advising on job searches, resumes, interviews, sustainability skills, professional development, and career planning around graduate school. Appointments by phone or in person, during the day, evening, and weekends, for your convenience. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call 401.874.9404 or visit our website at alumni.uri.edu/careerservices.

THE CLASS OF 2018 RHODY SENIOR CHALLENGE

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2018! As you officially become a URI alum, we invite you to honor your experiences here by making a gift supporting the URI Annual Fund, which provides immediate-use funds for students through scholarship, the Students First Fund, or areas where it’s needed most.

Whether you contribute $20.18, $18 or $5.18 (representing May 2018), your participation is what matters most. So help us show the university community that the Class of 2018 is taking the Rhody Senior Challenge, and be sure to encourage your classmates to follow suit!

Leave your mark and be counted! Visit urifoundation.org/seniorchallenge to learn how to make your gift to the URI Annual Fund. A special thanks to seniors who have already given and can be seen wearing their philanthropy honor cords at graduation!