



Class of 2011

JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY

*Twenty-fifth
Commencement Exercises*

THE ALAN SHAWN FEINSTEIN GRADUATE SCHOOL

Providence, Rhode Island
May 19, 2011

Dear Family, Friends and Graduates of the Class of 2011:



Today is a day of celebration. Our 25th Commencement Ceremony recognizes and honors the achievements of our graduates as they begin the next stage of their lives. For some, it will mean continuing to live in Rhode Island as they pursue their careers or further their education. For others, it will be an exciting opportunity in different state or country, strengthening Johnson & Wales' global reach. My colleagues and I wish today's graduates great success as they embark upon their futures.

There have been dramatic changes in the global and U.S. economy since our students first entered the university. During this economic unrest, one thing has remained constant: the value of a college degree. By choosing to come to Johnson & Wales University, our students are graduating today with the knowledge and skills, combined with experiential education and leadership opportunities that will propel them on the path to professional success.

To the friends, families and mentors of our graduates, I thank you all for the support you shared as these students pursued their education. To our graduates, I commend you for your accomplishments both here at JWU and in the communities that you will impact along the way as you pursue your passions, dreams and careers. Wherever life takes you, I hope you will remember our campus as a place for exploration and growth where you can return to renew acquaintances and share accomplishments.

On behalf of all the members of the JWU community – our faculty, staff and administration – I offer heartfelt congratulations and wish you peace and prosperity in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Irving Schneider". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Irving Schneider, Ph.D.
President, Providence Campus

Order of Exercises

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Mace Bearer — Jeffrey D. Senese, Ph.D., *vice president of academic affairs, Providence Campus*

Commencement Marshal — Frank A. Sargent, Ed.D., *director of the M.B.A. Program,
Alan Shawn Feinstein Graduate School, Providence Campus*

Commencement Marshal — Thomas DiPaola, Ph.D., *director of the Educational Leadership Doctoral Program,
Alan Shawn Feinstein Graduate School, Providence Campus*

Commencement Marshal — Karen M. Swoboda, *director of Teacher Education,
Alan Shawn Feinstein Graduate School, Providence Campus*

INTERNATIONAL PARADE OF FLAGS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Kim Frenze

INVOCATION

Travis Rymer, *protestant campus minister, Johnson & Wales University, Providence, R.I.*

INTRODUCTION OF THE CLASS OF 2011 STUDENT SPEAKER

Stacey L. Kite, D.B.A.

CLASS OF 2011 STUDENT ADDRESS

Bethany Zemba '11, *Ed.D., Educational Leadership*

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE CANDIDATES

Jeffrey D. Senese, Ph.D.

CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES

John J. Bowen '77, *chancellor, Johnson & Wales University*

Kwan Siu Lui-Tan, *founder and director, At-Sunrice GlobalChef Academy, Fort Canning Park, Singapore*

Irving Schneider, Ph.D., *president, Providence Campus, Johnson & Wales University*

John E. Ritacco, *president and CEO, Community Mutual Savings Bank and CMS Bankcorp Inc., White Plains, NY*

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Irving Schneider, Ph.D.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

John E. Ritacco

PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL AND GRADUATE DEGREE CANDIDATES

Jeffrey D. Senese, Ph.D.

CONFERRING OF DOCTORAL AND GRADUATE DEGREES

Irving Schneider, Ph.D.

INDUCTION INTO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Adil Bouzaffour '04, *business manager, MetLife*

BENEDICTION

Travis Rymer

ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL

Honorary Degree Recipient

JOHN E. RITACCO

Doctor of Business Administration



John E. Ritacco's notable banking career spans more than three decades with a variety of major financial institutions.

His career began at the former Fleet Bank in Providence, R.I., where he spent 15 years in retail banking, franchise leasing and other areas. With perseverance Ritacco worked his way up in the financial world, serving as senior vice president for both Union State Bank, Orangeburg, N.Y., and First Union National Bank (now Wachovia), White Plains, N.Y.

Since 2005 Ritacco has proudly served as president and CEO of CMS Bancorp, Inc. and Community Mutual Savings Bank in White Plains.

Some of the milestones in Ritacco's career were successfully converting Community Mutual Savings into a publicly-traded company on the NASDAQ exchange in 2007 and doubling the bank's assets over the past five years.

Actively involved in many charitable organizations, Ritacco has served on several boards including as director and chairman of the board of Junior Achievement of Hudson Valley from 2003 to 2005, and as a current board director of Westchester County Association. He is also a member of the American Bankers Association and volunteers for Habitat for Humanity of Westchester.

His admirable community endeavors have earned him the honors of the 2010 Mother Mary Walsh Corporate Award from Dominican Family Health Services and Father of the Year award from the American Diabetes Association in 2009.

Ritacco earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science at the University of Rhode Island.

Along with his wife, Jean, Ritacco resides in Waccabuc, N.Y. They have three children, David, Jason and Amanda.

Honorary Degree Recipient

KWAN SIU LUI-TAN

Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership

Kwan Siu Lui-Tan, founder and director of At-Sunrice GlobalChef Academy, in Singapore, developed a pioneering spirit early in life while being raised in, and exposed to, several countries throughout Asia. She gained her strong sense of dedication and self-assuredness at age 10, when she discovered a passion for swimming and became a national champion for both Hong Kong and Thailand by age 16.

These traits have served her well during her impressive career, beginning with social and consumer research and adult education and training, and later in culinary arts, education and entrepreneurship.

Her venture into culinary arts included launching the first brand of premixed Asian spices and the first branded, healthy soybean cooking oil, both sold throughout Asia.

In 2001, Lui-Tan founded At-Sunrice GlobalChef Academy with equal emphasis on Asian and Western cuisines. Within a year she offered the first Asian culinary arts study abroad program to JWU students. The academy, now internationally recognized, has more than 850 students from 32 countries.

Lui-Tan's many community pursuits include being vice chair of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra Ladies League and board of trustee chair for New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. She is a committed volunteer and member of the Singapore Chef's Association and Purdue University's Alumni Association. In 2006 she received the SPRING Singapore Lifetime Achievement Award by Singapore's Statutory Board's Standards.

Lui-Tan holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Purdue University and a master's degree in mass communication from the University of Hawaii. She and her husband, Leon Yuen Leung Lui, reside in Singapore and have a son, Pak Seng Lui and a daughter, Oi Leng Lui.



Directors Frank A. Sargent, Ed.D., Thomas DiPaola, Ph.D., Karen M. Swoboda and the faculty of the Alan Shawn Feinstein Graduate School proudly present their Classes of 2011.

Congratulations to Paul J. Colbert , Ph.D., Alan Shawn Feinstein Graduate School Teacher of the Year.

*Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership
Degree Recipients*

DAVID J. ALBA

Perceptions of Crisis Preparedness Among Rhode Island Public School Administrators and First Responders
Major Advisor: Robert K. Gable, Ed.D.

WILLIAM A. BOERNER

Transitional Leadership: Perceptions of Interim Mid-level Student Affairs Professionals
Major Advisor: Felice D. Billups, Ed.D.

KAREN BIGOS BRENNAN

Beginning Teacher Induction: Catholic School Administrators' Perceptions of Program Focus and Their Roles
Major Advisor: Ralph J. Jasparro, Ph.D.

MARYANN B. CASALE

Teachers' Perceptions of Professional Development: A Delivery Model
Major Advisor: Ralph J. Jasparro, Ph.D.

MICHELLE K. CASEY

Perceived Efficacy and Preparedness of Beginning Teachers to Differentiate Instruction
Major Advisor: Robert K. Gable, Ed.D.

DONNA MARIE COOK

Mentoring New Faculty at a Christian University in the Northeast: Developing a Framework for Programming
Major Advisor: Cynthia V. L. Ward, Ed.D.

SUSAN HEATHER COSIMINI

Female Administrators within Higher Education: Victories, Broken Barriers and Persisting Obstacles
Major Advisor: Stacey L. Kite, D.B.A.

KELLI ANN COURVILLE

Teachers' Perceptions of Core Literacy Components Used in Mandated Reading Curriculum
Major Advisor: Stacey L. Kite, D.B.A.

JENNIFER MARGARET DEFRANCE

Student Interactivity in Distance Learning: Using Discussion Boards in the Blackboard Learning System
Major Advisor: Felice D. Billups, Ed.D.

DORRIA L. DIMANNO

College/University Presidents and Crisis Communication: An Interpretive Content Analysis of Newspaper Coverage in the Northeast
Major Advisor: Cynthia V. L. Ward, Ed.D.

ANTHONY R. FRUZZETTI

Promoting Student Engagement With a Virtual Learning Community at an Urban, Private University in the Northeast
Major Advisor: Cynthia V. L. Ward, Ed.D.

JESSICA LEE HAMMOND

Massachusetts Superintendents' Perceptions of Multi-Hazard Emergency Plans
Major Advisor: Thomas DiPaola, Ph.D.

TARUN MALIK '90 M.S.

College Success: First Year Seminar's Effectiveness on Freshman Academic and Social Integration, Impact on Academic Achievement and Retention at a Southern Institution
Major Advisor: Martin Sivula, Ph.D.

TIMOTHY JACQUES MAYNARD

Relationship of Undergraduate Community Service to Alumni Community Involvement and Leadership
Major Advisor: Cynthia V. L. Ward, Ed.D.

MICHAEL E. MCGAUVRAN

High School Males' Perception of Education: The New Gender Gap
Major Advisor: Frank A. Pontarelli, Ph.D.

LAUREL SEVAL MESSINA

Examining an Adjunct Faculty Professional Development Program Model for a Community College
Major Advisor: Thomas Sepe, Ph.D.

JAVIER MONTAÑÉZ

Perspectives of Resilience and Recidivism Among Rhode Island Hispanic Male Adolescents as it Relates to Prior Incarceration
Major Advisor: Ralph J. Jsparro, Ph.D.

ELIZABETH A. MORIARTY

Relationship of Helicopter Parenting on Autonomy Development in First-Year College Students
Major Advisor: Stacey L. Kite, D.B.A.

TRACEY PAKSTIS-CLAIBORNE

College Adjustment and Student Leadership Roles: Perceptions of Black Students at Predominantly White Institutions
Major Advisor: Felice D. Billups, Ed.D.

DAISY JOHANNA SAM

Middle School Teachers' Descriptions of Their Level of Competency in the National Education Technology Standards for Teachers
Major Advisor: Ralph J. Jsparro, Ph.D.

SONN SAM

High School Principal Ratings of 21st Century Skills Implementation
Major Advisor: Ralph J. Jsparro, Ph.D.

MICHAEL JAMES SOLLITTO

Perspectives of Public School Teachers on the Characteristics of At-Risk Students
Major Advisor: Robert K. Gable, Ed.D.

MICHAEL THOMAS WHALEY

Relationship Between Principal Leadership and the Implementation of a Proficiency Based Graduation System
Major Advisor: Thomas DiPaola, Ph.D.

GEORGETTE P. WILSON

Fitting-in: Socio-Cultural Adaptation of International Graduate Students
Major Advisor: Cynthia V. L. Ward, Ed.D.

BETHANY C. ZEMBA

Graduate Students' Perceptions of Diversity Education and School Climate
Major Advisor: Stacey L. Kite, D.B.A.

Master of Education in Teaching and Learning Degree Recipients

Rebecca Ann Celio
Amanda Ann Dalton
Terri Jean Hebert
Roberta S. Idone

Raymond Kenneth Jackson Jr.
Faye Elizabeth Joost
Ariela McCaffrey
Ray J. McCue

Melanie Smith Noll
Craig Piermarini
Deborah L. Procopio
Laurie A. Tedeschi

Master of Arts in Teaching Degree Recipients

Elementary and Elementary Special Education

Samuel B. Abeshouse
Colleen O'Leary Anderson
Lauren A. Bonetti
Stephanie V. Brown
Catherine Elizabeth Bucco
Gina Marie Buontempo

Allyson Jessica Cascione
Cherie Laird Darsch
Cara Lee Gibbons
Kristen Elizabeth Laccinole
Edward Perry III

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Caitlin E. Regan
Melynda Ann Silva
Tiffany A. Spiridakos
Jessica L. Turner

Elementary Education and Elementary/Secondary Special Education

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Sally Ann Cascione
Jennifer Diane Mildred Colson
Christopher Darigan
Ronald L. De Palma
Nicole Elizabeth Desrosiers
Emily Dyer

Timothy Kevin Farrell
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Jamie Marie Medeiros
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Myles Evan Point

Carlos Ramirez
Robert Steven Slaughter
Morgan Beth Stein
Inna Ternovaya
Anna Clara Tovello
Hanna A. Vila

Business Education and Secondary Special Education

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Allison N. Cresci

Rachel Elizabeth Knowlton
Jane Howard Lazaras

Erin Jean Marino

Food Service Education

Elizabeth L. Bova
Michael A. Kukoski

Joshua J. Ogradowski
Christopher D. O'Reilly

Jessica Lynne Wilcox

*Master of Business Administration
Degree Recipients*

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Diplomas will be awarded upon completion of all university requirements.

The appearance of a student's name in this program does not necessarily indicate that all graduation requirements have been met. Graduate names are based on records posted on the university's Student Academic Services Web site, with spellings verified by students and submitted for publication as of April 18, 2011.



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 Providence Performing Arts Center. Once the academic recessional has ended, graduates and guests may return to the arena to use the stage as a backdrop for photographs.

For your convenience, today's 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 www.gradimages.com. Grad Images® has agreed to provide a free 5x7 of the graduate's choice to each graduate that provides his/her e-mail and mailing address to Grad Images®.

Symbols of Commencement

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 academic dress at Johnson & Wales University meets the standards set by the Intercollegiate Bureau of Academic Costume. All students wear the standard black gown and square “Oxford cap.”

Students graduating with at least a 3.40 cumulative grade point average (GPA) wear a gold cord to designate their honors status.

Bachelor’s degree recipients also wear academic hoods representing their higher level of education. The hood worn at JWU is black with blue, white and golden-yellow trim to signify the school colors.

The faculty and platform party wear regalia representative of the degrees they possess. The president and other university officials wear caps and gowns designed exclusively for JWU. The honorary degree recipients will wear the academic costume and hood appropriate for the degree being conferred upon them.

TASSEL

The tassels worn on the graduation caps are usually black in color and worn on the right front side of the cap before degrees are conferred and moved to the left after the degrees are awarded.

JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY MACE

The Johnson & Wales University mace symbolizes the ideals and values of JWU’s educational philosophy, and serves as a timeline of the university’s history. The mace was designed and created in 2002 to serve as an emblem of our ideals.

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.

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.

UNIVERSITY LOGOTYPE



JOHNSON & WALES
UNIVERSITY

The university logo was launched in October 2007. As JWU approaches its 100-year anniversary, the logo honors the past by incorporating the family crests of the two founders. It also holds a clear connection to the university seal, further positioning JWU as a leader in higher education. The official colors of blue and white with an accent of gold reflect the university’s history as well.