

UNH School of Law's 44th Commencement Ceremony



Watch the ceremony!

CONCORD, NH—The University of New Hampshire School of Law celebrated its 44th commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 18, 2019, in White Park. The law school awarded more than 75 juris doctor and graduate degrees. Graduates include students from China, South Korea, India, Singapore, Canada, and the United States.

The ceremony featured the awarding of two honorary degrees. Gordon Smith, Chairman Emeritus of Associated Utility Services and a well-respected expert in the field of intellectual property valuation, was awarded one. The other was awarded to Robyn Glaser, Vice President of the Kraft Group and a leader in sports, business, and the law. Glaser, who works closely with the New England Patriots, also delivered the keynote address.

UNH President James Dean, UNH Law Dean Megan Carpenter, Professor Sophie Sparrow and two graduating students who have been voted by their peers as speakers—Michele Peltz and Caitlin Foster Poole—also delivered remarks. This occasion marked the first UNH Law commencement for Dean, who became UNH's President last June.

The UNH Law community has much to celebrate. The law school is one of the most selective law schools in New England and has produced superb outcomes. Consistently ranked in the Top 100 overall by *U.S. News and World Report*, UNH Law is now ranked in the Top 5 for intellectual property, joining such prestigious schools as Stanford Law School, UC Berkeley School of Law, and New York University School of Law. The IP ranking is particularly

impressive when considering that UNH Law has been ranked in the Top 10 in IP ever since *U.S. News and World Report* began ranking IP programs almost 30 years ago.

Commencement speaker and honorary degree recipient Robyn Glaser, Vice President of the Kraft Group and a leader in sports, business, and the law.

The law school has likewise excelled at job placement and bar passage. The most recent data from the American Bar Association for the class of 2018 shows that 94.5 percent of JD graduates were employed (in jobs on the open market) within 10 months of graduation. In addition, first time bar takers in 2018 passed at a rate of 83.56% across 11 jurisdictions, including 100% pass rates in New York and Colorado. The ultimate bar pass rate for 2017 graduates is 91.3%.

UNH Law's statistical achievements capture the school's rich tradition of blending the study of law with innovation, entrepreneurship and an undying commitment to justice. Courses are taught by leading scholars and practitioners whose pathbreaking work includes, among many other fields, cutting-edge research in patent law, vaccine technologies, social media privacy, sports gaming and cryptocurrency. UNH Law students also receive extraordinary opportunities for externship placements in Fortune 500 companies and global law firms.

UNH Law also has deep roots in New Hampshire. These roots are highlighted by the award-winning Daniel Webster Scholar Program, which is a partnership between the law school and the New Hampshire Supreme Court and which leads to top students beginning their legal careers in New Hampshire. UNH Law also has the Warren B. Rudman Center for Justice, Leadership & Public Service—named after the late U.S. senator, Warren Rudman—and the Sports and Entertainment Law Institute and Health Law and Policy Program, both of which have created exciting employment and experiential opportunities for law school grads in New Hampshire and elsewhere in the U.S. The law school also recently launched online certificate programs in Sports Wagering & Integrity and Blockchain, Cryptocurrency & the law. This fall UNH Law launches a hybrid online-residential juris doctor with an Intellectual Property, Technology, and Information Law focus.

Innovation never stops at UNH Law, and that spirit was evident at Saturday's commencement.

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