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Congratulations Class of 2018

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Congratulations Class of 2018

May 18, 2018

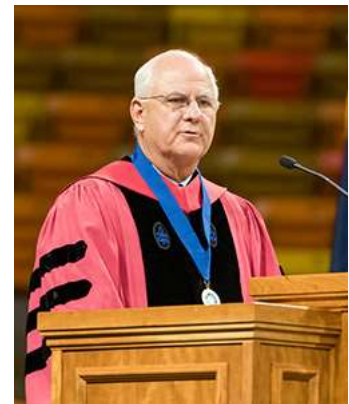
The Jon M. Huntsman School Commencement Ceremony held on May 5, 2018, recognized the 807 undergraduates earning their bachelor's degree. Dean Douglas Anderson introduced the class of 2018, led by Huntsman School Teacher of the Year Polly Conrad, a lecturer in Management Information Systems. Accounting student Dillon Pierson gave the valedictory address, acknowledging that as graduates they have a greater capacity to help the world. Pierson challenged his classmates that when faced with the choice to do the easy thing or the mighty thing that they live the Huntsman School motto to "Dare Mighty Things."

After the awarding of diplomas, Dean Anderson gave remarks honoring the school's namesake, Jon M. Huntsman, who passed away on February 2, 2018. Anderson stated that Jon Huntsman would often say "I have been observing Utah State University for the past 50 years, and this is the finest college in America. I didn't go there, but I recognize it as the institution where I would go today if I had to select the best university." Anderson also noted that Jon and Karen Huntsman have devoted their lives and \$1.5 billion to improve the human condition, working to eradicate cancer, and to provide educational opportunity for thousands of students.

"In 2007, he [referring to Huntsman] challenged us to build a business school that produces students who can compete with the best and the brightest anywhere in the world. We were not there in 2007 and I told him so. 'Dean Anderson,' he said, 'We are not investing in Utah State because of where you are today. We are investing in Utah State because of what we can help you achieve in the future.' Last year, as you know, he doubled his investment to more than \$50 million and helped us secure another \$25 million from his friend, Charles Koch. Were he with us still, he would be very proud of each of you graduates today." The ceremony continued with a video featuring Jon Huntsman speaking directly about Utah State University and the Huntsman School and his hopes for the graduates.

Anderson gave these parting words to the graduates, "As you leave here today, I invite you and I challenge you to commit yourself to becoming a leader of distinction—in your home, in your community, and in the world of commerce and public affairs. Remember our motto: Dare Mighty Things. And remember: The world needs more Aggies—in the four corners of the world, leading lives of meaning and contribution."

At the USU graduate commencement and hooding ceremony the previous day, 131 Huntsman School students were honored with master's degrees.





[Jon M. Huntsman Memorial Video](#)

[2018 Huntsman School Commencement Video](#)

[2018 Graduate Hooding Ceremony Video](#)

[2018 Commencement Ceremony Photo Gallery](#)