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Letter from the Vice President for Research

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Letter from the Vice President for Research



t Wayne State University, we have long viewed Aour mission as embedded in the life of our community, one of America's great cities, which leads to a focus on urban issues and a commitment to social action. Wayne State University's urban mission is manifest in our history, location and tradition, and the commitment to this mission has been reaffirmed as part of the vision for WSU as the model research urban university for the 21st century. WSU has a rich history and long tradition of innovation - developing new knowledge and products, discovering "why" so we can know "how," offering creative solutions to real-world problems, and educating our students. Here at Wayne State, research serves as a bridge between access and excellence.

The research enterprise at Wayne State has undergone fundamental changes in the past decade, leading to significant success. Some of our success stories are shared here. Multi-disciplinary, multi-investigator, and multi-institutional projects; opportunities for commercialization and entrepreneurship; economic development; and translational research are just some of the influences that have shaped the work we do. Most important, however, is the fact that our achievements would not be possible without the talent, commitment, and investment of our exceptional faculty whose ideas are transformational.

In this issue of *New Science*, we offer you a sample of the groundbreaking advances in our research and scholarship, often conducted collaboratively with partners such as the University Research Corridor, Children's Hospital of Michigan, and the Henry Ford Health System. Alliances such as these not only create more opportunities for new ideas, but also support translating our research into action faster, better, and smarter.

Our faculty's commitment to foster teaching and research programs that educate future leaders provides many with the knowledge to improve the world in which we live. Wayne State University is at the forefront of pioneering approaches critical to economic growth, solving universal problems, and improving the quality of urban life here at home, across the nation, and around the world.

I hope you enjoy this issue of New Science.

Hilary H. Ratner, Ph.D.

