

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A MESSAGE FROM NJIT PRESIDENT ROBERT A. ALTENKIRCH

"Change alone is unchanging."

Heracitus

As a technological research university, NJIT is focused on promoting positive change through education in many scientific disciplines and the search for new knowledge on many frontiers. Articles in this issue reflect the breadth of our mission in science and technology. Topics range from groundbreaking research into solar influences on terrestrial telecommunications to engineering structures better able to withstand destructive storms that may be increasing in frequency and intensity due to global climate change.



NJIT's evolving commitment to change has other dimensions as well. They include continually expanding the opportunities for affordable higher education available to our nation's most talented young women and men. The financial pressures that a growing number of American families face today make this historic commitment on the part of our university more vital than ever before. Increasingly, NJIT is also engaged in the economic development of our host city, the State of

New Jersey and the nation as a whole. A story in this issue specifically celebrates our dynamic role in the renaissance of Newark, the city that has been home to NJIT for more than 125 years.

Our alumni are partners in every phase of this exciting change, and we have endeavored to build ever stronger bonds with our graduates, encouraging greater participation in shaping the future of their alma mater. Accordingly, this issue features the new Alumni Association of NJIT, formed in response to the call from alumni leaders for an organization that will serve all graduates in new and expansive ways.

In addition, with this issue of *NJIT Magazine*, change is communicated by more than the content of the articles. The magazine has an entirely new look, one designed to mirror the energy of the NJIT experience in the 21st century. Don't hesitate to share your comments about the new design with us, or your thoughts about any aspect of *NJIT Magazine*. We want to hear from you; we want you to be part of the ongoing change at NJIT.

Robert A. Altenkirch

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