

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A MESSAGE FROM NJIT PRESIDENT JOEL S. BLOOM

A UNIQUE PRESENCE

Members of the NJIT community are at work in a very expansive arena, from laboratories on campus to the New Jersey coastline and the harsh environment of Antarctica. It is a presence characterized by research at the frontiers of science and a commitment to economic and social engagement. It is a presence that gives NJIT, a university dedicated to science and technology, unique standing among New Jersey's public institutions of higher education.

Sustaining and expanding NJIT's diverse achievements and commitments require resources adequate for serving our students with world-class instruction and fostering research in state-of-the-art facilities. In significant measure, these resources are available thanks to the generosity of the many friends of NJIT listed in *Honor Roll*, again part of a special issue of the magazine.

The wide-ranging efforts highlighted in this issue include internationally acknowledged research in the biological sciences and recognition for the Warren Street Village from the New Jersey Alliance as a key educational infrastructure project. The highly topical "Dealing with Number 5" features work by Professor Marino Xanthos and his colleagues to advance plastics technology in ways that are sustainable as well as commercially innovative. Describing how students, alumni and staff are assisting with recovery from a devastating weather event, "In the Wake of Sandy" focuses on engagement that complements environmental evaluation by NJIT scientists and initiatives by our Center for Resilient Design.

"At the Edge" reports on an NJIT team that travels to the South Pole. It's responsible for overseeing the collection of data that includes interaction between solar phenomena and Earth's near-space environment – data essential for protecting our communications and power infrastructure.

NJIT is committed to giving students opportunities to share in these and many other areas of research, and to encouraging their contributions to social improvement. In "Focused on Students," Vice President for Academic Support and Student Affairs Charles Fey comments on the challenges of assuring that young men and women will have the richest possible educational experience at NJIT.

On behalf of all at NJIT, I thank every *Honor Roll* donor for your help in supporting the accomplishments described in this issue, and for continuing assistance that I know will lead to even greater and more varied success in the years ahead. You are invaluable partners in our university's presence on many exciting frontiers.



PS: I'm also very pleased to report that at press time Governor Christie approved nearly \$100 million in grants for campus infrastructure projects. The grants, now submitted for final approval by the State Legislature, will continue to build NJIT's STEM leadership. To learn more, visit www.njit.edu/president/bond-act.

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