

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A MESSAGE FROM NJIT PRESIDENT JOEL S. BLOOM

EXPANDING THE UNIVERSITY'S ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

NJIT has the potential to significantly improve daily life for millions of people through its excellent programs in education, service, and research. Fulfilling the promise of engineering, science, and technology has always been fundamental to our university's mission. But, in the 21st century, NJIT has become engaged in initiatives that can have a far greater impact on society.

Two features in this issue of the magazine highlight NJIT's strategic commitment to building connections between the life sciences and a wide range of complementary disciplines. "Protecting Who We Are" focuses on understanding and developing better treatment for a health problem that is making headlines across the nation – traumatic brain injury, or TBI.

TBI is a leading cause of disability and death in the United States, including brain impairment stemming from concussions in sports such as football. TBI also is the tragic signature wound of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, affecting many of the military personnel injured in combat. The effort to help those afflicted by TBI from all causes is engaging NJIT's faculty and students who are collaborating with colleagues doing related research at other institutions, among them colleagues affiliated with the Veterans Affairs New Jersey Health Care System.

In profiling the recipients of the most recent NJIT Overseers awards for outstanding research, "Excellence Recognized" is a succinct account of achievement and future promise on additional biomedical frontiers. The pioneering work of Professor Treena Livingston Arinze and Research Professor Michael Jaffe clearly indicates the positive outcomes possible with convergence across diverse scientific and technological fields.

A third feature in this issue, "On Common Ground," covers the opening of the Warren Street Village complex, the new home of NJIT's residential Albert Dorman Honors College and our fraternities and sororities. The completion of Warren Street Village has both local significance and major importance far beyond the NJIT campus. As a catalytic part of the Gateway Project, Warren Street Village reaffirms our engagement in the ongoing redevelopment of Newark. It will help to expand the borders of renewal toward a future where the city offers a growing number of career opportunities attractive to NJIT graduates as well as other capable young men and women.

The opening of Warren Street Village is a prime example of NJIT's continuing commitment to providing an educational experience that fosters social awareness and exceptional academic talent. The students of NJIT's Greek organizations and Albert Dorman Honors College have a tradition of service to the Greater Newark community, state, and nation. The scientific and technical knowledge that our students acquire provides an extraordinary foundation for their personal success and the communities they serve. The desire and ability to use that knowledge after graduation will make life better and benefit people everywhere.



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