From the President

Past, present and future

We have been preparing for this moment for a while now. We’ve taken the various departments and units that are associated with medical and health care education and we’ve organized them in the most strategic manner possible.

We’ve opened the Center for Molecular Medicine for medical research, the William N. Pennington Health Sciences Building for interdisciplinary medical and nursing education, and are making effort to own a Las Vegas medical campus.

We’ve committed to cutting-edge, interdisciplinary training of our future doctors, nurses and health care professionals in an effort to meet the needs of our growing state.

We’ve hired a strong, visionary person to lead an ambitious statewide effort—urban to rural, north to south—to connect health science expertise with the health care challenges facing Nevada.

This is medical and health care education’s time at the University of Nevada, Reno.

In February, we embarked on this new era when the University announced the appointment of Dr. Tom Schwenk as our new dean of the School of Medicine and vice president of the Division of Health Sciences.

Tom was the right choice for this role, not only because of his background as the chair of one country’s most well-regarded Family Medicine departments at the respected University of Michigan Medical School, but because he clearly understood that if we are to succeed at this moment, we must work together. His agenda for the future is firmly rooted in the notion that our next generation of leaders in science, medicine and health must learn first-hand that innovation and impact can only come when it is rooted in interdisciplinary collaboration.

There will be challenges ahead of us, certainly. Yet attainment of the goal of the highest possible quality of health care for the citizens of Nevada is closer to our reach than ever before. This is our University’s time.

You will note that this issue’s theme revolves around the value of the libraries, special collections and archives of our University. In the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, we have one of the most technologically advanced libraries in the country. In addition to the Knowledge Center’s Special Collections and University Archives, our campus is home to the Basque Library, as well as the Savitt Medical Library and the DeLaMare Science and Engineering Library.

Each of these libraries has its own personality and purpose, which, taken together, make our institution a true leader for the preservation and dissemination of a kind of intellectual capital that generates value for all Nevadans. For our campus, our libraries, archives and special collections serve as a constant reminder of what our institution and its people once were, what they are today, and, thanks to the treasure of information that is right at our fingertips, what they can be tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Johnson
President

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