



A Message from the Dean

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

-Margaret Mead

Considering the individuals and programs profiled in this issue of the Drexel University College of Medicine online *Alumni Magazine*, the preceding quote from anthropologist Margaret Mead readily comes to mind. This magazine, much like our College, is filled with the stories of thoughtful, committed people doing extraordinary work. Whether “the world” is one family or the global community, Drexel physicians and scientists are changing it for the better.

The College of Medicine is fortunate so many of our faculty use their talents to help people across the globe. As you will read, our faculty and alumni can be found throughout the world helping those in greatest need. Similarly, at the local level, Dr. Wilbur Oaks, an alumnus and faculty member, has made a tremendous difference in the lives of Philadelphia’s homeless.



Collaboration is another key theme in this issue. The nationally recognized Spinal Cord Research Center brings together faculty from several departments, unified in their quest to ameliorate the devastating consequences of spinal cord injury. Likewise, the Human Cognition Enhancement Program seeks to create a synthesis among diverse faculty in the College of Medicine and Drexel University who are researching varied aspects of human brain function.

We can also take great pride in our most recent alumni – and residents – who are similarly making a difference. There is exciting news about the College’s Medical Jeopardy Team, as well – reigning state champs on the verge of a national legacy.

Selfless giving and collaboration are ideals in the medical profession. This noble vision is often lost in the daily tasks of clinical work, research, and paper pushing. Yet the stories in this issue – and across the College – reveal these virtues to be very much alive at Drexel Medicine. Our alumni are changing the world, oftentimes starting in their own backyard. To quote Grace Kavjian, a great friend of the College profiled in this issue, “You can’t ever minimize what one life can do.”

As always, we want to hear from you! Please let us know what aspects of the Drexel University College of Medicine you would like to see us cover in future issues. What topics interest you? Whom and what would you like us to feature? In addition, we invite you to share your professional and personal stories with us. Graduates of the College of Medicine are spread

throughout the globe and touch thousands of lives as physician-healers. When you read the online *Alumni Magazine*, we hope it instills pride in our recent achievements and in the more than 160-year history underlying Drexel University College of Medicine. We look forward to the future with excitement and the greatest of expectations.

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