



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Detailing the Future



here is nothing like a dream to create the future.

—Victor Hugo

A positive vision of the future drawn with bold, energetic strokes is at the heart of success in education at every level. At a technological research university such as NJIT, the optimism of educators is strengthened by belief that science and technology can improve life for people today and for the generations who will follow us. But as essential as an overarching vision of better things to come may be, it takes a plan of action to translate that vision into reality.

At NJIT, we are developing such a plan, one that encompasses a clearly defined set of strategic priorities and benchmark objectives for the next decade. University-wide taskforces are being charged with fleshing out the best tactics for enriching the quality of life on campus and increasing faculty, staff and student satisfaction; attracting high-achieving students from diverse national and international backgrounds; developing a core of nationally recognized programs; generating more financial resources from private sources; and improving rankings in research and intellectual property development.

On campus, implementation of initial phases of our plan for the future can be seen in steel and concrete, and in landscape projects to improve the physical environment. There are new spaces dedicated to NJIT's educational and research mission, as well as to our alumni. The recently opened East Building will house our growing biomedical engineering department and Albert Dorman Honors College. Shortly, historic Eberhardt Hall will be refurbished to accommodate alumni gatherings, offices for Alumni Relations and for Development, the university's fundraising arm, and to provide a home for the Alumni Association of NJIT. Renovations scheduled for completion in 2004 will truly make our Campus Center a focal point of vibrant campus life for every student.

As much as we are looking toward the future at NJIT, our achievements in years to come will grow out of our many past accomplishments and programs in education and research now under way. This issue highlights current work by faculty and students with critical import for the economy and security of New Jersey and the nation, and our commitment to the commercialization of NJIT intellectual property in partnership with business and industry.

Please visit the NJIT Website regularly for updates on our progress in all of these areas, and for news about the continuing process of restructuring public higher education in New Jersey. I also encourage you to visit the campus if you have the opportunity and haven't done so recently. It's an exciting time to be at NJIT. ■

Robert A. Altobelli