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From the Dean: Opportunities to Break Down Barriers

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Opportunities to Break Down Barriers

In these unique and historic times, I hope this newsletter finds everyone healthy and safe.

The health, safety and well-being of our DePaul students, faculty and staff have been, and will always be, paramount. During this global pandemic that has had such a tremendous impact on our daily lives, it is even more important for all of us to rely on good science to make vital decisions for ourselves and our families, communities, nation and world. As the new Dean of the College of Science and Health (CSH), I am immensely honored to be part of a committed family of faculty and staff, talented and able students, and exceedingly loyal alumni who rally together during times of adversity. We see challenges not as barriers, but as opportunities to learn, grow and devise innovations that build a strong foundation for future advancement.

In line with the strategic mission of the university and CSH, we are working now more than ever to leverage the expertise and resources of faculty, staff, students and community partners to develop programming, courses and research opportunities. At the same time, we seek practical knowledge of social justice issues to inform our diversity, equity and inclusion policies and practices and to promote systemic change. I invite our alumni to submit ideas and participate in planning, programmatic evaluation and/or resource development related to these initiatives, including during our CSH 10th anniversary celebration slated for spring 2021. I am excited to announce that the planning for this event is well underway.

The anniversary will be a time for reflection, connection and projection of the purpose and vision of the college as it has grown and evolved since its



founding in 2011. It is a celebration of “a decade of fostering new scientists and researchers to engage in a lifetime of social justice” that speaks to the full range of graduates in science and health and builds new bridges to attract future students who embody the CSH vision. It will feature a full program of lectures, symposia, exhibits and community engagement activities that foster lively intellectual exchanges to fuel the scholarly innovations that are part of the CSH culture. The anniversary will also serve as an opportunity for CSH to showcase strategic goals and connect them to fundraising priorities that align with DePaul’s ambitious \$60 million [Now We Must: The Campaign for DePaul’s Students](#).

The following pages highlight the many ways in which our faculty, staff, students and alumni are helping to meet the needs of the local community and beyond. I look forward to continuing to foster and build connections with alumni as we plot a path to advance the mission of CSH.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Stephanie T. Dance-Barnes

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