The good side of change

Emory University and the Woodruff Health Sciences Center are places in constant flux. We are charting new waters in health care, redefining the way 21st-century medicine is delivered, and creating models for the health care of the future. Change also is afoot in our schools, as we open new buildings, develop new curricula, and send students around the world to learn to solve global health challenges. Change likewise is coming to our publications.

Many of our readers are familiar with our magazine *Momentum*. That publication, which was the brainchild of Michael Johns, my predecessor here at Emory and now chancellor of the university, captured more than 20 national and regional awards and was warmly received by its audience of faculty, staff, and friends of the health sciences. Now we want to share the big picture health care issues and challenges, the ground-breaking research, and the clinical care updates regularly covered in *Momentum* with an expanded audience—in our community and across the country.

We’re excited to continue to share our discoveries and vision of 21st-century health care with you in *Emory Health Sciences*, a retooled magazine focused on the Woodruff Health Sciences Center. In its pages, we highlight the remarkable work being done throughout our center in education, teaching, research, and patient care. We pledge to bring to you a quarterly publication packed with new cures for old ills, the latest health care policy analysis, cutting-edge breakthroughs in basic science that can be translated into patient care, and novel ideas on how to revitalize medicine to put the patient at the center of all we do.

In this issue, you’ll see that we’re doing just that. Our cover story takes you behind the scenes to see the steps the university is taking for emergency preparedness. Emory is a major resource for our region not only for excellent health care every day but also in the case of extraordinary or catastrophic events. We must be prepared for the worst, and we must all share and build the knowledge and experience to respond under the most challenging circumstances. *Emory Health Sciences* also allows readers to spend a night with the trauma team at Grady Hospital, the only level-1 trauma center in North Georgia. We’ve also included science features on a simple new test for colon cancer now in development and a common compound that may help boost the immune system to fight against flu.

In my first few months here, I can see that taking on difficult and important challenges is something that comes naturally in the health sciences at Emory, something reflected in these pages. I look forward to tackling change with you in the months and years ahead.

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