

Thank you



EMORY
UNIVERSITY

Office of the Senior
Vice President for Research



September 1, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Every year brings a share of both challenges and opportunities. None of us could have imagined last August that we would experience a global pandemic. While many of our faculty and researchers have seen your work paused, you all have continued to create and make extraordinary progress. Despite unprecedented times, significant anxieties regarding the health and welfare of your families, friends, co-workers, and staff, and dealing with isolation or child and elder care, what's emerged is a stout resilience and intensified sense of collaboration. Faculty have worked harder than ever, and the Office of Research Administration has seen an increase in proposals submitted by 10% over FY19 and has processed 3555 awards on behalf of Emory faculty.

Hence, I am proud to announce that **Emory University has reached a new research funding milestone of \$831 million** during FY20! "This new funding milestone marks a significant achievement for Emory," said Emory University President Gregory L. Fennes. "It's a testament to the incredible drive and ambition of all those who participate in the research enterprise of our University. And it's a reminder that, together, we can advance our mission, not only this year but also well into the future."

COVID-19's impact is unique and evolving. Our researchers, across an array of disciplines, marshaled their resources and expertise to battle the virus. With signature research programs in COVID-19 testing, vaccine development, and health disparities, Emory is making profound advancements for humanity. Funding for COVID-19 research projects alone received \$88.3 million. With names like Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics and Operation Warp Speed, the Office of Research Administration has stepped up to support these funding opportunities in record time, turning around subawards and IRB reviews in days and developing a new service model for large and complex awards.

COVID-19 research was only one part of our phenomenal research portfolio. Among Emory's signature research programs, Emory's global research footprint continues to grow across basic science, human health, and the environment, and has garnered over \$119.9 million. Researchers in brain health have been awarded approximately \$72.5 million in areas like neuroscience, Alzheimer's, depression, and anxiety. Emory is also making strides in its reputation and funding for the arts and humanities with an estimated \$2.6 million in foundation awards this year.

One such project in the Candler School of Theology, *Theological Education Between the Times*, has been recognized for its work by the Lilly Endowment and awarded \$1.2 million to encourage conversations on the purposes of theological education in seasons of change. Another example is the Law School's Center for the Study of Law and Religion, which also received support from the Lilly Endowment to continue promoting path-building scholarship, teaching, and public programs on the interaction of law and religion around the world. Emory researchers are providing insights that help understand and lift the human condition.

It is our privilege to be your partner as we strengthen collaboration, foster discovery and innovation, and amplify the University's reputation as the destination for research excellence. Our commitment to these goals and to you is deep and unwavering. A simple thank you cannot adequately express the profound honor it is to serve our research community.

Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah Bruner".

Deborah Watkins Bruner, RN, PhD, FAAN
Senior Vice President for Research