2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Advancing Together





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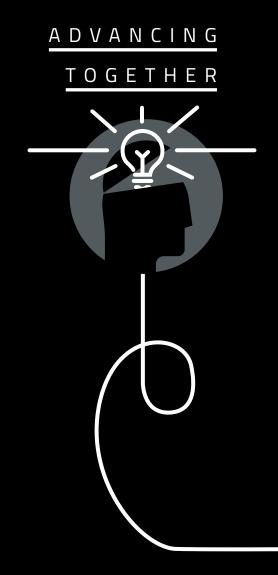


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"I DO [RESEARCH] BECAUSE I'M CURIOUS
AND LOVE SOLVING PROBLEMS.
I THINK 'WHAT ARE THE BIG PROBLEMS
AND WHAT PART CAN I PLAY TO
SOLVE THEM?' AND I THINK MAYBE
I CAN MAKE A DENT."

—Dominique Durand,
Distinguished University Professor and the E.L. Linsedth
Professor of Biomedical Engineering



Research

The unknown doesn't intimidate us at Case Western Reserve—
it inspires. We see it as an opportunity—to understand, discover,
solve and create. By tackling tough questions, our faculty, staff
and students truly do think beyond the possible.





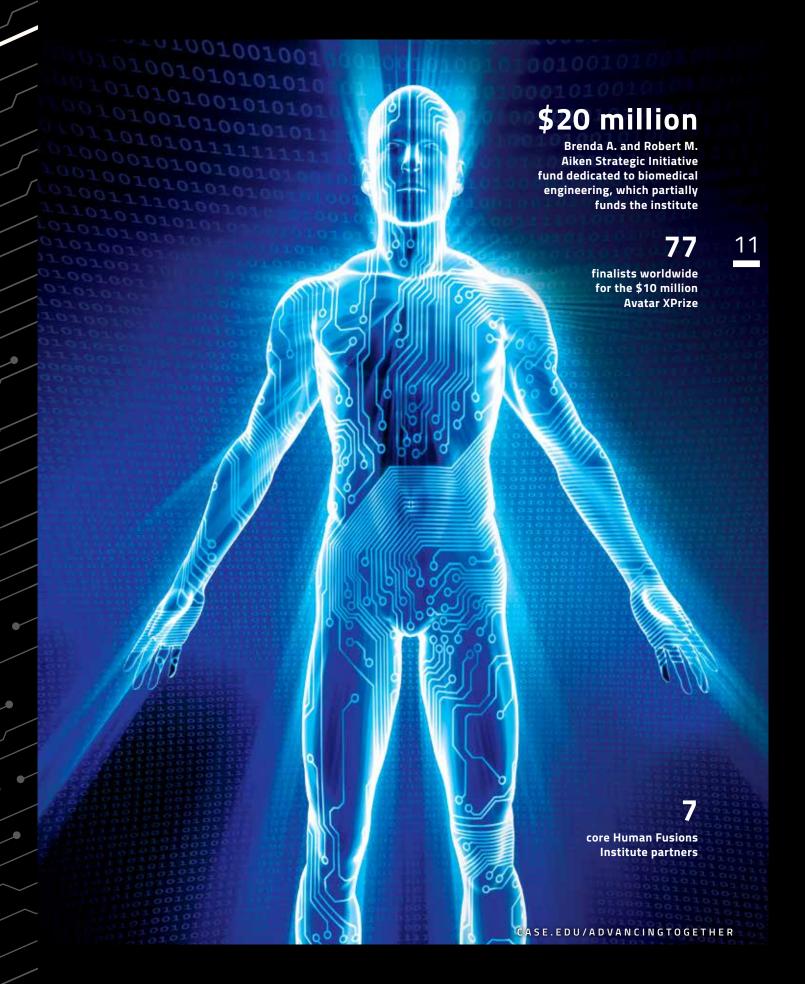
Dustin Tyler wants to make humans more capable—and make technology more human. And the judges of a \$10 million global competition want to give him the chance.

His team's application is one of 77 selected to advance in the Avatar XPrize, an international contest in which participants work to create a system that can convey human presence to another location in real time.

A Case Western Reserve professor of biomedical engineering, Tyler already has led restoration of a sense of touch through a prosthetic hand—and, in turn, perception of pressure. The former allowed a husband to feel his wife's hand, while the latter gave a grandfather the chance to pick up his granddaughter safely. And, recently, his team's work allows an individual to control their prosthesis like it is their hand—just by thinking about it.

He's since formed the university's Human Fusions
Institute, which aims to enable "the human mind to
transcend the barriers of the body" via neural interfaces,
and now is working to advance to the XPrize's semifinals,
to be announced in April 2021.

No matter the outcome, the institute's efforts will continue. "Our capability is no longer limited to the barriers of our skin," Tyler said. "We can extend our sense of self through technology and have shared human experiences at an entirely new level."



10

After research trips to Cyprus and Ethiopia in the spring, Elizabeth Bolman planned to deliver a lecture in Egypt about her two decades of work at four holy Coptic (Egyptian Christian) sites.

But like so much else in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic upended her travels and turned her in-person appearance into an online presentation—except hers reached more than 700 people around the world.

Speaking from her Northeast Ohio home,
Bolman detailed how the collaboration among Egyptian
and U.S. organizations yielded new knowledge and
broad appreciation of the small sect's cultural
history and influence.

Their documentation and preservation work "revealed treasures that had not been seen for centuries and were therefore unknown to scholars of the larger medieval world," explained Bolman, chair of the Department of Art History and Art, which this year received a \$500,000 grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for its art history doctoral program with Cleveland Museum of Art.

"Now, they are making significant contributions to the body of knowledge about medieval art—and adding four jewels of world heritage."



Toward Better Care— and a Cure

When Northeast Ohio's leading health researchers came together to attack Alzheimer's, federal officials took notice.

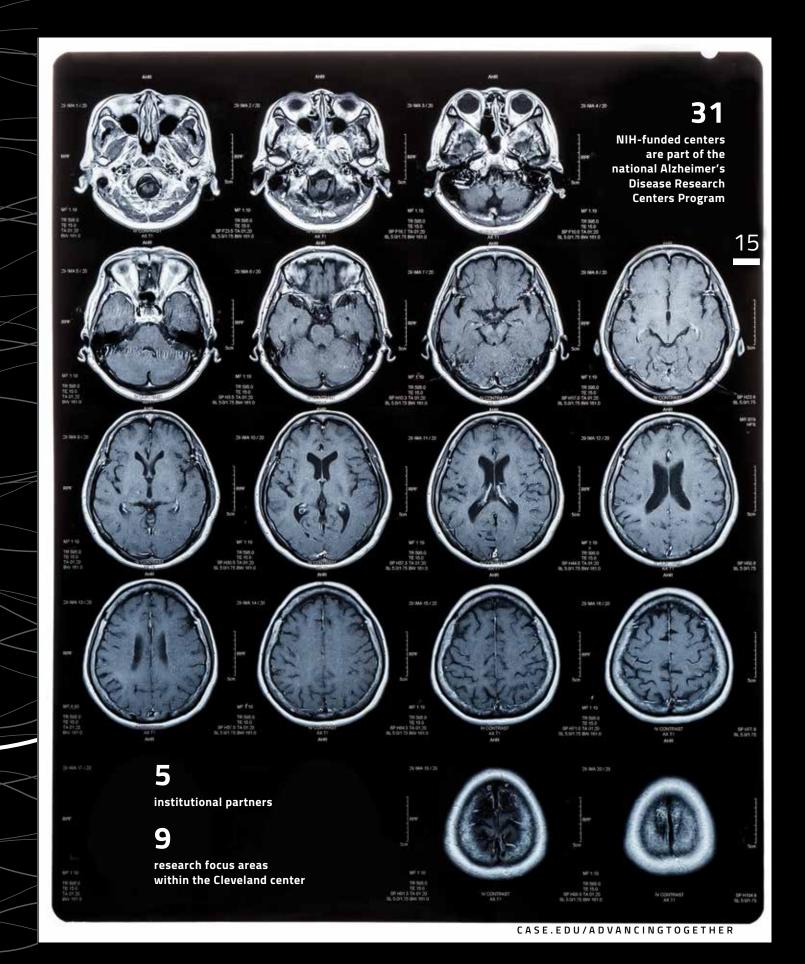
Defeating the devastating disease requires more than specialists in brain health and aging; it demands experts in data, drug development, education and outreach too.

After all, the disease afflicts one of every 10 people in the U.S. aged 65 or older. And its devastation affects millions more—caregivers battling against relentless cognitive decline, adult children no longer recognized by their parents, and grandchildren who will never know family members as they really were.

But when clinicians and scientists from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland Clinic, Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center, the MetroHealth System and University Hospitals collaborate, the potential for progress soars exponentially.

Leaders at the National Institute for Aging were impressed enough to award the team a \$4.2 million grant, and formal designation as an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center. It's the first in Ohio, and follows joint centers launched with universities like Harvard and Johns Hopkins.

"Alzheimer's cuts across all ethnicities and all socioeconomic classes," said Jonathan Haines, chair of the university's Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences and leader of the center's Data Management and Statistics Core. "[Northeast Ohio's] diverse urban and rural population, combined with detailed genetic and clinical information ... means this new Cleveland center is uniquely positioned to contribute significantly to the national research agenda."



By age 23, individuals with elevated blood-lead levels as children were more likely to

have relied on public assistance

programs, such as Temporary

Assistance for Needy Families (53% more likely), homeless

services (40% more likely) and Supplemental Nutrition

Assistance Program

(17% more likely)

ANCINGTOGETHER

A Fair Chance

16

Everyone wins when released prisoners get jobs.

They can contribute to the economy, pay their share of taxes and dramatically reduce the likelihood they will be incarcerated again.

But for decades, a single box on application forms served as a boulder-sized obstacle to employment.

It required disclosure of criminal convictions, which often ended consideration of the candidate before the process even began.

Since Hawaii first passed a law to "ban the box" in 1998, another 34 states have followed suit. But the approach never reached the federal level until last year, when Weatherhead School of Management's Daniel Shoag helped convince Congress of its merits.

Research co-authored by the economics faculty member informed a bill to remove the question from government and government contractor hiring practices—and when academic critics argued against the measure, Shoag and his colleagues wrote directly to lawmakers. The "Fair Chance Act" became law late in 2019—and takes effect in December 2021.

As Shoag said, "This is a great example of how research can inform the legislative process."

700,000

job seekers expected to benefit from the Fair Chance Act (National Employment Law Project)

30%

increase in a candidate's chances of landing a public-sector job under Ban the Box policies



CWRU ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

"IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT CREATIVITY.

IT'S ABOUT BEING ABLE TO IDENTIFY

PROBLEMS THAT NEED SOLUTIONS,

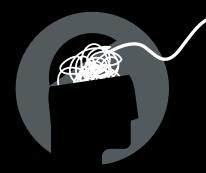
AND KNOW HOW TO IMPLEMENT THEM

SUCCESSFULLY. WITHOUT THE PROCESS,

AN IDEA IS JUST AN IDEA."

— Fehmida Kapadia (GRS '12, biology), adjunct professor in the Master of Engineering Management program

A D V A N C I N G T O G E T H E R



Innovation

Our faculty, staff and students know how to navigate change; in fact, they excel at it. In labs and classrooms on and off campus, they come together to develop creative solutions to today's pressing problems and tomorrow's emerging opportunities.

Engineering Solutions for COVID-19

When the pandemic's arrival in Ohio sent most classes remote, Case Western Reserve's entire campus grew eerily quiet.

Support and services continued for the limited number of students staying in university housing, and medical researchers adapted to new prevention protocols that allowed them to remain in labs. Otherwise all was silent—even the usually bustling Larry Sears and Sally Zlotnick Sears think[box] innovation center.

The seven-story, 50,000-square-foot building typically draws tens of thousands of visits per year from people eager to use its advanced equipment for projects, prototypes and even final products. But while COVID-19 closed its doors to the crowds, it ultimately created new opportunities.

Eager to contribute to health care's response, think[box] staff and the Case School of Engineering community quickly turned their focus to pandemic-related projects, building critical partnerships with health care systems and manufacturers and designing solutions to meet their needs.

Before long, their efforts yielded prototypes for 3D-printable face shields, structures to protect medical staff performing intubation, and even a device that decontaminates N95 masks in under a minute—proving our engineers can be both critical researchers and pandemic problem-solvers.

"It would [have been] easy to see this as someone else's job," said Ian Charnas (CWR '05), director of innovation and technology at Sears think[box], "but our university has the type of people who say, 'We can do this.'"



Inspiring New Hope

Six years ago, 10th grader Talha Ali was sitting in his high school auditorium in Pakistan, waiting for a lecture to start.

Moments later, armed men burst into the room, firing wildly. As Ali scrambled to his feet, he found himself face-to-face with one

of the terrorists. The man shot Ali, point blank, in the head.

The Talbian attack took 150 lives that day. Somehow, Ali survived.

The bullet crushed half of his face and ejected bone and teeth, sending the teenager on an arduous journey of recovery—one that culminated in complex reconstructive surgery here in Cleveland.

Case Western Reserve School of Dental Medicine faculty Fasial Quereshy

and Fady Faddoul led the pro bono effort, which required a patchwork of fundraising, donations and waived fees.

Ali—now equipped with a new smile and a bright future—expressed gratitude, describing Quereshy and Faddoul as "the best of the best."

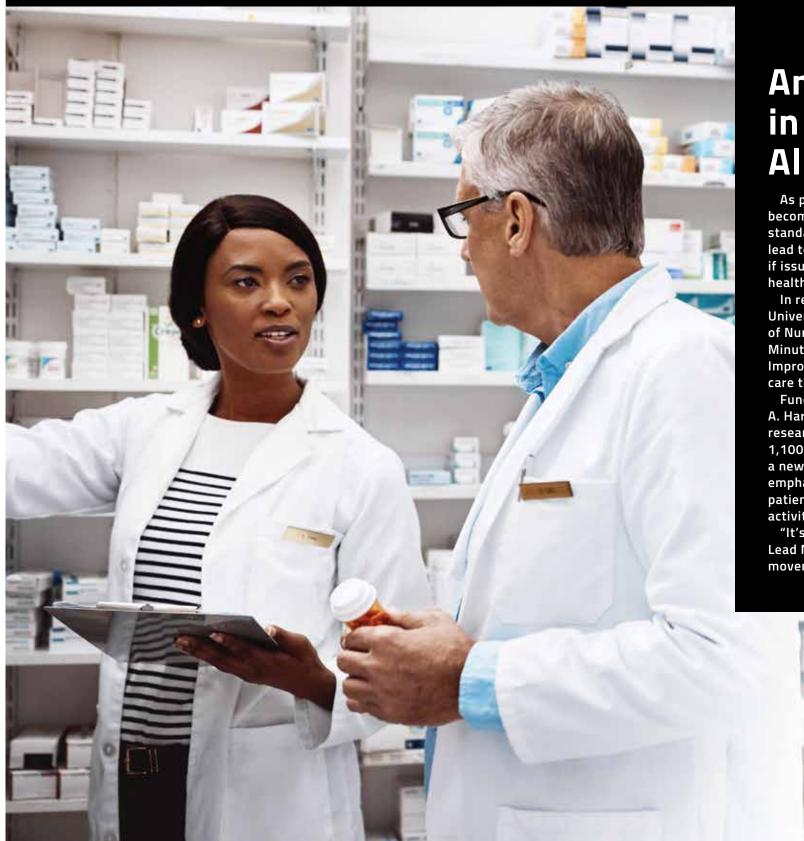
"My treatment [at Case Western Reserve]," Ali said, "was incredible."

\$50,000

raised by the Khyber Medical College Alumni Association of North America to pay for Ali's travel, lodging and daily needs during his time in the U.S.

2,500

Major surgeries performed by faculty and residents of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery department each year—including managing trauma, cancer reconstruction, TMJ conditions and facial reconstructive procedures



An Improvement in Care for All Ages

As patients age, their health needs can become increasingly complex. A seemingly standard prescription, for example, can lead to dangerous medication interactions if issued without considering the patient's health holistically.

In response, Case Western Reserve
University's Frances Payne Bolton School
of Nursing has partnered with CVS Health's
MinuteClinic and the Institute for Healthcare
Improvement to ensure older patients receive
care that recognizes their specific needs.

Funded by a three-year, \$2.44 million John A. Hartford Foundation grant, nursing school researchers are working with more than 1,100 MinuteClinic locations to integrate a new decision-making framework. It emphasizes the "4Ms:" what matters to the patient, as well as their medication, mental activity and mobility.

"It's starting here," Professor and Project Lead Mary Dolansky said, "but it's a movement that we believe will spread."

1,100

CVS MinuteClinic locations nationwide implementing "Age-Friendly Care"

3,000

providers receiving training on this approach

10,000+

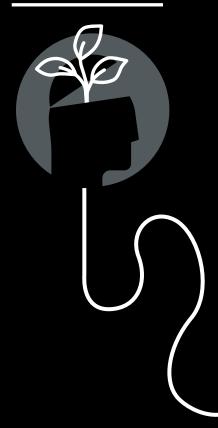
people turn 65 each day in the U.S.

CASE.EDU/ADVANCINGTOGETHER

"IN A TIME OF TREMENDOUS CHALLENGE
AND CHANGE, YOU HAVE RESPONDED
WITH GRACE AND COMPASSION.
YOU HAVE SUPPORTED ONE ANOTHER,
REACHED OUT TO OUR BROADER
COMMUNITY AND APPLIED YOUR UNIQUE
EXPERTISE TO HELP THOSE WHO NEED
US MOST. ... YOU HAVE SHOWN THAT IT IS
OUR PEOPLE WHO MAKE CASE WESTERN
RESERVE EXTRAORDINARY."

—President Emerita Barbara R. Snyder

A D V A N C I N G T O G E T H E R



Community

In a time marked by separation, we still managed to connect even if from a distance. Whether working to support frontline health care staff or address racial injustice, Case Western Reserve's people exemplified the power of partnership.

Actions to Achieve Justice

After George Floyd lost his life under the knee of a Minneapolis police officer in May 2020, his death became a rallying cry for racial justice across the nation—and at Case Western Reserve.

Ten days after protests began in Cleveland, then-President Barbara R. Snyder and Provost Ben Vinson III sponsored a Day of Dialogue that featured nearly a dozen virtual sessions covering such topics as university police and safety, health disparities, and campus climate. While the day's subjects varied, one theme consistently emerged:

Talk is important, but action must follow.

In the ensuing months, the university hosted a second Day of Dialogue and launched a student-led task force that seeks to address a broad range of concerns, including issues of race on campus.

"HOW DO WE BECOME A MORE
ANTI-RACIST INSTITUTION?
CHANGE THE NARRATIVE BY EDUCATING
OURSELVES AND EACH OTHER.
STAY HOPEFUL."

— Naomi Sigg, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs



Keeping Our Community Safe

When Case Western Reserve announced a shift to remote instruction last spring, officials hoped students would return to classes within a few weeks.

Three days later, they advised it would continue throughout the semester.

The moment marked the first of many massive changes that our campus, country and world experienced in 2020. It also signaled the start of extraordinary responses among students, staff, faculty and alumni—all aimed at improving the lives of others.

In some of history's most anxious and uncertain moments, our community's creativity and compassion inspired us all.

Adapting to the New (Mixed) Reality

Anatomy Assistant Professor Susanne Wish-Baratz didn't have to worry about medical students' access to cadavers when classes went remote in the spring; after all, Case Western Reserve's curriculum for the subject is almost entirely digital.

With assistance from Microsoft, the university's Interactive Commons team secured enough of the company's HoloLens devices to provide them to all 185 students, with the software for HoloAnatomy already loaded.

Students were pleased with what Wish-Baratz called a "seamless transition." In a study conducted in spring (and published in September in *JAMA Network Open*), the overwhelming majority of students felt the virtual learning was as effective—if not more so—than in-person courses.

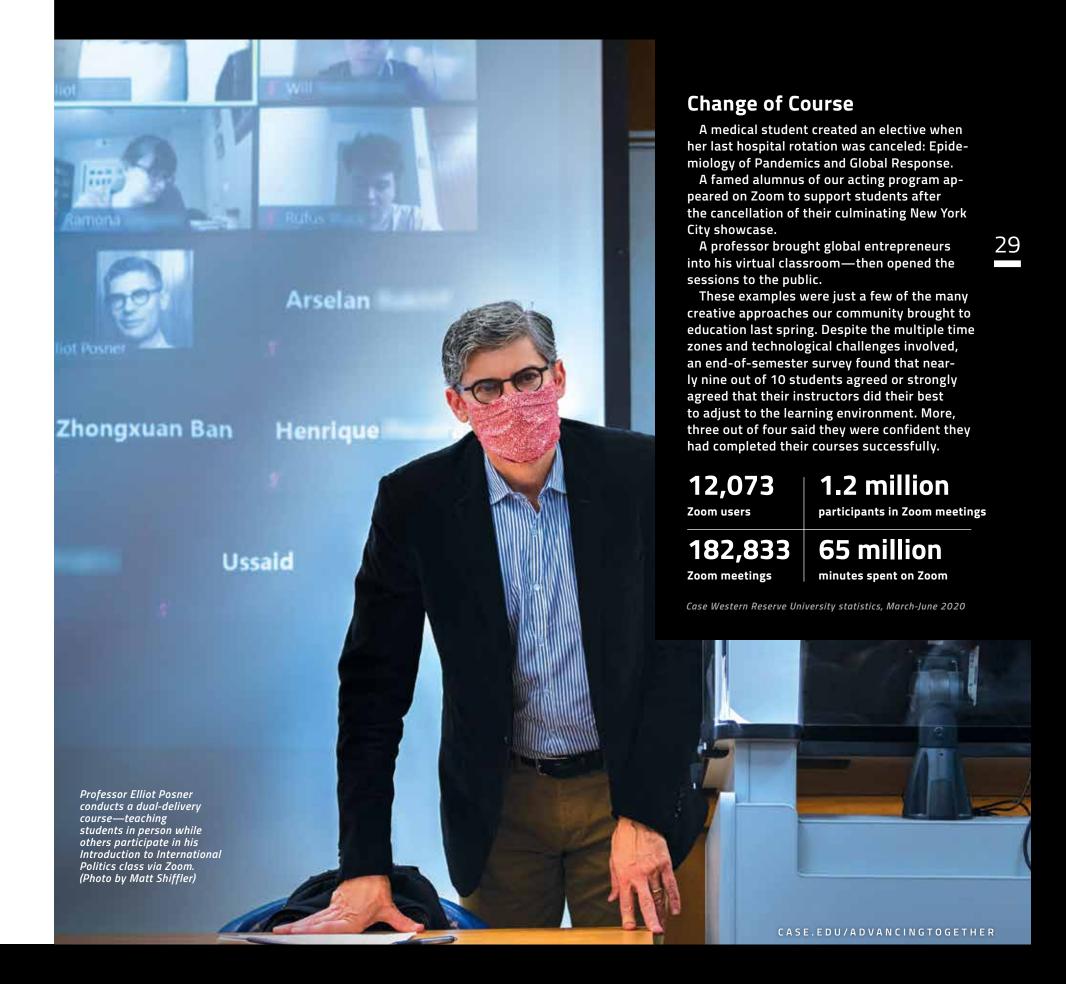
"With HoloAnatomy, you can literally see through structure if you lean in ... and then [you] come back out and the organ is still intact," said student Sanjana Madishetty. "You can't do that with a dissection, and you can't do it at home like this!"

81%

of students said sessions were equal to or better than in-person instruction 84%

believe future students can "effectively learn human anatomy" via a remote mixed-reality application **58**%

preferred remote delivery to in-person classes



The

30

To Choose Freedom, or Safety?

The pandemic that upended our lives has also created an extraordinary conundrum: With a threat as contagious and lethal as COVID-19, can protection of collective well-being outweigh individual autonomy?

For two Case Western Reserve faculty, the controversial question requires consideration not only of law, but also ethics, education and, most of all, public health.

Writing in both a peer-reviewed academic journal and a mainstream media publication, law professor Max Mehlman and medical professor Michael Lederman make clear that legal precedents give the government the right to compel vaccinations, such as those for COVID-19. But they also acknowledge that officials also have abused this authority—as in the Tuskegee syphilis study—while others have spread misinformation regarding risks

The result? A growing antivaccination movement leading to lower immunization rates—which, in turn, have sparked new outbreaks of oncedefeated diseases such as measles.

While society and government can mandate immunization, Mehlman and Lederman argue, the best prescription includes twin cures: massive education efforts and appealing civil incentives.

"FREEDOM IS THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLE
OF THIS COUNTRY, BUT YOU CAN'T
ENDANGER OTHER PEOPLE. ... OUR
CHOICES AFFECT EVERYONE AROUND US."

-Max Mehlman



Providing Support Amid a Pandemic

In the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, a group of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine students saw the strain put on frontline health workers. So they organized to help—volunteering to run errands, tutor children, walk dogs and more.

Other student efforts followed, many focused on the Cleveland community: sewing masks, securing personal protective equipment donations, and providing meals to people in need.

Faculty and staff members added their own contributions, with more than 1,000 donating \$300,000 in parking credits to the university's Student Emergency Fund, originally established by a medical school alumnus to provide urgent help. And when spring semester activities were canceled, student government leaders reallocated funds to support peers facing unanticipated expenses.

"I think the big thing that all of this proves is that none of us are alone, and that we can all help out in some small way," said Hunter Stecko, then vice president of finance for Undergraduate Student Government who helped establish the fund for student peers. "I hope that even in the midst what seems to be one of the most confusing times in our living memory, this can still bring a little bit of brightness."

Collected by the student-run MedSupplyDrive@cwru:



1,200

surgical masks

16.000

face shields



800 volunteer-sewn masks

y c

10,400 600 gloves shoe cove

gloves shoe covers

8,000

face masks given to those experiencing homelessness and to staff at homeless shelters as part of an initiative by the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Yellowcake Shop and Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry 1,127

masks sewn by law student Clare Shin— 180 of which were specially made for children with hearing impairments

Rapid Response

Within days of the novel coronavirus reaching Ohio, more than 260 Case Western Reserve researchers came together to create a COVID-19 Task Force.

Within two months, members submitted nearly 50 research proposals to the task force, while also pursuing outside funding from sources such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institutes of Health and private organizations. Plus, they connected with leading researchers from across Northeast Ohio to enhance and unify the region's efforts.

By summer, the task force had awarded \$500,000 in university funding to 18 research projects to pursue their studies. And over six months, 50 teams of researchers secured other funding to learn more about the development, control and biology of the novel coronavirus, as well as the emotional impacts, economic concerns and ethical issues surrounding the pandemic.

A few of the researchers' efforts include:

► Studying the Spread

Cleveland Clinic and Case Western Reserve researchers are analyzing COVID-19 patient data to better understand how the virus spreads and where various strains originate. They are sequencing the genome and using computational algorithms to mine patterns from the genetic sequences of the RNA of the novel coronavirus.

▶ 'Unprecedented' Trauma

In a 600-participant study of the emotional impact of the pandemic in the spring, 94% of respondents reported some levels of grief, and 86% experienced at least one trauma symptom—a level never seen before, according to researchers in the university's social work and nursing schools.



"IT IS OUR OBLIGATION TO CREATE SILVER LININGS AT THIS CRITICAL POINT IN TIME. WE HAVE BEEN THROUGH A LOT, BUT WE HAVE ALSO BEEN GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN A LOT. IT IS INCUMBENT ON US TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE SO WE CAN LESSEN THE IMPACT OF FUTURE CRISES AND CONTINUE TO THRIVE, COME WHAT MAY."

—Interim President Scott Cowen



Year in Review

2019–20 brought incredible change and remarkable progress. From new leadership to new research projects, major honors to major gifts, there's even more to learn about Case Western Reserve's impactful year.

Some of our many faculty, staff, students, alumni, donors and partners who shoot for the moon

27% acceptance rate for the undergraduate Class of 2023—marking our most selective year ever



1st nurse-scientist named to the National Academy of Medicine's Emerging Leaders in Health and Medicine Scholars program: Professor Ronald Hickman Jr.



1 CWRU biologist awarded the National Science Foundation Early Career Development grant:



1 of 20 researchers nationally to receive a federal award for neurological research that is "ambitious, creative, and/ or longer-term": genetics and genome science professor **Paul Tesar**

2019-20 **Giving Highlights**

914

undergraduates received scholarship support from gifts

\$48.3 million

raised for scholarships, fellowships, and student aid

\$12.5 million

to the annual fund, which provides immediate student-focused support

14,261 donors. 7,460 of whom are alumni

\$1 million

U.S. Department of Justice grant for our county common pleas court and Mandel School researchers to launch a special court docket for cases involving high-risk domestic offenders

\$1 million gift from Medtronic—matched by an anonymous donor—to endow a professorship dedicated

to biomedical discovery

and innovation

Cambridge



3rd in Case Western Reserve history to be named a Gates-Scholar: medical student Nikhil Krishnan







9th CWRU president, Barbara R. Snyder, named leader of the Association of American Universities—succeeded on an interim basis by former Tulane University President Scott Cowen and, beginning July 1, 2021, former University of Minnesota President Eric W. Kaler



1st Case School of Engineering faculty member to earn the U.S. Department of Energy's Early Career Research grant: chemical engineering's Christine Duval



37

7 National Academy of **Inventors Fellows** affiliated with CWRU—including the newest, Pamela B. Davis. professor and former dean of the School of Medicine



6 months into his Doctor of Management program, Curtis Merriweather Jr. earned an invitation to a White House celebration of Black entrepreneurs



9 faculty members securing Guggenheim Fellowships while at CWRU—including art history professor Elina Gertsman, a medievalist who earned hers in April 2020

\$3 million

1st sociologist

to become a

National Academy

of Sciences.

Engineering, and

Medicine Jefferson

Science Fellow:

Professor

Brian Gran

in scholarship support for students in nursing, dentistry and medicine, thanks to a gift from the Ralph T. and Esther L. Warburton Foundation



2,467 donors





\$5 million gift from alumnus Kevin J. Kranzusch to launch a new Department of Computer and **Data Sciences**





2 engineering faculty named recipients of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and **Engineers: Jennifer Carter and Philip Feng**

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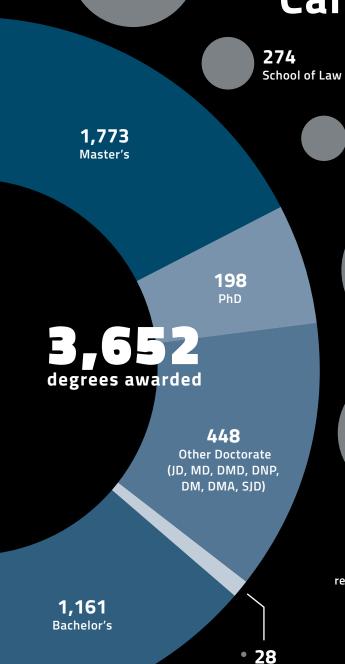
CWRU ANNUAL RÉPORT 2019-2020



671 Case School of Engineering

Degrees and **Campus Statistics**

July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020



Frances Payne **Bolton School** of Nursing

236

751 School of Medicine

707 College of Arts and Sciences

78 School of **Dental Medicine**



654 Weatherhead School of Management

253 Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of **Applied Social Sciences**

Enrollment (Fall 2020)

50 States represented

Certificates

89 Countries represented

6,035 5,430 Graduate + Under-Graduate +

Professional graduate

12,585

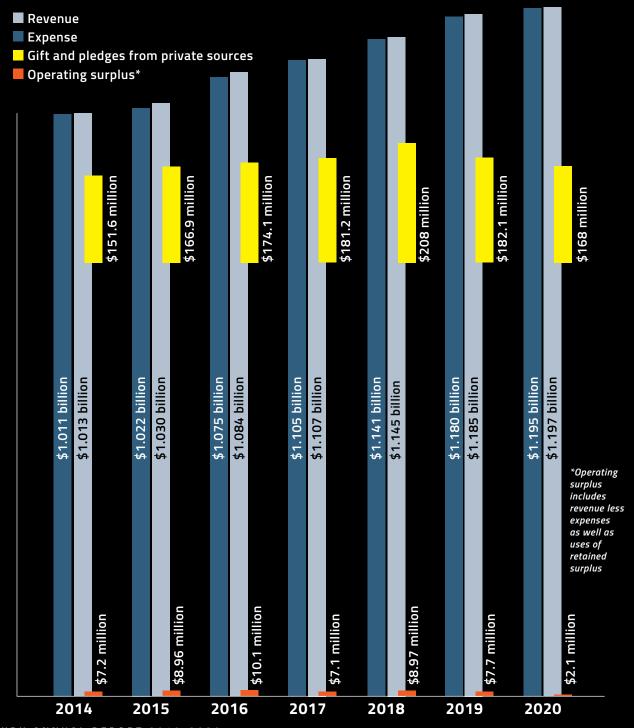
individuals tuned in to our 2020 commencement webcast via our website—and thousands more streamed on social media

Among the 1st in the country to announce a "test-optional" admissions policy for students entering in the fall of 2021 because of the COVID-19 pandemic

3,511 3,034 Faculty (full-time) Staff (full- and part-time)

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Operating Revenues, Expenses and Gifts from Private Sources





Research and Technology Highlights

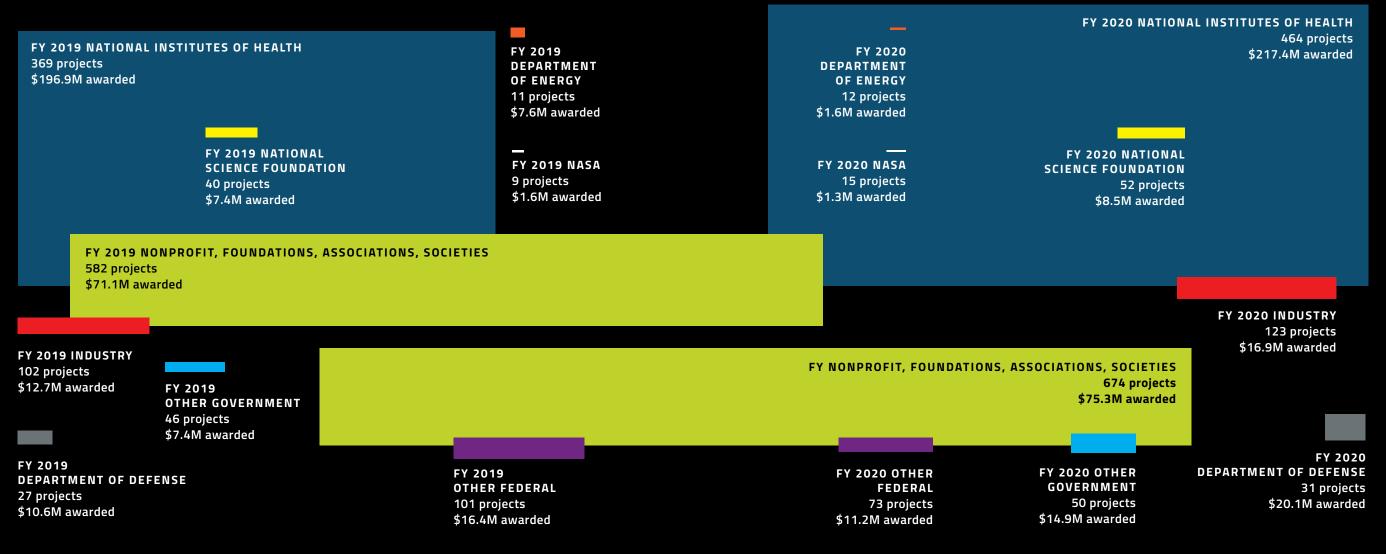
Competitive Sponsored Research Projects: FY 2019 and 2020 Comparison

\$6 million: National Institutes of Health grant to continue the work of the Cleveland Digestive Diseases Research Core Center, which includes members from 25 academic departments across four partner institutions

Width = Number of projects \$540 millio

Height = Financial amount awarded

\$540 million: Sale of the alumni-founded startup Scout RFP to Workday Inc.



FY 2019 total: 1,287 projects, \$331.7M awarded

Technology Transfer, FY 2020

New Intellectual Property
Deals with Industry

163 New Inventions

\$4.31 M Licens Reven

FY 2020 total: 1,494 projects, \$367.2M awarded



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