

## a NOTE from the EDITOR

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Dear readers,

We are excited to launch *The Investigator*, a new magazine which will be produced annually by the Office of Research at Kennesaw State University. You will find stories that span the spectrum and which impact the community through the research, service and creative activities conducted by KSU faculty, staff and students.

One feature describes how Jonathan McMurry and John Salerno partnered to create KSU's first incubator company, New Echota Biotechnology. Another feature details the first year success of KSU Upward Bound programs, implemented in Polk and Paulding county high schools which help prepare students for college.

You will read how Lisa Lock uses her theater experience to make her choreography come alive for audiences, or how Matt Marshall guides his mechatronics engineering students as they are creating automation solutions for Georgia-based flooring manufacturer Mohawk. You will also learn how Emily Bechke, who recently earned her master's degree, is contributing to research in physiology and exercise health.

In our cover story, President Pamela Whitten discusses her plans for defining KSU's future in research, including the significance of hosting the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) in April. KSU students Erin Ryan and Jay Strickland, who are profiled in this issue, will present their research at NCUR, the largest conference of its kind in the country.

These are just a few examples highlighted in *The Investigator* which shows how the work of our researchers is making phenomenal impacts in each of their respective fields that benefit our society in a multitude of ways.

I also encourage you to visit and bookmark the University's homepage - [kennesaw.edu](http://kennesaw.edu) - as well as that of the Office of Research - [research.kennesaw.edu](http://research.kennesaw.edu). You can also find us on Facebook - [facebook.com/KennesawResearch](https://facebook.com/KennesawResearch) - and follow us on Twitter - [twitter.com/ksuresearch](https://twitter.com/ksuresearch) - for the latest updates.

Happy reading!



Joëlle Walls

