



# Letter from the President

FALL 2018

Dear Tulane Community,

The start of a new academic year is a special time at Tulane: The energy is palpable as students fill our campuses and encounter novel ideas, fresh possibilities and new horizons. Tulane's unique trajectory allows us to reimagine our university and soar to greater heights each year.

With top-ranked students, world-class faculty, devoted staff and engaged alumni, we are truly a campus on the move. This year promises to be transformative as we work to support an increasingly diverse community and engage in interdisciplinary, pioneering research and scholarship.

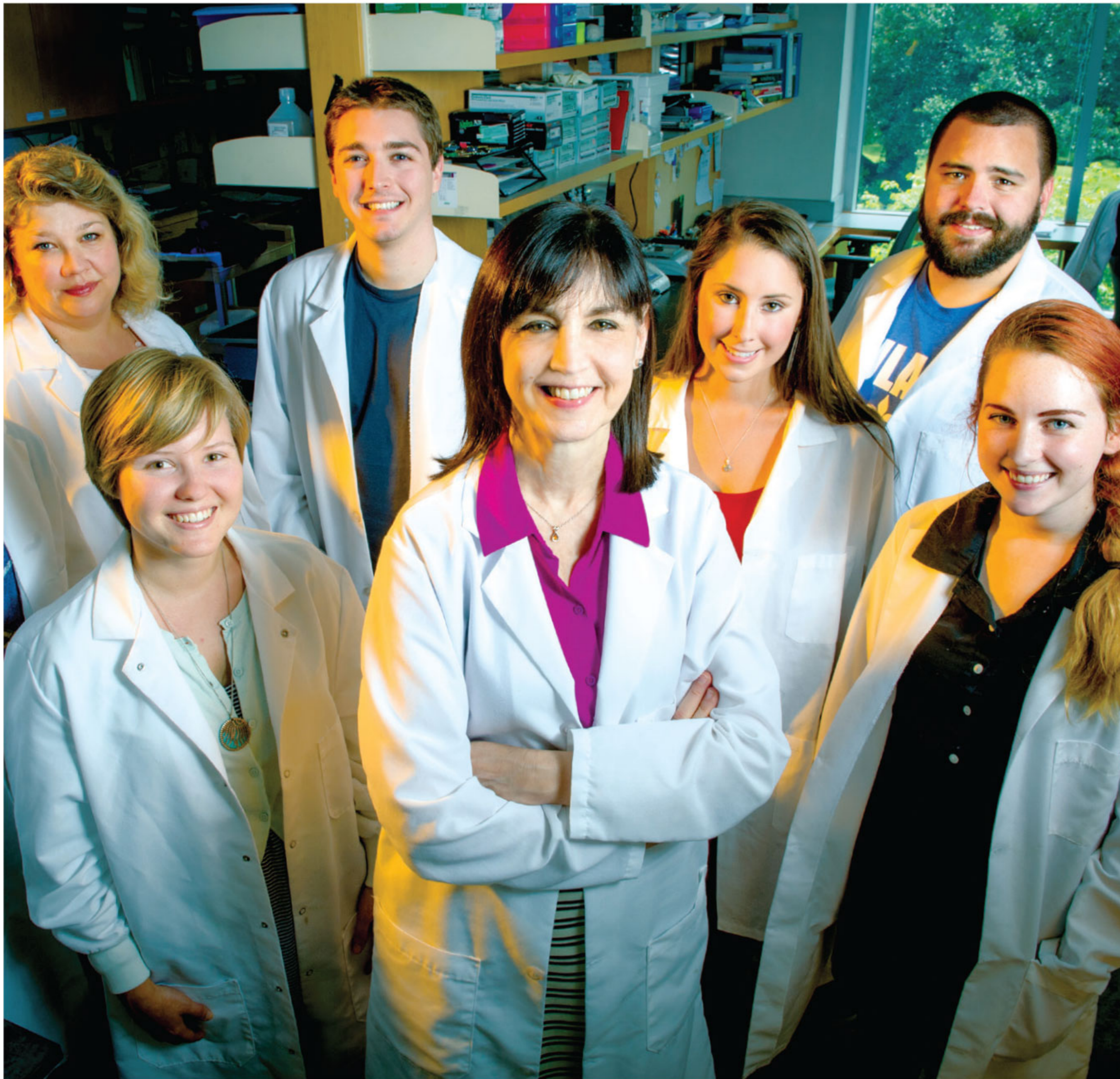
Joining our new Class of 2022 – the most academically qualified and diverse class in our history – are new deans at four of Tulane's schools: internationally acclaimed architect Iñaki Alday at the School of Architecture; leading global scholar Brian Edwards at the School of Liberal Arts; pioneering researcher Kimberly Foster at the School of Science and Engineering; and Thomas LaVeist, a national expert on equity and health, at the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Renowned neuroscientist and HIV/AIDS researcher Jay Rappaport also joins Tulane as the director and chief academic officer of Tulane's National Primate Research Center. These academic superstars are also quintessential Tulanians: groundbreaking scholars who have spent their careers crossing boundaries among disciplines to make the discoveries that create a better world.

Speaking of groundbreaking, as the bulldozers and hard hats in front of Howie-T make clear, Tulane is also busy creating a physical campus just as creative and forward-



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*continued on page 3 »*



## FOCUS ON **transformative teaching**

A Q & A with Jill Daniel, the inaugural Gary P. Dohanich Professor in Brain Science and founding director of the Tulane Brain Institute

**Q. TELL US ABOUT YOUR WORK ON THE IMPACT OF ESTROGENS AND ANDROGENS ON THE BRAIN AND COGNITION ACROSS A HUMAN LIFESPAN.**

A. I'm intrigued by the fact that these hormones, the primary function of which is to control reproduction, exert powerful effects throughout the brain, including on areas involved in learning and memory. Our work aims to understand why and how this occurs.

**Q. WHAT IS YOUR OUTLOOK FOR THE FUTURE OF THE BRAIN INSTITUTE?**

A. The vision is to create a new era of discovery, learning, and public influence in brain sciences at Tulane and advance the Tulane Brain Institute to levels of national prominence.

**Q. YOU ARE A NEW ORLEANS NATIVE AND RECEIVED YOUR PhD IN BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE FROM TULANE. YOU HAVE MANY TIES TO TULANE THROUGH THE GENERATIONS, SUCH AS YOUR GREAT-AUNT, A 1919 GRADUATE OF NEWCOMB COLLEGE. HOW DO YOU FEEL TO BE DOING THIS IMPORTANT WORK AT TULANE?**

A. Tulane is in my blood. I feel incredibly fortunate to be able to do the work that I love at this university that means so much to me.

FOCUS ON  
**opportunity  
and diversity**

**The Class of 2022**  
is academically stronger  
and more diverse than any class  
ever enrolled at Tulane.

**22%**

ARE STUDENTS OF COLOR

— AND —

**5%**

ARE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

*These students represent*  
**30 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES**  
*and come to Tulane from all over*  
*the United States.*

In 2018, Tulane celebrated our  
**most selective year**  
**for admissions**

**17%**

OF NEARLY 39,000 APPLICANTS  
WERE ADMITTED

**1456**

CONVERTED CLASS SAT SCORE  
(UP 7 POINTS FROM 2017)

**32**

AVERAGE ACT SCORE

At a time when  
most universities  
are struggling to  
find their footing,  
and alumni  
support is waning,  
Tulane again  
breaks the mold  
with our alumni  
supporters  
increasing by 22  
percent this year.

▼ The Commons, the university's new 77,000-square-foot dining facility and office space under construction on the uptown campus, takes shape.

« continued from page 1

thinking as the people who call it home. This summer, we opened Mussafer Hall, a one-stop shop housing all of Tulane's academic and career advising services, as well as a 24/7 Collision Space for students to gather and collaborate.

And, just one year from now, the magnificent Commons will open for business. Connected to the Lavin-Bernick Center for University Life, the Commons will house 77,000 square feet of classrooms, meeting spaces, the Newcomb College Institute and – last, but not least – a new dining hall!

Our remarkable progress is possible thanks to the support of Tulane alumni and other donors who made this another record fundraising year — topping even last year, which previously held the record. At a time when most universities are struggling to find their footing, and alumni support is waning, Tulane again breaks the mold with our alumni supporters increasing by 22 percent this year.

All of this has the common goal of making Tulane the strongest, most inclusive and welcoming community it can be. Together we will cross boundaries to discover models of collaboration and understanding that will help solve today's most pressing problems, while unleashing the opportunities and promise of tomorrow.

Ours is a spirit nearly 200 years in the making, a legacy of the founding Tulanians, a group of doctors who wanted to help humanity. Pushing society forward with innovation and ambition is part of our collective DNA.

That's how I know – even during these exciting times of transformation and renewal – a few things will never change:

We are Tulane.

We are changing the world.

We are doing it together.

Roll Wave.

Mike





## FOCUS ON pioneering research

Tulane University has received a \$10 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to launch a national school choice research center. The first-of-its-kind **NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON EDUCATION ACCESS AND CHOICE (REACH)** will be housed at Tulane and led by prominent education scholars from around the country, including Tulane's own Douglas Harris, professor of economics and Schlieder Foundation Chair in Public Education.

School choice is one of the most important topics in education today, and Tulane is at the forefront of examining this key issue. REACH will study how different approaches to school choice, such as voucher programs and charter schools, can better serve disadvantaged students.

## FOCUS ON building an environment to support excellence

Innovative physical spaces foster environments that enhance learning and provide students with unparalleled opportunities to move forward. The new **MUSSAFER HALL** welcomed students for the first time this fall, combining Academic Advising, Career Services and the Success Center under one roof in the heart of Gibson quad. Mussafer Hall will aid undergraduates from the moment they step on campus, helping them reach their potential throughout their time at Tulane and aiding them in their search for a rewarding career.

Mussafer Hall encompasses a historic renovation and new addition, visually connecting the present and the past with 7,600 square feet of new space added to the 15,700-square-foot renovation of Tulane's first dormitory (constructed in 1902 in the Dutch Renaissance style). The building was formally dedicated on Sept. 28.

