

# UNMC discover

EXPLORING RESEARCH AT THE  
**UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER**  
AND BEYOND...

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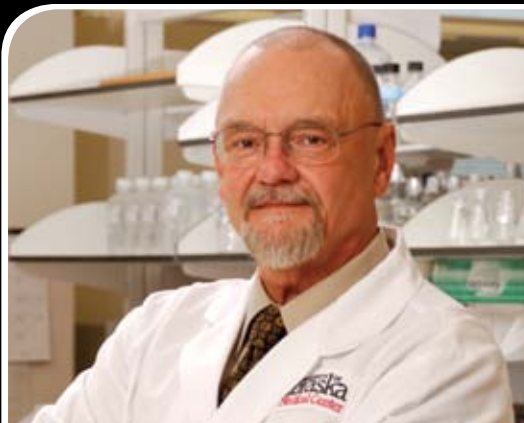
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season of  
renewal  
brings hope

Spring is a glorious time in our city. Renewal and growth are the dominant features and each of us celebrates in our own way. The major and most joyful spring celebration here at UNMC this year, for me and the other UNMC scientists, is the opening of the second of the Durham Research Center towers (DRC II). This mighty and beautiful twin of the first DRC will give a 21st-century, state-of-the-art home to some of the best and brightest scientists in the world.

Here, at UNMC, we call scientists in this category our "alpha" scientists. We are fortunate enough to have aggregations of these outstanding men and women at various sites around campus, for example, in DRC, at the VA hospital, in The Lied Transplant Center and in the Eppley Cancer Center.

Now, DRC II allows us to bring together excellent new recruits and existing UNMC faculty members into specific critical masses of alpha scientists who will collaborate in the finest, most inviting laboratory space in the world.

We can anticipate great advances from the DRC II alpha scientists in regenerative medicine, neural development/autism, gastroenterology, pulmonary medicine, cancer, infectious diseases/antibiotics and other areas that are vital to human health.

One of the key metrics for the success of a research team is its ability, individually and in aggregate, to compete for extramural research support. In this highly competitive arena, the scientists who will populate DRC II already are winners: one floor alone will host scientists who hold a total of more than \$43 million in research grants.

Furthermore the timing is very good for the DRC II and other UNMC alpha investigators to continue to compete for funding: the administration in Washington is returning to an evidence-based strategy for advancement of the national agenda. There are billions of NIH and other research dollars available right now in the stimulus package for which UNMC will compete. We will win support for new and expanded research projects, astonishing new items of equipment and projects that will restore and refresh older research areas. Watch for the inevitable rise in the availability of research and construction jobs pertaining to UNMC research.

Renewal and growth: it is indeed spring for the research enterprise at UNMC.

Tom Rosenquist, Ph.D.  
UNMC Vice Chancellor for Research