



January 2011

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I am pleased to share with you our vision for a 21st century home for the College of Pharmacy and an integrated Center for Drug Discovery at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

The UNMC College of Pharmacy has a 100+ year history of leadership, excellence and innovation in pharmacy education and research, and is regarded as a preeminent College of Pharmacy.

- We are committed to preparing the pharmacist workforce for Nebraska. More than 3500 pharmacists have graduated from UNMC. 60% of the pharmacists who practice in Nebraska are UNMC graduates. More than 80% of our entering pharmacy students are residents of Nebraska.
- We are committed to improving human health through the discovery of new drugs and the development of strategies to make drug therapy safer and more effective. The faculty of the College are at the leading edge of innovation to meet these challenges, and are ranked in the top 10 of all colleges in the United States in terms of funding received from the National Institutes of Health on a per faculty member basis.

The present College of Pharmacy building was constructed in 1976, and renovated in 1989-90 to correct major structural defects (remember those falling bricks?). Pharmacy education and research have changed dramatically since 1976, and the current facility can no longer meet the educational and laboratory needs of the College.

I am pleased to tell you of our plan for a new College of Pharmacy building and integrated Center for Drug Discovery, which will provide a 21st century home to educate the next generation of pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists, and inspire our graduates to learn, to teach, to aim high and to achieve their goals.

- The proposed College of Pharmacy building will provide classrooms and student study space, updated technology, and innovative patient simulation and care instructional space. The simulation and patient-care space will include a model pharmacy, a sterile compounding room, and practice areas for patient assessment and point-of-care testing. *These are critical unmet educational needs of the College.*
- The Center for Drug Discovery will provide laboratories for three areas of research: Drug Discovery and Development, Drug Delivery and Clinical and Translational Research.
- The College of Pharmacy and Center for Drug Discovery will be a 95,000 gross sq. ft. building to be located east of the Sorrell Center for Health Science Education on the new Emile Street bend (see the draft architectural drawing and plot plan).
- Construction could start late in 2011, with completion targeted for the end of 2013.

I am also pleased to tell you that our vision for pharmacy education has been embraced by lead donors, who have now contributed more than half of the \$35 million needed to construct this facility. Their belief in this vision is inspiring!

I invite you to share in this vision for the College of Pharmacy. A world-class facility. A home for excellence in pharmacy education and innovation in drug discovery and development, which together will allow the College of Pharmacy to continue our mission to educate pharmacists and to improve human health.

Sincerely,

Courtney V. Fletcher, Pharm.D.
Dean and Professor

