LOUIS A. SIMPSON AND KIMBERLY K. QUERREY
BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER AT NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE

The extraordinary and transformational naming gift by Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey has made the new Northwestern Medicine Biomedical Research Building an exciting reality for the near future. Our next major challenge is to provide sustainability for the high-impact research programs that will be housed within this 600,000 square foot, state-of-the-art research facility.

The potential for breakthroughs is immense, as are the needs to support our talented investigators and their pursuit of discoveries. For this reason, our philanthropic priorities for the Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center focus on endowments to sustain and support professorships, research, and training.

**Endowed Professorships**

Endowed professorships—often known as chairs—recognize, support, and help us to recruit superior faculty. These academic positions provide perpetual resources for faculty salaries, and, thus, free up time for faculty members to devote to research studies and teaching. Endowed professorships represent the highest academic honor bestowed to faculty and typically have been awarded to the most accomplished—and often quite senior faculty. At the medical school, we increasingly plan to assist faculty earlier in their careers in order to ensure preeminence in their fields and their contributions to medicine.

Creating named and endowed professorships is enormously important as Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine endeavors to double the research enterprise and rise in the competitive pantheon of research-intensive medical schools. The availability of these prestigious chairs will empower us to recruit iconic figures in medicine and science to direct new high-impact, high-return research programs in the Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center. These internationally and nationally recognized physicians and scientists will put Northwestern Medicine on the map in cardinal areas. They also will attract colleagues of similar caliber and innovation to Northwestern, thereby growing our community of world-class scholars and leaders. As team science leaders, endowed faculty also will mentor and challenge our junior faculty, trainees, and medical students to excel in all that they do.

**Research Support for New Faculty, Ideas, and Teams**

Our Feinberg faculty members are very successful in competing for extramural research support from government agencies, such as the National Institutes of Health, as well as foundations. These awarded funds are crucial to the research enterprise and help it to thrive.

Private philanthropy from individuals is just as essential and powerful. At Northwestern Medicine,

“Biomedical discoveries and new knowledge enhance patient care and are crucial in tackling the continued existence of diseases for which we have no answers. We recognize that every innovation that touches a patient today in medicine—even those that we now take for granted such as antibiotics, insulin, and the x-ray—began as an experiment led by highly innovative and determined researchers. Our talented faculty and trainees will champion this breakthrough work in the Louis A. Simpson and Kimberly K. Querrey Biomedical Research Center at Northwestern Medicine.”

Eric G. Neilson, MD, Vice President for Medical Affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
we believe that endowed funds will help to define the culture in this new research space by supporting start-up grants for new faculty, innovation grants for novel ideas requiring “proof of principle” before seeking outside funding, and collaboration grants to break down barriers and encourage teamwork. We also seek philanthropic support in the form of dedicated funds for our research cores, which serve as resources for multiple investigators, and for new state-of-the-art instruments that provide researchers with the tools necessary for rapid advances and discoveries.

Training Fellows, Medical Students, and Graduate Students

Central to the research effort are the training activities of postdoctoral research fellows who have already obtained their advanced degrees in medicine and/or science (MD, PhD, and MD/PhD) and are seeking further training in the innovative research laboratories of our senior faculty. Once again, our trainees compete well for external research funding once they are here. Endowed fellowships and training funds enable us to attract and recruit the most meritorious trainee candidates who are often being recruited by several competing, top-tier institutions.

In addition, medical and graduate students training in our research laboratories require support in the form of stipends. Endowed scholarships are crucial in allowing our students to gain valuable, hands-on research experience. These bright and intellectually curious students, in turn, enrich our academic milieu.
Northwestern Memorial HealthCare and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine are seeking to impact the health of humankind through Northwestern Medicine. We aspire to be the destination of choice for people seeking quality healthcare; for those who provide, support, and advance care through leading-edge treatments and breakthrough discoveries; and for people who share our passion for educating future physicians and scientists. Our commitment to transform healthcare and to be among the nation’s top academic medical centers will be accomplished through innovation and excellence.

Image credit: Northwestern University and Perkins + Will