

# From the Bench and Beyond

A Message from the Dean



Karen L. Miller, PhD

**T**he University of Kansas School of Allied Health is recognized for its highly ranked educational programs where faculty conduct cutting-edge research and instill in their students a curiosity for scientific inquiry. Our graduate educational programs prepare scholars who make a difference in higher education and in applied research in the United States and throughout the world. Internationally renowned scientists at the School of Allied Health are collaborating with researchers in other schools at KU and other universities both here and abroad.

The School is 12th in NIH funding among schools of allied health in public universities, a truly remarkable achievement! Other sources of external grant funding include the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the Emilie Rosebud Diabetes Research Foundation and the Diabetes Freedom Foundation, as well as private companies such as Dairy Management, Inc. In a highly competitive environment, faculty and their students have had unprecedented success that has led to the current level of

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\$14.7 million in external grant funding.

The allied health professions have long provided critical therapeutic contributions to the continuum of acute and chronic care of patients and clients. Our goal is to enhance the scientific underpinnings for evidence-based allied health practices that will improve clinical outcomes. As you explore the research in this magazine, you will learn that it ranges from studying language delays in special needs children to mapping the inner ear so that one can locate the site and extent of damage to the auditory nerve. With the increasing prevalence of obesity and diabetes in this country, we are especially proud of the interdisciplinary research occurring in both of these areas that may define new treatment options and offer hope for children and adults.

In a new bistate initiative, the University of Kansas Medical Center is collaborating with the scientific community in the greater Kansas City metropolitan area to increase investment in life sciences research. This vision for the future includes the work of talented researchers from all of the health professions and the basic sciences. Resources for biomedical research are prioritized for laboratory science that demonstrates clinical and translational applications. It is critical that we are able to trans-

late new knowledge rapidly into tangible benefits for patients and families.

As dean of the KU School of Allied Health, I am very proud of the substantive contributions of our scientists to the health of Kansans and to a future of better health for the people of our region and the nation. Through these and all other research efforts across the University of Kansas Medical Center campus, scientific inquiry is truly, *From the Bench and Beyond*.

