Welcome to our annual magazine, DISCOVERY, focused on the research activities of the faculty, students, staff, and partners at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA).

It has been a record year for research on campus: total research expenditures increased to $68.1 million, an increase of 19.9%, and our restricted research expenditures grew to $40.1 million in the 2017 fiscal year. This growth enables the institution to move closer towards being recognized as a research intensive (R1) university, as measured by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, and meeting eligibility for the Texas National Research University Fund (NRUF).

The institution welcomed new leadership with a new president – Dr. Taylor Eighmy – at the beginning of the 2017-2018 academic year, and a new provost – Dr. Kimberley Andrews Espy – in June 2018. Both are successful researchers in their respective fields, civil engineering and translational neuroscience. Aligning their strengths and research perspectives with ours, our office has developed key strategies in evolving and enhancing our initiatives and programs, and growing and diversifying our funding dollars and base.

One of those recently implemented strategies is the amalgamation of the Research Office with UTSA’s Institute of Economic Development into a new unit called Knowledge Enterprise. Inspired by our academic peers, we are taking an interdisciplinary approach to everything we do. With an emphasis on entrepreneurship and innovation, we are leveraging our research and development capabilities to focus on society’s greatest challenges to, in turn, benefit our community, the state of Texas, and the world beyond.

This is a defining moment in UTSA’s history and we are excited about the momentum given by our new leadership. Everyone, whether it’s our students or faculty or collaborators, engaged in discovery should feel empowered to seize the available opportunities and be bold in their approach in growing the knowledge enterprise on campus.

We hope you enjoy this snapshot of our current activities and welcome your feedback.

Regards,

Bernard Arulanandam
Interim Vice President for Research, Economic Development and Knowledge Enterprise