A Foundational Commitment to Innovation

As a successful financier operating during a period of relentless change, Anthony J. Drexel embraced invention, entrepreneurship and educated risk. Our founder's example continues to inspire and inform Drexel University's DNA—a commitment to innovation that solves practical problems and improves lives.

Today, our campus community includes distinctive interdisciplinary strengths that yield disruptive thinking and collaboration; faculty experts in entrepreneurship; an expansive vision to spearhead technology development and economic growth throughout the Philadelphia region with Schuylkill Yards; and a best-in-class technology transfer program that makes us one of the top 50 producers of U.S. patents among universities in the world.

Nurtured by this unique convergence, Drexel's world-class researchers are pioneering cutting-edge solutions in areas ranging from medical devices and therapeutics, to smart fabrics, to neuroimaging. Here are just a few examples:

In a groundbreaking collaboration, Drexel doctors and engineers are using tiny capsules, called nanoparticles, to transport cancer-fighting drugs through the bloodstream directly to tumors. The Drexel team — including Hao Cheng, professor in the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems; and director of the Biomedical Ultrasound Research and Education Center; and Michael S. Weingarten, professor of surgery in the College of Medicine — discovered a founder in Advanced Functional Fibers of America (AFFA), an innovation institute recently established with a $75 million award from the Department of Defense.

This mission is to accelerate the growth of new materials and textiles engineered to see, hear, sense and communicate — serving an array of industries including aeronautics, apparel, architecture and health. Leading these efforts within Drexel will be Genevieve Dion, director of the Shima Seiki Haute Technology Lab in Drexel's ExCITe Center and head of Drexel's Center for Functional Fabrics.

Hassan Ayaz, associate research professor in the School of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Health Systems, and his research team designed a brain-scanning headband that — unlike traditional MRIs — can capture information about the brain in situations that more closely mimic real-world activities.

This technology could allow for a wide range of research and education opportunities that could shed light on human communication and aid in improving our understanding of each other.

As a result of our innovative research, Drexel is on to make a real and profound difference in the world. “From its great University, and those graduates, like Drexel’s founder, go on to make a real and profound difference in the world. ” - John A. Fry at his welcome address.

The principles of Drexel the man — and the storied past of Drexel the institution — continue to guide the University’s path forward today. Anthony J. Drexel’s foresight and generosity, Fry said, “is still empowering generations of scholars, and innovators and civic leaders who graduate from his great University, and those graduates, like Drexel’s founder, go on to make a real and profound difference in the world.”

Questions?
Contact Ken Goldman at (215) 895-2607 or goldmank@drexel.edu.

Visit Us Online
The Drexel 100 has an online presence; visit our website to find a full list of members and biosographies. Visit www.drexel.edu/drexel100.

Dear Drexel 100 Members:

It is my distinct pleasure to be writing to you as the new Chair of the Drexel 100. I am truly honored to be following Christopher Ferguson '84, HD '09 in this role.

This year's Drexel 100 induction is an extra-special occasion because we will be observing two anniversaries simultaneously. We will celebrate both the 125th anniversary of Drexel University and the 25th year of the Drexel 100 at our ceremony on May 20, 2017.

Our founder Anthony J. Drexel would have been proud of the Drexel 100. When he established the Drexel Institute in 1891, he envisioned an education that would equip American workers to be better positioned for success, which remains the foundation of Drexel University’s identity to this day.

The 2017 Drexel 100 inductees are on the forefront of groundbreaking achievements in a wide range of fields. They are providing health care at home and abroad; to defending our country to building businesses that are the backbone of our economy. With our new class, featured in this newsletter, Drexel University will have inducted a total of 251 graduates into this esteemed group.

Drexel continues to produce talented and visionary graduates who will leave lasting marks on the world. I encourage you to submit names for consideration for future Drexel 100 inductees.

If you have any further thoughts about the Drexel 100, I welcome your input. Please write to me at davidgeltzer@drexel.edu.

Sincerely,

David Geltzer '77  Chair, Drexel 100

A Note from the Chair

At the official commemorative event on December 7, 2016, Drexel faculty, professional staff, students, alumni, neighboring community leaders, and Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney gathered where leading politicians, businessmen, Philadelphians came together on December 17, 1891, for the institution's founding.

It was a big event hosted right here in this room, where the audience included people like Thomas Edison and J.P. Morgan, said President John A. Fry at his welcome address.

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125 Years of Drexel
Celebrating Our Past, Present and Future

The celebration spanned the gamut: the publication of “Building Drexel,” a definitive history co-edited by Drexel faculty Richardson Düwworth and Scott Knowles, blue and gold flags lining the streets of University City; lecture series and exhibitions featuring art and artifacts from the Drexel Collection; a time capsule buried under the forthcoming Korman Quad; and even Dragon’s Gold ale, specially brewed for the occasion by Flying Fish Brewery, owned by Gene Muller ‘84.
Christine McKendry
Andrews
BS, CoAS ‘90
Pioneering Sports Journalist
ESPN Anchor
For 20 years, Ms. McKendry was a familiar presence anchoring ESPN's SportsCenter shows. Shifting her focus to tennis, she played at Drexel, she now hosts the network's Grand Slam coverage including the Australian Open, Wimbledon and US Open. McKendry holds the distinction of being the first woman to work as a television sports anchor in the D.C. market and has been the recipient of multiple Sports Emmy Awards.

Michael Baum
BS, CCL ’85
Promoter of Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Chairman & CEO FOUNDER.org
Mr. Baum is an entrepreneur, investor and innovator in early stage companies with the potential for positive impact. He supports young innovators around the world through FOUNDER.org, an investment fund for university students with world changing ideas in industrial automation, transportation, healthcare, sustainability, food and agriculture and space technology. More than 100 new ventures from 15 countries and 50 universities have benefited from FOUNDER.org funding and start smart Silicon Valley experience. His own entrepreneurial journey spans 25 years and six startups, including the IPO of Splunk and acquisitions by AT&T, IBM, Reuters and Yahoo!. Mr. Baum's projects have created more than $10 billion in shareholder value. Along with his computer science degree from Drexel, Mr. Baum has an MBA from Wharton and is the inventor of several patents in big data, machine learning and transaction management.

Kathleen Chimicos
BS, LeBow ’83
Engaged Leader
Founder and CEO
Craniofacial/Cleft Palate Program
Life Changing Surgeon
MD, CoM ’63,
Libby Fleisher Wilson
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Mr. Barrist, retired CEO and chairman of The Hartford, joined the board of directors of the Cape Cod Foundation.

Richard J. Cohen, PhD (PhD, Psychiatry, MCP, 1978)

President and CEO of the Public Health Management Corporation, Dr. Cohen was named as one of the “2016 Most Admired CEOs” by the Philadelphia Business Journal.

Floss Barber (BS, Design, Westphal, 1975)

CEO of Floss Barber, Inc., was named to Bizwomen’s “2016 Women to Watch” list and to the Philadelphia Business Journal’s “25 Women to Watch in Real Estate, Construction and Development.” She was also honored by the Philadelphia Business Journal with a 2016 Women of Distinction Award.

Michael Barrist (BS, Accounting, LeBow, 1984)

Mr. Barrist received the second annual Pinnacle Award from Ontario Systems for his leadership of Radius Global Solutions.

Michael Barry (BS, Chemical Engineering, CoE, 1981)

CEO of Quaker Chemical Corporation, Mr. Barry was named “One of the Most Admired CEOs” by the Philadelphia Business Journal.

Howard Benson (BS, Metallurgical Engineering, CoE, 1980; HD, 2015),

Mr. Benson produced a new album, “Madness,” by heavy metal band All That Remains and another album, “Battles,” by In Flames.

Dominic Caruso (BS, Accounting, LeBow, 1980),

Mr. Caruso, CFO of Johnson & Johnson, was honored at a reception hosted by CFO Studio magazine. He was also featured in the cover story of the magazine. He rang the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange as part of Johnson & Johnson’s recognition of National Nurses Week and the International Day of the Nurse.

William Chatman (BS, Chemical Engineering, CoE, 1952),

Mr. Chatman, retired chairman and CEO of Foster Wheeler Ltd, was named the Valley Courier’s “Person of the Week” and interviewed about his choral singing.

K. Blair Christie (BS, Marketing, LeBow, 1994; MBA, Business Administration, LeBow, 1999),

Ms. Christie has been named chief development officer of Landit, a professional development technology platform designed to increase the success and engagement of women in the workplace.

Nicholas DeBenedictis (Trustee; BS, Commerce & Engineering, LeBow, 1968; MS, Environmental Science, CoE, 1969; HD, 1987)

Mr. DeBenedictis was honored by Aqua America, where he was formerly the CEO, when it renamed its Crum Creek Water Treatment Plant in his honor. He was bestowed Papal Honors by Pope Francis for his dedication and service to the World Meeting of Families Philadelphia 2015. Additionally, he was awarded the 2016 Community Leadership Award from ElderNet and was recognized with a United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Masked Award at the UNCF Philadelphia Mayor’s Masked Ball.

Dana Dornsife (BS, Marketing, LeBow, 1983; HD, 2014)

Ms. Dornsife and her husband David Dornsife (HD, 2014) were featured in a Forbes article about their $75 million donation to World Vision. Ms. Dornsife addressed former Vice President Joe Biden, Cancer Moonshot Summit attendees and over 18,000 viewers of a livestream video at the June 2016 Cancer Moonshot Summit. In September, her Lazarex Cancer Foundation sponsored a bill to increase access to cancer clinical trials for patients, especially women and underrepresented minorities. California Governor Jerry Brown signed the bill into law.

Angela Dowd-Burton (BS, Accounting, LeBow, 1974; MBA, LeBow, 1979)

Ms. Dowd-Burton was named president of the Women’s Business Development Center, a Philadelphia-based nonprofit dedicated to building up businesses run by women.

Carl Dranoff (BS, Civil Engineering, CoE, 1970; HD, 1986)

Mr. Dranoff was named to the “Power 50” in Philly Biz. In November 2016, he was honored as an “Emerging Icon”, as part of the Philadelphia Inquirer’s inaugural Industry Icon Awards event. His latest project, One Riverside Condominiums, had its grand opening on May 2, 2017.

Christopher Ferguson (BS, Mechanical Engineering, CoE, 1984; HD, 2009),

Captain Ferguson, outgoing Drexel 100 Chair and Director of Commerical Crew Interface for Boeing Defense & Space Group, was visited by TV personality Stephen Colbert, who donned a space suit designed for crews on Boeing’s Starliner space taxi.

Loretta Finnegan, MD, LLD Hon, ScD Hon (Former Trustee, MD, HU, 1964)

Dr. Finnegan was named honorary chairwoman of the Cape Regional Auxiliary antiques, art and collectibles show and sale in Avalon, NJ.
Mr. Gattinella’s company DoubleVerify introduced a product designed to keep marketers’ ads off fake news sites. He also joined the Board of Directors of PlayMaker CRM, a sales platform for post-acute care.

Ms. Henderson joined the Hikma Pharmaceuticals PLC’s Board of Directors. In 2016, she also spoke at PWC’s Financial Services Audit Committee Forum, The Society of Corporate Secretaries Conference and the Women Corporate Directors Foundation Global Institute.

Ms. Hochman, CEO, chief creative officer, and chairwoman of Naked Brand Group, Inc., debuted Naked Brand Group’s Fall 2017 women’s collection of intimate apparel, loungewear and sleepwear at the CURVENEWYORK show at the Javits Center in New York City. She also produced a play at the Westport Country Playhouse in Westport, Connecticut.

Dr. Kam, dean of the Newark College of Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, received the 2016 Haraden Pratt Award from IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers).

Mr. Lawrie was listed as one of the “Most Influential Virginians 2017” in Virginia Business and named number 62 on the Washington Business Journal’s “Power 100” list. His company, CSC, merged with HPE Enterprise Services to create DXC Technologies, and Mr. Lawrie was appointed CEO. He rang the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange on April 3, 2017, the day DXC began trading.