

ADELBERT 216



Change, Renewal, and Thanks

Four years ago I came to this university with great optimism. As I leave, I continue to feel that Case is a great university with even greater potential to rise among the ranks of the top universities in the nation and the world.

Every research university today, whether public or private, is facing challenges. Case is no different. Bold institutional strategies like the one approved by our Board three years ago are more easily achieved when a rising tide is raising all ships and more difficult to achieve when the environment is more challenging. Although higher education is experiencing a difficult environment now, I am confident that, with your help, Case will continue to rise.

The message I sent out in March explaining the reasons I decided to step down as president is posted on the Case Web site, and I hope you will remember its main point: that our future is bound up in the outstanding people of Case Western Reserve—our faculty, staff, students, alumni, trustees, and friends. The progress we have made together in the past four years is extraordinary. I'll cite a few examples:

- We have witnessed a dramatic surge in the number of undergraduates and in their level of satisfaction and engagement with their university.
- We have recruited and retained scores of outstanding faculty across all the schools and colleges who have done ground-breaking research in remarkably diverse areas.

- With the Village at 115, the physical face of the campus has changed, and our dynamic campus Master Plan has set the stage for a truly transformed and transforming environment for living, learning, and discovery.

As I leave, I leave with the knowledge that there is much more yet to do. I urge your continued support of the university. To overcome our current challenges and build on the progress of the last four years, we need all of our alumni, friends, and other members of the Case Western Reserve community to work together in this critical process of change and renewal.

I wish every success for Dr. Gregory Eastwood, who will begin as interim president on June 2. I have known Greg for almost 10 years. I am thrilled that the Board chose him to lead the university during this critical time. He is a thoughtful and insightful leader. I pledge my full support to him and I urge you to do the same.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as president of Case Western Reserve University and for your continuous support. ☒

EDWARD M. HUNDERT, M.D., PRESIDENT

president@case.edu

PHOTOGRAPH BY GABRIEL AMADEUS COONEY