Ohio University is a place of promise. It is a community that is focused on helping students achieve their full potential by offering an engaging and transformative learning experience. We achieve that through the breadth and excellence of our degree programs, state-of-the-art facilities, and the engagement of notable experts in our community of scholars.

I am pleased to announce that we have a new member joining our distinguished Ohio Coal Research Center. Ohio University’s fourth eminent scholar, Dr. Sunggyu “K.B.” Lee, the new Russ-Ohio Research Scholar in Coal Syngas Utilization in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, is the top scholar in his field.

The author of seven books and the recipient of 27 United States patents and 80 international patents, he is renowned for his work in chemical process engineering as applied to emerging technology, conventional technology enhancement, and green engineering. His work will strengthen the Russ College’s successes in fuel cell and clean coal technologies. We are honored to welcome him into the Ohio University and Russ College family—a community that continues to distinguish itself within the state and nation.

For example, during the 2010 spring quarter, we opened the doors to the state-of-the-art Academic & Research Center. The research and transformative learning taking place within its walls will advance the human condition.

The Russ College, which anticipates nearly $15.5 million in external research funding this year, continues to make significant impact, especially in the strategic research areas of energy, the environment, and transportation. Proof of that success is evident in the nearly $3 million grant the college received to enhance facilities for algae research from the state of Ohio’s Third Frontier Wright Projects Program. The project supports a growing industry in Ohio that aims to harness the algae plant for alternative energy innovations and air pollution mitigation. Ohio University will serve as a testing ground for a statewide coalition of public institutions and private companies engaged in developing algae technologies.

The Avionics Engineering Center was awarded a five-year contract with a ceiling of $9.5 million to continue supporting the Federal Aviation Administration’s navigation services office on projects similar to the one featured on page 12-13. Center researchers are at work analyzing the safety of antenna structures alongside runways to ensure they collapse safely in the event of a collision. This important research will minimize passenger risk and plane damage. We are proud of Ohio University’s role as a leader in testing the safety of these navigation systems, which are used by aircraft operating across the United States.

The Russ College also continues to lead in the area of engineering education—not just by training the engineering and technology leaders of tomorrow, but by strengthening teachers’ skills and building a pipeline of future students. Building on a $1.67 million grant from the National Science Foundation STEAM (Science and Technology Enrichment for Appalachian Middle-Schoolers), researchers received a five-year, $2.6 million grant for The Boat-of-Knowledge in the Science Classroom project.

As part of a federal push to encourage more young Americans to pursue high-demand careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), the University is partnering with high schools in southeastern Ohio to offer teachers more hands-on training in conducting and analyzing research data, which they will use in the classroom for STEM education.

Ohio University and the Russ College are bettering our world by supporting new research and scholarship, providing important tools to teachers, and engaging and transforming students and the engineering leaders of tomorrow.