

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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What makes Rice extraordinary? In less than 100 years, it has achieved a position among America's great research universities. Even in that category, it is distinctive: Rice is a small great university. That is, while smaller than most, Rice is able to compete with the best in the nation, indeed, in the world. Our comparative advantages lie in our relatively small size, our emphasis on undergraduate education, our identification of important but focused areas of strength, the relative ease by which we can foster interdisciplinary study, and our possibilities for teaching and research excellence across the range of human knowledge and endeavor. All this resides in an extraordinarily beautiful, coherent, and tree-lined campus located in the heart of the cultural district of the nation's fourth-largest city and just three miles from its downtown.

*General Announcements* guides you through Rice University's diverse academic offerings, taught by an enormously talented faculty. It further serves as a guide for the rules and responsibilities that govern both undergraduate and graduate student life in our community.

Rice, said founding president Edgar Odell Lovett, would "set no upper limit on its educational endeavor." We remain intent on that ambition.

David W. Leebron  
President  
William Marsh Rice University