**UPDATE TO THE BOARD**

in advance of the March 3, 2023
Board of Trustees Meeting

**KEY UPDATES**

**Northwestern mourns the passing of Rebecca M. Blank**
Rebecca M. Blank, former president-elect and professor of economics at Northwestern University, died Friday, Feb. 17, from cancer. She was 67 years old. Blank was selected in October 2021 to succeed Morton Schapiro as president of Northwestern. She served as Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison until May 2022 and was preparing to join Northwestern after that when in July 2022, she announced she had been diagnosed with cancer and would step down from her role as president-elect. Blank had deep ties to Northwestern, where she was on the faculty of the Economics Department from 1989 to 1999. She also served as director of the Joint Center for Poverty Research and co-director of the Northwestern/University of Chicago Interdisciplinary Training Program in Poverty, Race and Underclass Issues. Blank is survived by her husband Hanns Kuttner, and their daughter Emily, who graduated from Northwestern.

**Q. Jane Wang elected to National Academy of Engineering**
Q. Jane Wang, professor of mechanical engineering at McCormick School of Engineering, was elected to the National Academy of Engineering (NAE). The NAE is one of the highest professional distinctions awarded to an engineer. Wang was recognized for her advancement of the field of tribology—the study of friction on surfaces. Her efforts have led to better-performing and more reliable engines, batteries, and lubricants across industries. Wang also serves as the executive director of Northwestern’s Center for Surface and Engineering and Tribology (CSET).

**Susan M. Davis named vice president for student affairs**
Susan M. Davis will assume the role of vice president for student affairs, effective April 1, 2023. Davis succeeds Julie Payne-Kirchmeier; Patricia Lampkin, who has led student affairs on an interim basis since August 1, 2022, will continue in the role through March. Currently the senior associate vice president for student affairs at the University of Virginia (UVA), Davis has 23 years of experience in law and higher education, currently overseeing student health and wellness, student safety and support, judicial affairs, and research on the student experience. From 1999, she represented UVA in numerous federal and state court actions before moving into the division of student affairs in 2004.

**Chris Watson, associate vice president for student outreach and dean of enrollment, will retire**
Chris Watson will retire at the end of August 2023, capping a 16-year career at Northwestern. Watson played a critical role in elevating Northwestern to the nation’s top tier of institutions in terms of undergraduate enrollment and in the overall academic quality and diversity of our undergraduate students. Under his guidance, Northwestern
has increased the socioeconomic diversity of our undergraduate student body, boosted enrollment by international students and Chicago Public School graduates and opened the doors to more first-generation college students. During this time, applications for first-year and transfer admission have more than doubled, with more than 52,000 applications expected this year.

Two Northwestern students named 2023 Rhodes Scholars

Two Northwestern students were granted Rhodes Scholarships. The oldest and perhaps best-known award for international study, provide all expenses for multiple years of study at the University of Oxford in England. Scholars are chosen not only for exceptional academic achievement but also a demonstrated ambition for social impact. The last Northwestern student to be named a Rhodes Scholar was 2012.

- Irena Petryk is one of 32 Rhodes Scholars selected from the U.S. Petryk is majoring in economics and international studies in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, and she is interested in U.S. foreign policy and strengthening international commitments on economic development.
- William Gitta Lugoloobi is this year’s Rhodes Scholar selected from the East Africa region. Lugoloobi is a senior at Northwestern-Qatar studying the intersection of social media and technology. Lugoloobi plans to investigate the use of bots on social media as a form of computational propaganda in Uganda.

Undergraduate Admissions

The quality of undergraduate applications to Northwestern continues to strengthen as the quantity increased slightly compared to last year. As of February 17, Northwestern has received 52,223 first-year applications for fall 2023 admission, a 1.9 percent increase over last year’s applicant pool and a 29.2 percent increase overall from five years ago. The number of Early Decision (ED) applicants was up 3.4 percent over last year and increased 28.7 percent from five years ago. The University admitted 1,174 students in ED from a very strong pool. With anticipated melt, ED students are projected to make up approximately 55 percent of the incoming class. Northwestern will remain test-optional to applicants through at least the Fall 2023-2024 application cycle. However, 54.1% of applicants in this year’s cycle have submitted test scores for consideration.

Northwestern remembers Bernard Dobroski, former dean of the Bienen School of Music

Bernard J. Dobroski ’81 Ph.D., professor emeritus and former dean of the Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University, died Feb. 19 in Highland Park, Illinois, at age 76. Dobroski served the Bienen School of Music in various capacities from 1974-2020. As the Bienen School’s sixth dean, Dobroski established new academic majors in music technology and music cognition, founded the Philharmonia orchestra for non-music majors, and started the joint degree program with the Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications. In 2003, Dobroski stepped down as dean and assumed the John Evans Professorship in Music. He taught graduate and undergraduate courses in the Bienen School of Music and the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences prior to being named professor emeritus. Dobroski is survived by his wife, Sally, and children, Andrea and Paul.
Northwestern remembers Bill Banis, former leader of Student Affairs

William “Bill” Banis, former Northwestern vice president for Student Affairs, passed away on Jan. 24 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. He was 75. With a career spanning more than four decades, Banis began his Northwestern tenure in 1994, first working with University Career Services, now known as Northwestern Career Advancement, before taking the helm of the Division of Student Affairs for 10 years. He retired in 2011. In more than 16 years at Northwestern, he oversaw the creation of many departments that still exist today in one form or another, built or upgraded student facilities, and made vast enhancements with pre-orientation programs, Wildcat Welcome, community service, multicultural education, staff development and health education. He is survived by his wife Lynn, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Leadership Searches

Vice President and Dean of Undergraduate Enrollment
A search for Northwestern’s next leader of Enrollment has been launched. The search steering committee will be led by Provost Kathleen Hagerty and supported by WittKieffer.

Vice President for Global Marketing and Communications
A search for the next Vice President for Global Marketing and Communication will launch this winter. The search committee will be chaired by Charles Whitaker, Dean of Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications, and will include administrators, faculty, and staff. Heyman Associates will support this search.

McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Sciences Dean
The search committee, which is chaired by Mark C. Hersam, Walter P. Murphy Professor of Materials Science and Engineering and director of the Materials Research Center, includes McCormick faculty, students, staff, and alumni. Isaacson, Miller has been retained to assist the committee. The search is on track for the next dean to start before the fall.

Bienen School of Music Dean
The search committee, which is chaired by Karen Brunssen, professor of voice and opera and co-chair of the Department of Music Performance, includes Bienen School of Music faculty, staff, students, and alumni. The General Director, President and CEO of the Lyric Opera of Chicago is also of counsel to the committee. Isaacson, Miller has been retained to assist the committee. The search is on track for the next dean to start before fall.

School of Education and Social Policy Dean
The search continues and is on track for the new dean to start before fall. (Subsequent to the March report Brian McKinley Jones Brayboy has been named).

Associate Vice President – Civil Rights and Title IX Compliance
The search continues and is on track for the next AVP to start this academic year. (Subsequent to the March report, Emily Babb has been named).
Innovation and New Ventures Office Leader
The search continues and is on track for the next leader to start this academic year. (Subsequent to the March report, Lisa Dahr has been named Associate Vice President for Innovation).

FINANCIAL UPDATE
The FY 2022 financial statements were reviewed and approved by the Audit, Risk, and Compliance Committee in December 2022. The University ended the fiscal year with an operating margin of $138.7M. While FY 2022 financials still reflected some pandemic impacts, most financial activity returned to or exceeded pre-pandemic levels. Nearly every revenue source outperformed budgeted amounts, driven by several one-time items. Positive performance was realized University-wide but was more robust in professional schools in anticipation of strategic initiatives. The University’s net assets decreased by $711.5M primarily due to the impact of the challenging financial markets on the University’s investment portfolio.

Liquidity and Debt Management
Treasury, Investments, and Budget and Planning continue to collaborate closely with respect to liquidity monitoring, planning, and debt management in support of the University’s operating and capital needs.

Investment Management
As of December 31, 2022, the Long-Term Balanced Pool had an estimated value of $14.0 billion based on preliminary returns. For the past twelve months ended December 31, 2022, the return to the Long-Term Balanced Pool was -8.2 percent versus a policy benchmark return of -9.2 percent. As a reminder, the fourth quarter returns for illiquid categories such as Private Investments and Real Assets are not yet reported. As of 12/31/22 the Endowment had highly liquid assets comprising short duration treasury bonds and cash of $1.4 billion.

Alumni Relations and Development Update
As of January 31, 2023, Northwestern raised $393.8 million in new gifts and commitments (NGCs) towards the $600 million fiscal year goal, compared with $763.6 million last year at the same time. The net amount raised without giving to Northwestern Medicine’s related entities is $273.6 million, compared to $611.9 million for the same period last year.

Northwestern also received $505.1 million in cash and gifts-in-kind toward our FY23 goal of $450 million, compared to $247 million received for the same period last year. The net amount raised without Northwestern Medicine giving from related entities is $475.2 million, compared to $213.8 million for the same period last year.

RESEARCH UPDATE
Research Award Funding
Northwestern’s fiscal year 2023 year-to-date research funding as of Feb. 8, 2023, reached $272.0 million, a 9% increase ($22.5 million) versus FY22. The number of
awards totaled 1,108, representing a 5% increase (38) from FY22. The dollar volume of proposals submitted through Feb. 8 was $1.6 billion, a 2% decrease from the prior year. The number of proposals submitted (1,462) decreased 3% over the same period last year. Typically 15% of annual awards arrive in each of the first two quarters of a fiscal year, followed by 25% in the third quarter and the remaining 45% arriving in the final quarter of the fiscal year. Proposals tend to be distributed evenly across all four quarters of the fiscal year.

Dollar volume of awards from the National Institutes of Health through Feb. 8 increased 5.8% (to $124.4 million), while that from industry sponsors was up 11.8% (to $45.1 million). The dollar volume of proposals submitted to the National Institutes of Health was unchanged from FY22 ($1.2 billion), while that to industry sponsors was down 9% (to $38.9 million).

**Research News and Faculty Updates**

**Anna Grassellino is awarded New Horizons in Physics Prize**

Anna Grassellino, a quantum physicist at Fermi National Laboratory and Northwestern University, is the recipient of the 2023 New Horizons in Physics Prize for her work and impact on particle accelerator technology and quantum information science. The Breakthrough Prize Foundation bestows the annual honor to exceptional early career scientists who already have made a substantial impact on their fields. Grassellino is receiving one of this year’s three $100,000 physics prizes. Grassellino is an adjunct professor of physics and astronomy in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. She is director of the Fermilab-based Superconducting Quantum Materials and Systems Center, a national research center of which Northwestern is a major partner.

**Samuel Stupp receives 2022 Von Hippel Award**

Northwestern’s Samuel I. Stupp has received the 2022 Von Hippel Award, the highest honor awarded by the Materials Research Society. Stupp is the Board of Trustees Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, Chemistry, Medicine and Biomedical Engineering at Northwestern, with appointments in the McCormick School of Engineering, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences and Feinberg School of Medicine. He also directs the Simpson Querrey Institute for BioNanotechnology (SQI), the Center for Regenerative Nanomedicine and the Center for Bio-Inspired Energy Science, an Energy Frontiers Research Center funded by the U.S. Department of Energy. Stupp was recognized for his pioneering contributions to developing and understanding a broad range of molecularly designed supramolecular soft materials that function as bioactive scaffolds in regenerative medicine, matrices for photocatalytic activity and stimuli-responsive robotic structures.

**Chad Mirkin receives King Faisal Prize for chemistry**

The King Faisal Foundation has awarded NU professor Chad A. Mirkin the 2023 King Faisal Prize (KFP) in Medicine and Science for his work in chemistry. Established in 1979, the KFP is a merit-based award honoring those whose work “contributes to the enrichment of knowledge for the development of humanity.” Mirkin is widely recognized for his invention of spherical nucleic acids (SNAs) and the development of biological and chemical diagnostic and therapeutic systems, and materials synthesis strategies based upon them. He also is a pioneer in the field of artificial intelligence-
based materials discovery, which uses high-throughput synthesis techniques, machine learning and unprecedentedly large data sets to rapidly identify and evaluate new materials for various applications.

**Dean Karlan appointed chief economist for USAID**
Dean Karlan, the Frederic Esser Nemmers Distinguished Professor of Economics and Finance at Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management, was officially sworn in Nov. 15 as the new chief economist for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). In his new role, Karlan serves as the agency’s principal economist and top expert on economic policy and analysis. He will retain an affiliation and appointment at Kellogg, including his work through the Global Poverty Research Lab, during his time at USAID. Karlan researches the microeconomic issues of poverty, employing experimental methods and behavioral economics tools to explore optimal solutions to address social problems.

**New leadership for thriving synthetic biology center**
McCormick School of Engineering’s Julius Lucks and Danielle Tullman-Ercek (both chemical & biological engineering) have been named co-directors of Northwestern’s Center for Synthetic Biology (CSB), which launched in 2016 and has attracted renowned researchers seeking innovative ways to reprogram cells and cellular components to take on new, specialized purposes, such as creating sustainable chemicals or next-generation materials and targeted therapeutics. Today, the center has 21 affiliated faculty members — leaders in physics, engineering, computer science, medicine, social sciences, and more — who have produced a combined seven start-up companies in just the past two years.

**Northwestern receives funding from Army’s synthetic biology center**
Northwestern received significant grants from the U.S. Army for research involving large teams. The awards are part of the Army’s basic research center focused on synthetic biology to design advanced materials and on engineering environmental microbial communities. The Northwestern team focuses on engineered biological materials. This group includes Nathan Gianneschi (chemistry), Neha Kamat (biomedical engineering), Julius Lucks (chemical & biological engineering) and Danielle Tullman-Ercek (chemical & biological engineering). The team will combine synthetic biology and materials expertise with engineering and computational modeling strengths to create new biomaterials with precise control over their functional properties. Potential applications include electronic circuitry for wearable electronics, optical materials that dynamically sense and respond to their environment, and rugged cell-free materials with embedded sensing and actuation functions for molecular diagnostics.

**Team with Northwestern astrophysicists competes for $300 million**
NASA has selected STAR-X, a space mission proposed to the agency’s Explorer program that includes Northwestern astrophysicists Vicky Kalogera, Wen-Fai Fong and Charlie Kilpatrick, as one of two finalists to launch a research facility into space in 2028. If selected to launch into space, the team’s project will receive up to $300 million in additional funding. NASA will select one project as soon as 2024 to proceed with implementation. Short for “Survey and Time-domain Astrophysical Research eXplorer,” the STAR-X project will examine how astronomical objects change. Kalogera is the Daniel I. Linzer Distinguished Professor of Physics and Astronomy in the Weinberg
College of Arts and Sciences and director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Exploration and Research in Astrophysics (CIERA), one of 35 University-wide interdisciplinary research hubs at Northwestern. Fong is an assistant professor of physics and astronomy in Weinberg and member of CIERA. Kilpatrick is a CIERA postdoctoral fellow.

Research translation making an impact
Northwestern research continues to fuel market innovation, with faculty startups enjoying success:

- NanoGraf, a lithium-battery startup rooted in the research of Harold Kung (chemical and biological engineering) and Jiaxing Huang (materials science), recently raised $65 million to help it build up its 17,000-square-foot Chicago production facilities after winning a $10 million Department of Defense contract in November.
- Surgical Innovation Associates, an NU spin-out founded in 2016 by Alexei Mlodinow (MD/MBA ’20), Todd Cruikshank (MBA ’17), and Dr. John Kim (surgery), created DuraSorb® and has brought it from ideation through FDA 510k clearance and into the operating room. The firm recently announced a definitive agreement to be acquired by Integra Life Sciences for up to $140 million.
- SAMDI Tech, an NU biotech spinout that provides automated screening for early-stage drug invention, was acquired by pharmaceutical services giant Charles River Laboratories. The $50 million cash deal was announced in January. SAMDI was founded in 2011 by Milan Mrksich, NU’s vice president for research and co-founder of the Center for Synthetic Biology.
- Mattiq, the developer of a revolutionary approach to sustainably produce chemicals and fuels, recently announced its launch alongside securing $15 million in seed funding. Formerly known as Stoicheia, Mattiq, co-founded by Chad Mirkin (chemistry) also announced it hired veteran Silicon Valley executive and entrepreneur Jeff Erhardt as CEO.

Two Northwestern faculty-led teams celebrate 2022 Chicago Innovation Awards
Two of Chicago’s most notable innovations of the year are rooted in Northwestern research, according to Chicago Innovation, which bestowed the following honors at the 21st annual Chicago Innovation Awards in November.

- **Illinois Wastewater Surveillance System:** Winner of the top award, the surveillance system is a creative solution to COVID-19 monitoring, born from a cross-institutional research led by Northwestern, University of Illinois Chicago and Argonne National Laboratory.
- **Epicore Biosystems:** A healthcare startup, Epicore Biosystems created the first sweat-sensing wearable platform to deliver personalized hydration, stress and metabolic insights to athletes, industrial workers and consumers. Epicore Biosystems’ Gx Sweat Patch and Gx App product, developed in partnership with Gatorade, received recognition in the form of the Collaboration Award at the Chicago Innovation Awards. The organization is a spinout from Northwestern’s Querrey Simpson Institute for Bioelectronics and the John Rogers Laboratory.
Two elected to the National Academy of Inventors
Northwestern’s Roozbeh Ghaffari and Daniel Martin Watterson have been named 2022 fellows of the National Academy of Inventors. Ghaffari is a research associate professor of biomedical engineering and the director of translational research at the Querrey Simpson Institute for Bioelectronics. A pioneer in the research and translation of soft microfluidic and bio-integrated systems, his contributions in soft bioelectronics and wearable biosensors are recognized with multiple awards and 60+ patents. Watterson is the John G. Searle Professor of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry and a professor of pharmacology at the Feinberg School of Medicine. Watterson is best known for the elucidation of signal transduction pathways in eukaryotic cells that are involved in health resilience and disease susceptibility. Information about these pathways has implications for potential new therapeutic approaches in tumor biology, intestinal disorders and various neurologic diseases.

Elizabeth Addington and Michael Horn receive Daniel I. Linzer Awards
Elizabeth Addington and Michael Horn have received the 2023 Daniel I. Linzer Award for Faculty Excellence in Diversity and Equity. Given annually by Northwestern’s Office of the Provost, the award celebrates those who work to build a more diverse, inclusive and equitable climate on campus. Addington is an assistant professor of medical social sciences (MSS) in the Feinberg School of Medicine. Horn is a professor of computer science at the McCormick School of Engineering and a professor of learning sciences at the School of Education and Social Policy.

Nina Kraus receives 2022 Alumnae Award
Nina Kraus has received The Alumnae of Northwestern University’s 2022 Award in recognition of her outstanding contributions to auditory learning and neuroscience research. Kraus is the Hugh Knowles Professor of Communication Sciences, Neurobiology and Otolaryngology in Northwestern’s School of Communication. As a biologist and musician, she studies the relationship between sound and brain health. Her research aims to understand auditory processing to improve social communication. Her latest book is Of Sound Mind: How Our Brain Constructs a Meaningful Sonic World.

Denise Bouras and Jeremy Keys receive The Alumnae of Northwestern University’s Award for Curriculum Innovation
Denise Bouras and Jeremy Keys have been named the 2023 recipients of the Alumnae of Northwestern University’s Award for Curriculum Innovation. Denise Bouras is an associate professor of instruction in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences’ Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Bouras will use the award funds to connect Northwestern undergraduates with public school students in the Evanston/Skokie District 65’s “Two-Way Immersion” program, which seeks to promote fluency among students in both English and Spanish. Jeremy Keys is an assistant professor of instruction in the McCormick School of Engineering’s Department of Mechanical Engineering. Keys plans to use the award funds to revamp an existing class by introducing “product archaeology” labs in which students will disassemble consumer products to learn about the embedded functions of their components.
Three faculty members recognized for their service to Northwestern
History professor Laura Hein and Organization of Women Faculty (OWF) co-chairs Karen Alter and Leslie Harris will be honored with this year’s Provost Awards for Exemplary Service. Laura Hein is the Harold H. and Virginia Anderson Professor of History at Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences and has consistently advocated for non-Western history in her department and for a more global perspective in the College and University. Karen Alter, the Norman Dwight Harris Professor of International Relations and professor of political science, and Leslie Harris, professor of history, are faculty members at Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. They are being recognized for providing a voice for women faculty during the 2020-2021 academic year, during which they surveyed women faculty and gathered data on COVID-19’s impact.

Block Museum of Art and McCormick School bring art and science together
Since 2018, Dario Robleto served as an artist-at-large at the McCormick School of Engineering. This unique program partnership between The Block Museum and McCormick gave the artist an open “hall pass” to learn from, collaborate with and question scientists, engineers and experts from across the University. Robleto’s residency concludes with the new exhibition “The Heart’s Knowledge: Science and Empathy in the Art of Dario Robleto,” representing a decade of Robleto’s creative practice, from 2012 to 2022.

Research Updates
Now on the molecular scale: electric motors
Primary researcher: Sir Frasier Stoddart, McCormick School of Engineering. A multidisciplinary team led by Northwestern has made an electric motor on the molecular scale. The molecular motor is based on a catenane whose components — a loop interlocked with two identical rings — are redox active, meaning they undergo unidirectional motion in response to changes in voltage potential. Only 2 nanometers wide, the molecular motor is the first to be produced en masse in abundance. The motor is easy to make, operates quickly and does not produce any waste products. This work has implications for materials science and particularly medicine, where the electric molecular motor could team up with biomolecular motors in the body. The Northwestern team spent more than four years on the design and synthesis of their motor. The study was published Jan. 11 in Nature.

Muscle-powered robots have freedom of movement
Primary researcher: John A. Rogers. McCormick School of Engineering; Querrey Simpson Institute for Bioelectronics. Researchers from Northwestern and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign have developed “eBiobots” — hybrid miniature biological robots that are the first to combine soft materials, living muscle and microelectronics that come with a remote control. The UIUC team pioneered the development of biobots, small biological robots powered by mouse muscle tissue grown on a soft 3D-printed polymer skeleton. They demonstrated walking biobots in 2012 and light-activated biobots in 2016. The light activation gave the researchers some control, but practical applications were limited by the question of how to deliver the light pulses to the biobots outside of a lab. The answer came from Northwestern’s Rogers Research Group, a pioneer in flexible bioelectronics. The group helped integrate tiny wireless microelectronics and battery-free micro-LEDs, allowing the researchers to remotely
control the eBiobots. The integration of electronic sensors or biological neurons would allow the eBiobots to sense and respond to toxins in the environment, biomarkers for disease and more.

Deepfake challenges ‘will only grow’
*Primary researcher: V.S. Subrahmanian, McCormick School of Engineering.* Most public attention surrounding deepfakes has focused on large propaganda campaigns, but the new technology, driven by breakthroughs in machine learning, is much more insidious, according to a new report by artificial intelligence (AI) and foreign policy experts at Northwestern and the Brookings Institution. Highly realistic, but fake, media products can now be generated by AI with increasing effectiveness. The researchers predict the technology is on the brink of much wider use, including in targeted military and intelligence operations. Deepfakes could help fuel conflict by legitimizing war, sowing confusion, undermining popular support, polarizing societies, and discrediting leaders. The report’s co-author, V.S. Subrahmanian, is head of the Northwestern Security & AI Lab, which performs fundamental AI research relevant to cybersecurity and international security.

Why fish look down when they swim
*Primary researcher: Emma Alexander, McCormick School of Engineering.* Just as you might look down at the sidewalk as you walk, fish look downward when they swim, a new study by a Northwestern-led international collaboration has confirmed. By analyzing a pioneering computational model, the researchers concluded that this quirk — looking down while swimming forward — is an adaptive behavior that evolved to help the fish self-stabilize as they swim against a current. The study was published Nov. 2 in *Current Biology.*

Making the unimaginable possible in materials discovery
*Primary researcher: Mercouri Kanatzidis, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Argonne National Laboratory (NAISE).* Researchers at Northwestern University, Argonne National Laboratory, and the University of Chicago have developed a new method for discovering and making new crystalline materials with two or more elements. Over the last five decades, scientists have discovered and made many unconventional superconductors with surprising magnetic and electrical properties. Such materials have an array of possible applications, such as improved power generation, energy transmission and high-speed transportation. They also have the potential for incorporation into future particle accelerators, magnetic resonance imaging systems, quantum computers and energy-efficient microelectronics. Details were published in November in the journal *Nature.*

Study provides first snapshot of global experiences with water insecurity
*Primary researcher: Sera Young, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Institute for Policy Research.* New research from Northwestern is the first to provide a more nuanced and global view of the experience of water insecurity. In a new study published in *The Lancet Planetary Health,* scientists estimate that 436 million of the 3 billion adults represented by the survey sample were water insecure in 2021. The researchers also were able to pinpoint which groups experience the highest rates of water insecurity. The study uses data drawn from a nationally representative sample of nearly half the
The world’s population and a scale designed to measure water insecurity more holistically.

Scientists cite need for more research on leadership development in adolescence
Primary researcher: Jennifer Tackett, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. There is clear evidence that leaders blossom early, but little research exists about leadership development in adolescence. A Northwestern paper, “Understanding the Leaders of Tomorrow: The Need to Study Leadership in Adolescence,” makes a case for adding a multidisciplinary developmental perspective to leadership research. It argues that better understanding of youth leadership would have immediate application for educators, parents, policy makers and employers. The study was published Nov. 9 by Perspectives on Psychological Science.

New solar cell breaks records for efficiency and voltage
Primary researcher: Ted Sargent, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. Aiming to make solar energy more practical, a team of researchers from Northwestern University, University of Toronto and the University of Toledo is introducing a new type of solar cell produced without silicon, which is energetically costly to produce. Featured in a recent paper published in Nature, the prototype solar cell measures one square centimeter and produces an open-circuit voltage of 2.19 electron volts, a record for all-perovskite tandem solar cells. Its power-conversion efficiency reached 27.4%, which also breaks the record for traditional silicon solar cells. The team aims to scale their production for commercial use, further enhance the cell’s efficiency, and improve its stability.

Hiring discrimination: The problem that won’t go away
Primary researcher: Lincoln Quillian. Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences; Institute for Policy Research. Decades ago, many experts predicted that hiring discrimination would gradually disappear as anti-discrimination laws took effect and social norms changed to favor diversity and reject racism. But this has not happened according to researchers. Instead, hiring discrimination against four racial and ethnic minority groups remained relatively consistent over the past several decades across six countries in North America and Western Europe. The findings are disappointing, but hiring discrimination can be reduced going forward, according to researchers. The keys to this are enforcement and accountability. The study, published Dec. 1 in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, focuses on better understanding trends in hiring discrimination in Europe and North America since the 1990s.

A majority of Americans have not received the latest COVID booster, study finds
Primary researcher: James Druckman, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences. A survey of American adults found that nearly half reported having been infected with COVID-19 at least once, with 35% saying they have tested positive more than once. The report also revealed that a substantial majority of Americans have not yet received the latest bivalent booster shot. The survey was conducted by researchers from the COVID States Project, a consortium of universities that includes Northwestern, Harvard, Northeastern and Rutgers, that surveyed 26,161 American adults across 50 states between Oct. 6 and Nov. 9. The study found that the rate of COVID-19 infections is vastly underreported, with about 48% of all positive cases not reflected in official data.
Community violence interventionists face on-the-job violence, trauma

**Primary researcher:** Andrew Papachristos, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Institute for Policy Research. Trained civilians working to intervene in and de-escalate street violence face job-related violence themselves, as well as secondary trauma from that violence, according to two Northwestern articles. Scientists found that the single-year rates of gun violence and victimization among community violence mediators exceed those of Chicago police. The data come from a landmark survey of the street outreach workforce in Chicago, the Violence Intervention Workers Study (ViEWS), conducted in 2021 by sociologists from Northwestern and the University at Albany, SUNY. The article, published Dec. 23 in *Science Advances*, reveals that 59% of community violence intervention (CVI) workers witnessed someone being shot at, and 32% witnessed a victim struck by gunfire. In a separate study published in *Preventive Medicine*, the research examined this indirect exposure to violence and found that Chicago CVI workers experienced symptoms of secondary traumatic stress that was exacerbated by their exposure to workplace violence.

Aging is driven by unbalanced genes

**Primary researcher:** Thomas Soeger, McCormick School of Engineering. Northwestern researchers have discovered a previously unknown mechanism that drives aging. In a new study, researchers used artificial intelligence to analyze data from a variety of tissues collected from humans, mice, rats and killifish. They found that the length of genes explains most molecular-level changes that occur during aging. The researchers found that longer genes are linked to longer lifespans, and shorter genes are linked to shorter lifespans. They also found that aging genes change their activity according to length. More specifically, aging is accompanied by a shift in activity toward short genes. This causes gene activity in cells to become unbalanced. The finding potentially could lead to interventions designed to slow the pace of — or even reverse — aging. The study was published Dec. 9 in the journal *Nature Aging*.

Vitamin D fails to reduce statin-associated muscle pain

**Primary researcher:** Neil Stone, Feinberg School of Medicine. Patients who take statins to lower high cholesterol levels often complain of muscle pains, which can lead them to stop taking the effective medication and put them at greater risk of heart attack or stroke. Some clinicians have recommended vitamin D to ease the muscle aches of patients taking a statin, but new research from Northwestern, Harvard and Stanford shows the vitamin appears to have no substantial impact. The study was published Nov. 23 in *JAMA Cardiology*.

Patients don’t need to be ‘checked for everything’

**Primary researchers:** Dr. Jeffrey A. Linder and Dr. David T. Liss, Feinberg School of Medicine. To combat commonly ordered — but not always necessary — medical procedures and tests, the Society of General Internal Medicine in January released its revised recommendations on five primary care procedures and tests that patients and physicians should question. Northwestern researchers helped with the revision. For instance, an annual physical exam with “routine blood tests” from a primary care doctor is now regarded as a misconception, since a person’s age and other risk factors should influence how frequently they should see their doctor. However, patients who have overdue preventive services, rarely see their primary care physician, have low self-rated
health and/or are aged 65 or older should receive an annual checkup. Other revised recommendations include not performing routine pre-operative testing before low-risk surgical procedures and not recommending cancer screening in adults with life expectancy of less than 10 years.

ER visits among youth with suicidal thoughts had already spiked in fall 2019

*Primary researcher: Dr. Audrey Brewer, Feinberg School of Medicine.* In fall of 2019 — before the COVID-19 pandemic — emergency departments in Illinois experienced a spike in visits from youth ages 5 to 19 with suicidal thoughts or ideas, according to a new study from Northwestern’s Feinberg School of Medicine and the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago. There was an additional surge in these types of visits during the pandemic, the study found. Emergency department visits for suicidal ideation increased 59% from 2016-17 to 2019-21 overall, with a corresponding increase from 35% to 44% of visits coded as the principal diagnosis. Hospitalizations during that same period increased 57%. The study authors said the diverse demographics of Illinois’ population are representative of the general U.S. population. Using data from 205 Illinois hospitals, the research team examined ER visits involving suicidal ideation — having thoughts of wanting to hurt or harm oneself but not necessarily having made an attempt — and hospital stays resulting from those ER visits. The study was published Nov. 14 in the journal *Pediatrics.*

Transforming the way cancer vaccines are designed and made

*Primary researcher: Chad A. Mirkin, Weinberg, Feinberg; International Institute for Nanotechnology.* Researchers from Northwestern’s International Institute for Nanotechnology (IIN) have developed a new way to significantly increase the potency of almost any vaccine. The scientists used chemistry and nanotechnology to change the structural location of adjuvants and antigens on and within a nanoscale vaccine, greatly increasing vaccine performance. The antigen targets the immune system, and the adjuvant is a stimulator that increases the effectiveness of the antigen. This new heightened emphasis on structure has the potential to improve the effectiveness of conventional cancer vaccines, which historically have not worked well. “The research drew upon a previous Mirkin invention called spherical nucleic acids (SNAs), which are the structural platform used in this new class of modular vaccines.

OB-GYN research lacks racial, ethnic inclusivity

*Primary researcher: Dr. Jessica Steinberg, Feinberg School of Medicine.* All non-white racial and ethnic groups are underrepresented in OB-GYN clinical trials, reports a new Northwestern Medicine study. Since clinical trials and scientific publications inform clinical care, failing to report the race and ethnicity of study participants and conducting homogenous, non-representative research has a negative impact on OB-GYN care. Published Dec. 21 in *JAMA Surgery,* the study examined racial and ethnic representation in all U.S. OB-GYN clinical trials and subsequent research publications between 2007 and 2020. There has been increasing awareness that maternal morbidity and mortality disproportionately impacts Black and Latinx communities, but this study found all OB-GYN sub-specialties are lacking racial and ethnic representation in clinical trials and research publications.
Variety in enamel composition may predict later tooth health
*Primary researchers: Robert Free; Stuart Stock, McCormick School of Engineering, Feinberg School of Medicine.* Some 90% of U.S. adults have had at least one dental cavity. Further, longer lifespans and egregious dental health disparities are contributing to rising cases. Now, an interdisciplinary Northwestern research team has mapped ions within human teeth and found significant structural differences between samples that may enhance understanding of the life cycle of enamel, which may be one of the most complex materials produced by vertebrates, and impact on human health. A paper published Dec. 19 in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* demonstrates new approaches to measuring differences in tooth composition at a previously unresearched, hard-to-measure scale of tooth enamel.

Mature ‘lab grown’ neurons hold promise for neurodegenerative disease
*Primary researchers: Samuel Stupp, Evangelos Kiskinis, McCormick, Weinberg, Feinberg, Simpson Querrey Institute.* Northwestern-led researchers have created the first highly mature neurons from human-induced pluripotent stem cells, a feat that opens new opportunities for medical research and potential transplantation therapies for neurodegenerative diseases and traumatic injuries. To create the mature neurons, the team used “dancing molecules,” a breakthrough technique introduced in 2021 by Northwestern’s Samuel I. Stupp. The enriched neurons matured and also demonstrated enhanced signaling capabilities and greater branching ability, required for neurons to make synaptic contact with one another. With further development, the researchers believe these mature neurons could be transplanted into patients as a promising therapy for spinal cord injuries and neurodegenerative diseases. The study was published Jan. 12 in *Cell Stem Cell.*

The Milky Way’s mysterious filaments have ‘older, distant cousins’
*Primary researcher: Farhad Zadeh, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Center for Interdisciplinary Exploration and Research in Astrophysics (CIERA).* A Northwestern astrophysicist who first discovered a family of large-scale, highly organized magnetic filaments dangling in the center of the Milky Way in the 1980s has now made a new discovery of similar filaments located in other galaxies. In pioneering work, the researcher and collaborators have introduced two explanations for the filaments’ unknown origins in a new paper published in *The Astrophysical Journal Letters.* The filaments might result from an interaction between large-scale wind and clouds or could arise from turbulence inside a weak magnetic field. The first filaments discovered decades ago stretched up to 150 light years long, towering near the Milky Way’s central supermassive black hole. The newly discovered filaments reside inside a galaxy cluster, a concentrated tangle of thousands of galaxies located one billion light-years from Earth.

Short gamma-ray bursts traced farther into distant universe
*Primary researcher: Anya Nugent, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Center for Interdisciplinary Exploration and Research in Astrophysics (CIERA).* A Northwestern-led team of astronomers has developed the most extensive inventory yet of galaxies where short gamma-ray bursts (SGRBs) originate. Using highly sensitive instruments and sophisticated galaxy modeling, the researchers pinpointed the galactic homes of 84 SGRBs and probed the characteristics of 69 of the identified host galaxies. Among their
findings, they discovered that 85% of the studied SGRBs come from young, actively star-forming galaxies. The astronomers also found that more SGRBs occurred at earlier times, when the universe was much younger — and with greater distances from their host galaxies’ centers — than previously known. Surprisingly, several SGRBs were spotted far outside their host galaxies, as if they were “kicked out,” a finding that raises questions about how they could travel so far. The team published two papers in *The Astrophysical Journal* on Nov. 21 detailing the new catalog.

**Ultracool dwarf binary stars break records**
*Primary researcher: Chih-Chun “Dino” Hsu, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, CIERA.* Northwestern and the University of California San Diego astrophysicists have discovered the tightest ultracool dwarf binary system ever observed. The two stars are so close that it takes them less than one Earth day to revolve around each other. The newly discovered system, named LP 413-53AB, is composed of a pair of ultracool dwarfs, a class of very low-mass stars that are so cool that they emit their light primarily in the infrared, making them completely invisible to the human eye. They are nonetheless one of the most common types of stars in the universe. LP 413-53AB is estimated to be billions of years old — a similar age to our sun — but has an orbital period that is at least three times shorter than all the ultracool dwarf binaries discovered so far.

**Surprise kilonova upends established understanding of long gamma-ray bursts**
*Primary researcher: Jillian Rastinejad, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, CIERA.* For two decades, astrophysicists have believed that long gamma-ray bursts (GRBs) resulted solely from the collapse of massive stars. Now, a new study upends that established belief. Led by Northwestern, a team of astrophysicists has uncovered evidence that at least some long GRBs can result from neutron star mergers, which were previously believed to produce only short GRBs. After detecting a 50-second-long GRB in December 2021, the team began searching for the long GRB’s afterglow, an incredibly luminous and fast-fading burst of light that often precedes a supernova. Instead, they uncovered evidence of a kilonova, a rare event that only occurs after the merger of a neutron star with another compact object (either another neutron star or a black hole). In addition to challenging established beliefs about how long GRBs are formed, the discovery leads to new insights into the mysterious formation of the heaviest elements in the universe. The research was published Dec. 7 in *Nature*.

**Watch distant worlds dance around their sun**
*Primary researcher: Jason Wang, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences; CIERA.* In 2008, HR8799 was the first extrasolar planetary system ever directly imaged. Using observations collected over the past 12 years, a Northwestern astrophysicist has assembled a stunning 4.5-second time-lapse video of the family of four planets — each more massive than Jupiter — orbiting their star. The video gives viewers an unprecedented glimpse into planetary motion. HR8799 is a compact star located 133.3 light-years away from Earth in the Pegasus constellation. Although this seems unfathomably far away, HR8799 is considered within our “solar neighborhood.” At around 30 million years young, the system formed after the dinosaurs went extinct.
Forecasting earthquakes that get off schedule
*Primary researcher: Seth Stein, Weinberg College of Arts and Science.* Results of a new Northwestern study will help earthquake scientists better address seismology's most important problem: when to expect the next big earthquake on a fault. Unfortunately, earthquakes sometimes come sooner or later than expected, and seismologists haven't been able to describe this until now. Instead of just using the average time between past earthquakes to forecast the next one, the new earthquake probability model considers the specific order and timing of previous earthquakes. It helps explain the puzzling fact that earthquakes sometimes come in clusters — groups with relatively short times between them, separated by longer times without earthquakes. The study was published Dec. 27 in the *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America.*

Biorefinery uses microbial fuel cell to upcycle resistant plant waste
*Primary researcher: Kimberly Gray, McCormick School of Engineering.* Northwestern researchers have developed a sustainable, inexpensive two-step process that can upcycle organic carbon waste — including lignin, the fibrous, woody material that gives plants their rigid structure. The lignin from farmlands, breweries and paper mills is typically burned or buried, generating pollution and wasting a potential renewable resource. By processing waste through a microbe-driven biorefinery, the researchers turned lignin into carbon sources that could be used in high-value, plant-derived pharmaceuticals and antioxidant nutraceuticals as well as carbon-based nanoparticles for drug or chemical delivery. The study was featured on the cover of the January issue of the journal *ACS Sustainable Chemistry and Engineering.*

Malformed seashells, ancient sediment provide clues about Earth's past
*Primary researchers: Brad Sageman, Andrew Jacobson, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences.* Nearly 100 million years ago, the Earth experienced an extreme environmental disruption that choked oxygen from the oceans and led to elevated global marine extinction. In a pair of new studies, two Northwestern-led teams of geoscientists report findings on the chronology and character of events that led to this occurrence, known as Ocean Anoxic Event 2, which was co-discovered 40 years ago by the late NU professor Seymour Schlanger. By analyzing how an influx of CO$_2$ from volcanoes affected ocean chemistry, biomineralization and climate, the researchers hope to better understand how today's Earth is responding to an increase of CO$_2$ due to human activities, which potentially could lead to solutions for adapting to and mitigating anticipated consequences. The research was published Jan. 19 in *Nature Geoscience.* A complementary paper detailing findings from ancient malformed microfossils was published Dec. 13, in *Nature Communications Earth & Environment.*

**The Graduate School**

**PhD Admissions**
As of February 14, 2023, there have been 11,514 PhD applicants for admission to Fall 2023, which is a 7% increase from last year and a return to Fall 2021 levels. Below are the changes by demographic category:
- 5,400 PhD applicants who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents (a 2% decrease from last year)
- 5,253 PhD applicants who are female (a 5% increase from last year)
- 1,116 PhD applicants who are an underrepresented minority (URM) (a 7% decrease from last year)

**English Language Programs**
The Graduate School has created a new staffing structure for English Language Programs (ELP) that reflects the team’s continued value to students and the University’s global strategic plan. ELP provides English language training, orientation, and testing for international graduate students and scholars, helping them improve their ability to communicate in the classroom and beyond.

**Northwestern University – Qatar**

**Northwestern Qatar awarded Carnegie grant to build Arab Information and Media Studies field**
Carnegie Corporation of New York has awarded Northwestern University in Qatar a $350,000 grant to expand the field of Arab Information and Media Studies (AIMS) over the next two years. The grant will also support a collaboration between AIMS and the Security in Context (SIC) network, a global initiative promoting critical research and policy analysis on peace and conflict. Directed by Marwan M. Kraidy, dean and CEO of Northwestern Qatar, the AIMS project will expand the field of critical media and information studies in the Arab region through the Institute for Advanced Study in the Global South at Northwestern University in Qatar (#IAS_NUQ).

**Northwestern Qatar project awarded flagship NEH grant**
*The People Who Created “America’s City” (New York 1770-1800)*, a digital learning project by Northwestern Qatar, has been awarded a Digital Projects for the Public Grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The project, which examines the complex, multicultural social history of Revolutionary Era New York City, is the latest edition of the award-winning digital learning series, History Adventures: World of Characters. The grant awarded to Professor Spencer Striker will support the series designed for middle and high school students.

**World Cup activities include Northwestern Qatar students and alumni**
Many of Northwestern Qatar’s students and alumni took part in the media coverage of the World Cup working with some of the world’s major international media outlets arriving in Qatar to cover the tournament, including CNN, Fox Sports, and regional and international media. Lieutenant Majed Al Naimi, a public relations officer in the Ministry of Interior in Qatar, is among the alumni who worked on safety communications between local organizations and the public during the tournament. Another alum, Shaden Wahdan, is a producer at Al Kass Sports Channels, based in Qatar. During the tournament, she was on the ground covering games and activities around the country.
ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Gender Inclusivity Programs
The University’s Gender Queer, Non-Binary and Trans (GQNBT) Task Force has worked hard to create inclusive strategies that facilitate a more accessible and welcoming campus environment for gender expansive members of the Northwestern community. Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity and Inclusion Robin Means Coleman announced updated programming, including instructional webinars for workplace and classroom inclusivity.

Government Relations
On February 15, Governor JB Pritzker gave his annual State of the State budget address. The Governor’s FY24 $49.6 billion operating budget includes significant new investments in education, including a proposed $100M increase to the Monetary Award Program (MAP), which elevates total State funding to this important initiative to $701M. More than 675 Northwestern students receive MAP funding, which is awarded to Pell-eligible Illinois residents. The Governor’s budget also included rolled-over funding from previous budgets for private university capital facility funding, and the $50M for Northwestern University for the Querrey InQbation Lab.

On December 29, 2022, President Biden signed the Fiscal Year 2023 appropriations into law, ensuring increases for many Northwestern priorities, including a $500 increase to the minimum Pell Grant award and funding boosts to key research agencies. Additionally, Northwestern secured a $10 million programmatic increase for New Materials for High Energy Fuels from Waste Feedstocks at the Department of Defense, for research conducted by Chad Mirkin and Ted Sargent. Sen. Durbin was instrumental in securing this funding.

On December 6, 2022, President Schill met with Chicago’s 2nd Ward Alderman Brian Hopkins, who, as a result of the recent Chicago ward remap process, will now represent the entire Northwestern Chicago campus. The two discussed a number of important issues, including future construction projects, safety and security, and how Northwestern innovation helps grow the Chicago economy.

Global Marketing and Communication

Top Media Stories
The highest-reaching media stories during this period feature faculty expertise on a broad range of issues, including Katie Watson on the debate around over-the-counter birth control (period reach: 26.9 million); Peter Hayes on how to respond to antisemitism (24.1 million); Spencer Parsons on the involuntary manslaughter charges against Alec Baldwin (20.8 million); Penelope Abernathy and Tim Franklin’s research on the decline of local newspapers (19 million); and Emily Rogalski and Tamar Gefen’s research on SuperAgers (18.9 million).

Top Northwestern Social Media Coverage
Northwestern’s top-level social channels (Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter) continue to grow in 2023. Total engagements across social media channels from
November through January were over 245k—a 12% increase from the same period in 2022. Total engagement rate was also up by over 20% compared to the same period in 2022. Highlights included the MLK Dream Week 2023 events—most notably, the keynote event with Sherrilyn Ifill and Prof. Sheila Bedi. In total, these posts reached 826.8K users and had 2.1K engagements.

Support for Office for Research VP Vision
OGMC partnered with VP Research, the OR team, and the ARD OR director of development to create a new comprehensive communications platform illustrating Northwestern’s VPR vision as well as videos for six priority URICs and faculty leaders.

President Schill Communications
Since its launch in September 2022, President Schill’s Instagram account (@northwesternpresident) has gained more than 1,700 followers and continues to have an average engagement rate of nearly 10 times higher than the benchmark for higher education Instagram accounts. President Schill has met with the Daily Northwestern, Northwestern News Network, and Crain’s Chicago Business.

Athletics Update

NCAA Graduation Success Rate
Northwestern’s overall 98% NCAA Graduation Success Rate is the top mark across all Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) institutions, matches the department’s all-time record, and leads the Big Ten Conference for the 18th consecutive year. Thirteen Wildcats programs posted perfect 100% scores for the current data. The list includes men’s basketball for the first time, as well as baseball, cross country, field hockey, men’s soccer, men’s tennis, fencing, softball, women’s basketball, women’s golf, women’s swimming and diving, women’s tennis, and women’s volleyball. For the sixth consecutive year, Northwestern football earned the highest Graduation Success Rate (GSR) among all FBS programs, posting a 97% mark for the current cohort, and have ranked first or second in the country for GSR among FBS football programs for 12 straight years.

Men’s Basketball ranked #21
Northwestern men’s basketball is ranked #21 in the nation in this week’s Associated Press poll, and widely considered a ‘lock’ for the 2023 NCAA Tournament. The Wildcats have won 11 Conference games for the first time since 1931, earned the program’s first-ever win over the #1 team in the nation (among four ranked wins this season) and are currently in sole possession of second-place in the Big Ten standings. Head coach Chris Collins was added to the watch list for the Naismith National Coach of the Year, and Chase Audige is one of 15 semifinalists for the National Defensive Player of the Year award.

‘Cats Introduce Alumni Impact Award
In recognition of the generosity of University Trustee David G. Kabiller ’85, ’87 MBA, Northwestern Athletics has established the "A Life Touched, A Generation Changed" award to annually honor one former Wildcats letterwinner for their resounding impact on others through actions and deeds, while serving as an inspiration to their
community. Nominations for the inaugural award will be accepted until March 1, 2023, with the honor presented for the first time during the spring.

**McKinney To Be Honored During 2023-24 Season**
Northwestern announced in February that Billy McKinney, one of its greatest student-athletes, will be the first ‘Cats alum to have their jersey retired when he is honored during the 2023-24 season at Welsh-Ryan Arena. He held the ‘Cats all-time basketball scoring record for more than 35 years, spent decades as an NBA player and executive, and now serves as the mayor of his hometown (Zion, Illinois) and as Northwestern’s basketball radio analyst.

**Data Shows Strong Community Support for New Ryan Field**
A recent poll conducted by national public opinion research firm Impact Research shows a majority of Evanston residents support a plan to rebuild Northwestern University’s Ryan Field football stadium as a smaller, more environmentally friendly and accessible community venue. The same research also shows that most Evanston residents believe the project will create strong benefits to the city and create transformational jobs and career opportunities for current and future generations.