SUNY REACH

A Research Vision To Meet a Public Mission

he four SUNY Academic Health Centers (AHCs) have a unique public mission. Built around medical schools, the SUNY AHCs are one of the top educators of the health care professionals who serve New York State. Each AHC campus also supports a biomedical/ biotechnology research enterprise dedicated to improving human health. Now, the SUNY AHCs are united in their quest to create SUNY REACH — a collective biomedical research plan that is aimed at New York State's most serious health care concerns.



Great universities are defined by their research. SUNY AHCs already generate one-third of all SUNY research dollars. SUNY REACH will focus on four specific areas related to human health and will provide the people, facilities, technology and structure that will take New York's public biomedical research enterprise to the highest level.

The SUNY REACH proposal highlights the phased five-year investment needed to make SUNY a competitive leader in biomedical research.

The \$310 million SUNY REACH investment will:

- Create one of the state's leading biomedical research enterprises and the *only* one with a committed public mission.
- Establish the institutional size needed to place the AHCs in the best position to vie for Clinical Translational Science Awards and other high-profile grants.
- Develop a unified structure that builds on the existing strengths —
 including the AHCs successful biotech parks and incubators across the
 state to speed industry partnerships and translational research.
- Plan for new hires and core equipment, collectively and effectively.
- Increase access to new clinical treatments for the one million patients treated each year at SUNY's public teaching hospitals, and to help clinicians reach diverse and unique patient populations through a SUNY-wide clinical trials office.
- Promote an integrated, technologically-supported research environment that will:
 - 1) bring forth discoveries;
 - 2) launch new inter-campus collaborations; and
 - 3) through the offshoots of these activities benefit public higher education in New York by attracting students, mentoring SUNY faculty, and attracting top hires.

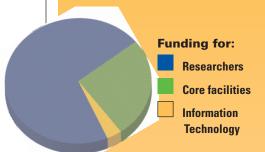
Economic Impact

Investment in SUNY research creates jobs: an estimated 29 jobs for each \$1 million in funding. The employment impact of investing in SUNY REACH will be statewide.

The vision of SUNY REACH supports the research-driven breakthroughs, treatments, and devices that ultimately make medical care more cost effective.

SUNY REACH also will make it easier for industry to tap into the richness of partnering with the public AHCs and their educated employee base.





SUNY REACH is an investment in the people, core facilities and information technology to unify and advance the research vision of the New York's public medical schools.

SUNY REACH builds on the strengths of the AHCs and supports what is needed to lead research in these specific areas:

CANCER

EMERGING PATHOGENS/
INFECTIOUS DISFASES

DIABETES AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

DISORDERS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

Phase 1 Early Success

SUNY REACH participants have already self-funded Phase 1 of this investment proposal. The pilot investment of \$600,000 already has produced a tremendous ROI for the involved SUNY campuses. Funding was given to Neuroscience, Vision Research and Clinical and Translational Research groups to jumpstart collaboration. Successes include:

- SUNY Eye institute submitted a National Eye Institute Research Center grant application with investigators from all five SUNY REACH institutions.
- A unified IRB was launched under the Clinical and Translational Research group resulting in easier access for industry with standard policies across campuses.

 The next phase would expand SUNY REACH to more campuses to continue to build the critical mass needed for large grants, expand access for industry and to spur further collaboration in all pillars.