

2018

## From the Associate Vice President of Research and Dean of Graduate Studies

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### Recommended Citation

From the Associate Vice President of Research and Dean of Graduate Studies. (2017). *Frontiers*, 6(1), 1.

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## From the Associate Vice President of Research and Dean of Graduate Studies

I'm pleased to present the latest issue of *FRONTIERS*, a production of the College of Graduate Studies and Research that recognizes our Maverick faculty and students who are implementing their big ideas on campus, in the community and throughout the world.

As you read through this publication, you'll find examples of collaborations happening on this campus that serve the common good. Through meaningful research, they are solving real-world problems with global applications.

For example, you'll meet Angela Monson, who has invented a first-to-market, high-tech training tool for dental hygienists. And Guario Salvia, a computer scientist, working tirelessly to improve accessibility to technology for students with disabilities.

At Minnesota State Mankato, our big ideas also come in the form of important conversations around social issues like race, immigration, and identity. Read on to meet faculty members across disciplines working out what it means to live as 21st-century citizens of the world.

Our goal in the College of Graduate Studies and Research is to bolster these efforts by supporting faculty members in the development, funding and scholarly pursuit of their work, and ensuring they conduct their research in full compliance with the highest ethical and regulatory standards.

At Minnesota State Mankato, our doors are always open to community partners—like the American Thyroid Association, which you'll read about on page 4. We welcome research and development ideas like these that can advance the shared values of our institution and your enterprise.

I am deeply proud of the scholarly and creative accomplishments of Minnesota State Mankato faculty, and students. I hope you enjoy reading about their collaborations and breakthroughs as much as I have.

We invite you to visit us in person or at [grad.mnsu.edu](http://grad.mnsu.edu) to learn more about our big ideas—in and out of the classroom.

Dr. Barry J. Ries

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