Robert Wood Johnson Foundation extends support for Dartmouth Atlas

Ever since John Wennberg, M.D., first noticed an extraordinary amount of variation in the rates of tonsillectomy in two adjacent Vermont towns in the early 1970s, what is now the Dartmouth Atlas Project has documented variations in how health-care resources are distributed and used in the United States. The Dartmouth Atlas provides its data free of charge to all researchers at www.dartmouthatlas.org.

For nearly 20 years, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has been a critical partner in this work, supporting the Dartmouth Atlas with more than $14 million in grant funding. Particularly given the longitudinal nature of much of the Atlas's research, RWJF's steadfast commitment has been of vital importance to its success. The Foundation recently extended its support with an additional $2.7 million award.

Dean, Board of Overseers establish Geisel advancement division to support bold plan

To expand support for the Geisel School of Medicine and Dartmouth College's ambitious goals related to medical education, research, and clinical excellence, Dean Wiley "Chip" Souba and the medical school's board of overseers have recommended the establishment of the Division of Advancement, with a full-time focus on supporting the medical school's growing needs and opportunities in fundraising, communications and marketing, and alumni affairs.

Aligning professional expertise and developing a strategic plan for advancement will benefit student, faculty, and staff recruitment goals, grow relationships with our alumni, strengthen the identity of the Geisel School and Dartmouth around the nation and the world, and increase philanthropic support of the medical school—support that is increasingly essential to the success of the school and its students. Increasing support will also help accelerate plans for educational and curricular innovation, translational research expansion, growing student leadership work, and clinical opportunities.

“Building a strong advancement team is a top leadership priority, including fully integrating our medical school alumni relations, communications and marketing, and development efforts,” said Mark Notestine, Ph.D., the associate vice president for advancement, who heads the division. “This is an amazing time to be part of the Dartmouth community, and I am committed to sharing the incredible stories about Geisel School of Medicine students, faculty, and staff with our internal audiences, as well as with our extended network across the region, nation, and world. We are truly building outstanding momentum.”

By telling the story of the Geisel School of Medicine and of the work being done here, engaging with our alumni and friends, and dramatically increasing philanthropic support, the Division of Advancement will help drive the medical school toward an extraordinary future and toward excellence in education, research, and clinical care.
“My career as a pathologist is grounded in the fine education I received at the Medical School. Providing for the Geisel School of Medicine in my estate plans was not a difficult decision—it was simple to do, and very satisfying to me.”

— John Kaiser, M.D., Class of 1966 —

“My late husband, Dr. Radford C. Tanzer, mentored many aspiring physicians during the course of his career here. It is an honor to carry on his legacy through a planned gift that will fund a student scholarship in our name at the Geisel School of Medicine.”

— Sheila Tanzer —

“As one of the first women to graduate from the Medical School—and the first to serve as the Alumni Council President—I am proud to support the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth through my estate. I hope many of my fellow alums will join me as a member of the Pinnacle Society.”

— Marlene Sachs, M.D., Class of 1977 —