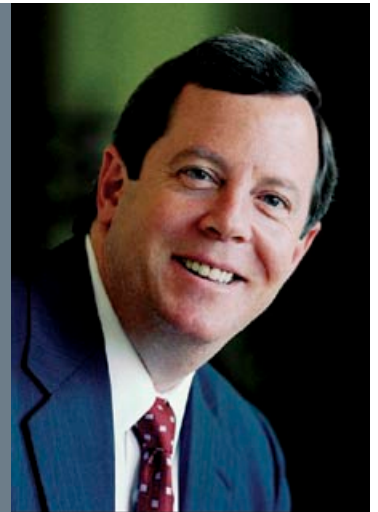


# ADELBERT 216



## One Great Collaboration

My dictionary defines synergism as the “simultaneous action of separate agencies which, together, have greater total effect than the sum of their individual effects.”

For a familiar example of this concept, we need look no farther than our own bodies, where the actions of muscles, nervous system, organs, and other essential components combine to make us high-functioning human beings.

During the past year, we have been realizing the benefits of this wonderful principle at Case Western Reserve University. Like most great research universities, Case consists of separate schools, all striving to excel in established academic fields. But while other universities often locate these elements among distant campuses, our eight schools are efficiently clustered right here in University Circle.

This concentration of resources works to our great advantage in developing the interdisciplinary habit of mind that distinguishes Case teaching and research. Our faculty find it easy to collaborate. The deans of our eight schools also serve as “university deans” whose combined leadership inspires colleagues toward mutual objectives.


Our undergraduates are free to pursue flexible courses of study without encountering departmental barriers and administrative roadblocks. The SAGES seminars (Seminar Approach to General Education and Scholarship) that form a central element of our new model for liberal education even provide these students with added opportunities to learn from outstanding individuals

throughout Northeast Ohio and from faculty based in our professional schools.

At our professional schools, dual-degree options are proliferating. The School of Law alone offers eight distinct possibilities in conjunction with the schools of applied social sciences, graduate studies, management, and medicine. These schools, in turn, have developed many additional interdisciplinary programs.

Our team approach to the advancement of knowledge carries beyond individual classrooms or courses. Research conducted by the faculty, often in partnership with each other and with colleagues off campus, takes discovery and innovation to new levels for the benefit of everyone—everywhere. Together we “think globally and act locally,” applying and refining our breakthroughs first in our region and then throughout the world.

Far-reaching cooperative ventures also are energizing University alumni. A landmark affiliation between the Case Alumni Association and the Case School of Engineering has unified thousands of engineering graduates around the globe. This year’s coordinated annual-fund solicitation, addressing alumni with a single voice for the first time, set new records for support.

One university. One shared vision. One positive force for the future. We are truly striving together to create the world’s most powerful learning environment! 

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PHOTOGRAPH BY GABRIEL AMADEUS COONEY