



from the chancellor

One of my favorite pieces of wisdom comes from one of Alabama's most distinguished citizens, Miss Helen Keller. Miss Keller once said, "The most pathetic person in the world is someone who has sight but has no vision." She's right. When businesses and institutions fail, the root cause can usually be traced to a lack of vision on the part of leadership.

At Troy University, we are constantly immersed in the planning process at many levels. We plan for the next semester, the next year and the next decade. Our students and alumni deserve a University that does not leave the big issues to chance. That is why we have spent the last two years formulating our "Vision 2010, A Strategic Plan." This plan is the subject of the cover story in this issue of the Troy University Magazine. We reveal some of the key components of the plan, such as how many new buildings we plan to build, how many students we expect to recruit, what we expect in terms of growth in our academic programs, where we are headed in terms of continued internationalization of the University, and much more. I believe most Trojans will be interested in getting a glimpse of the direction this University is headed.

In this issue, we also focus on one of our premier graduate programs, the Master of Science in International Relations. Given our commitment to globalization, Troy University is positioned to emerge as a leader in providing high-quality courses of study that contain an international perspective. We hear about the quality of the degree from Clyde Marsh, commissioner for the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs, who completed the international relations program at our Eglin Air Force Base location in 1988.

Each issue of this magazine contains stories of interesting and successful alumni. This time we profile a diverse group of alumni, including an author of western novels and one of our oldest living alums, who received her teacher's certificate 82 years ago from Troy State Normal School.

Our coverage of Trojan athletics pays tribute to the remarkable performance of our baseball team, which became the first team in six years to win both the regular-season and tournament titles in the Sun Belt Conference on the way to earning a berth in the NCAA tournament.

We also preview the 2006 edition of Trojan football by introducing Tony Franklin, our new offensive coordinator. Coach Franklin's up-tempo offense promises to provide plenty of excitement for Trojan fans, as will one of our most ambitious out-of-conference schedules ever with games against Florida State, Georgia Tech and Nebraska.

Speaking of football, I hope you will make plans to join us for homecoming on Nov. 4. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr.
Chancellor