

Tufts' students and faculty are known for their ability to engage critically with the central questions in intellectual and public life. An idea, however, only has currency if it is shared. I welcome the appearance of *Discourse* as an opportunity to extend the intellectual and civic commitments of our students and faculty in a vital public forum.

Discourse has announced its dedication to the power of reason and to a respectful but vigorous exchange of ideas. These commitments already inform the work that takes place on all of Tufts' campuses. It is my hope and expectation that this new magazine will offer a valuable framework for discussion and debate within and beyond the Tufts community.

WELCOME LETTER

I am grateful to Sherman Teichman and his colleagues at the Institute for Global Leadership for encouraging and supporting this publication. Most important, I commend Padden Guy Murphy and his editorial colleagues. Launching a new venture such as this takes not only good ideas but also an entrepreneurial spirit and lots of hard work. I hope that this inaugural issue of *Discourse* encourages you, its readers, to become participants in active dialogue about the important questions facing our world.

Larry Bacow,
President, Tufts University

