



**Left:** Senior class officers Jennifer Hair and Nathan Litt plant flowers with President Beck to beautify the campus before commencement.

## DEAR LAWRENTIANS,

A popular YouTube video has been making the rounds at Lawrence this past year, highlighting the significance of global change and the importance of preparing future generations for success in a world where changes will continue to come at breakneck speed. Titled “Shift Happens,” the video forecasts a world in which the top 10 jobs in demand in 2010 didn’t even exist in 2004, and where today’s college student will have 10-14 jobs by age 38. It predicts a daunting challenge, to say the least, a challenge that changes by the day.

Because Lawrence University is focused on teaching students *how* to think (versus what to think), our traditional liberal arts education is a powerful springboard to a world filled with rapid-fire change. And, as the world changes, so must our curriculum. The story that begins on page four provides a glimpse of the changes taking place across our campus in response to the challenge. Lawrence’s outward appearance with its historic buildings and manicured lawns belies the leading-edge innovation taking place in our classrooms.

The creativity we witnessed this past academic year was truly extraordinary and two examples of Lawrence’s creative approach to community engagement are also featured in this publication. Professor Brigetta Miller’s research about the effect music has on babies has taken her *General Music Methods I* class to St. Elizabeth Hospital in Appleton, benefiting not only the educational experience of Miller’s students, but also the young mothers who develop communication and parenting skills through Lawrence’s partnership with the hospital’s Mom’s Club. (See page 12.)

We are also very proud to introduce you to a group of talented soon-to-be sophomores. The 10 members of Lawrence Posse 1 are, in a sense, pioneers; coming to Appleton from New York with a mission of promoting diversity, leading change, and engaging our campus in important dialogue. This spring, they facilitated Lawrence’s participation in a national conversation about social responsibility and their collective ideas to enable positive change will be shared with colleges nationwide later this year. (See page nine.)

Finally, I’d like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2008 — the class that welcomed me to Lawrence as I joined the college four years ago. We were “freshmen” together and I will always feel a special connection to these fine young men and women who have been transformed, as I have, by Lawrence University.

Enjoy your summer,

Jill Beck