MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT

President
Rice University

Rice University prides itself on our contributions to our world, the
efficiency of our teaching and research, and our distinctive and
supportive culture. Now six years into our second century, Rice University
has changed a tremendous amount since 59 students and 12 faculty
members participated in the first matriculation in the early fall of 1912.
We have remained true to our founding ideals and ambitions, building
over the course of a century one of the great universities of America.
Rice’s mission and aspirations are captured in our mission statement:

As a leading research university with a distinctive commitment to
undergraduate education, Rice University aspires to pathbreaking
research, unsurpassed teaching, and contributions to the betterment
of our world. It seeks to fulfill this mission by cultivating a diverse
community of learning and discovery that produces leaders across the
spectrum of human endeavor.

We are indeed an unusual university. We are among the renowned
research universities of the world. Despite our comparatively small size,
we are committed to a wide spectrum of endeavors ranging across our
eight schools and many inter-disciplinary institutes and centers. Our
success is built on the contributions of every part of our community:
graduate and undergraduate students, faculty and staff, alumni and other
supporters across our city and around the world.

We strive to be bold in our aspirations and entrepreneurial in our
approach. We seek to make a distinctive contribution to our home city
of Houston while achieving a global impact through education, research,
and service. We are committed to enriching understanding, creating
opportunity, discovering knowledge, and improving our world. Reflecting
these ambitions, we have recently adopted a new strategic plan, the
“V2C2”, which you can learn more about at https://v2c2.rice.edu/.

The General Announcements of the University sets forth the immense
array of opportunities for our students, as well as the rules and policies
which govern their participation as students in the university. But we
demand more of each other than just adherence to rules and policies.
We expect that all members of our community will be guided in all their
endeavors by the core Rice values: Responsibility, Integrity, Community
and Excellence. These values are just as important as the academic
offerings and rules included in these announcements. If you have
questions about how rules and policies may apply to you, we urge you to
seek advice from one of the many sources available to you.

We take great pride in the diversity of our community in every aspect. Our
success requires thoughtfulness and respect in every interaction on our
campus, whether with members of the Rice community or the visitors
we welcome. Each of us has a role to play in helping to assure access
and inclusion for all members of our community. Our “culture of care”
demands not only that we not cause harm to others, but also that we look
out for each other and provide or seek help when needed.

We are pleased that you have chosen to become a part of this dynamic
university as it embarks on its second century of excellence and
achievement. On behalf of our faculty and staff, I wish you every success
as you pursue your educational endeavors. We take pride in the special
community of Rice, and look forward to working with you as you seize the
opportunities of Rice to achieve your aspirations and dreams.

David W. Leebron