BEYOND THESE TOWERS
A world beset by challenges needs what we have created and what we do at WPI.
The distinctive towers of WPI’s first two buildings have been enduring symbols of the simple but powerful idea that is the university’s bedrock: theory and practice, knowledge and skilled art, learning and doing. This guiding philosophy has remained the heart of the university as we have moved beyond the cradle of our founding to spread influence and impact across the world.

Embodied in these towers are the ideals of two self-made entrepreneurs. At the height of the American Industrial Revolution, WPI merged those visions to create a lasting model of scientific and technological education. A century later we reimagined that model and built an approach to undergraduate learning we’re now sharing with higher education institutions around the world. And today, we take that innovative spirit beyond our campus in so many ways to create a brighter future for individuals, communities, and organizations around the world.
Now, more than ever, the world needs WPI’s innovators, educators, makers, and doers—people with the knowhow and the tenacity to work across disciplinary, cultural, and geographic boundaries to take on the world’s greatest and most consequential problems. Realizing the vision of a truly globally engaged university will take an unprecedented commitment from the greater WPI community; this goal is beyond any set before:

|$500 million

$350 million in philanthropy
$150 million in sponsored research

But we are undaunted, for imagining and developing solutions to the toughest challenges is in our DNA. Now, again, with the Two Towers ideal as our anchor, we are stepping beyond our sphere of comfort, beyond these storied towers, to play an ever-growing role in understanding and meeting the needs of a profoundly interconnected and interdependent planet.

Our drive to go beyond is fueled by the belief that what we have created and what we do at WPI can be of immense value to a world beset by challenges. We need champions to help us get there.

BE THOSE CHAMPIONS.
Here is how this campaign—and your part in it—will drive positive change:

**Beyond these towers are tomorrow’s global problem solvers, innovators, and leaders.**

**$100 MILLION**

for undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships and the academic and student life programs that prepare graduates to make a positive difference in the world—as students and as alumni.

**Beyond these towers is a new model for a world-spanning, globally engaged university.**

**$50 MILLION**

for The Global School and its initiatives, Global Project Centers, and Global Health, as well as programs that expand and deepen WPI’s capacity to create positive change, globally and locally.
Beyond these towers our research and scholarly work are changing the world.

$100 MILLION

for graduate fellowships, endowed faculty chairs, graduate programs, and the dynamic research ecosystem that fuels WPI’s national and international reputation and is ultimately aimed at solving critical problems and improving lives.

Beyond these towers is a global community energized and propelled by innovation and inclusion.

$100 MILLION

to support faculty, students, staff, and programs that ensure our students graduate with entrepreneurial mindsets and learn how to create value, our community is supported in its pursuit of excellence in all things, and that we are living our promise of creating a campus community where each person feels a sense of belonging.
BEYOND THESE TOWERS
ARE TOMORROW’S GLOBAL PROBLEM SOLVERS,
INNOVATORS, AND LEADERS.
Long before Robert Goddard, Class of 1908, conducted his first rocketry experiment or hand-tooled his first combustion chamber, he knew exactly what he was aiming for. Inspired by Jules Verne and H.G. Wells, he believed he could invent a machine that would free humans from the relentless pull of gravity and carry them beyond Earth’s familiar comforts and into a universe filled with peril and promise. For Goddard, that vision was never out of sight as he built his world-changing technology.

$100 MILLION

for undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships and the academic and student life programs that prepare graduates to make a positive difference in the world—as students and as alumni.
“The Interactive Qualifying Project [the junior year project experience] teaches you a lot about yourself, but also about the people you work with on your team ... if you can understand how to read team dynamics and work toward a common goal with others—especially people you don’t always see eye-to-eye with—then you’ll be very prepared to enter the workforce after WPI.”

—Audrey Berner ’21
As it did for Goddard, WPI has always inspired students to pursue their passions and find their purpose: to dream big and use their WPI education to realize their dreams. But for many aspiring innovators and leaders, a WPI education itself is the dream. **Through this campaign, WPI seeks to remove the barriers that keep qualified students from accessing our time-tested approach to learning**—barriers that keep too many from taking the first step toward a world of purpose and possibilities that lies just beyond their imagination.

For most, the highest hurdle is a financial one. The need for support in the form of fellowships and scholarships can keep the best and brightest students from applying to our undergraduate, master’s, and PhD programs.

When students are unable to clear their financial obstacles, the loss can be great: to their futures, to the WPI community, which will not be enriched by their experience and perspective, and to the world, which will miss out on the ideas and innovations that might have been fueled by the insights and practical experience they gained at WPI.

**Beyond these towers are students who have everything it takes to be here, except the means.**

**BE THEIR MEANS.**

“Learning to work intimately with a small team over a long period of time really showed me the value of communication. I believe my Major Qualifying Project [the senior year project experience] was my most important achievement. I say ‘my,’ but it was and really could only have been a team effort.”

—Thomas Tawadros ’20
BEYOND THESE TOWERS
IS A NEW MODEL FOR A WORLD-SPANNING,
GLOBALLY ENGAGED UNIVERSITY.

Nearly a half century ago, a small band of WPI students and faculty members arrived in Washington, D.C. They were there to test a hypothesis. Having built — from the ground up — a remarkably effective project-based undergraduate curriculum, WPI believed it could magnify the impact of hands-on project work by sending students off campus, matching them with local sponsors, giving them the luxury of focusing completely on the problem before them, and immersing them in unfamiliar surroundings, cultures, and perspectives.

$50 MILLION

for The Global School and its initiatives, Global Project Centers, and Global Health, as well as programs that expand and deepen WPI’s capacity to create positive change, globally and locally.
That successful experiment was the seed for a revolutionary program. Today, undergraduates travel to more than 50 project centers that dot the globe. On these journeys of discovery they find out what it takes to search for locally appropriate solutions to meaningful problems, they learn to see beyond their own cultural and personal blinders, and they reach deep within themselves to find capabilities and a sense of confidence they never knew they had.

WPI’s unique Global Projects Program is an object lesson in the power of global project-based learning. But it is also a template for a broader approach to global education, research, and partnerships. With a mission to weave a global mindset throughout the fabric of the university, The Global School, the newest of WPI’s four schools, is building on that template.

The Global School’s programs put students at all levels—from first-year undergrads to PhD candidates—as well as faculty and staff throughout the university in touch with the challenges and opportunities that lie beyond these towers. Whether they head out to work with people, organizations, partners, and colleagues in far-flung locations or engage with global issues and needs at home, they will gain a profound appreciation for the role that engineering, the arts and sciences, business, and the social sciences can—and must—play in finding solutions to problems that affect all who inhabit this planet.

Beyond these towers lies a world that is ready to be connected to the experience, the passion, and the promise of this university and its people.

BE A CONNECTOR.
“The WPI students provided an invaluable resource to the Department of Conservation, New Zealand. They provided insight into the public perception surrounding the critically endangered Maui dolphin, while working to improve public knowledge.”

—William Arlidge
The Marine Species and Threats Team, Department of Conservation

“With this new school, WPI aims to provide the kind of leadership that will improve the quality of life of people around the world.”

—Laurie A. Leshin
President, WPI
BEYOND THESE TOWERS
OUR RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY WORK
ARE CHANGING THE WORLD.
Can a plant help heal the world? WPI biologist Pam Weathers thinks so, when that plant is *Artemisia annua*, or sweet wormwood. Over the course of more than three decades, with funding from the National Institutes of Health and other sources, she and colleagues at WPI and around the world have conducted laboratory studies and participated in clinical trials that demonstrate that the plant’s leaves—which contain a rich mixture of bioactive compounds—may be a potent treatment for such global killers as malaria, schistosomiasis, tuberculosis, and COVID-19.

$100 MILLION

for graduate fellowships, endowed faculty chairs, graduate programs, and the dynamic research ecosystem that fuels WPI’s national and international reputation and is ultimately aimed at solving critical problems and improving lives.
Weathers started her world-changing studies as WPI was beginning its evolution into a research university, and she remains an active researcher today as faculty and students at all levels are engaged in cutting-edge work across the university and across a wide range of disciplines. They are supported and sustained by a robust research ecosystem that includes state-of-the-art research centers, a wealth of shared facilities, and a rich complement of high-performance computing capabilities. Their research draws steadily increasing levels of funding from a broad cross section of federal agencies, foundations, corporations, and individuals, and they work with a diverse array of partners—universities, government laboratories and agencies, and other organizations here at home and far beyond these towers.

As impressive as today’s research operation may be, it is but a prelude to what lies ahead. Two key drivers have the potential to propel research at WPI to new heights: the increasingly multidisciplinary nature of the world’s technological and societal problems, and the growth in research funding for large multidisciplinary, multi-institution projects. With its experience in cross-disciplinary work, its growing research infrastructure, its impressive track record in securing funding, and the coalescing of its research community around a small number of cross-cutting themes, WPI is well-positioned to seize these funding opportunities and advance to a new tier of excellence as a research university. The campaign goal of $150 million in external research funding is an acknowledgement of that potential.

Beyond these towers is a world of knowledge and innovation waiting to be discovered. Our researchers need generous partners to help them find the path to discovery.

BE A PARTNER.
$56.2 million research funding through Office of Sponsored Programs FY20

35 Current faculty members who have won the National Science Foundation CAREER Award 2020

65 PhDs awarded in 2018—the most in WPI’s history

“We will take the technology and innovation we develop here and scale it across the world to solve some of the toughest challenges we face.”

—Laurie A. Leshin
President, WPI
NEW FACILITIES FOR NEW DISCOVERIES

To advance research at WPI, the campaign will raise funds for the state-of-the-art facilities where this leading-edge, interdisciplinary discovery can take place: new labs, high-tech collaboration and project spaces, maker spaces, shops, and more. A comprehensive Campus Master Plan is shaping the physical spaces that will help catalyze ideas and launch them into impact. With the success of the Innovation Studio, the foundation of the Campus Master Plan, and the momentum behind this campaign, WPI is now poised to create new and renovated spaces that inspire teaching and learning and support purpose-driven research.

The campaign provides many opportunities for alumni and friends to help advance major priorities, including a new academic building with computational sciences at its core, renovations to Kaven Hall and Gordon Library, renovations to other facilities throughout campus, and the adaptive reuse of existing spaces as departments and programs shift into new and renovated spaces.
Julie Bliss Mullen ’12 knew from a young age that she wanted to use science to help people. The summer before her junior year, she traveled to Guatemala with Engineers Without Borders to help a community avoid using contaminated water by harvesting rainwater. The experience inspired her to try to find better ways to treat water. Today she is co-founder and CEO of Aclarity, which markets an electrochemical treatment method she discovered to companies and organizations around the world.

$100 MILLION

to support faculty, students, staff, and programs that ensure our students graduate with entrepreneurial mindsets and learn how to create value, our community is supported in its pursuit of excellence in all things, and that we are living our promise of creating a campus community where each person feels a sense of belonging.
Mullen, who was named to the Forbes 30 Under 30 list for science in 2019, embodies the value creation mindset and the humanistic spirit that WPI seeks to weave throughout its curriculum and its community. The university’s practical approach to education and research has long produced innovators whose products and businesses have transformed the world. Today WPI seeks to help all of its students and faculty take their ideas and inventions out into the world to create value, help people, and change the world for the better.

The most innovative and successful organizations are the ones that place a premium on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Better ideas, solutions, and products emerge when all voices are heard and when the greatest spectrum of perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences are brought to the table.

“Not only for the needs of the moment, but for those that will define our future, WPI sees a world where music, art, and design-thinking inspire scientists, engineers, and business leaders to fuel their imaginations and reach for the stars.”

—Jean King, Peterson Family Dean, School of Arts & Sciences
WPI has built a robust infrastructure to institutionalize DEI and to create a community where all are welcomed and valued, and where everyone has access to opportunities to achieve—perhaps beyond even their own expectations.

Through this campaign, WPI will double down on its efforts to prepare strategic thinkers and build an inclusive, supportive, and welcoming community.

The aim is to create a campus community where prospective and current students, faculty, and staff see themselves—where everyone feels a strong sense of belonging and has opportunities to achieve their full potential.

To rise beyond our highest aspirations, beyond our greatest expectations, beyond all that is embodied in these towers, we need builders to bolster our foundation and help us reach higher.

BE A BUILDER.
BEYOND THESE TOWERS

IS WHERE A STRONG, INNOVATIVE, INCLUSIVE, GLOBALLY ENGAGED WPI WILL MAKE ITS MARK ON OUR 21ST CENTURY WORLD

In Two Towers, WPI’s centennial history, Mildred Tymeson famously observed that WPI has endured, evolved, and prospered “because—by some strange and wonderful supply—there have always been enough people who cared.”

People who cared founded WPI on a unique and timeless model, and then they built and expanded, and reimagined and reinvigorated, this university. Time and again, they provided the resources to assure that WPI remains an innovative, forward-thinking, and purpose-driven institution.

It is time, once again, for people who care to come forward and come together as WPI embarks on an unprecedented journey. With the immense achievements of more than 150 years as our backdrop and this solid, secure, and tested university as our home port, we are venturing out beyond these towers to engage even more fully with the world through our proven project-based approach to education, our purposeful, applied, interdisciplinary research, and our innovative community of educators, creators, learners, and doers.

Like explorers down through the ages, we are driven by what we may gain and by what we will share—by how we will grow and change for the better, and how we will bring positive change to the world around us. With Beyond These Towers: The Campaign for WPI, we launch an expedition to tomorrow’s university and a brighter world.

THE JOURNEY BEGINS NOW. BE A PART OF IT.