



FROM THE CEO, DREW DYSON

The Courage to “Think Again”

Dear Friends,

One of the valuable lessons that my mother taught me was to approach the world with an epistemic humility that would enable me to listen, learn, and change. “One of the greatest dangers we face,” she would say, “is to be lost in a sea of our own certainty!” For Mollie, being willing to accept the limits of our knowledge didn’t make one weak or unintelligent, but just the opposite. Recognizing the limits of one’s own perspective was a gift — to oneself and to others.

In his new book *Think Again: The Power of Knowing What You Don’t Know*, *The NY Times* bestselling author and organizational psychologist at the Wharton School, Adam Grant, sees great resistance to opening ourselves to new ways of thinking as one of the greatest challenges in contemporary culture. “...We often prefer the ease of hanging on to old views over the difficulty of grappling with new ones.”

Grant uses the story of *BlackBerry* to illustrate his point. Mike Lazaridis, one of the innovators behind the BlackBerry, dreamed up the concept of a mobile device for not only making/receiving calls, but also sending/receiving emails. BlackBerry scorched the market with key trendsetters like Oprah Winfrey and Barack Obama extolling the device’s usefulness.

When the iPhone stormed onto the scene in 2007, Mike admired the computing power of the iPhone. He refused, however, to follow his engineers who were pleading with him to expand the scope of the BlackBerry to include more computing (and not just communication) power. “He (Mike) was confident that people wanted a wireless device for work emails and calls, not an entire computer in their pocket with apps for home entertainment.” The rest, we now know, is history.

Organizations, and not only individuals, can get caught in the trap of failing to rethink and reimagine as new opportunities present themselves. Grant is careful, however, to caution against



throwing the baby out with the bathwater. “Visions for change,” he says, “are more compelling when they include a vision for continuity. Although our strategy might evolve, our identity will endure.”

The Princeton Senior Resource Center (PSRC) is at an exciting time in our organization’s story. Building on the powerful foundations laid over many years, we are approaching the next great turn in our story with the opening of a new building at 101 Poor Farm Road in Princeton that will expand and enhance our space for lifelong learning. The Nancy S. Klath Center for Lifelong Learning will become a central part of our next chapter and will further our mission to provide dynamic learning, lifegiving human connection, and compassionate social services.

To that end, I would like to invite you to one of our upcoming virtual information sessions focused on *The Future of PSRC*. We will share new developments in programming, plans for our new building, and information about our corresponding capital campaign. I am excited to share with you — and I hope you will make every effort to join us for these sessions.

All the Best,
Drew A. Dyson, PhD
Chief Executive Officer

