Harvard Medical School Launches $750M Fundraising Campaign

Focusses on alleviating human suffering caused by disease through education, discovery, service and leadership

BOSTON (Nov. 13, 2014) — Today Harvard Medical School (HMS) launched a transformative fundraising campaign that will empower its mission to alleviate human suffering caused by disease. The World Is Waiting: The Campaign for Harvard Medicine aims to help people throughout the world live longer, healthier lives.

HMS is seeking to raise $750 million to support four overarching priorities: education, discovery, service and leadership. Half of this amount—$375 million—was already raised during the prelaunch phase of the Campaign, representing gifts and pledges from nearly 5,300 friends and alumni.

“We launch this Campaign at a moment when biomedical science has created enormous opportunities to understand and treat diseases for which we currently have no, or only partial, answers,” said Jeffrey S. Flier, dean of HMS and the Caroline Shields Walker Professor of Medicine. “While we have made important breakthroughs, the overall rate of progress is too slow. Our health care system is in urgent need of repair. And medical education needs to be reimagined to incorporate new learning environments and to bolster critical thinking.”

The Campaign priorities, which require new levels of investment to improve health outcomes worldwide, include:

- **Education:** Training the next generation of leaders in science and medicine by increasing student financial aid, enhancing learning environments and expanding external education initiatives
- **Discovery:** Illuminating the cause of disease and advancing lifesaving cures by increasing support for biomedical informatics, genetics, neuroscience, systems biology and the Harvard Program in Therapeutic Science
**Service:** Building health equity and transforming health systems in the U.S. and around the world by expanding the work of our global health, health care policy and primary care teams

**Leadership:** Incubating innovation and change to improve human health through flexible funding that can be applied when and where it is needed most

“Harvard Medical School not only has potent ideas that will help meet these challenges, we also have the convening power and tools to revolutionize health and medicine,” added Flier. “After 36 years on the faculty of HMS and seven years of having the privilege of being its dean, I have never been more excited about what we can and will accomplish to improve human health,” he said.

“The major medical challenges of our time require that we convene the best minds from a variety of scientific and clinical disciplines, experts who wouldn’t ordinarily work together. That is what Harvard Medical School does,” said Joshua Boger, Campaign chair, member of the HMS Board of Fellows and founder and former CEO of Vertex Pharmaceuticals. “If you’re looking to advance human medicine, investing in the best means investing in Harvard medicine.”

*The World Is Waiting: The Campaign for Harvard Medicine* is part of the $6.5 billion Harvard Campaign, which launched in September 2013.

“The future we face together is one in which knowledge will be the most important currency. Harvard must be at the forefront of creating knowledge, of integrating knowledge across disciplines and fields and of deploying knowledge in service to the world,” said Drew Gilpin Faust, president of Harvard University and the Lincoln Professor of History. “Harvard Medical School embodies these aspirations, driving discovery and developing practices that will help generations of people lead longer and healthier lives.”

To learn more about *The World Is Waiting: The Campaign for Harvard Medicine*, please visit hms.harvard.edu/campaign.

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**About Harvard Medical School**

Since Harvard Medical School was established in 1782, faculty members have improved human health by innovating in their roles as physicians, mentors and scholars. They have piloted educational models, developed new curricula to address emerging needs in health care, and produced thousands of leaders and compassionate caregivers who are shaping the fields of science and medicine throughout the world with their expertise and passion. The Faculty of Medicine includes more than 12,000 individuals working to advance the boundaries of knowledge in labs, classrooms and clinics. Harvard Medical School has affiliation agreements with 16 of the world’s most prestigious hospitals and research institutes, vital partners that provide clinical care and training. They also serve as home base for more than 10,000 physicians and scientists with faculty appointments. Harvard
Medical School became a professional school of Harvard University, setting the United States standard for the organization of medical education within a university. Visit hms.harvard.edu for more details.