



letter from the chairman of the board

Dear Friends,

I'm pleased to share with you the 2007 Annual Report of the Marine Biological Laboratory. As you'll read in the forthcoming pages, it's been a year of analysis, planning, and growth for the laboratory.

Gary Borisy's first year as director and chief executive officer has been extremely positive and productive. Under his leadership, the MBL has reviewed and reaffirmed its strategic direction; taken a hard look at its fiscal operations; taken the first steps towards launching a major, potentially transformational fundraising initiative; and begun developing exciting new research programs by assuming a key role in the visionary Encyclopedia of Life Project and recruiting a number of leading scientists to the resident research staff.

Thanks to Gary's efforts and those of Board members, scientists, and staff, the MBL celebrated an unprecedented year of fundraising in 2007, raising more than \$21 million in private support. Given the MBL's excellent track record as a leader in biological research and education, its compelling case for support, its committed volunteers, and its dedicated staff, I am confident that this outstanding trend will continue as our plans for the MBL's next fundraising campaign unfold.

Although this report should reflect activity over the past year, I am compelled to share some very exciting news, which was received just as this report was going to press. On June 16, 2008, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick signed into law a \$1 billion Life Sciences Bill that includes a \$10 million authorization to support infrastructure improvements in support of research and education at the MBL. This is a landmark achievement in the history of the MBL, and we are extremely grateful to many Massachusetts legislators including Senate President Therese Murray, Senator Robert O'Leary, and the entire Cape Cod delegation for their efforts on behalf of the MBL.

In closing, I'd like to acknowledge the dedication of my fellow members of the Board of Trustees, whose passion for, and commitment to, the MBL is extremely gratifying. I'd particularly like to thank retiring board members Howard Jacobson, Jean Pierce, and Darcy Kelley for all their good work on our behalf, and to welcome Jeffrey Pierce and Walter Salmon to the Board.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John W. Rowe". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

John W. Rowe, M.D.