April

Leading the way. The Wexner Medical Center will establish the nation's first center dedicated to treating those with heart failure and arrhythmia with gifts totaling $18 million from Bob and Corrine Frick. Their donation will support the Bob and Corrine Frick Center for Heart Failure and Arrhythmia at the Ohio State Richard M. Ross Heart Hospital, already ranked among the best in the nation.

Combating an epidemic. Ohio State announced the recipients of the more than $1 million Opioid Innovation Fund, a program to inspire new, multidisciplinary partnerships that alleviate the burden in Ohio. University officials were joined by National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins, who said universities like Ohio State will be critical to helping communities solve the addiction crisis.

Head of the class. The first of its kind at Ohio State, the University Institute for Teaching and Learning was established to create national best practices in the classroom — a key element of the Time and Change strategic plan. Nearly 200 newly hired faculty are participating in 2018. In the fall, Ohio State was recognized for its “unusually strong commitment to undergraduate teaching,” ranking No. 8 among public universities and No. 17 nationally in U.S. News & World Report.

Ahead of the curve. Ohio State is launching the largest learning technology deployment in its history. As part of the Digital Flagship initiative — a collaboration with Apple — new first-year Buckeyes will receive an iPad Pro with tools to support learning and life. The initiative also supports educational innovation and career readiness for students and economic development opportunities for the community.

Access, affordability and excellence. Scarlet and Gray Financial has been selected for a top national honor. The peer-to-peer program assists thousands of Ohio State students each year through budgeting, banking basics and financial goal setting. It earned the Gold Award from NASPA-Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, an organization of 2,100 institutions in 50 states and 25 countries.