Over the course of 2022, CSSI led exciting initiatives to support our new strategic plan, which we launched in June (see page 6). With this strategy, we are amplifying our sustainability efforts by focusing on regeneration, that is, our collective imperative to restore our life-supporting ecosystems and to revitalize our communities. We have embedded regeneration principles into everything we do—our teaching, research, culture and community outreach—in order to do our part to bring people and planet back to a healthier state.

We started by asking ourselves what role we as a business school can play in regeneration. We questioned and probed how we can give more to ourselves, each other and the planet. We looked for more ways we can lead by example. This search and reflection led to a renewed commitment to many existing initiatives and to several new goals. In 2022, we again measured and looked for ways to reduce our carbon footprint (see page 32), we hosted and learned from visiting sustainability scholars (see page 10), and we continued to support our research fellows, whose scholarly activities enhance our understanding of regeneration and contribute to improving practice (page 16).

We also looked for new ways to meaningfully partner with the community to foster positive change. We supported events that bring people together from different places and sectors to share solutions to our most pressing problems (see pages 29—Victoria Forum and PLACE Dialogues). In addition, we partnered with organizations to develop case studies that provide our students with local examples of regenerative sustainability (see page 28). Finally, we launched our advisory board, made up of six community leaders whose organizations and efforts demonstrate regeneration principles in action. Our board members come from a variety of sectors ranging from tourism and community development to farming and food production (see pages 25).

We are grateful to our fellows and partners both within Gustavson and beyond, and to our students and alumni, all of whom continue to work so diligently to improve the lives of others, in small and big ways, both locally and globally. We look forward to seeing what is possible in 2023!

As Paul Hawken wrote in his book Regeneration: Ending the Climate Crisis in One Generation: “The ultimate power to change the world does not reside in technologies. It relies on reverence, respect, and compassion—for ourselves, for all people, and for all life. This is regeneration.”

Sincerely,

Natalie Slawinski, Director