overlooking the picturesque St. Nicholas Park in Harlem, the Grove School of Engineering (GSOE) is an academy “on a hill” both literally and figuratively. Since the inception of the engineering program at The City College of New York in 1853, the School has become a crown jewel of the City University of New York (CUNY) and a powerhouse nationally. As the only comprehensive public engineering program in New York City, the GSOE offers tremendous opportunities for underprivileged but highly motivated students to study with world-renowned faculty to achieve their own goals of becoming successful engineers, and to make significant contributions to solve the larger needs of society.

The GSOE awards a full complement of degrees—the B.E., M.E., and Ph.D. in six nationally recognized departments: Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. Students have ample opportunities to engage in research and engineering design in each department’s laboratories and in multi-disciplinary comprehensive research centers, including the Benjamin Levich Institute for Physicochemical Hydrodynamics; the Center for Algorithms & Interactive Scientific Software (CAISS); the CUNY Institute for Transportation Systems; NOAA-CREST, and the New York Center for Biomedical Engineering, among many others. These centers are led by some of the most distinguished professors at CCNY. High-achieving young faculty members, five of whom have won the prestigious National Science Foundation’s CAREER award, also contribute greatly to the mentoring of our student scholars. With millions in annual research funding received from public grant agencies, including the National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Army, and the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as endowments from key alumni and private agencies, the GSOE is recognized as a major research institution. Our engineering students are encouraged to join faculty led research teams to conduct cutting-edge research and to contribute to the development of ground-breaking technologies.

Undergraduate research conducted in GSOE is presented at national and international conferences and published in prominent journals. Seminars in each GSOE department promote discussion related to learning new knowledge and sharing of creative ideas between faculty mentors and their protégés. Students are encouraged to document and present their research results through conferences such as “Einstiens in the City: An International Student Research Conference,” and the Annual National NSF CUNY Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation conference. Now, the Journal of Student Research will serve as an additional venue for students to share their research progress and increase their visibility as emerging scholars.

Our students have extraordinary aspirations to succeed as competitive engineers in industry, as entrepreneurs, or as research faculty. Student research experience will undoubtedly position them as leaders in any of these roles, affording them the opportunity to make important contributions in the technological workforce. Our students’ interest in and commitment to increased knowledge in engineering and technology and the application of it to address the challenges of a global society are reflected in this inaugural issue of the Journal of Student Research.

For generations, Grove School graduates have gone on to become influential leaders in a remarkably diverse array of industries. Andrew Grove is one of them. As a visionary engineer, he has set a high bar as a role model for our engineering students. Dr. Grove paved his own way to success with courage, ingenuity, and sheer hard work, and throughout his professional life, he has believed in the “power of technology to empower people.”

Andrew Grove’s commitment to this idea includes a generous endowment to CCNY that provides students with state-of-the-art equipment and the financial support they need to achieve their dreams and their goals. And his exceptional legacy, one that students are reminded of every time they walk through the doors of the engineering school named in his honor, can perhaps teach them lessons more enduring: Learn from life experiences, positive and negative; stand up for what you believe in; and take the chance to lead.