The Bass Military Scholars Program welcomed its fourth cohort of students in its engineering majors and careers. The program, which is a partnership between the National Science Foundation and Vanderbilt University, provides financial support and academic mentorship to students pursuing degrees in engineering. The program, which is funded by a $1.9 million grant from the National Science Foundation, aims to increase diversity in the engineering field and support students from underrepresented backgrounds.

Frist Center for Autism and Innovation wins NSF grant

Vanderbilt Peabody College and the Tennessee Department of Research Alliance, a research-practice partnership between Vanderbilt and the state of Tennessee, have received a four-year, $1.7 million grant from the National Science Foundation. The grant will support the Frist Center for Autism and Innovation, which is dedicated to advancing knowledge and improving outcomes for individuals with autism and their families. The center, which is housed in the Vanderbilt University Medical Center, will use the grant to support research, education, and outreach initiatives.

Tennessee’s ban on abortions took effect Aug. 25. In anticipation of this significant legal change, Vanderbilt University has created a webpage with information about the status of the law and how it may affect students, faculty, and staff. The webpage, which is accessible through the Vanderbilt Peabody College website, includes links to resources and a statement from Vanderbilt Chancellor ZOEY MARIE L. CHURCHWELL, M.D., which reads: “We are committed to upholding the values of our university and will work to protect the rights of all students, faculty, and staff.”

Caribbean and Latinx Studies will allow for innovation in curriculum

A pair of U.S. Department of Education grants totaling $1.7 million will support the development of new courses and programs in Caribbean and Latinx studies at Vanderbilt University. The grants, which are part of the Department of Education’s Comprehensive Program for Higher Education Grants, will enable the university to expand its offerings in these areas and provide students with opportunities to explore the rich history, culture, and diversity of the Caribbean and Latin American communities.

Daniel Diemer, Vanderbilt’s new Chancellor, has issued a call to action to all members of the Vanderbilt community. In his opening remarks, he emphasized the importance of inclusion and diversity in our campus culture. He encouraged everyone to embrace this year as an opportunity to grow and learn from one another.

Chancellor: Dare to grow in the year ahead

Diemer’s remarks were part of the university’s dedication to fostering a diverse and inclusive community where every student, faculty member, and staff member can reach their full potential. He challenged the community to be open-minded and welcoming, to appreciate the unique features of their identity, and to eliminate barriers to success for underrepresented members of our community.

We will approach our future as one community dedicated to the lifelong realization of human potential, always remembering our world. And for those of you who are returning, welcome back! For those new to the family, welcome to Vanderbilt. This year is the year of our unity, and as a family, we will continue to grow and evolve, always remembering our shared history and our commitment to excellence in education and research.