

July 23, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

It's my great pleasure to announce a truly impressive gift-in-kind to the Courant Institute that will have a profound impact on COVID-19-related research both at Courant and throughout NYU.

Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), one of the country's leading manufacturers of computer processors, is donating a high-performance computer system and remote access to a second, cloud-based system, with both systems consisting of AMD CPUs and GPUs. The first system will be located at NYU's new High Performance Computing Center and the cloud-based system will be located at Penguin Computing. Together, the computer systems will provide our researchers with up to two petaflops of computing power.

We will be putting these resources to use in projects from a wide range of disciplines to address numerous aspects of the COVID-19 crisis and related applications. These include research aimed at developing drugs that can be used to treat both COVID-19 and future SARS virus mutations; retrieval of relevant research findings from the vast biomedical literature; analysis of medical imaging for screening of patients; and studying political attitudes and voting behavior in response to financial hardships stemming from the pandemic.

COVID-19 has had a profound impact on higher education research, both in terms of its direction and the need for immediate results, so the timing of this donation is particularly fortuitous. We are tremendously grateful to AMD for their extraordinary gift.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Russel Caflisch".

Russel Caflisch