



STEVENS
INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY

The Depth and Breadth of the Stevens Impact
The Stevens Indicator, Fall 2014

Dear Friends,

It has been nearly a decade since Thomas Friedman's best-seller, *The World is Flat*, vividly depicted the implications of globalization on life, work, entertainment, the economy, and nearly every aspect of human existence. A "flattened" world — Friedman's metaphor for an increasingly interconnected world in which small players with ingenuity and agility are able to effectively challenge established and well-funded corporate giants — exists due to new capabilities enabled by technological innovation, principally in computing and communications technology, high-speed networking, and the proliferation of Internet access worldwide. Those of us born in the mid-20th century need only think about the changes we have seen in how we perform simple tasks — from buying books and music, to paying bills, to keeping in touch with friends and family. As these trends continue and accelerate in the years and decades to come, institutions like Stevens have the opportunity and responsibility to prepare students for a dynamic and uncertain future — and for careers that may not yet exist.

This issue of *The Indicator* explores some of Stevens' global connections — from alumni leading international corporations to education and research partnerships with international universities, to the experiences of our current students in study abroad programs. It is both impressive and inspiring to understand the depth and breadth of Stevens' impact and connections around the globe. It is also quite evident that the tremendous educational foundation that Stevens has provided to its graduates for more than 144 years has helped prepare alumni for leadership roles in the U.S. and abroad, from major organizations like Samsung, LG Display, and Seacrest Shipping to international universities, to successful startup companies everywhere.

The world described by Friedman challenges us to prepare for the opportunities and complexities that come with interconnectedness and globalization. Cybersecurity, marine and port security, socio-technical and economic systems — these are but a few of the areas in which Stevens is engaged in research to develop solutions to some of the most pressing problems of our time. I am delighted and proud to share that most recently, Stevens researchers have received significant national recognition for research programs and the potential of future impact on a global scale: a \$60 million award from the U.S. Department of Defense for the Systems Engineering Research Center; a \$10 million award from the U.S.

Department of Homeland Security for a Center of Excellence for Maritime Research, and a \$3 million award from the National Science Foundation to fund scholars in cybersecurity.

A few statistics illustrate the current international reach of Stevens:

As of Fall 2014, Stevens draws undergraduate students from 19 countries and graduate students from 68 countries. Our alumni are distributed in 89 countries. We have study-abroad and research exchange programs in 12 countries, and we will soon have substantive education and research programs with more than a dozen of the world's premier universities. With this foundation, Stevens is poised to make an even more significant impact on the global stage. By engaging our greatest assets — our alumni and faculty — we will strategically increase our international presence to strengthen education programs and targeted research initiatives at Stevens: by building partnerships in countries of strategic importance; by increasing study- and internship-abroad opportunities for students; by recruiting more international undergraduate students; by strengthening curricular offerings in foreign languages, and many more efforts both large and small.

Clearly, Stevens is no longer a regional university. Stevens' global partnerships, our international students and alumni, and our engagement in research with global impact combine to have a very substantial influence on the University we are — and the University we will become. We *think* like a world-class university. We *act* like a world-class university. And we will soon be *recognized* as a world-class university.

Per aspera ad astra,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Farvardin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nariman Farvardin