Stevens was named one of two 2018 recipients of the American Council on Education (ACE)/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation at the organization's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. March 11.

The award was created to recognize institutions that have responded to higher education challenges in innovative and creative ways, achieving dramatic changes in a relatively brief period of time. Stevens was honored as the top large university in the country for institutional transformation.

The recognized universities "illustrate how addressing issues head-on — plus a lot of hard work and collaboration — can help transform an institution," noted ACE President Ted Mitchell.

Under Stevens President Nariman Farvardin's leadership since 2011, and through a comprehensive strategic planning process, Stevens has significantly increased its enrollment, selectivity, retention rate, giving, endowment, alumni engagement, diversity and research funding over the past six years. Undergraduate applications and enrollment increased 156 percent and 29 percent respectively during that time period, while graduate applications rose 128 percent and graduate enrollment increased by 24 percent during the same span.

Graduation, retention and placement rates have also increased by 95, 83, and 96 percent since 2011 to their highest-ever levels. In addition, the university's credit rating and outlook were upgraded in 2017 by Standard & Poor's and Moody's, respectively, reflecting improved financial performance.

"The demand for a Stevens education has never been higher," noted President Farvardin, accepting the award on behalf of Stevens. "With the continued commitment of the university community, the potential of Stevens is limitless. I am honored to accept the 2018 ACE/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation during this catalytic period in our history."

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Stellar Application Growth Shows High Demand for Stevens

Demand for a Stevens education has never been higher, continuing a multi-year trend. Application reports for 2018 show gains in key areas such as recruitment of women into STEM programs; significant growth of interest in business programs; and increased attention for our technology-infused arts programs.

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Division of Communications & Marketing at Stevens are collaborating closely to engage a generation that is looking for more than a job – they are looking to secure their futures and make a difference. Capitalizing on this inherent demand in the prospective student marketplace, Stevens is better positioned than ever to meet the needs of today’s college-bound students by offering:

- Hands-on experiences
- An environment where students are encouraged to think critically and creatively
- Access to internships and cooperative education in our dynamic location minutes from NYC
- Participation in cross-disciplinary collaborative projects
- Extensive support that contributes to a 94% freshman retention rate
- A welcoming and supportive environment for women in STEM
- Realization of substantial value from the Stevens experience

In their quest to find an education that marries the practical with the aspirational, more and more students have selected Stevens as their college of choice.

New Dean Joins School of Systems & Enterprises

Dr. Yehia Massoud joined Stevens in January as Dean of the School of Systems and Enterprises (SSE), following a comprehensive search. He had previously served as head of Worcester Polytechnic Institute’s (WPI) Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

“I am very pleased that a scholar and academic administrator of Dr. Massoud’s caliber will join the Stevens senior academic leadership," said Stevens Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Christophe Pierre. "I am confident that his vision, experience, drive and commitment to excellence will enable him to propel SSE to higher levels of achievement and distinction as a vibrant hub for systems science and engineering."

An IEEE Fellow, Dr. Massoud’s research interests include modeling, design and signal processing techniques to automate the design processes of efficient computing and sensing systems for applications including healthcare, computing and energy. He also developed the first compressive sensing systems for signals, a critical component of complex implantable and wearable systems, and has published more than 220 papers. A leader in systems innovation and research, SSE is dedicated to designing sustainable solutions for some of the most complex socio-technical challenges of the 21st Century.
New Stevens Initiative Takes Aim at Increasing STEM Diversity

Over the next ten years, it is estimated that 80 percent of all careers will require significant STEM skills. Yet many students struggle with these basic requirements.

Now Stevens has launched a new initiative, Stevens ACES (Accessing Careers in Engineering and Science), to provide opportunities, including financial support, for underserved populations of students in high schools in New Jersey and New York.

“The ACES program is an important initiative that reflects Stevens’ institutional mission to equalize and expand access to a Stevens education, while also addressing the acute need for building a workforce with a technology orientation,” noted Stevens President Nariman Farvardin, appearing with New Jersey Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr. to announce the new program on the Stevens campus.

"There is a growing gap between the jobs that are in high demand and the people who have skills to fill them," added Payne. “The ACES initiative will pave the way for minorities and underserved populations to enter STEM-related fields.”

ACES will create relationships with high schools in underserved communities through both pre-college and undergraduate components. Stevens will provide full-tuition scholarships to its Summer Pre-College Program to eligible ACES students, while the university’s Center for Innovation in Engineering and Science Education (CIESE) will supply professional development programs to high school science and mathematics teachers and guidance counselors.

The program will pilot-launch in public, charter and Catholic schools in Newark, Paterson, Hoboken and Jersey City, New Jersey and Brooklyn, New York.

Stevens professor Lindsey Cormack was selected to travel to Israel and the Palestinian territories in March to explore roles academics and experts may play in peace-building and conflict resolution processes in that region. Cormack was chosen by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York’s “Scholars As Bridge Builders” program and participated in a one-week study tour, taking part in workshops on environmental issues, urban planning, and peace and conflict, among other topics.

stevens.edu/aces
ABOUT STEVENS
Stevens Institute of Technology is a premier, private research university situated in Hoboken, New Jersey overlooking the Manhattan skyline. The university’s 6,900 undergraduate and graduate students collaborate with faculty in an interdisciplinary, student-centric, entrepreneurial environment, leveraging business, computing, engineering, the arts and other disciplines to confront our most pressing global challenges. Stevens is consistently ranked among the nation’s elite for ROI and career services.

FEEDBACK ABOUT TECHNOTES?
Email technotes@stevens.edu

A Proven Path to Success
Stevens graduates continue to realize an outstanding return on investment, including exceptionally strong post-graduation outcomes and top starting salaries.

96%

of the Class of 2017 secured a job or graduate school admission within six months of graduation*

79%

finalized plans before graduation

$67,600

average starting salary

AT THE HEAD OF THEIR CLASS

SUCCESS AFTER STEVENS

3%

returning to home country/traveling

4%

seeking employment

1%

entered military

17%

graduate school

75%

employed

*Knowledge Rate 91%

OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
In addition to three internships and a tech-focused business degree, Stevens’ proximity to New York City played a vital role in Sarah Gleason’s ’17 career journey to Credit Suisse. “The ability to hop on a bus, ferry or train right now, and be at work in about 30 minutes, is absolutely amazing.”

TEST-DRIVING A CAREER PATH
Thanks to co-op jobs through Stevens’ Cooperative Education Program, Tyler Tisdale ’17 was able to explore several mechanical engineering career paths and discover his dream job as a hybrid electric vehicle design engineer at Honda R&D Americas, Inc.