As Stevens grows in both size and prominence, a major expansion of facilities on the university's 55-acre campus is underway to ensure students and faculty are served by state-of-the-art technology in a modern environment.

A number of leading-edge projects have recently completed or are in progress, with additional facilities planned. Together, these upgrades will provide new laboratory, academic and collaboration spaces for the Stevens community.

Among the new spaces recently completed are the Ruesterholz Admissions Center; the ABS Engineering Center, a multidisciplinary teaching and research space; the Hanlon Laboratory for Financial Analytics and Data Visualization; and a trio of newly renovated interactive music, art and technology laboratories in the College of Arts and Letters (see inside).

A renovated Babbio Garage equipped with electric-vehicle charging stations and newly constructed North Building are each scheduled for completion later this year, greatly expanding student and faculty parking facilities and academic and office space.

The Gianforte Academic Center (depicted above) will add 89,000 square feet of new classroom, laboratory, seminar and other space in a four-story complex slated to open in 2019. A new student center and additional residence halls are also in the planning phases.

In concert, IT infrastructure upgrades have taken place throughout campus, enhancing both hardware and software.

Recent enhancements include new wireless access points and switches; new academic technologies such as a cloud-based Virtual Learning Environment serving complex software to students instantly; a new data center and high-performance computing facility; a VoIP communications and collaboration platform; and new enterprise systems serving human resources, payroll and student information, among other administrative areas.

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Stevens Unveils ABS Engineering Center

In January, Stevens opened the three-story ABS Engineering Center, a new multidisciplinary center created to facilitate teaching and research in key engineering disciplines and domains including robotics, structural design and maritime research.

Enabled with the generous support and assistance of the Houston-based American Bureau of Shipping, the center will also serve as a central workspace for students working on Stevens’ required capstone Senior Design Projects.

"The ABS Engineering Center will provide Stevens with modern facilities for design, testing, collaboration and innovation," noted Stevens Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Christophe Pierre.

The main floor and atrium of the center will incorporate five laboratory spaces. The Systems Integration Laboratory will be utilized by student project teams. The Fluids Laboratory will be used for the teaching of core fluid dynamics courses. The Structural and Building Materials Laboratory will enable teaching, testing and research in structural dynamics and related areas. The Robust Field Autonomy Laboratory will host research on underwater robots, among other projects, and the Naval Engineering Laboratory will enable study of maritime industry challenges such as energy efficiency, short sea shipping, the development of autonomous vehicles and the design and control of small ships. Additional spaces in the center will accommodate faculty offices, student workstations, and seminars, colloquia and presentations.

Moody’s, S&P Raise Stevens Credit Outlook

Citing strong applications growth and high-quality programs, two of the nation’s premier financial rating agencies each raised Stevens’ outlook in recent reporting. Standard & Poor’s raised its bond rating of Stevens to “A-“ with a stable outlook, while Moody’s upgraded the university’s outlook from “stable” to “positive.”

VR/AR Lab, Maker Space Relaunch

The creation and exploration of virtual technologies has taken a major step forward at Stevens with the reopening of three renovated laboratory and studio spaces in the university’s College of Arts and Letters.

The Sensory Computation, Experimental Narrative Environments (SCENE) Lab deploys software and hardware enabling the development and presentation of immersive VR and AR. The laboratory also includes high-density loudspeaker arrays and novel systems for immersive spatial audio, musical instrument software and hardware user-interface design. The space hosted an international conference on music programming in November, co-sponsored by NYU.

A retooled FabLab will serve as one of the campus' main maker spaces, providing access to equipment including a MakerBot 3D printer, a laser cutter, large-format printers and a computer numerical control mill for cutting circuit boards.

And a renovated Visual Arts & Technology Studio will serve as a collaborative workspace for students creating projects utilizing a range of equipment including panel saws, air compressors, nail guns, easels, projectors and sound systems. The space also features movable workstations.

Full STEAM Ahead:
Leading-Edge Data Visualization Lab Comes Online

In an increasingly faster-paced, digital and data-driven marketplace, the ability to visualize and analyze multi-dimensional data has become a crucial component of corporate success and intelligent decision-making.

To meet this urgent need, Stevens unveiled the new Hanlon Laboratory for Financial Analytics and Data Visualization in December, bringing advanced data visualization technology to the university and expanding its increasingly prominent financial analytics footprint and research capability.

“This lab is changing how students learn and better positioning them to manage evolving technologies when they enter the workplace,” noted Gregory Prastacos, dean of the School of Business at Stevens.

The lab’s capabilities are unique in higher education, deploying collaborative Oblong Industries technology that enables students to introduce work and findings into classroom discussions in real time via personal devices. The technology also allows remote guest speakers to contribute, live, to lessons from anywhere in the world.

“The data science revolution is going to change every business model,” said George Calhoun, director of the lab. “The ability for managers to extract important signals, and to present them in a way that’s relevant to the decisions companies have to make, will be invaluable in tomorrow’s job market.”

NEWSMAKERS

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Christophe Pierre was named a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. Selection is accorded to academic inventors who "have made a tangible impact on quality of life, economic development and welfare of society." Pierre will be inducted April 6 at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston.

Professor Julie Pullen was selected for a prestigious Fulbright award to travel to the Philippines in 2018, where she will demonstrate and refine forecasts that can anticipate heavy rainfall events and warn populations in areas at risk for flooding and landslides. Pullen will also conduct field research in the region sponsored by the U.S. Office of Naval Research.

Senior student-athlete Amy Regan '17 added to her lengthening list of career accomplishments, capturing her second NCAA cross-country title in Louisville, Kentucky, at the national Division III championship race. To date, Regan has won six NCAA titles in cross-country, indoor track and outdoor track.

University of Pennsylvania professor Shaun Harper, a noted race and equity scholar, spoke at Stevens January 26, issuing a call to higher education to take proactive approaches to race relations and equity. Institutions that delay addressing this area with students or in faculty recruitment, he stressed, do so at their peril.

Stevens President Nariman Farvardin was named to NJBIZ’s Power 100, an annual catalogue of the state’s most powerful people. The publication noted Farvardin has succeeded "in elevating Stevens Institute of Technology to an even higher level. Applications are up, both in quality and quantity....The world is rushing to find more STEM graduates; Stevens is producing them as well as anyone."
Exceptional Students ➔ Exceptional Outcomes

Stevens graduates achieve exceptional outcomes, according to the university’s newly released Class of 2016 Outcomes Report.

Fully 96 percent achieved a desired outcome within six months of graduation. Graduates also continue to rank near the top nationally in metrics of starting salary, mid-career salary and total return on investment (ROI).

Secured intended outcomes within six months of graduation*

- 68% Employed
- 22% Graduate School
- 5% Returning to Home Country/Traveling
- 1% Military

*And 78% had outcomes secured prior to graduation

Average Starting Salary

$67,100

Class of 2016

#12 for ROI
PayScale College ROI Report, 2016

#6 Highest Mid-Career Salaries in the U.S.
Forbes, 2016

#11 Best Career Placement in the Nation

Companies that hired three or more graduates of the Stevens Class of 2016 include:

- Accenture
- ExxonMobil
- Google
- Goldman Sachs & Co.
- Johnson & Johnson
- JPMorgan Chase

Class of 2016 members were accepted into elite graduate programs:

- Albert Einstein College of Medicine
- Columbia University
- Georgetown University
- New York University
- Princeton University
- Rice University
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Virginia