Dear Alumni and Friends,

With the perspective of now being in my second year as President and the accomplishments we have made together during this time, I feel tremendously optimistic about what lies ahead for this great institution. I am both proud and appreciative of the participation and commitment of so many members of our community in accomplishing one of the most critical assignments we will ever undertake: the development of our 10-year Strategic Plan, *The Future. Ours to Create*. Faculty, students, trustees, administration, and many alumni have contributed to this plan in substantial and meaningful ways, from serving on the strategic planning committee, to attending Town Hall meetings and providing input, to reviewing drafts and suggesting improvements. This document is a superior product because of the tremendous involvement of so many members of our community.

The Plan charts a course for Stevens for the next decade that is both distinctive to this institution—building upon our unique strengths and our legacy—and urgently needed for the benefit of our global society. STEVENS 2022 will play an unprecedented role in forging solutions to some of our world’s most challenging problems—in healthcare and medicine, defense and security, sustainable energy, and financial systems. These areas, and others we may target in the future, are critical challenges that Stevens is uniquely poised to address because of our technology-centric orientation, our agility, and our solution-oriented focus. These characteristics and our focus on critical and complex problems will position Stevens not only to improve our world, but also to achieve greater national recognition.

I am pleased to report that, over the last several months, Stevens has received major accolades in three national media rankings: *Bloomberg Businessweek*, *Insurance & Technology* and *Wall Street & Technology*. Stevens ranked 23rd in the nation for Return On Investment for students in *Bloomberg Businessweek*. The publication reported that a Stevens education provides a 30-year net ROI of $862,500, and our 30-year net ROI for graduates of $1.17 million ranks 16th in the nation. The ROI ranking reflects what incoming students can reasonably expect from their investment when obtaining a college degree from a certain school. In *Insurance & Technology*, Stevens was listed among the top 11 schools for insurance and technology talent. Stevens was a part of this elite list that industry experts considered the best sources for building the next-generation insurance IT workforce. Stevens was also awarded honorable mention in *Wall Street & Technology*'s list of the 11 schools that capital market executives list as their favorite in hiring computer programming and engineering graduates.

Another tremendous accomplishment in 2011-12 has been the impressive success of the *President’s Initiative for Excellence*. The first year of this three-year, $30 million initiative, which focused on scholarship support, faculty development, infrastructure, and a public lecture series, was exceptionally successful. With generous contributions from alumni and friends, more than $13.8 million was raised during FY12, representing a 189% improvement over the previous year!
We also saw a tremendous increase in participation in our annual Alumni Weekend, which brought more than 720 alumni, families and friends back to Castle Point in June. This figure represents an all-time high and a 50% increase over last year’s event!

As these remarkable achievements illustrate, the entire Stevens community, with our alumni participation, is on an upward trajectory as we launch our Strategic Plan. I want to offer my heartfelt thanks and my full commitment to working with you to position Stevens to achieve its full potential in the coming years. I look forward to sharing updates with you this semester, and I invite you to contact my office with questions and suggestions.

Sincerely,

N. Farvardin
President, Stevens Institute of Technology