



**STEVENS**  
INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY  
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY

**Springing Forward to New Heights: An Update**  
***The Stevens Indicator, Winter 2011 - 2012***

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As we look forward to spring and the exciting time leading up to the Stevens Commencement, I want to update you on the progress that we're making to improve your alma mater—and to thank you for all that you do to make the university a better place.

This past winter, I've met so many alumni, both on campus and throughout the country, who have shared their knowledge of Stevens, their valuable ideas and their support, for their alma mater and of me personally. To all the alumni I've met in Washington, D.C., California, Texas, Georgia, New York and right here in New Jersey and Hoboken, to those whom I've spoken with over the phone and met with individually, thank you—for your great insight, your involvement and your love of Stevens. You have my deepest gratitude for the warm reception you have given me.

At Stevens, we have spent a very productive winter on our path to taking Stevens to even greater heights of achievement. The university's strategic planning process is progressing well, with involvement from an outstanding committee that represents a wide swath of the Stevens community. They have received an abundance of excellent ideas as we chart Stevens' ascent over the next decade. For more information, please visit [www.stevens.edu/strategy](http://www.stevens.edu/strategy). We have also begun the process of master planning, with another exemplary committee from the Stevens and Hoboken communities. This committee will develop the Stevens Master Plan to address a variety of needs, from capital construction to goals for sustainability. We are a determined group, and I pledge that these important efforts will lead to concrete action, to make Stevens a much stronger, more vibrant university, serving future generations of young men and women for many years to come.

In the fall of 1971, women entered Stevens as undergraduates for the first time and changed the face of the university forever. That first class was an extraordinary group of women who paved the way for many outstanding Stevens alumnae over the next four decades, among them top engineers, scientists, executives, educators and entrepreneurs. You can read the stories of some Stevens women from the past four decades in this issue. Stevens has made great strides in promoting the role of women and increasing their participation in campus life over the past 40 years. But much more work remains to be done. To enhance the status of women at Stevens, I have formed a Presidential Commission for the Advancement of Women at Stevens. This 18-member panel, which includes Stevens alumnae, professors, administrators and students, will make recommendations to help make Stevens a more supportive and nurturing environment for women. It will also offer insight into how to increase the number of female students and faculty on campus. The Commission will prepare its recommendations by the end of this academic year, and the entire Stevens community anticipates their important report.

The *President's Initiative for Excellence*—the three-year fundraising effort to improve the student experience, from scholarships to improved facilities—continues to enjoy strong support from you, our Stevens alumni. As of February 2012, we were well on our way toward exceeding our target of raising \$8.5 million during this fiscal year. If you have joined us on this journey, thank you so much for your generosity. I

invite all alumni to join us; any way that you can assist us will help tremendously and touch the lives of Stevens students for years to come. This spring, we will have also launched the GOLD Rush: The Chairman's Challenge— an exciting new effort to engage our young alumni, the Graduates of the Last Decade, through a matching gift provided by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Larry T. Babbio, Jr.'66.

Alumni Weekend is June 1, 2 and 3, 2012, and we invite you to be "True to the Red and Gray!" All alumni, their families and friends are urged to come to enjoy an exciting variety of activities designed to appeal to everyone, from our reunion classes to families, young alumni and our revered "Old Guard." This year, the golden anniversary Class of 1962 will be honored during the Alumni Luncheon; you can meet one of the class's many interesting alumni, Phil Kimball '62, in this issue. I look forward to meeting with you and filling you in on the "State of Stevens." Please come back to visit old friends, see the campus and witness all of the wonderful changes here and around Hoboken. Connect again with Stevens. Your friends would love to see you, and you'll be so happy that you came.

Stevens has entered a new and exciting era, and we need you to be part of it. We've enjoyed such a strong school year, from an outstanding freshman class to many achievements on the research front and a renewed sense of optimism. We are on our way to becoming an even stronger university. I am committed to making this happen, but I need your help. Please continue to share your ideas and thoughts with me; you will never know how much they, and you, are truly valued.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Farvardin". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nariman Farvardin

President, Stevens Institute of Technology