



STEVENS
INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY

Giving Thanks for All That You Do
The Stevens Indicator, Winter 2014-2015

As another stellar year at Stevens comes to a close, the holiday season affords us the opportunity to reflect on the successes of the recent past and to give thanks to those who have made those successes possible. Stevens has met and exceeded a number of important milestones this year, and I am particularly grateful for the tremendous support of our alumni and of the entire Stevens community in advancing the university toward our goals.

With the engagement, dedication and hard work of many members of the Stevens family, we have made great strides in creating a culture of “Excellence In All We Do,” one of the strategic priorities of our 10-year strategic plan. I am both humbled and proud of the many ways our community exhibits excellence every day — from the tremendous response of alumni to increase our giving participation rate by a whopping 9.5 percent in FY14 to our ascent to one of the top universities in the nation in PayScale.com’s mid-career salaries ranking. Stevens is undoubtedly on a steep, upward trajectory.

Further evidence of this includes our remarkable success in student recruitment at both the undergraduate and graduate levels — with applications up by 44 percent and 55 percent over the last three years, respectively — combined with extraordinary increases in the academic profile of newly-enrolled students. This trend toward greater selectivity in undergraduate and graduate admissions fortifies the value of the Stevens degree for our 40,000-plus alumni around the globe.

I’m also delighted that our pursuit of excellence has resulted in major improvements in our physical infrastructure and learning environment, including 13 new or renovated, technology-equipped classrooms; a major renovation to our S.C. Williams Library to increase study space; and, through the inspirational generosity of Virginia ’83 and Kevin Ruesterholz ’83, the elegant, new Ruesterholz Admissions Center in the former Colonial House. These learning spaces and new home to our admissions efforts have had a transformative and catalytic effect on our campus.

Our faculty body is the largest in Stevens history, and we are recruiting faculty from ever-more prestigious institutions each year. Under new leadership, our research has also grown by 109 percent over last year, with a number of new, high-impact, multi-million dollar research awards from the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and the National Institutes of Health. Our laser focus on innovation and entrepreneurship as a core competency for all Stevens students has yielded impressive results: a very successful, required freshman entrepreneurship course; new undergraduate start-up companies that have attracted venture capital funding; and new licensing agreements for Stevens developed intellectual property.

As I have met with alumni in the northeast, in Florida, California, and, as of this writing, with a planned trip to visit Korean alumni in December, I continue to be inspired by the stories of

excellence and success. In ways big and small, our alumni demonstrate excellence. You are a model for us, and for our students.

I greatly appreciate all that you do. Thank you, as a community of alumni, for your incredible devotion to Stevens over the past year, for your engagement and support in all that we are undertaking to make Stevens a world-class university, and for the generosity of spirit and of financial resources that you are contributing to help your university realize its potential.

Finally, I know for many members of our community, excellence is “the Stevens way.” As we start a new year, I hope that each of you will pause for a moment and celebrate in the successes you’ve helped us to reach. Take pride in all that you have done, in the many ways you’ve helped Stevens, and in the many ways you represent your university so proudly.

Per aspera ad astra,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Farvardin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

Nariman Farvardin
President, Stevens Institute of Technology