Stevens Student Outcomes Reach New Heights

Career Outcomes of Stevens Class of 2014 Bachelor’s Degree Graduates

Six months after graduation, 95 percent of Stevens’ undergraduate Class of 2014 have secured their intended outcome, primarily via employment in their areas of study or career interest or continuation of their academic pursuits.

Strong student outcomes, such as an average starting salary for the Class of 2014 of $64,150, are part of the equation that led PayScale to rank Stevens 3rd nationally for ROI and Kiplinger’s Personal Finance to rank Stevens the 30th-best value nationwide among private colleges and universities.

Other highlights from the Stevens Class of 2014 Career Outcomes Report:

- 95 percent of Stevens’ bachelor degree graduates — and 100 percent of bachelor of arts graduates — have secured employment, are continuing graduate studies, are returning to their home country or traveling, or have joined the military.

- Graduates have entered a wide range of industries, with the greatest numbers in manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, finance, tech/telecom and engineering sciences.

- Class of 2014 graduates have landed positions at many of the most influential companies in the world, in such fields as chemical engineering, computer science, cybersecurity and quantitative finance.

See the full Stevens Class of 2014 Career Outcomes Report at stevens.edu/outcomes.
National Academy of Inventors Honors Hazelwood

Professor of Biomedical Engineering Vikki Hazelwood’s outstanding contributions to scientific and technological innovation have earned her the title Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors.

Dr. Hazelwood’s work focuses on transforming engineering technologies into innovative solutions for unmet clinical needs, especially in the areas of obesity prevention and pain management. She is Stevens’ program director for biomedical engineering and director of the Lab for Translational Research in Medicine. Acknowledging the honor, she commented, “I sincerely hope to be able to make a broader contribution to our emerging generation of medical engineers. I am confident that they are well on their way to solving medical technology needs in a creative, competitive and industrious manner.”

Since arriving at Stevens in 2004, Dr. Hazelwood has overseen nearly 100 invention disclosures that have been developed in collaboration with local medical teams, resulting in approximately two dozen patent applications and five issued patents. All of these projects include her undergraduate students as inventors.

Turning the Corner on Cancer Care

Dr. Harold Varmus, Nobel Laureate and Director of the National Cancer Institute, told the Stevens community in February that breakthroughs in cancer genomics are leading to more effective diagnosis and treatment strategies tailored to the genetic profile of each patient’s cancer.

Varmus explained that this type of “precision medicine” is the subject of “a bold new research effort to revolutionize how we improve health and treat disease.” This approach is made possible by an explosion of new knowledge about the genetic mutations that cause tumors, coupled with advances in computational data. The result, he says, will be treatment strategies informed by individual characteristics, such as a person’s genetic makeup or the genetic profile of their tumor.

Varmus’ talk was part of the President’s Distinguished Lecture Series at Stevens, a series that has welcomed notable speakers Norman Augustine, former chairman & CEO of Lockheed Martin; Dr. John Holdren, director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; Dr. John Deutch, institute professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and Dr. Craig Barrett, retired CEO and chairman of Intel.

The next lecture in the series, to be held in October 2015, will be delivered by Sharmin Mossavar-Rahmani, chief investment officer of the Private Wealth Management Group (PWM) at Goldman Sachs. Videos of each of the President’s Distinguished Lecture Series are available at stevens.edu/lecture.
Stevens is employing an innovative new technology that can save years — and millions of dollars — in the search for new cures, medications and therapies targeting ailments such as cancer, depression and anxiety.

The effort involves crunching massive volumes of data, spearheaded at Stevens’ Center for Healthcare Innovation’s (CHI) Biotechnology and Drug Discovery Laboratory by Dr. Sid Topiol and his colleague Michael Sabio.

“We’re actually playing on the same field as Big Pharma,” points out CHI Director Peter Tolias. “Only we’re playing at a fraction of the cost. We can do almost exactly what they can do, in terms of drug discovery, but much more quickly.”

The drug screening process begins with selecting disease targets — proteins known to be associated with a disorder — and using high-powered computing resources to analyze millions of chemical compounds, narrowing the list down to the most promising 50,000 or fewer. Those candidates are then further analyzed based on the geometrical features of the disease target, and ultimately winnowed down to a handful of chemical classes that show the most promise as contenders for new pharmaceutical compounds.

“This entire chain of events occurs before a single new compound has even been synthesized. We have calculated that this saves years in manpower and millions of dollars in research time and expense for essentially the same results,” Dr. Topiol explains.

At this point, the Stevens team may turn over the findings of their research to industry and academic partners with the laboratory scale and firepower to synthesize new compounds and apply them to disease sites. That’s a first step toward possible animal and eventual human clinical trials.

“Stevens is in the fairly unique position of being able to act quickly on something that looks really promising right away,” says Topiol. “If we’re fortunate, one of these compounds will prove potent and effective.” That could lead to patented compounds, methods and medications owned or licensed by Stevens, with the potential to generate enormous societal benefit and commercial rewards.

President Farvardin Named to Power 100

Stevens President Nariman Farvardin has been recognized as one of New Jersey’s 100 most powerful business leaders.

“You don’t need us to tell you how important STEM is to the future of the state’s economy, and we’re lucky to have Farvardin leading a school such as Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken,” NJBIZ declared in selecting Farvardin for the prestigious list. “No one works with business better. And being routinely named as one of the nation’s top universities for return on investment doesn’t hurt, either.”

Popular Science Brings Stevens Innovation to the Blogosphere

Popular Science selected the SURE House, Stevens’ entry in the U.S. Department of Energy’s Solar Decathlon, to be a featured blog on their website. Students contributing to the development of the sustainable, resilient, net-zero energy home are blogging as they design, construct and build their entry into the international competition. Visit the blog at popsci.com/blog-network/sure-house.

stevens.edu/solar-decathlon
ABOUT STEVENS
Stevens Institute of Technology, The Innovation University®, is a premier, private research university in Hoboken, N.J. Within the university’s four schools, more than 6,300 undergraduate and graduate students collaborate with more than 350 faculty members to advance the frontiers of science and leverage technology to confront global challenges. Stevens is home to three national research centers of excellence, as well as joint research programs focused on critical industries such as healthcare, energy, finance, defense, maritime security, STEM education and coastal sustainability. The university is consistently ranked among the nation’s elite for return on investment for students, career services programs and mid-career salaries of alumni.

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