



**STEVENS**  
INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY  
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY®

**Extraordinary Progress in the Past and a Bright Future Ahead**  
*The Stevens Indicator, Fall 2019*

This past summer, July 1 marked the beginning of my ninth year as president of Stevens Institute of Technology. During my introduction to Stevens almost ten years ago — and as I became more familiar with the university, its history, its alumni, its strengths and challenges and its particular niche in the engineering, science and technology higher education ecosystem — I became increasingly convinced that the university had enormous potential. Eight years later, our progress has been nothing short of remarkable, and I am more confident than ever that Stevens has a very special role to play in the future of higher education and in society.

Early in my tenure as president, the entire Stevens community came together to develop an ambitious, ten-year strategic plan. Its goal was to become “a premier, student-centric, technological research university.” After seven years of implementation, Stevens has achieved the distinction of being one of the fastest-rising universities in the nation. We have worked to enhance the academic profile of students and increase enrollment, as well as increase the size and prestige of the faculty, and the scope and impact of our research enterprise. In addition, we have made significant infrastructure and technological improvements even while strengthening the financial foundations of the university. We have also made enormous strides in re-engaging alumni in Stevens’ mission and activities. Alumni have been pivotal to our progress in nearly every area of Stevens’ ascent. One tangible symbol of renewed alumni engagement is the success of Stevens’ most ambitious fundraising campaign in its history, The Power of Stevens, which has raised more than \$166 million toward its \$200 million goal.

As the “inputs” of Stevens have increased — including a 190% growth in applications and a 140-point rise in average SAT scores since 2011 — so have the “outputs.” The added value of a Stevens education is evident: 96% of undergraduates, year-over-year, have accepted employment (many with multiple job offers), entered graduate school or achieved other outcomes within six months of graduation. Preliminary employment reports from the Class of 2019 also indicate a new record average starting salary of \$77,000, which is 50% above the national average. And, because Stevens is enrolling the highest caliber of students who are pursuing a rigorous academic program and who benefit from an outstanding support system, Stevens’ graduation rate continues to climb. Our graduation rate now stands at 87%, which is 27 points above the national average.

While much progress has been made, there is still much more to do. A key priority in the coming years will be to build our endowment and continue to improve operational efficiencies in order to make a Stevens education as accessible and affordable to as many talented students as possible. We are focused, too, on increasing the prestige of our graduate programs and recruiting students of the highest caliber from the U.S. and around the world. And, directly related to our graduate programs is our goal to grow our research enterprise. The size of our faculty has grown 36%

since 2011; new faculty possess expertise in emerging fields from financial analytics and digital innovation to artificial intelligence and machine learning, to brain-computer interfaces to energy storage, wearable sensors, robotics, among many other technology-based fields. These faculty will be the catalysts for achieving Stevens' preeminence in key research domains.

On college campuses across the country, fall is a time of renewal and reinvigoration. I start my ninth academic year at Castle Point with a profound appreciation for all who have enabled the tremendous progress that Stevens has experienced, and a sense of anticipation for what lies ahead.

Finally, as we mark Veterans Day later this fall, we will honor our country's veterans and our active duty military, among them generations of Stevens alumni, some of whom you will meet in this issue of The Indicator. For their sacrifices, the sacrifices of their families and for their extraordinary sense of duty to our country, we offer our most heartfelt appreciation.

Thank you for your engagement and support of Stevens.

*Per aspera ad astra,*



Nariman Farvardin  
President, Stevens Institute of Technology



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