



Biography
Nariman Farvardin
President, Stevens Institute of Technology

July 2021 marked the tenth anniversary of Nariman Farvardin's appointment as Stevens Institute of Technology's seventh president. During the past decade and guided by a 10-year strategic plan entitled, *The Future. Ours to Create.*, Farvardin has led a remarkable university-wide transformation, characterized by: a 64% increase in undergraduate enrollment coincident with a 145-point increase in the average SAT score of the first-year cohort; a 50% increase in graduate FTE enrollment; a 101% increase in the number of underrepresented minority (URM) students in the undergraduate cohort; a 91% increase in the number of women undergraduates; a 97% increase in research funding; the successful completion of a \$200 million fundraising campaign; a modernized and expanded IT and campus infrastructure; the opening of a state-of-the-art academic building in 2019; a new residential and university center opening in 2022; a strengthened financial profile; among other achievements.

Stevens' upward trajectory has earned recognition and accolades from external agencies and organizations. In 2020, the New Jersey Business and Industry Association recognized the Stevens ACES (Accessing Careers in Engineering and Science) program, created under the direction of President Farvardin, to increase STEM educational and career opportunities for URM and underserved students, with its **Diversity and Inclusion Award**. Stevens ACES also won the New Jersey Tech Council's 2019 **Innovation in Education Award**. Stevens' achievements in sustainability initiatives in both the classroom and campus operations earned the university a **STARS Gold rating** from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education in 2020. In 2018, President Farvardin accepted the American Council on Education (ACE)/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation in recognition of the innovative and dramatic changes that Stevens made in a relatively brief period. In 2017, he was awarded the prestigious **Carnegie Academic Leadership Award**, and Stevens was highlighted in *Forbes* as "**The Turnaround University**" and "one of the most desirable STEM colleges in the nation." *U.S. News & World Report's* 2021 "**Best Colleges**" edition placed Stevens at #80 among national universities, and *The Princeton Review* includes Stevens on its list of "Best 387 Colleges" and as #9 on its list of "Top 20 Best Career Placement" in 2021.

President Farvardin has launched a number of signature programs during his tenure at Stevens, including the university's **2015 first place win** in the highly competitive U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon; the **President's Distinguished Lecture Series**, which brings to campus distinguished thought leaders in science and technology; the **President's Special Lecture Series on Pandemics**, which featured talks by a wide range of intellectuals on different aspects of pandemics; **OnStage at Stevens**, a performing arts series; **Stevens Connects**, a community outreach partnership in Hoboken; and several innovative programs to nurture talent, innovation and entrepreneurship among students, including the **Clark Scholars program**, the **Pinnacle Scholars program** and the **iSTEM** and **Launchpad** programs.

Under President Farvardin's leadership, several new research centers and entrepreneurial programs have been established at Stevens, including the **Center for Research toward Advancing Financial Technologies**, the **Stevens Institute for Artificial Intelligence**, the **Stevens Venture Center**, and the **Innovation Expo**. In addition, the School of Technology Management was transformed into a comprehensive and AACSB-accredited School of Business.

In fall 2021, Stevens joined an exclusive cohort of universities electing to run on 100% clean electricity. Also, in 2021, Stevens concluded its most ambitious fundraising campaign in history, *The Power of Stevens*, raising more than \$200 million for student success, stellar faculty and world-class facilities.

Dr. Farvardin joined Stevens from the University of Maryland, where he was a member of the faculty for 27 years. He served as the University of Maryland's Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost from 2007 to 2011, having previously served as Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Chair of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Dean of the A. James Clark School of Engineering. Among Dr. Farvardin's accomplishments at the University of Maryland was spearheading the development and implementation of the University of Maryland's ambitious strategic plan, *Transforming Maryland: Higher Expectations*.

He is an accomplished researcher in the areas of information theory and coding, multimedia signal compression and transmission, high-speed networks, and wireless networks. He holds seven U.S. patents in data communication, image coding, and wireless communication. He is a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and a member of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE). He has co-authored more than 150 technical papers in journals and conference proceedings. A native of Tehran, Iran, Dr. Farvardin earned his bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, in 1979, 1980, and 1983, respectively.

Updated September 2021