



**Office of the President**

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January 6, 2020

To the Stevens Community:

Welcome back to a new semester, a new year, and the beginning of our celebration of Stevens' 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary! From the university's founding on February 15, 1870 as America's first college of mechanical engineering to our current position as a premier technological university with global impact, the story of Stevens is best told through its people—our alumni who have led and launched companies and made their mark in a wide variety of industries and domains; our faculty who have inspired generations of students and developed innovations that have advanced the frontiers of knowledge; our administration and staff, who dedicate themselves to strengthening Stevens for our students; our friends, parents, and many members of the extended Stevens community, who contribute to our university in innumerable ways; and our undergraduate and graduate students, who are the hope and promise of the future.

To recognize and commemorate the significant contributions of the extended Stevens community, we have planned a variety of celebratory events and sesquicentennial-themed communications starting next month. I look forward to attending and enjoying them, and I hope you will plan to join me!

**Founder's Day Ball – February 21, 2020**

Founder's Day Ball is an annual semi-formal event for undergraduate students commemorating the anniversary of the university's founding. Students will celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in style with dinner and dancing at The Westin Jersey City Newport. Tickets will be available for purchase beginning on Saturday, February 1, 2020. More information regarding the event will be sent to all undergraduate students at the beginning of the spring semester.

**Founder's Day Reception – February 21, 2020**

A reception in honor of Founder's Day will be held for graduate students at the Chart House in Weehawken. This event will provide an opportunity for students to socialize and celebrate through an evening of dinner, dancing, and a brief speaking program. Tickets will be available for purchase through the Office of Graduate Student Affairs beginning on Monday, February 3, 2020.

**Founder's Day Soiree – February 21, 2020**

The Samuel C. Williams Library will host a 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary event for faculty, staff, and alumni to celebrate this important milestone. Members of the Stevens community will be able to mingle and learn more about Stevens history, the Stevens family, and the many contributions of the university's faculty, alumni, and staff through the years. Invitations to this event will be sent via email later this week.

### **Stevens150.com Website Launch**

Stevens will officially launch its [150<sup>th</sup> anniversary website](#) on February 15, 2020. The website will highlight a number of interesting aspects of Stevens' rich history, including an interactive timeline from 1870 to the present, and a curated collection of 150 stories featuring events and people who have contributed to Stevens' progress over the last 150 years. Members of the Stevens community are invited to share their Stevens memories on the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration website by posting their favorite stories, photos, and videos on Facebook and Twitter using the hashtag #stevens150.

The 150-year anniversary celebrations will continue through Spring 2021 and include a campus-wide celebration, a student-led service initiative, a special issue of *The Stevens Indicator*, and an academic symposium.

I hope that you are as excited as I am to take part in these activities and to mark this auspicious occasion as we salute the past and look forward to a bright future.

*Per aspera ad astra,*



Nariman Farvardin  
President



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