March 17, 2022

To Faculty, Staff and Students:

After considerable deliberation, benchmarking of organizational structures of best-in-class institutions and input from colleagues and others, I announce a reorganization of the Division of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs (EMSA) into two separate divisions.

This reorganization will create a new Division of Enrollment Management, responsible for strategy and execution of plans to shape undergraduate enrollment consistent with the university’s next strategic plan, and a new Division of Student Affairs, responsible for enhancing the experience of undergraduate and graduate students. This new organizational structure, aligned with best practices in higher education, both elevates the importance of enrollment management and strengthens the university’s commitment to student-centricity.

Both divisions will be led by a Vice President who will report to the President. In recognition of the critical need to ensure close collaboration with the academic enterprise, including Deans, academic advisers, the Registrar and other important collaborating units, both the Vice President for Enrollment Management and the Vice President for Student Affairs will have a dotted line report to the Provost. Consequently, and in recognition of an expanded portfolio, the Provost will assume the title of Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.

We will soon launch searches for these two Vice President positions and will welcome applications from both internal and external candidates. Through this process, we will ensure that the highest caliber candidates for each position are considered and have the endorsement and full support of the Stevens community. I will announce the appointment of search committees for both positions in the near future and will count on and appreciate the participation of our community in these processes.

Lastly, I am profoundly grateful to Assistant Vice President Susan Gross and to Assistant Vice President Sara Klein for their dedication and ongoing commitment to Stevens—particularly since the retirement of the former Vice President of EMSA—and in their prior years of service. I will continue to count on their leadership, dedication and collegiality in the coming months.

Ms. Susan Gross has diligently led efforts to continually improve the academic profile of incoming students while increasing the participation of women and underrepresented students in our undergraduate population. She is a valued colleague who has played a critical role in the recruitment of stellar students and in her oversight of Stevens’ financial aid programs.
Dr. Sara Klein’s unwavering dedication to our students and her passion and advocacy have led to the implementation of numerous initiatives to improve the student experience and enhance student wellness, including in her role as co-chair of the Pandemic Recovery Team and her leadership in the implementation of recommendations of the President’s Task Force for Mental Health. Dr. Klein’s energetic and collaborative approach has made a distinct difference to our students and to our university.

As our community continues to build consensus on the 10-year strategic plan, we will ensure that Stevens retains and attracts the talent to achieve our university’s ambitious goals. Our people are the key to our future success.

Thank you, as always, for your engagement and participation in our efforts to build a world-class university.

Per aspera ad astra,

Nariman Farvardin
President