



# Office of the President

**From:** Nariman Farvardin, President

**To:** Stevens Students, Faculty and Staff

**Date:** January 20, 2026

**Subject:** Welcome to Spring 2026

As we begin a new semester, I'm struck by how much our community accomplished this fall — and how much lies ahead.

Some of the most notable achievements of the fall semester include:

Professor Igor Pikovski received a [\\$1.3 million grant from the W. M. Keck Foundation](#) to build a first-of-its-kind graviton detector in collaboration with Yale University. This is the first time a Stevens faculty member has received funding from this prestigious organization, which supports high-risk research with transformative potential. For Professor Pikovski, who has spent years developing theoretical approaches to detecting gravitons — particles long considered impossible to observe — this grant brings that work into the laboratory. This milestone reflects the caliber of research taking place across Stevens and our faculty's growing national and international recognition.

In December, our Board of Trustees approved the [establishment of the Stevens School of Computing](#), targeted to launch in Fall 2026. Computing is already our largest academic area, representing more than a quarter of our enrollment. A dedicated school allows us to recruit top faculty, launch new programs in AI, cybersecurity and data science and create "Computing + X" pathways that connect computing to disciplines across the university. More than \$36 million in philanthropic commitments to date makes this possible.

Also beginning in Fall 2026, [The Stevens Investment](#) will provide full tuition coverage for incoming students whose families earn \$75,000 or less annually. This initiative reflects our belief that exceptional students come from all backgrounds and demonstrates our commitment to remove financial barriers to a Stevens education.

[New federal College Scorecard data](#) confirms what our graduates have long known: A Stevens degree delivers exceptional value. Stevens ranked No. 1 in New Jersey for graduate earnings and placed in the top 1% of U.S. universities nationwide.

We are in the midst of our fifth annual **Week of Service**, honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I encourage you to participate in the events and service opportunities taking place through January 23. Our keynote speaker, Michael N. Weaver Jr., Director of Philanthropy for Boys & Girls Clubs of America, will share his perspective on leading with purpose.

Looking ahead, I invite you to mark your calendars for several signature events. Next month, join us for **Stevens Day of Giving** on February 18–19, when our community will come together for 1870 minutes to support the causes that mean the most to them, including emergency assistance for students facing unprecedented challenges. Later this spring, **Innovation Expo** on May 8 will showcase our students' remarkable design projects and entrepreneurial ventures. Our 154th **Commencement** will take place on May 20 at PNC Bank Arts Center and **Alumni Weekend** will bring graduates back to Castle Point on June 5-6.

Congratulations again to our fall student-athletes on an outstanding season, and best wishes to all our teams this spring. Go Ducks!

I wish our students, faculty and staff the best of luck with the new semester. As we navigate the opportunities and challenges of 2026, I am confident that our community's collaborative spirit and commitment to excellence will continue to distinguish Stevens.

*Per aspera ad astra.*

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