August 15, 2022

To the Stevens Community:

It is my great pleasure to announce that, after a competitive national search, Ms. Sheraine Gilliam has been selected as Stevens’ next Vice President for Human Resources and Chief Human Resources Officer, effective September 6, 2022. Ms. Gilliam succeeds Mr. Warren Petty, who departed Stevens in June to lead Human Resources at his alma mater.

Ms. Gilliam is a human resources leader with more than 20 years of service in higher education and private industry. In her most recent role, Ms. Gilliam served as Vice Chancellor and Chief Human Resources Officer for the University of North Texas System (UNTS), where she oversaw human resources for more than 14,000 faculty and staff, managed an $8-million operating budget and led a team of nearly 70. In this role, Ms. Gilliam implemented workforce strategies to help leaders make data-driven decisions and collaborated with university leaders to launch a professional development and mentoring program to assist employees in achieving their career goals. Ms. Gilliam also obtained 2021 and 2022 designations for “Texas Mother-Friendly Worksite” and “Best Place for Working Parents” for UNTS through the Dallas Regional Chamber.

Prior to UNTS, Ms. Gilliam served as Executive Director and Chief Human Resources Officer at Austin Peay State University. She launched LEARN.GROW.LEAD, a hybrid modality professional development program. She also developed the Trailing Spouses Initiative, which converted several full-time vacancies into part-time roles to offer flexible opportunities to military families. Prior to this role, Ms. Gilliam was the University Director of Human Resources Systems and Operations for the City University of New York, where she spearheaded the standardization of the onboarding experience across the system's 25 campuses. Previously, she led human resources and business operations at multimedia companies such as Radio One Inc., Time Warner Cable and Inner-City Broadcasting Group.

Ms. Gilliam is engaged in leadership positions in national professional organizations. She has served as an at-large member of the National Board of Directors of the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR) among others. She speaks on topics such as building a values-based culture, inclusive and equitable workforce strategies, employer branding and compassionate leadership. She is certified as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) and Built on Values® Coach and earned an MBA from the University of Phoenix and a
Bachelor of Business degree from Hofstra University. Ms. Gilliam is a candidate for a Doctorate in Business Administration in strategic leadership from Liberty University.

I am grateful to Kathy Schulz, Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, who chaired the search committee, and to all the members of the committee, for the work that led to an outstanding result. I also wish to extend my appreciation to Assistant Vice President Maria “Sin” Ouckama for her leadership of the Division of Human Resources throughout this transition period.

Please join me in welcoming Ms. Gilliam to Stevens and supporting her as she transitions into her new role.

Per aspera ad astra,

Nariman Farvardin
President