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To the Members of the Stevens Community,

I am writing to share some very good news about the progress that Stevens has made over the last year in establishing a stronger foundation for the future and to acknowledge the significant role that so many of you have played in this success.

As you know, I recently completed my first year as President of Stevens. Two of the very first initiatives we launched during this period were the development of a 10-year Strategic Plan and an important and promising fundraising effort. I am writing to share significant developments in both of these priority efforts.

First, as you know, the Strategic Plan, entitled, *The Future. Ours to Create.*, is the result of an intense, comprehensive, and extremely inclusive process involving more than 500 members of the Stevens community who made contributions ranging from service on the Strategic Planning Committee and its six subcommittees, to providing input toward the creation of our values and vision statements, to thorough review and detailed feedback on elements of the Plan itself.

I am delighted to report that yesterday, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the adoption of the Strategic Plan and authorized us to move forward with its implementation. This is a tremendous accomplishment, which was facilitated not only by the quality and innovative vision of the Plan itself, but also by the prior endorsement of the Faculty Senate and the Executive Committee of the Stevens Alumni Association. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the co-chairs of the Strategic Planning Committee, Dean Michael Bruno and Dean Dinesh Verma, all the members of the Strategic Planning Committee and its six subcommittees, the Faculty Senate and Alumni Association Executive Committee, and all other faculty, staff, students, alumni, trustees and other members of our community who made this possible. The close collaboration and significant investment of these individuals and committees and the constituencies they represent in all phases of the Plan's development illustrates that there is both a shared vision for the Institute as well as a shared responsibility for achieving our goals.

The approved draft of the Strategic Plan is posted at: <http://www.stevens.edu/news/content/strategic-plan>. Please note that this document is a draft that will be carefully proofread and edited over the next few weeks for use by the Stevens community. During the fall semester, a distilled, polished and professionally-designed version of the document will be available for widespread distribution.

The second major development I wish to report is our progress in the three-year \$30 million fundraising campaign, *The President's Initiative for Excellence*. As you may recall, this effort was designed to provide resources to advance Stevens in four key priority areas: (i) Scholarships for Excellent Students, (ii) Support for Excellent Faculty, (iii) Excellent Infrastructure for an Excellent University, and (iv) the President's Distinguished Lecture Series.

I am pleased to inform you that during FY12, the year that ended June 30, 2012, alumni and friends of the Institute contributed a total of \$13.8 million in gifts and pledges to Stevens. This figure represents a whopping 189% increase over FY11! This accomplishment is cause for celebration and for expression of my most sincere appreciation to all of you—particularly the leadership and staff of the Office of Development and the significant number of faculty, staff, administrators and students who contributed to Stevens during the last year.

Of the total amount raised, \$4.1 million was in the form of student scholarships, \$1.9 million in endowed chairs and professorships, \$1.0 million in support of infrastructure, and \$50,000 to kick off the President's Distinguished Lecture Series. In addition, nearly \$2.0 million was contributed towards unrestricted funds, used largely for student scholarships. The rest of the funds are gifts designated to support more than 100 different initiatives ranging from departmental and faculty programs, student functions and awards, athletics programs, the library, and general endowment support.

In terms of the data, a further analysis of FY12 development results reveals some very interesting facts. In FY12, we received a total of 4,014 gifts—a slight improvement over the 3,969 gifts received in FY11—in the following categories

- five gifts greater than \$1,000,000 (compared with none in FY11)
- 23 gifts in the range \$100,000-\$999,999 (compared with only five in FY11)
- 79 gifts in the range \$10,000-\$99,999 (compared with 57 in FY11)
- 456 gifts in the range \$1,000-\$9,999 (compared with 405 in FY11)
- 3,451 gifts less than \$1,000 (compared with 3,502 in FY11)

In all categories of gifts greater than \$1,000, FY12 shows a significant improvement over FY11. The last category of gifts less than \$1,000 is the only one that showed a decline in the number of gifts received. As we work to engage more alumni and friends and earn their trust, we hope to achieve greater participation and make progress in all these categories.

As I look back on my first year as President, I am sincerely touched by the passion and energy that the Stevens community has demonstrated in coming together to achieve these significant accomplishments. As I look ahead to the future, I know it is this passion, energy, and commitment to Stevens that will empower us to achieve our mutual goals for this institution. I want to express my gratitude to you all for your contributions to these successes, my assurance that I will continue to count on your participation and support, and my commitment to work in partnership with you to enable Stevens achieve its full potential.

This was a most encouraging year for Stevens. I look forward to a bright future as we achieve the goals of the Strategic Plan and continue our progress toward distinguishing Stevens as a world-class technological institution.

Please plan to join me on September 14, 2012 at 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for the next *Conversation with the President*, a Town Hall meeting for the Stevens Community, where these two achievements and our next steps for implementation of the Strategic Plan, will be discussed. More details about this event will be sent to you at the beginning of the semester.

Yours very truly,



Nariman Farvardin  
President



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