



Office of the President

From: Nariman Farvardin, President

To: The Stevens Community

Date: August 27, 2025

Subject: New Division Name: Division of University Advancement

As shared in [my July 21 message](#), the Division of Development and Alumni Engagement and the Division of University Relations have been consolidated into a newly formed division under the leadership of Vice President Beth McGrath. This consolidation was undertaken as part of our strategic repositioning to achieve greater efficiency and alignment among these complementary functions.

Following consultation with our community and review of best practices from peer institutions and CASE (the Council for Advancement and Support of Education), I am pleased to announce that this new, unified division will be known as the **Division of University Advancement**.

The name "University Advancement" reflects the comprehensive scope of this division's mission to advance Stevens through multiple interconnected functions:

- Development and fundraising initiatives
- Alumni engagement and the Stevens Alumni Association
- Communications, marketing and brand management
- Corporate, government and community relations
- Strategic partnerships and external relations

This naming convention aligns with practices at many institutions where these synergistic functions operate under a unified advancement framework. The term "advancement" in higher education encompasses the full spectrum of activities that enhance an institution's mission, reputation and resources.

The Division of University Advancement will continue to build upon the exceptional work and achievements of both predecessor divisions. Under Vice President McGrath's leadership, this unified approach will strengthen our ability to engage all constituencies — alumni, friends, families, partners, neighbors, government and community leaders, the media, prospective students and families and more — in support of Stevens' continued ascent.

I thank our community for the thoughtful input provided during this transition and for your continued support as we embark on this next chapter of strategic growth and institutional excellence.

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