

Office of the President

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June 6, 2023

To All Faculty and Staff:

In order to fully understand the planning, execution, operational and decision-making failures that led to the chaotic events that occurred at Commencement and to make recommendations for the future, I have appointed the Commencement 2023 Review Task Force consisting of the following colleagues and recent graduates:

- Mr. David Fernandez, (Chair), Director of Environmental Health and Safety and Insurance Risk Management
- Dr. Anthony Barrese, Interim Dean of the School of Systems and Enterprises and Teaching Professor
- Dr. Cindy Chin, Vice President for Enrollment Management
- Dr. Christos Christodoulatos, Professor, Civil, Environmental, and Ocean Engineering
- Mr. John Dearborn, Trustee, President of the Stevens Alumni Association
- Dr. Darinka Dentcheva, Professor, Mathematical Sciences
- Mr. Robert Gonzalez, Assistant Dean of Operations and Administration, Schaefer School of Engineering and Science
- Ms. Maria (Sin) Ouckama, Associate Provost
- Ms. Gab Poska, Class of 2023 (Undergraduate)
- Ms. Sakina Rizvi, Class of 2023 (Graduate)
- Dr. Dibyendu Sarkar, Professor, Civil, Environmental, and Ocean Engineering

I am grateful to each of them for devoting time to this important assignment and urge members of our community to offer their full cooperation as they undertake their work. I particularly appreciate David Fernandez's willingness to serve as Chair and trust that he will work with the Task Force and the Stevens community to conduct a thorough analysis and issue useful findings and proposed changes for future Commencement exercises.

Lastly, I want to ask all members of our community to maintain and work to strengthen relationships with the Class of 2023. Many members of this class were greatly affected by pandemic-related operational changes on campus, and the culmination of their Stevens experience



ended badly. I hope that, collectively, we can repair the damage to the affected members of the Class of 2023, help them be successful and restore their trust and affinity to Stevens.

Sincerely,

Nariman Farvardin

President