



Office of the President

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stevens.edu

November 9, 2023

To Faculty, Staff and Students:

Our Stevens community continues to achieve remarkable milestones that highlight the innovation, dedication and excellence that define us.

Our faculty excel in pioneering domains that are creating the future. Professor Yuping Huang, along with other faculty collaborators, received a \$15 million grant from the U.S. Army for research and development of quantum and AI technologies. Professors Marouane Temimi and Kaijian Liu were awarded a [grant](#) of \$870,000 from the U.S. Geological Survey to develop systems for faster, safer riverway monitoring, and five biomedical engineering faculty members – Yu Gan, Jinho Kim, Raviraj Nataraj, Shang Wang and Antonia Zaferiou – won [CAREER/MIRA Awards](#) for excellence in research from the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. These are just a few of the many exciting new research projects that are elevating Stevens' profile and producing new knowledge that will improve lives and society.

I was also interested to read about Professor Howie Xu's [recent study](#), published in *Group & Organization Management*, on the hidden cost of abusive leadership, which was covered by *Fortune* (subscription required). And faculty from the School of Humanities Arts and Social Sciences (HASS) showcased their talents and expertise in a concert available on [Stevens' YouTube channel](#). I guarantee you will enjoy it!

Stevens' interdisciplinary [artificial intelligence research and innovation](#) prowess was on display during the Stevens Institute for Artificial Intelligence [relaunch event](#). I invite you to explore these and many more noteworthy faculty highlights at the [Stevens News webpage](#).

I am so proud that a Stevens graduate student team secured the second-place position in the recent [Alexa Prize SocialBot Grand Challenge 5](#) for their socialbot, NAM (Never Alone with Me). NAM stands out for its exceptional ability to engage users in extended conversations, and I commend the team and their faculty adviser, Jia Xu, for this significant achievement.



Two weeks ago, President Joe Biden awarded Dr. Jeong H. Kim Hon. D.Eng. '12 the prestigious National Medal of Technology and Innovation. Dr. Kim exemplifies the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship that inspires our community. We are delighted to count him as a member of the Stevens family.

November is a time for reflection and gratitude. I am deeply grateful for the extraordinary contributions of our innovative students, accomplished faculty, dedicated staff, engaged alumni and exemplary extended family. You are the cornerstone of our shared success.

*Per aspera ad astra,*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "N. Farvardin".

Nariman Farvardin  
President