



THE ST
IND
OR
FALL 2
LUMNI ASSOCIATION

**BRILLIANT,
BRAVE AND BOLD**

Stevens Alumnae: Portraits of Leadership

DEPARTMENTS

2 PRESIDENT'S LETTER

3 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

4 GRIST FROM THE MILL

7 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

30 ON POINT

Successful alumni offer career advice and insights in this new magazine department that will feature a variety of stories from all four of Stevens' schools

37 SPORTS UPDATE

Ph.D. student Gina Dello Russo '20 M.S. '21 wins the NCAA Division III 400-meter national championship

38 OUT OF THE ARCHIVES:

A POWERFUL FRIENDSHIP

A letter from Frances Perkins, the first female U.S. Secretary of Labor, reveals her close relationship with a Stevens family member in this new *Indicator* department

40 CAMPAIGN BY THE NUMBERS

The largest campaign in Stevens' history comes to a spectacularly successful close, raising \$200.6 million for the university

43 ALUMNI NEWS/CLASS LOGS

44 SAA PRESIDENT'S LETTER

62 VITALS

FEATURES

8 A STAR ON THE RISE

A look at Stevens' extraordinary 10-year transformation

12-29 BRILLIANT, BRAVE AND BOLD

14 PASSIONATE PURSUIT

Jean Savitsky '85 leads \$450 million MoMA expansion

16 A MATTER OF PRIVACY

Maggie Gloeckle M.S. '95 heads global data security efforts for A+E Networks

18 KEEPING TRANSIT ON TRACK

Lisbeth Concho M.S. '09 Ph.D. '13 uses a systems approach to help agencies manage essential transportation infrastructure

20 FROM THE LAB INTO THE BOTTLE

Sabrina Henry '09 M.Eng. '11 steers many of the products you know and love as a principal scientist and R&D manager at Johnson & Johnson

22 BEHIND THE MUSIC

Allyson Vecchione '09 keeps live broadcast and taped events flowing smoothly

24 "FLEXIBLE, ADAPTABLE AND DETERMINED"

SUNY Maritime College Provost Jennifer Kehl Waters M.Eng. '93 Ph.D. '95 reflects on managing the challenging role of "first woman" throughout her career

26 "JUST SAY 'YES'"

Dr. Darshana Manji Dadhania '93 wears many hats as a top nephrologist at NewYork Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center

28 WIDENING THE PIPELINE

As president of IEEE-USA, Kate Duncan '98 M.Eng. '99 leads the organization that's nurtured her career

29 SGA MAKES HISTORY, WITH WOMEN TAKING THE LEAD

Students elect the largest group of women to hold top spots in Stevens' Student Government Association

34 TO THE BEAT OF THEIR OWN DRUM

Professor Antonia Zaferiou studies the ways sound can help older adults maintain mobility

36, 42 IN MEMORIAM

The Stevens community mourns the loss of two beloved faculty members, Sophia Hassiotis and Charles Suffel Hon. M.Eng. '85

At right: Student leaders gather on campus during New Student Orientation on Aug. 29, 2021.

On the Cover: Lisbeth Concho M.S. '09 Ph.D. '13, photographed outside the Oculus at the World Trade Center Transportation Hub

Cover Photo: M. Cooper

Cover Design: Simone Larson Design





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

FALL 2021: THE STEVENS STAR IS ON THE RISE

The campus has come alive with the return of students, faculty and staff! As I write this message, I am thrilled and energized to see students studying and playing frisbee on Palmer Lawn, faculty making their way to their classrooms and research labs, and colleagues helping our new students get oriented to their new home and to a new academic year.

This fall feels like a homecoming and a celebration, as does the cover story of this issue of *The Indicator*. This fall, we mark 50 years since a small number of undergraduate women first joined our campus. A half century later, I am proud that one-third of the Class of 2025 are women — a new record, as is the size of the class itself, at approximately 1,100 new students. In this issue, we highlight just a few of our many outstanding alumnae who are trailblazers and leaders in their fields.

I am also delighted to welcome Dr. Jianmin Qu as Stevens' Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Qu succeeds Dr. Christophe Pierre, who served with distinction as Provost since September 2016. Dr. Qu led transformative changes in education, research and entrepreneurship in his previous role as Dean of the School of Engineering and Karol Family Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Tufts University. His impressive record of achievement as a teacher, researcher, scholar and academic administrator will help to ensure that Stevens continues on its upward trajectory for many years to come.

As our community has come together during a worldwide pandemic, we also have united to ensure the bright future of Stevens. I am thrilled to report that this summer, the university successfully concluded its \$200 million fundraising campaign, *The Power*



JOHN O'BOYLE

of Stevens campaign, the most ambitious in our history. This success story is due entirely to the renewed engagement and sense of pride of so many members of our community. I am enormously proud of and grateful to all who contributed to this effort through their generosity of spirit, time and treasure.

Finally, July 1, 2021, marked the tenth anniversary of my appointment as President of Stevens. My wife, Hoveida, and I are profoundly grateful that the Stevens community welcomed us with open arms, and we have truly cherished the opportunity to be a part of the remarkable progress story of Stevens over the last decade. I invite you to read more about Stevens' ascent over the past decade in this issue and at rise.stevens.edu, and I look forward to working with you to bring your alma mater to even greater heights in the years ahead.

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for contributing to this transformation. Stevens is a national treasure, and our star is on the rise.

Per aspera ad astra,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N. Farvardin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nariman Farvardin
President, Stevens Institute of Technology
president@stevens.edu
201-216-5213

FALL 2021, VOL. 142, NO. 2

Editor

Beth Kissinger - Beth.Kissinger@stevens.edu

Managing Editor

Erin Lewis - Erin.Lewis@stevens.edu

Interim Managing Editor - Kristin Hanson

Contributors

Kyla Buckingham - Stevens School of Engineering and Science

Claire Curry

Connor Durkin - Stevens College of Arts and Letters

Paul Karr - Stevens Division of University Relations

Garrett Kinkaid '22

Rachel Narozniak

Charles O'Brien - Stevens Athletics

Lisa Rouh

Alan Skontra - Stevens Office of Development and Alumni Engagement

Tracy Vogel

Art Direction/Design

www.DanFlintDesign.com

Simone Larson Design

Additional Art Direction/Design

Michael Hofmann - Stevens Division of University Relations

Edward Yao - Director, Alumni Engagement, Stevens Office of Development and Alumni Engagement

Published by

The Stevens Division of University Relations in cooperation with the Division of Development and Alumni Engagement

Indicator Correspondence

The Stevens Indicator
1 Castle Point Terrace
Hoboken, NJ 07030
Phone: (201) 216-5161

Letters to the Editor

editor@alumni.stevens.edu

Class Log submissions

alumni-log@stevens.edu

General SAA inquiries

Contact the Alumni Office
Phone: (201) 216-5163
Fax: (201) 216-8247
alumni@stevens.edu

STEVENS
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
PER ASPERA AD ASTRA

ON THE 150TH ISSUE

I enjoyed the recent release of *The Stevens Indicator*, Spring/Summer 2021 issue (the 150th anniversary issue). It shows the great legacy and diversity of my alma mater. I wanted to add that the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Stevens chapter was formed under my leadership, as its first president in my junior year in 1978. Rachel Jenkins '80 was my vice president, and Ms. Deborah Minor was the faculty adviser. I also started the Stevens Track Club in my sophomore year. I served as coach and captain, and intercollegiate meet coordinator. I recruited Adalberto Alonso '83 M.S. '83 to the team for cross-country and track, and I mentored him to be coach and captain after I graduated. As a half-miler, I set the school record for the half-mile at 2:03.9 in a meet at Ramapo College in 1980. Alonso went on to coach the cross-country and track teams after I graduated. ❖ — Ian Howe '80

I recently marked the 70th anniversary of my graduation from “the Stute.” I’m happy to have the memorable 150th anniversary issue of *The Indicator* to bring back my recollection of those years from 1947 to 1951! I fear only a few of us remain to recall those post-



Ian Howe '80, left, with Rachel Jenkins '80
PHOTO COURTESY OF IAN HOWE

WWII war years. While that *Indicator* issue celebrated the highly significant changes of the last 50 years at Stevens, and rightly so, I confess to being disappointed that almost no space was found to comment on the changes Stevens experienced during and right after World War II. The classic warning to incoming freshmen that only one in three would be around at commencement four years hence proved out-of-date to us who started in 1946 to 1948. A highly motivated, older student body was not willing to quit in the face of the challenge of the Stevens experience. Perhaps a future issue of *The Indicator* could devote space to that time of change as well. It paved the way for a successful career for this graduate! ❖ — Alan Donaldson '51



Paul Steffen, third from right, and Class of '57 friends at a past Old Guard Luncheon.

REMEMBERING PAUL STEFFEN '57

Paul Steffen '57 — class president, reunion leader, scholarship benefactor and all-around Stevens stalwart — passed away last year. He left a lasting legacy of generosity, dedication and friendship at Stevens, as one of the truly outstanding volunteer leaders not only of his class but also among Stevens' more than 50,000 alumni.

▶ A tribute to Paul from his Stevens friends appears at stevens.edu/paul-steffen

GRIST FROM THE MILL



STEVENS WELCOMES JIANMIN QU AS PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

On Sept. 1, Jianmin Qu joined Stevens as provost and vice president for academic affairs. The university's new chief academic officer previously served as dean of the School of Engineering and Karol Family Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Tufts University.

He succeeds Christophe Pierre, who has served with distinction in the role since 2016 and rejoins the faculty ranks.

"Dr. Qu's impressive record of achievement positions him well to play a catalytic role as Stevens begins the development of its next strategic plan," said President Nariman Farvardin.

At Tufts, Qu developed the engineering school's first strategic plan and diversity and inclusion plan, secured a \$10 million gift to create the Tufts Entrepreneurship Center and secured an \$8 million gift to establish the Tufts Institute for Research on Learning and Instruction.

"We share a common interest in applying research to solve societal issues, and I am honored to be a part of Stevens' continued upward trajectory," Qu said of leading the Stevens faculty. ❖

▶ Read more about Stevens' new provost at stevens.edu/new-provost

HISTORIC CAMPAIGN CLOSES, SURPASSING TARGET

Stevens' most ambitious fundraising campaign in its history concluded with \$200 million raised, more than \$50 million beyond its original goal. More than 14,000 donors made more than 45,000 distinct gifts to the campaign.

"This has been a campaign where the entire community has not only raised \$200 million, but has truly come together," said Laura Rose, vice president for development and alumni engagement. "They did so because they want to help fuel the next great advances, because they care about this university community and its tradition, and because they want to make a lasting impact on our campus." ❖

▶ Learn more about the Power of Stevens campaign on page 40 and at stevens.edu/campaign-success

THE
POWER OF
STEVENS
OUR CAMPAIGN.
OUR IMPACT.



From left: Brian Rothschild, assistant dean of Graduate Studies, School of Business at Stevens; Laura Planells Bolant, founder & CEO, Linking Education; Gregory Prastacos, dean, School of Business; Chihoon Lee, associate dean of Graduate Studies, School of Business

STEVENS, REAL MADRID GRADUATE SCHOOL LAUNCH COLLABORATION


This fall, the first cohort of graduate students enrolled in this new program, enjoying the opportunity to simultaneously pursue two master's degrees in business and sports technologies from Stevens and the Real Madrid Graduate School-Universidad Europea in Spain. Students gain knowledge in the latest technologies used in sports, such as data analysis, virtual reality, blockchain and geolocation, while learning to apply the right strategies to achieve optimal performance. They will study both in Hoboken, New Jersey, and Madrid, Spain, and will have opportunities to intern with Real Madrid Next, a collaboration of start-up and established companies, and to learn from the professionals and managers of Real Madrid CF, one of the world's most popular professional soccer clubs. ❖

▶ To learn more about this new partnership, visit stevens.edu/real-madrid

YUE NING RECEIVES 2021 NSF CAREER AWARD

Stevens computer science professor Yue Ning has received a National Science Foundation CAREER Award, the fifth granted to Stevens researchers this year. The prestigious CAREER Award benefits promising early-career investigators, typically supporting five years of ongoing research. Ning's project will explore improved artificial intelligence-powered methods for predicting human events such as hospital visits, flu outbreaks, and mass protests. The project will generate new machine learning algorithms and advance techniques for data analytics in other domains, such as health care and social science.

Earlier this year, civil engineering professor Weina Meng, electrical and computer engineering professor Hang Liu, software engineering researcher Lu Xiao, and sustainability design researcher Steven Hoffenson received CAREER Awards. ❖

 Learn more about Ning's award at stevens.edu/ning


ALUMNA FEATURED IN 'STANDING FOR STEM' EXHIBIT IN DALLAS



Aisha (Crute) Lawrey '99 was one of 120 women depicted in a five-month exhibit in Dallas promoting gender diversity in STEM sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Lydia Hill Foundation. Lawrey's statue honors her successful career as an engineering consultant and her advocacy work with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the National Action Council for Minorities.

"Some companies and people don't think diversity in STEM is a serious issue, but the documented issues with bias in artificial intelligence, for example, show why it is," Lawrey said. "Representation in these fields matters, because it creates momentum to examine and solve these kinds of issues." ❖



 Read the full story at stevens.edu/lawrey



ALUMNUS NAMED 2021 BLACK ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Obiefuna "Obi" Okafor '10 earned the prestigious award — which is given by the Council of Engineering Deans of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the *U.S. Black Engineer and Information Technology* magazine — for his work at Corning, Incorporated, where he is a senior project leader and a capital portfolio manager. In his introduction for Okafor's award presentation, Corning President and Chief Operating Officer Eric Musser highlighted Okafor's ability to perform exceptional work even amid the pressures and uncertainties of a global pandemic.

"I think one of the things I love about chemical engineering is that it gives you options," Okafor said. "I love that I'm actually able to impact people's lives." ❖

 To learn more about Okafor's award, visit stevens.edu/okafor

DAVE JOSHI '68 RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS JEFFERSON AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE IN NEW JERSEY

Dave Joshi '68, a longtime voice for his South Plainfield, New Jersey, community, was named a recipient of the 2020 New Jersey State Governor's Jefferson Award. For nearly 50 years, Joshi has hosted "Glimpse of India" on WRSU-FM, which has been nominated for the Longest Running Single Person-Hosted Radio Show title in the Guinness Book of World Records. Joshi is also one of the longest-serving members of the South Plainfield Election Board and has been a member of the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission and the Plainfield Recreation Department — among many other roles.

"Self-promotion has never crossed his mind," read Joshi's nomination. "He continually seeks out ways to continually educate, advance, and impact his peers and the generations to come." ❖



STEVENS STUDENT WINS LARGEST CODING COMPETITION IN HISTORY

Recent graduate and current master's student Ben Mirtchouk '21 topped more than 136,000 participants from 34 countries in the global TCS CodeVita coding challenge in May. Guinness World Records later certified the virtual event as the single largest computer programming competition ever conducted. Over six hours, competitors worked on a variety of real-world coding problems such as optimizing the construction of a hotel. Mirtchouk, the first winner from the United States, nosed out students from Switzerland and Australia for the top spot.

"Some of the harder questions definitely gave me a run for my money during this challenge," Mirtchouk said. "It is always gratifying to solve a really difficult question." ❖

 **Read more about Mirtchouk and his victory at stevens.edu/mirtchouk**

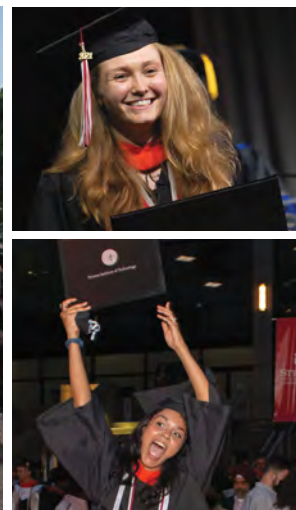


CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2021

Proud family members and friends cheered on Stevens' approximately 2,400 graduates across three days of Commencement ceremonies this past May at the Meadowlands Expo Center in Secaucus, New Jersey, and via livestream across the world.

"The past year has undoubtedly been a time of tremendous disruption and generation-defining change," said President Nariman Farvardin. "You are well prepared ... to identify and solve the thorny problems we face as a society, and be the next generation of pioneers, technology innovators and global citizens that our world needs." ❖

PHOTOS: KATHY CACICEDO



To read more about the Class of 2021 and the Commencement ceremonies, visit stevens.edu/commencement2021

CALENDAR



ALUMNI ASSEMBLE ONLINE FOR 100TH ALUMNI WEEKEND

On June 3-5, alumni gathered from their homes and on their devices to celebrate our 100th Alumni Weekend. Along with family and friends, they were treated to new twists on traditional Alumni Weekend events: the Stevens Alumni Association (SAA) Annual Meeting, the SAA Awards Ceremony, the State of Stevens by President Farvardin, beer and cocktail tastings, virtual tours of campus updates, trivia with the Williams Library staff and milestone class gatherings. (See the Classes of 1971 and 2015 reuniting virtually above.)

Watch for emails and social media postings from the Stevens Alumni Office for any updates on fall and future events. ❖

 To relive Alumni Weekend 2021, visit the Past Webinars Library at stevens.edu/alumni-webinars

NOV 11-13

THURSDAY - SATURDAY

Stevens Dramatic Society presents
"She Kills Monsters," DeBaun Auditorium

NOV 19

FRIDAY

Voice Recital
Ondrick Music Room, 4th Floor,
Howe Center

NOV 20

SATURDAY

Stevens Orchestra Concert
DeBaun Auditorium

DEC 4

SATURDAY

Stevens Concert Band and Ensembles Concert
DeBaun Auditorium

DEC 10


FRIDAY

Stevens Jazz Band Concert
DeBaun Auditorium

DEC 11

SATURDAY

Stevens Choir Concert
DeBaun Auditorium

 For more events, visit stevens.edu/events and stevens.edu/DeBaunPAC



JEFF VOCK

RESIDENTIAL TOWERS

A 'STAR ON THE RISE'

THE PAST DECADE REVEALS STEVENS' SPECTACULAR TRANSFORMATION

This fall, a “Stevens” sign was illuminated for the very first time atop the university’s University Center Complex (UCC), visible from New York City. It serves as a brilliant symbol to the world of Stevens’ presence and its transformation over the past decade, which has been nothing short of spectacular.

Opening in Spring 2022, the building hosts a student center and two 19- and 21-story towers that will house approximately 1,000 students. The UCC is a physical marker of the vast transformation of Stevens under the leadership of President Nariman Farvardin since he joined the university in 2011.

Enter the campus and you will discover many more changes — in the student body, among the faculty and in our facilities. Beyond campus you’ll notice a transformation in the pride of alumni and the greater Stevens community, evident in the success of the recently completed \$200 million *Power of Stevens* campaign, the largest in university history.

“It is no exaggeration to say that Stevens has changed the way we live, work and communicate, greatly benefitting society,” said U.S. Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ), reading a statement into the Congressional Record on Feb. 13, 2020. “Today, Stevens is among the fastest growing universities in the nation, attracting top students and faculty from New Jersey, the nation and across the globe.”

“In almost every imaginable measure of performance, impact and productivity,

the university has reached new heights of achievement,” says President Farvardin. “Our star is on the rise, and the best is yet to come!”

Here is a look at just some areas of transformative change that have taken place at your alma mater from Fall 2011 to Fall 2021.

REMARKABLE STUDENTS, REMARKABLE EXPERIENCE

Ten years ago, the university launched a strategic plan that called for strategic enrollment growth. Today, demand for a Stevens education has never been higher: there are more students on campus than in the university’s 150-year history. Undergraduate enrollment has increased 68% to more than 4,000 students, and graduate enrollment (full-time equivalent) has increased 72% to approximately 4,000 students. Applications for undergraduate and graduate admission have soared 214% and 271%, respectively.

While the student body grew, Stevens also ensured that the academic prowess of that community rose, too. Over the past decade, the average SAT score of the incoming class jumped by 147 points, from 1287 to 1434.

The university has made strong support for students and their success a guiding principle. As an indicator of the university’s focus on “student centricity,” the graduation rate increased from 79% to 87%, according to the latest available data.

And, even in the midst of a pandemic, 95% of the Class of 2020 secured highly

competitive employment and admission to prestigious graduate programs within six months of graduation.

Stevens’ student community has also become increasingly diverse. More students from underrepresented minority groups now attend Stevens, and the university has also made a concerted effort to enroll more women, enriching the university with diversity of thought, talents and life experiences. Over the last decade, the increase in the number of students from these two groups, among the undergraduate student body, has been nothing short of astounding, with a 150% increase in the number of underrepresented minority students and a 98% increase in the number of women.

Stevens’ commitment to diversity has been buoyed by generous donors and includes several new programs, such as:

- ▶ ACES (Accessing Careers in Engineering and Science), which aims to recruit and nurture talented students from underserved communities and underrepresented minorities through high school partnerships, scholarships for pre-college programs and financial support
- ▶ The Art Harper Saturday Academy, which connects Stevens to high school students from underrepresented communities who are interested in pursuing college majors and careers in STEM-related fields
- ▶ iSTEM, a four-year entrepreneurship coaching program for incoming freshmen designed to transform budding talent into future leaders and game-changers

► and the A. James Clark Scholars Program, which provides academic and support services to talented students from under-represented groups who have financial need and wish to pursue engineering, computer science or cybersecurity studies.

Another scholarship milestone is the Lawrence T. Babbio '66 Pinnacle Scholarship Program, a merit scholarship founded in 2015.

Speak with students, and they will tell how their Stevens experience – and scholarship support — have made a difference in their lives.

“The Pre-College program really was a transformational experience for me,” says Angelene Veloce, who is studying accounting and analytics with the School of Business at Stevens. “If I hadn’t had the chance to attend and the scholarship to pay for it, I probably would have gone down the wrong path of study, which could have been really detrimental to my ability to graduate in four years.

“I credit ACES and the Pre-College program with making it clear to me what I wanted to pursue in college and that I wanted to do it here at Stevens.”

FACULTY, ACADEMICS, RESEARCH SHOW MARKED GROWTH

The increase in high-achieving students has ushered a similar increase in accomplished faculty to teach, mentor and inspire them. The number of full-time faculty has increased 36%, to 315, the highest number of faculty in Stevens’ history. Housed in all

four schools, these faculty are both stellar teachers and researchers with a strong sense of purpose.

They are also being recognized for their contributions to their fields. Among them are 10 faculty members named fellows of the National Academy of Inventors as well as a number of National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER award recipients, including five in 2021. From 2011 forward, annual research awards have increased an extraordinary 97%, to \$50.6 million in Fall 2021.

“Stevens is the perfect place for me to pursue my teaching, mentoring and research goals,” says biomedical engineering professor Antonia Zaferiou, an NSF CAREER award recipient. “This is primarily due to the institution’s dedication to support developing innovative research and teaching approaches. The locale also offers the potential for productive and enjoyable internal and external collaborations that foster multi-disciplinary approaches.” (*Read more about Zaferiou’s research, which focuses on mobility issues in older adults, on page 34.*)

Stevens faculty are tackling the most important issues and challenges in the world today, from climate change to brain research, AI to quantum computing, cancer research to defense research. The last decade at Stevens has seen the creation of:

- the Stevens Institute for Artificial Intelligence (SIAI)
- the CRAFT Center (Center for Research toward Advancing Financial Technologies)
- the Center for Quantum Science and Engineering

- the Hanlon Financial Systems Center
- the Sensor Technology and Applied Research Center (STAR center)
- and the ongoing work of many other laboratories and researchers.

A CAMPUS TRANSFORMED

Most visibly, the Stevens campus has been transformed since 2011, with more modern and improved spaces to better support teaching, learning, research and student life. The university has completed numerous, important additions to campus, all made possible by strong donor support:

- the Gateway Academic Center, a 89,500-square-foot teaching and research facility
- the Ruesterholz Admissions Center, a new home for admissions that welcomes visitors to campus
- the ABS Engineering Center, which added a large collaboration space for senior design students as well as labs and office space
- the Student Wellness Center, housing Stevens’ physical, mental and disability health services
- the Hanlon Financial Systems Center, serving business school students, including a lab that simulates a real trading floor
- and the Lore-El Center for Women’s Leadership, offering a dedicated space for Stevens’ female students and faculty to connect on STEM.



“In almost every imaginable measure of performance, impact and productivity, the university has reached new heights of achievement. Our star is on the rise, and the best is yet to come!” — President Nariman Farvardin

More than 300 smaller renovation and improvement projects also have been completed all across campus, from the library to labs to the athletic center to dormitories.

Then, there's the UCC. The generosity of Carol and Richard Harries '58 and numerous other alumni and friends will transform the campus. The Harries family cited their faith in President Farvardin and the university's progress.

“Carol and I have been highly impressed by the leadership of President Farvardin and others at Stevens, and the positive momentum and aspiration of the university are infectious,” says Richard Harries. “To look at the expressions on students' faces — they are so happy to be here and they're part of something great.”

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Organizations and media from coast to coast have noticed Stevens' positive momentum over the past decade. Notably, in 2017, Stevens and President Farvardin received two honors for the transformation of the university.

Stevens received the American Council on Education (ACE)/Fidelity Investments Award for Institutional Transformation in March 2017. The award recognizes institutions that have responded to higher education challenges in innovative and creative

ways and achieved dramatic changes in a relatively brief period.

That same year, Farvardin was selected by Carnegie Corporation of New York to receive the 2017 Academic Leadership Award. The award is granted biannually to a small number of select educators who demonstrate, among other qualities, “vision and an outstanding commitment to excellence in undergraduate education.”

Stevens was also the focus of a *Forbes* article, “Turnaround University: Quant School on the Hudson,” in September 2017. The piece focused on not only the School of Business' innovative quantitative finance program but also the university's growing enrollment, excellent career outcomes and improved selectivity, making it “one of the most desirable STEM colleges in the nation.”

RENEWED ALUMNI PRIDE AND SUPPORT

Stevens' growth over the past decade could not have been possible without extraordinary support from the Stevens community. This happened in impressive fashion with the recently completed \$200 million *Power of Stevens* campaign. (See related story on page 40.)

This campaign was a story of renewed pride in Stevens and a historic uniting of

alumni, faculty, staff, parents, students and friends to ensure the future of the university. Alumni, in particular, played a critical role, comprising the majority of the more than 14,000 donors and more than 45,000 unique gifts to the campaign.

“This campaign has been an example of alumni making a direct impact, investing in a legacy for generations of Stevens students to come by improving our campus and making available more resources to our faculty and students, such as through scholarships at all levels,” says alumni trustee Victoria Velasco '04, president of the Stevens Alumni Association.

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

When the UCC officially opens in the spring, the university will already be on its way to achieving even greater heights. A new strategic plan is in development, which will create a vision for Stevens from 2022 to 2032. It will build upon this decade's impressive gains and deepening strengths as Stevens seeks to make an even greater impact on the world.

On the tenth anniversary of his tenure as Stevens president this past summer, Farvardin reflected on when he first took office in 2011.

“My concluding words in my inaugural speech were: ‘I have unbridled optimism for what we can accomplish together,’” Farvardin said. “Ten years later, my optimism about Stevens' future is stronger than ever.”

Learn more about the transformation of Stevens at rise.stevens.edu ❖

— Beth Kissinger and Kristin Hanson





BRILLIANT

BRAVE

AND BOLD

*STEVENS ALUMNAE:
PORTRAITS OF LEADERSHIP*



“You’re going to walk into many rooms in your life and career where you may be the only one who looks like you or who has had the experiences you’ve had. But you remember that when you are in those rooms, you are not alone. We are all in that room with you applauding you on. Cheering your voice.” – VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS

From the moment 19 undergraduate women first stepped on campus 50 years ago this fall, Stevens women have embraced the roles of trailblazer and leader. Generation after generation, they have cheered each other on, lifted each other up, as they took their seat at the table — or built their own table — to pursue careers and lives of fulfillment.

Today, Stevens alumnae can be found in laboratories, board rooms, hospitals and universities across the country — and around the world — as leaders in industry, government, the arts, academia and community and humanitarian service. Clarelle DeGraffe '84 leads the PATH system, connecting thousands of commuters between New York and New Jersey. Pam Cheng '92 M.Eng. '95, an executive vice president with AstraZeneca, has played a key role in delivering the company's COVID-19 vaccine across the globe. Virginia Ruesterholz '83, a retired top Verizon executive, made history as the first woman to chair the Stevens Board of Trustees. CEOs and entrepreneurs Alla Weinstein '77 and Rita Gurevich '06 are making the world safer through their pioneering efforts, Weinstein in renewable energy and Gurevich in cybersecurity. All have shared their inspiring stories in Stevens publications.

For this issue of *The Indicator*, we speak with eight additional alumnae — of different generations, industries and life experiences — who continue to show the impact of Stevens women as leaders, and who inspire a new generation of young women to aspire and succeed. We speak with them about their professional and personal journeys, and their hopes for the future.

“These Stevens alumnae are just extraordinary,” says Victoria Velasco '04, the longest-serving Stevens Alumni Association president and only the third woman to serve in the association's 145-year history. “They represent some of the highest levels of accomplishment in their fields while inspiring a new generation of women leaders. What is even more incredible is that they represent just a snapshot of our alumnae achievements! They honor the hard work and sacrifices of Stevens' first class of women and all of those who have followed.”

You can read their stories starting on page 14. ❖ — *Beth Kissinger*

To read more stories of inspiring Stevens alumnae, faculty and staff, visit stevens.edu/womenatstevens

PASSIONATE PURSUIT

JEAN SAVITSKY HELPS TO DELIVER A 'REIMAGINED' MoMA

During much of the coronavirus pandemic, Jean Savitsky's workplace — the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York — had been quiet. And empty. Wandering through its galleries, you could really see the art; "It was a beautiful experience," she says.

But on a humid July afternoon this summer, the people are back. They form small clusters outside of MoMA's West 53rd Street entrance and Savitsky '85 — who worked for five years leading the museum's \$450 million expansion — is pleased. They are the reason MoMA is here, she says.

"To see people engaging with the art — maybe they're New Yorkers and they're here all the time," she says. "Or maybe it's someone who has always wanted to come and see 'Starry Night' or 'Christina's World,' and they finally get to do it. ... And then they turn and see something else they've never seen before, and you're just listening to their comments and their enthusiasm.

"That's what all of this is for."

MASTERING SCHEDULES AND DIPLOMACY

From 2014 to 2019, Savitsky, who is MoMA's director of real estate and sustainability and a 35-year veteran of New York's real estate and construction industry, led the expansion and renovation of this beloved icon. It has unveiled, in the words of the museum, "a reimagined presentation of modern and contemporary art."

To this end, MoMA added more than 40,000 square feet of additional gallery space — presenting more works by more artists. There's a new high-tech performance space; a new Creativity Lab for educational programming; a new museum store; a free street-level gallery for passersby, among other improvements.

This highly complex project involved combining three separate buildings. There was the westward expansion into a new condominium development — literally sliding three floors of exhibition space into this towering skyscraper. It involved the demolition of the American Folk Art Museum, to also help expand gallery space. In the process, Savitsky led the project to LEED Platinum certification for its environmentally friendly design and construction.

She sums up her job: "I had to control the budget, I had to control the schedule and I had to control the scope" — not an easy task.

"It took a village," she says. "I have amazing people that I work with."

Savitsky also performed a master act of collaboration and diplomacy. She worked with contractors, developers, museum trustees, curators and community members to get everyone on the same page for this institution they all care so deeply about.

As Savitsky offers a quick museum tour, it is obvious that she cares deeply, too; her ties to MoMA are long-standing. Her mother first brought her here as a child, and Jean has long been a patron. She's drawn to the

galleries of the 1950s, to the action paintings of Pollock, de Kooning and others, and the "beautiful and clean" sculpture of Constantin Brancusi.

But mostly, when Savitsky walks through these spaces, she sees them through the eyes of an engineer.

A new staircase — hung from one piece of steel — is a true engineering feat, she says. To create the new dramatic entry to the museum, workers removed an entire floor above, which doubled the height of the ceiling and created "a whole new experience, a floating tension." They moved massive sculptures — such as Richard Serra's "Equal," a series of eight forged steel boxes, each weighing 40 tons — and created the new street-level galleries, where art comes to the people.

ON LEADERSHIP

Savitsky came well prepared for this challenge. Just south of MoMA soars the Bank of America Tower at Bryant Park, for which Savitsky served as project manager during her long tenure with Jones Lang LaSalle, a global real estate services company. (The skyscraper also achieved LEED Platinum, the first skyscraper in North America to do so.) Before that, she served as facilities director with Simon & Schuster and directed facilities operations at Radio City Music Hall.

When it comes to her leadership philosophy, Savitsky is disarmingly humble.

"I surround myself with people on my teams who are smarter than I am. And you

let people who are really good at what they do go do it. When they hit a wall, or there's a problem, you're there to help them figure out how to get through it."

LOOKING FORWARD, AND FAMILY

Her current work at MoMA involves nothing less than the museum's future. Her main focus is putting together MoMA's sustainability plan and aligning with New York City's ambitious goals for reducing carbon emissions and developing a greener power grid by 2030. It's an all-encompassing effort touching upon energy use and optimizing the building's performance; reducing museum waste by 50 percent by 2025; and exploring ways to move away from fossil fuels while maintaining "incredibly

stringent" environmental conditions needed to preserve priceless works of art.

As she eyes more ambitious projects for MoMA, Savitsky feels blessed to be there. She also feels lucky to have shared this project with her mother, Mary, a retired public school teacher in New York and New Jersey, the host of a television math education program and professor at New Jersey City University, who instilled a love of art and a strong sense of determination. And her father, Stevens' renowned Davidson Laboratory professor Dan Savitsky M.S. '52, her trusted counsel. (He passed away in 2020 at age 98.)

She shared engineering drawings and many stories with her father, who was truly engaged in the project, asking questions, challenging her. Both of her parents

attended the opening of the expanded museum in October 2019.

"It was so wonderful to be able to have him see, finally, what he had been seeing on paper all along," she says.

Walking the museum's galleries, Savitsky calls it a privilege to work in a place of beauty that can take her breath away.

"You're surrounded by art every day, and to be surrounded by such smart people ... I can walk through a gallery and see something ... or pop my head in the studio and try to experience what is happening there.

"It's a dream place to work." ❖

— Beth Kissinger

To read the full profile, visit [stevens.edu/jsavitsky](https://www.stevens.edu/jsavitsky)

DANIELLE RICHARDS



Savitsky, pictured in the Sculpture Garden at MoMA, recently led a \$450 million expansion of the iconic museum.

Gloeckle, pictured in the Babbio Center atrium at Stevens, says her current role at A+E Networks allows her to leverage her diverse educational and professional experiences.



A MATTER OF PRIVACY

MAGGIE GLOECKLE THRIVES IN AN EVER-CHANGING DATA-PROTECTION FIELD

“You often see articles talking about how data is the new oil,” says Maggie Gloeckle M.S. ’95, associate general counsel, head of global privacy at A+E Networks. Companies, services and governments are collecting, analyzing and storing more information than ever before. But, as with oil, the more data you collect, the more likely a spill. Leaders in consumer privacy like Gloeckle are mindful of how data is used, as well as the efforts required to protect it or prevent misuse or a breach.

At A+E, Gloeckle is responsible for a global program overseeing data privacy and data protection, developing policies, assessing risk and the impact of regulations, as well as the changing needs of the business — all while keeping her finger on the pulse of new laws around the globe.

“You don’t know what’s coming, and that’s what I find so exciting about the ever-changing field of data privacy,” says Gloeckle, who joined the company in 2017 and counts “Tiny House Nation” and the History Channel among her favorite A+E properties.

Gloeckle began her career not in data privacy but telecommunications within financial services. Under the guidance of a valued mentor, Leigh Reynolds, at Bloomberg L.P., she volunteered for a research opportunity which led her to pursue a master’s in telecommunications management at Stevens.

Later, while at Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., she developed an interest in data privacy. The multidisciplinary nature of the field provided her an opportunity to leverage her Stevens education, as well as her law degree, MBA and professional certifications from UCLA, Georgetown University and George Washington University.

“I got the bug,” she says. “I knew the technical side but wanted to

learn more about the legal impact, and I wanted to find a way to tie it all together. Over time, I built a toolkit of different skills.”

A certified information privacy professional, information privacy manager, information privacy technologist and data privacy solutions engineer, Gloeckle is a leader in her field with expertise in all facets of the space, from technology and business to law and ethics. She co-authored articles in the *Association of Corporate Counsel Docket* and is a fellow of information privacy at the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP). As part of IAPP’s research advisory board, she helps develop the organization’s research agenda and connects with law and policy makers, as well as academic institutions.

Gloeckle now shares her expertise with Stevens as a member of the management board of advisers for the Graduate Management Program. She provides feedback on curriculum, consulting

“I got the bug. I knew the technical side but wanted to learn more about the legal impact, and I wanted to find a way to tie it all together.”

projects and industry developments in addition to mentoring two graduate students.

At A+E Networks, Gloeckle values her colleagues and the organization’s “culture of kindness.”

“There are so many creative, bright and passionate colleagues developing and delivering A+E’s content. It takes incredible teams behind the scenes, from the programming team, operations (staff) who ensure content is on the air, to those who manage our digital properties — and of course, members of our legal team,” Gloeckle says. “It is a great place to work.” ❖ — *Claire Curry*

KEEPING TRANSIT ON TRACK

LISBETH CONCHO TAKES A SYSTEMS APPROACH TO ASSET MANAGEMENT

American infrastructure has faced numerous challenges in the past several decades — age, the elements and gridlock in government. Now it faces another: the retirement of thousands of seasoned leaders in the coming years. Fortunately, rising stars like Lisbeth Concho M.S. '09 Ph.D. '13 are poised to step in and help bring the field forward.

Transit asset management — the systematic, strategic process of procuring, operating, maintaining and replacing transit assets to manage performance and costs — wasn't always Concho's career goal; she came to Stevens in 2007 after completing an internship in oil and gas with WilPro Energy Services in her native Venezuela.

"I was interested in looking at things from an enterprise, or systems, perspective," Concho says. "A friend of mine was at Stevens and talked about their systems engineering program. After looking at the website, its location and its programs, I thought it was definitely the right place for me in multiple ways."

During her time at Stevens, Concho worked with the Maritime Security Center under former Stevens faculty member Tom Wake-man. Her summer program focused on evaluating the criticality of bridges, tunnels and airports managed by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey along the New York Harbor and the impact that a terrorist attack on any of these facilities would have on the maritime supply chain, transportation and population.

The experience piqued her interest in the management of transit and transportation assets in the area and informed her doctoral research under the guidance of Jose Ramirez-Marquez, associate professor and division director of enterprise science and engineering. Concho's work focused on creating optimization models using genetic algorithm techniques to speed the process of shipping container inspections and passenger screening, increasing reliability and reducing financial and time costs.

After Stevens, she joined the MTA as a systems engineer, where she saw firsthand the challenges the agency faced in maintaining the vast transportation network — particularly in

making strategic decisions about how to prioritize investments for new assets and repairing existing infrastructure.

"Identifying where all the funding needs to be allocated and deciding where it will actually be spent is a challenging decision-making process that translates into better service for the customer," she says.

Concho left the MTA in 2015 to become an asset management consultant, providing systems engineering, business analysis and project management support to several transit agencies across the country.

"One of the most common challenges across these agencies is managing information about their assets — things as simple as when a piece of equipment was last maintained. They often lack readily available or historical data to use to improve the analysis they need to forecast when it is best to maintain or replace equipment before it falls into disrepair," she says. By taking a systems approach, she adds, these agencies can better identify their needs and improve how decisions are made in both the short and long term. Her background in operations research, coupled with the skills she gained at Stevens, provided the foundation for Concho to build a decision-support tool she uses to help agencies make that kind of analysis.

Outside the office, Concho also assumed a greater leadership role in the field. In 2017, she founded the first U.S. chapter of the Institute of Asset Management's (IAM) NxtGen group, a resource open to students, young professionals and experienced workers transitioning to the asset management profession. Before the pandemic, Concho organized a series of activities for the group in and around New York City ranging from networking events to presentations from leaders in the field. Although she has passed the NxtGen baton to new leaders, she remains involved as a volunteer for IAM.

"I want to bring awareness about asset management to people who are new to the field and facilitate knowledge across different industries," she says. ❖ — *Kristin Hanson*

Concho, pictured at the Oculus at the World Trade Center Transportation Hub, discovered an interest in transportation asset management during her work at Stevens' Maritime Security Center.



Henry, pictured at a lab at Johnson & Johnson Consumer Health in Skillman, New Jersey, appeared alongside Jennifer Aniston in a recent commercial for a moisturizer Henry helped develop.

FROM THE LAB INTO THE BOTTLE

SABRINA HENRY TALKS SCIENCE, SERVICE AND HER RECENT STAR TURN

When Sabrina Henry '09 M.Eng. '11 graduated from Stevens, she never imagined that a decade later she'd star in a commercial opposite Jennifer Aniston advertising a new AVEENO® skincare moisturizer. Henry not only promoted the product, but also played a key role in developing it as a research and development scientist at Johnson & Johnson.

Henry said the experience was one of the most memorable moments of her career.

"Leading the product development activities and driving connectivity globally and cross-functionally were my bigger goals for that project and launch," she says. "The commercial was the icing on the cake. I can really talk about the product because I worked on it. I saw it in its infancy as a prototype."

Henry's Johnson & Johnson career began with an internship while she was a student at Stevens and, later, a full-time position as a R&D scientist. She moved up the ranks steadily and was promoted five times in 12 years, including a three-month European stint at Johnson & Johnson Santé Beauté France. In 2018, she began her MBA at Rutgers Business School and today, as an R&D manager, she leads a team of scientists. The group manages the day-to-day product lifecycle activities for many household-name skincare products. Henry enjoys steering products from the lab into the bottle, including the AVEENO® Calm + Restore line, AVEENO® Positively Radiant body care line and JOHNSON'S® Baby Shampoo.

Working in the skincare and cosmetics field was not what

Henry envisioned when she arrived at Stevens to study biomedical engineering. But during an internship at Procter & Gamble, where she watched scientists work on haircare products, she began rethinking her course of study.

"With chemical engineering, you could do a lot more things versus being very specialized," explains Henry, who later earned a master's in engineering at Stevens after completing her bachelor's degree. "I thought about it the whole summer. I talked to my friends and then I made the switch. I'm really thankful I made that decision because I think it was a great choice for me in the end"

Henry merges her professional life with a commitment to service through volunteer work with students in an after-school program run by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. The students got a taste of what it's like to work in a science lab doing fun projects like making their own lotions and cleansers. Within Johnson & Johnson, too, Henry seeks to give back. She mentors young scientists, including interns from Stevens, and she is especially committed to uplifting women of color to become future scientists.

"I think even now, more so too as a woman of color, it's critical for me to make sure that voice is heard," says Henry, who also serves as a role model for her own two young daughters. "I acknowledge the responsibility and privilege I have to pave the way for more diverse conversation and solutions for communities that look like me in the workplace. I am honored to inspire a generation of women to pursue careers in STEM." ❖ — *Claire Curry*

BEHIND THE MUSIC

ALLYSON VECCHIONE'S 'MAGIC' KEEPS LIVE EVENTS OF ALL TYPES RUNNING SMOOTHLY

It's the second day of the Firefly Festival in Delaware. Live acts are playing on stages, but a strong storm with dangerous lightning is moving in. Organizers suddenly decide to shut down the entire concert for the night, even as the event is broadcasting live to a worldwide audience on a four-minute delay.

Within those four minutes, the broadcast's producer must decide how to take that live broadcast off the air; tell the hosts what to tell their viewing audience; write and push emergency messages to the venue's many video screens; and return safely to her hotel.

It all happens without a hitch.

Two nights later, the weather has improved; the four-day festival is wrapping up. There's another problem. The headline act's management won't let its performance set be broadcast live. Nobody on site knows why, but the act is edited out of the live broadcast.

Then, just minutes before final sign-off, word comes down: the act has changed its mind.

"We had about one minute of lead time, that time," Allyson Vecchione '09 recalls, as she was again pressed as a producer to make a split-second decision. "I had to shift the broadcast to commercial, get brand-new graphics ready, have a playback person ready, cue up the next clip, talk to master control about inserting an emergency commercial break, and then scramble to put

that next live segment together during the three-minute break.

"We knew we could only broadcast three songs, but we didn't know where they would be in the set."

Once again, the broadcast returns from commercial, the act begins to play, and nobody viewing is the wiser.

"Like magic," she laughs.

It was all in another day's work for Vecchione, who travels nationwide and worldwide keeping live broadcasts and recorded concerts — like the New Orleans Jazz Festival, Farm Aid, California's Coachella festival and Lollapalooza, including this summer's event in Chicago — flowing smoothly from behind the scenes.

So smoothly, you probably never notice her at all.

FROM STEVENS TO THE LIVE STAGE

Growing up in New Jersey, Vecchione always knew she wanted to work in music and television. She watched hours of music videos on the VH1 and MTV networks while preparing for school and attended concerts in Hoboken and New York City.

She never thought about attending Stevens to prepare for such a career — until a chance encounter between her mother and a Stevens recruiter who told her about the university's new program in music and technology.

It was during the formative years of that College of Arts and Letters (CAL) major program — which has since become one of the college's signatures — but current CAL faculty members such as Rob Harari, Carlos Alomar and Andy Brick were already in place and teaching.

"From her very first class with me, I recognized in Allyson a keen ability to understand and assimilate new information in a manner that is at once deeply perceptive and contextually relevant," remembers Brick. "And so, when I was asked to conduct Game ON! at the Kennedy Center with the National Symphony Orchestra (in January 2020), I was absolutely sure Allyson's outstanding reputation in the field was well deserved and that I could entrust her with the very demanding role an associate director must assume."

For several summers during her Stevens years, Vecchione worked in New York City for a live syndicated music-television show, Fearless Music, as production coordinator. That meant booking guests, setting up artists on a live stage, even prepping the audio console for the engineer.

After composing a piece of music for her CAL senior thesis, graduating and working for the television network AXS TV, she decided to become a freelance producer. Now she travels the globe working as a sort-of air-traffic controller during concerts and

sporting event broadcasts, coordinating audio engineering, graphics packages, live feeds, commercial breaks and more.

Live music festivals, Vecchione's bread-and-butter, are notoriously complex.

"You can only broadcast one act at a time live, obviously," she explains. "It becomes a puzzle to figure out who we can play, and when. Some artists have licensing agreements where you *have* to play them live on air. You go through the set lists. You track the songs. A puzzle."

Weather also complicates festivals.

"Once I did a festival in Washington state," she remembers, "where the wind was so bad they couldn't put any artists on stage at all. We had to fill four or five hours with content from the day before, while they waited for the wind to die down."

Artists, legal issues and other factors can also change a solid game plan at a late juncture.

"You have to keep your cool," Vecchione explains. "I'm often told that I am calm under pressure."

SURFING INTO SPORTS, CORPORATE WORK

As the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated during the spring of 2020, Vecchione saw her festival circuit work dwindle to none. Within a few months, however, live streams of *virtual* concerts began to pop up — and she was in demand again.

"I went to L.A. for a bit," she says, "which often meant sitting in the back of an empty concert hall or studio, clapping for a well-known act playing to no audience other than our small crew!"

She also picked up remote work as a production coordinator on documentary series, and sometimes remotely assisted corporations live-streaming events such as annual meetings.

Increasingly, Vecchione also finds herself working as an associate director on events such as surf competitions with the World Surf League.

She continues to enjoy the freedom and flexibility her career brings.

"I can get a call from someone last-minute to fly across the country, or even to another country," she says, "and I can say, 'Sure, I can do that, sounds great.'"

"Freelancing in this field has given me the opportunity to work some amazing events — and to realize my dreams of working in music and television." ❖

— Paul Karr

MEGAN MALOY

Vecchione (outside the College of Arts and Letters' Morton-Peirce-Kidde complex) has kept busy during the pandemic producing virtual concerts, corporate live-streaming events and more.

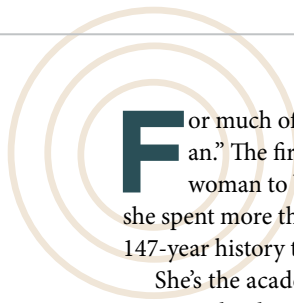




"I'd be lying if I said there wasn't any pressure being the first," says Waters, pictured on the SUNY Maritime College campus in the Bronx, New York, where she serves as provost. "There's a spotlight on you. You have to do things better."

FLEXIBLE, ADAPTABLE AND DETERMINED

**JENNIFER KEHL WATERS REFLECTS ON A LIFETIME
IN LEADERSHIP**



For much of her life, Jennifer Kehl Waters M.Eng. '93 Ph.D. '95 has been a “first woman.” The first woman to receive a Ph.D. in ocean engineering from Stevens. The first woman to be a department chair and associate dean at the U.S. Naval Academy, where she spent more than 25 years. Now, Waters is the first woman in SUNY Maritime College’s 147-year history to serve as provost.

She’s the academic leader for the 1,800-student engineering and science college located at Fort Schuyler on the waterfront of the Bronx, New York, surrounded by magnificent views of the East River and Long Island Sound. Waters oversees faculty, student affairs, curriculum, athletics and the college’s medical operations, including its COVID-19 response. (At the Naval Academy, Waters was praised for raising the already high academic standards and improving the graduation rate to close to 90 percent.)

“I’ve always loved the maritime field, and I’m a native New Yorker,” said Waters, who joined SUNY Maritime in July 2020. “The real clincher was the people here. It really has a welcoming and inclusive vibe that drew me in.”

As the college prepares for a full re-opening this fall — with a new training ship, the Empire State VII, set to sail in summer 2023 — Waters recently reflected on her journey to this leadership moment.

You have been a trailblazer throughout your career. Can you talk about what that’s meant to you?

I have mentioned to my husband and my daughters many times: I’m always surprised that I’m the first female “fill in the blank.” Hasn’t someone been here already? The answer often is, not yet. It’s eye-opening. I think having women in these types of leadership roles is really noticed, especially by the students. We here at Maritime have an opportunity to increase our female enrollment, and it is one of our strategic goals, along with increasing the diversity of the overall student body and the faculty.

I’d be lying if I said there wasn’t any pressure being the first. You really are representing something new, whereas if you’re one of many, if you stumble, it’s OK. But if you’re the only one, there’s a spotlight on you. You have to do things better.

Why is diversity important in education and the workplace?

When there is no one around who looks like you, or who has some of the stressors you have, it can be a lonely place. So just knowing that someone looks like you, and is dealing with some of the same issues that you have to deal with, helps strengthen you, and reassure you that you do belong, that you’re not this oddity. I always joke that maybe I’m just strange enough or crazy

enough to be the first, to show that it really is OK, that this is a place where we belong. It may sound trite, but diversity does strengthen any organization — diversity of thought, diversity of experience, diversity of perspectives.

Do you think women lead differently than men?

Different people do lead differently. But there are different expectations of women, assumptions that a woman will behave differently, lead differently, and I try to be as true to myself as I can. I don’t know if how I lead or speak or react is more female than male. But it’s me, and what I bring to the table and all my interactions and experiences. It’s probably even more so being the “first” of so many; I do have to listen more than most people — listen and pause. It’s definitely my style that I’ve had to develop throughout my life.

Who has influenced you along the way?

My parents instilled in me a good work ethic and a love of the water. (Growing up on Long Island, New York), we spent just about every weekend in the spring, summer and fall and every family vacation on the water.

Women, from preschool, grade school — I had so many strong and kind female role models. But from undergraduate through

graduate school, I had not one female faculty member. There were women there who were strong with whom I interacted, and there were women I met at conferences and other venues who really did inspire me. The men were also very instrumental in providing a culture conducive to inclusion. That was definitely very apparent for certain faculty members, but not all. To manage to not only thrive in difficult situations but also taking something away from it was really important. It makes me more grateful, thankful, for how everything is evolving.

I have two daughters. I know when they were born, it did strengthen me — and that I wanted to be a part of making a world that will be a little bit better for them. I wish we were further along. But we’ve made some progress. And they are spectacular; I am so proud of them.

Do you have advice to give to young women (and young men) who are pursuing STEM careers?

The best advice I can give is to be true to yourself, but also reach out and ask for help and look for help, as needed. There’s a whole lot of help out there.

I was the first in my family to get a four-year degree, let alone go to graduate school and earn a Ph.D. People use the phrase “imposter syndrome” ... I didn’t know the culture of academia. I had to watch and learn and listen quite a lot. Did I feel imposter syndrome? Definitely, early on. Here at Maritime College, a high percentage of students are first-generation college students. I tell them, “You’re not the only one. Get help where you need it. It will strengthen you.”

What do you feel are some secrets to your success?

I’ve never had a fixed plan. I always looked at the options that were in front of me and tried to make the best decisions at that moment. My husband would say that I am extremely tenacious and determined, and that’s true. I don’t back down from a challenge, I don’t give up. I have been told that this can’t be done, I’m crazy enough to keep trying, in spite of doubters and naysayers. Be flexible, adaptable and determined. ❖

— As told to Beth Kissinger

“JUST SAY ‘YES’”

EMBRACING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FUELS DARSHANA DADHANIA’S NOTEWORTHY MEDICAL CAREER

Leadership is about making decisions. Dr. Darshana Manji Dadhania ’93 knows a lot about decision-making, as is evident in her many leadership roles at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center (NYP/WCMC) in Manhattan.

As COVID-19 gripped New York City in March 2020, hospitals across the United States discontinued elective procedures, including kidney transplants. As the surgical shutdown ensued, Dr. Dadhania, who serves as the medical director for Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Programs at NYP/WCMC, evaluated the impact of the pandemic on her patients’ welfare. She and her colleagues realized that patients on dialysis who were waiting for a kidney transplant were more likely to have severe COVID-19 illness and complications compared to those who already had a kidney transplant and healthy kidney function.

“Healthy kidney function was an important parameter in assessing a patient’s case. When the kidneys weren’t functioning well at the onset of COVID-19, we found the patient did not do well and often did not survive,” says Dr. Dadhania. The team had to make an important decision: what carried greater risk during this viral pandemic, performing surgeries and using immunosuppressant drugs, or keeping patients on dialysis?

“There wasn’t a clear answer, so our team slowly began performing kidney transplants, with all necessary precautions,” explains Dr. Dadhania. “As we resumed surgeries, our multidisciplinary team, consisting of nurses, physicians, and renal fellows, quickly developed plans to maintain a COVID-free unit and clinic for our transplanted patients and protect them from the virus. The process

involved developing collaborations with the Weill Cornell Medicine Fever Clinic and telemedicine visits to evaluate and treat transplant patients with COVID-19 illness. It was a difficult decision for all involved — physicians, nurses and administrators — but one that likely saved lives.”

As of June 2021, there was not a single kidney transplant patient who contracted COVID-19 from a pre- or post-surgery visit at NYP/WCMC. Dr. Dadhania and the team summarized their data and learned that their kidney transplant patients with COVID-19 illness had one of the lowest mortality rates during the peak of the pandemic.

“It’s been very tough and stressful to practice medicine in the midst of a pandemic,” Dr. Dadhania says, “but the reason I went into medicine was to help others.”

FINDING A VOICE — AND A CALLING

Dr. Dadhania’s career path began at Stevens in 1990, when she enrolled in the university’s accelerated pre-medicine program in partnership with the New Jersey Medical School at Rutgers University (NJMS). She remembers being “a pretty shy child,” but the activities she participated in as an undergraduate helped her to find her voice. Chief among those experiences was to establish a chapter of Alpha Epsilon Delta, a national pre-professional honor society for students committed to health-care careers. Nuran Kumbaraci, an assistant professor of chemistry and chemical biology, encouraged her to start the chapter at Stevens.

“This was an important early step in my training,” says Dr. Dadhania. “The small, supportive environment at Stevens allowed me

to start an organization that, I think, in a larger environment, I might not have had the opportunity or courage to pursue.” Taking her newfound confidence with her to New Jersey Medical School in Newark, Dr. Dadhania became president of the student-run clinic.


Dr. Dadhania’s early experiences at NYP/WCMC further crystallized her future plans. She interacted with expert clinicians, whose priority was to deliver excellent patient care, as well as with leaders who had the ability to inspire and motivate junior members. During this phase of her career, she met with the Weill Department of Medicine’s Chief of Nephrology, Dr. Manikkam Suthanthiran, who left a lasting impression on her. “I never intended on pursuing a career in academic medicine because I did not like the concept of performing research to publish and obtain grants. However, I found that the translational research being performed in the Suthanthiran Laboratory had the potential to solve clinical puzzles and improve patient care.” To date, Dr. Dadhania has published 86 papers in the top-tier medical journals.

After completing her internal medicine residency training at NYP/WCMC, Dr. Dadhania pursued an academic career in transplantation medicine and is currently an associate professor of medicine at Weill Cornell Medical Center.

“I JUST SAY ‘YES’”

Keeping an eye on the future and saying “yes” to opportunities, especially those that involve new collaborations, has been Dr. Dadhania’s approach to success.

Today, she holds a number of high-level leadership positions at NYP/WCMC, which include medical director of the Kidney-Pancreas



Dadhania, seen inside her office at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center in Manhattan, cites a commitment to collaboration and willingness to speak up as some of the keys to her success.

Transplant Program, one of the largest kidney transplant programs on the East Coast, and director of the Genomics Division of the Immunogenetics and Transplantation Center, a histocompatibility laboratory that serves six transplant programs. Dr. Dadhania has trained in histocompatibility, the science of determining a fit between a donor organ and transplant patient to ensure that the organ will not be rejected. She provides consulting services to NYP and several other hospitals in New York City. In addition, she is also the principal investigator of two research grants sponsored by the National Institutes of Health.

“I get excited very easily, so when things are proposed to me, I just say ‘yes.’ I haven’t learned how to say ‘no’ yet,” she says.

Case in point: When a colleague nominated Dr. Dadhania for a leadership position of

the Kidney Pancreas Community of Practice (KPCOP) within the American Society of Transplantation in 2015, she enthusiastically accepted. To her surprise, her enthusiasm for cross-collaborations with the goal of improving patient care made her a natural leader. Dr. Dadhania served as the chair of the KPCOP from 2017 to 2019, has participated in many consensus conferences focused on medical care of transplant recipients and has become a nationally recognized leader in the field of transplantation.

COLLABORATE AND SPEAK UP

When asked what advice she’d give to others wishing to follow in her footsteps, Dr. Dadhania offers these thoughts: build collaborations, share your input and don’t be afraid to speak up. “When it comes to patient care, I have no problem speaking

up, but I will say that advocating for myself doesn’t come easily sometimes. It’s important to build your strength by collaborating with everyone. I would suggest that you seek out those people, whether they be men or women, who are supportive. And this would include junior or senior level colleagues as well as individuals in leadership positions.

“Above all, I do love my profession. It offers me access to continuous education, opportunities to learn new skills and to grow professionally and personally. What’s worked best for me is to demonstrate to others that there is a win-win in any situation or collaboration,” says Dr. Dadhania. “And you do have to speak up.” ❖ — *Kristin Hanson*

To read the full profile, visit [stevens.edu/dadhania](https://www.stevens.edu/dadhania).

WIDENING THE PIPELINE

KATE DUNCAN EMPOWERS A NEW GENERATION OF WOMEN ENGINEERS

If you're searching for a textbook example of what it means to climb the ladder of leadership, look no further than Kate Duncan '98 M.Eng. '99. She joined the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) nearly 25 years ago as an undergraduate student. Today, she serves as the president of IEEE-USA, an organizational

arm that serves as a resource for enhancing the career advancement of members and advocating for the profession.

"Each step I took in the progression of being an IEEE volunteer, I've met interesting people and mentors," she says. "It's kind of like a sandbox, or training ground, for leadership skills."

At the start of her IEEE journey, the organization "felt like a student club, not a professional organization." She didn't realize how powerful the network she'd joined was until she began her Ph.D. studies at New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rutgers University. Through IEEE section-level events, she got to know some of the movers and shakers in the northern New Jersey engineering industry, including mentors who helped her complete her doctoral research and prepare her for the job search.



Duncan, photographed at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, calls IEEE-USA, which she serves as president, a "training ground for leadership skills."

M. COOPER

"There are certain sciences that are considered 'hard sciences,' and electromagnetics — one of my areas — is one of them. I think there's a lot of work to be done to increase the pipeline of women engineers into electromagnetics and communications."

After completing her Ph.D., Duncan considered entering the private sector but eventually opted to accept a position with the government as a civilian research scientist.

“The commercial sector is all about the corporations’ profits, designing the next cool widget or bell or whistle on a cell phone or TV,” says Duncan, who currently divides her time between Picatinny Arsenal and serving as a visiting research fellow in the Photonics Research Center at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. “Working with the military, you’re able to develop the next generation of technology for the soldiers.”

Duncan, who specializes in materials and electromagnetics, started her government research career at Fort Monmouth in New Jersey. In 2010, she transitioned to Aberdeen Proving Ground in northeastern Maryland. She wasted no time connecting with IEEE in her new state, joining the organization’s Baltimore section and accepting a series of leadership roles. She rose from secretary to vice chair of the Baltimore section and eventually to regional director before being elected IEEE-USA president for 2021. Duncan says her focus as president has been to bring new members and fresh perspectives into the organization.

“One of the biggest issues with most professional societies and volunteer organizations is that people see them as ‘old boys’ clubs,’ where it’s just a bunch of friends who run the organization,” Duncan says. One of her priorities as president was to stand up a workforce committee to examine immigration reform and its effect on the electrical engineering profession. “I’ve asked a lot of people to participate in that committee who are people that I don’t know very well or who haven’t participated in this level of the organization before.”

She’s also committed to supporting the societies within IEEE-USA that focus on attracting more women to the field — which she says hasn’t progressed much since she joined the association more than two decades ago.

“There are certain sciences that are considered ‘hard sciences,’ and electromagnetics — one of my areas — is one of them,” she says. “I think there’s a lot of work to be done to increase the pipeline of women engineers into electromagnetics and communications.” ❖

— Kristin Hanson

JEFF YOCK



SGA MAKES HISTORY, WITH WOMEN TAKING THE LEAD

The women now leading Stevens’ Student Government Association (SGA) made history earlier this year without even knowing it. They were too busy doing their jobs.

This past spring semester, Stevens students elected five women to the top six leadership positions of the SGA Executive Committee, which oversees an approximately \$850,000 student activities budget, works with more than 150 student clubs and organizations along with a student Senate, and serves as the student voice to the administration, faculty and staff. Only after they settled into their roles did they learn they are likely the largest group of women to hold these top student government spots over Stevens’ 150-year history.

“I don’t know if it’s something we think about,” says Victoria Agaliotis ’22. “I think that people thought we were really the best people for the job.”

But once they realized that bit of trivia — and taking into account that Stevens’ student body is about 70 percent male and 30 percent female — these women knew this was a special moment, says SGA President Liana Meyer ’23.

The SGA Executive Committee includes, in photo above from left, Victoria Agaliotis ’22, chemical engineering; Julieann Murphy ’23, social sciences; Rachel Pinho ’23, biomedical engineering; Liana Meyer ’23, mechanical engineering; Gab Poska ’23, biomedical engineering; and Yiding Yang ’23, mechanical engineering and the committee’s sole male member.

For their small population, women at Stevens have a high participation rate when it comes to student activities and clubs, with many involved as members and taking leadership roles. Athletics is an area where Stevens women shine in leadership, so it’s no surprise that all five of the female SGA executive women are student-athletes.

“As an athlete, you have to be good at time management,” says Pinho, who runs cross country and track. “There’s a general drive to get the job done.”

Getting the job done in student government this past spring was challenging, with in-person club activities and events cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. The club meetings that were held took place on Zoom.

With Stevens fully reopening this fall, this SGA team is excited to sponsor in-person activities again and bring the campus back to life.

“The (Spring 2021) semester was pretty rough on a lot of people, and they were disengaged. I think (this fall) people will get involved as much as possible and do it all,” Meyer says.

The SGA Executive Committee asked the student body to help identify its top priorities for the coming academic year and they include: improving faculty adviser relationships with students; providing more transparency on how certain scholar programs are operated; and increasing student participation with the SGA and Stevens clubs and organizations.

They hope their constituents got the message: We want to hear your ideas.

“I’m really big on making the change that you want to see,” Poska says. ❖ — Beth Kissinger

On. Point

IN this new department of *The Stevens Indicator*, we will share timely discussions featuring representatives of the Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science, School of Business, School of Systems and Enterprises, and College of Arts and Letters. This is one way you can feel connected with the people and places that formed part of the foundation for your Stevens journey — and everything after.

This first installment features conversations about careers — specifically, career changes. Accomplished alumni from each school share thoughts about advancement and transition and advice for fellow alumni facing similar turning points.

TRADING BASEBALL FOR THE BAR

Closing the door on one career path and embarking on a new one is a daunting task, but College of Arts and Letters alumnus Robert Robbins '16 recently found himself at this crossroads after spending three years pitching in baseball's minor leagues.

"I would say if you're not happy with what you're doing, you should change it, because there's no reason to go through life doing a career you're not enjoying," Robbins says, while acknowledging his privilege to make such a change. "I mean, this is, what, 40 hours a week

at least that you're spending [at work]? Why would you spend it doing something that you know you don't want to be doing?"

It doesn't have to be a career low point that sets off a change of course. Robbins' decision to do so came after what was the pinnacle of his baseball career to date: pitching in a Chicago Cubs spring training game in 2019. He was called in to close a game that 2016 World Series Champion Jon Lester had started, with his family and his grandfather in attendance.

When considering a new career path, listening to the experiences of others can be a good

place to start. As a Stevens student, Robbins attended a College of Arts and Letters pre-law professional panel, which inspired him to take the LSAT and apply to law school before his pro baseball career began. During one baseball offseason, he completed an environmental law internship in Tallahassee, Florida, and his minor-league life experiences introduced him to some of the challenges faced by members of the non-unionized American workforce. Now a law student at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, he plans to focus on labor law and workers' rights.



ROBERT ROBBINS '16 "I'd like to be on the ground and see the fruits of my labor, and see how I positively affect [people's] lives," Robbins says of his choice to pursue a post-baseball career in labor law.

"There's no reason to go through life doing a career you're not enjoying."
—Robert Robbins '16

"I'd like to go help workers," says Robbins, who served as a Peggy Brown Law Fellow at the Laborers' Union of North America last summer. "I'd like to be on the ground and see the fruits of my labor and see how I positively affect [people's] lives."

Thinking about the baseball lessons he will carry into the next chapter of his career, Robbins reaches all the way back to his Stevens days.

"Healthy competition, I would say, made us all better, and I think that sort of set the archetype for me and everything else that I do," he says. "Being around successful people and not being afraid to talk to them, not being afraid to collaborate with them and not being afraid to fail next to them makes you better in the end." ❖

—Connor Durkin

HOW TO GET AHEAD IN THE CONSULTING WORLD

Qing Li M.S. '09 is a manager at A.T. Kearney, where she's worked since joining as a senior analyst in solutions practice in 2015. Two years after her hiring, Li went on to win A.T. Kearney's Best Commercial Value Award in 2017. She is an alumna of Stevens' School of Systems & Enterprises and graduated with a master of science in financial engineering.

In March of 2019, Li presented a seminar, "How to Be Successful in Management Consulting as a Junior Female Engineer," as part of the Women@SSE seminar series at Stevens. Here, she elaborates on that theme and offers thoughts on how young Stevens alumni can advance in this dynamic field.

What recent trends in the management consulting market should young alumni be aware of as they begin their careers in this field?

Clients are increasingly asking to see the tangible benefits of strategic work. This means linking the strategy, large-scale transformation implementation, and change management work together. For junior consultants who are in the early stages of their career, it is critical to leverage data-driven analysis to improve clients' customer experience, enhance internal operations, and bolster innovation with fact-based strategies. Building up the industry "know-how" expertise throughout their careers — e.g., understanding client industry verticals (methodology and technology) — efficiently is definitely another plus.

Industry work is the best and fastest way to build "know-how" expertise. Hands-on industry experience can provide many intuitive insights about business operations and end-to-end supply chain. Whether it's planning, sourcing, production or distribution, consulting work focuses on how to address difficult challenges in managing cost and service level — and that's experience you can't get if you jump into consulting first. Leveraging the resources of the Stevens Career Center to land an internship or full-time position with an industry leader in consumer-packaged goods, health, energy or other field would be a great starting point in understanding industry pain points and preparing for a career in consulting.

What were your recommendations specifically for junior female engineers seeking success in the management consulting field?

Kearney offers various opportunities for junior female engineers to expand their network within the firm and with relevant industry leaders. Junior female engineers should participate in these types of networking events in and outside of the university setting, such as The Women's Network, the International Women's Day Forum (hosted by the United States Chamber of Commerce) and others, to learn from role models in the field.

"Industry work is the best and fastest way to build 'know-how' expertise (in consulting)."
—Qing Li M.S. '09

Another recommendation is understanding how to lead courageous conversations — i.e., how to initiate discussions and promote understanding in their audience and knowing the "helicopter" message(s) that they want the audience to take away from the conversation. Along with the technical capabilities, these "soft skills" are equally important for young professionals who want to grow into more senior roles and become true strategic advisers. ❖

— As told to Rachel Narozniak



QING LI M.S. '09 A veteran consultant, Li encourages those interested in joining the field to gain industry-specific experience first.

HOW TO NETWORK IN 'THE NEW NORMAL'

As workplaces begin to reopen this fall, both current students and alumni may be looking for opportunities to make or renew professional connections. A great resource for making these connections is Stevens' extensive network of alumni and corporate partners, according to Nicole Malantchouk '12 M.S. '18, assistant director of outreach and professional advancement at the School of Business at Stevens and an alumna of that school.

"No matter where you are in your career, you can find someone from the Stevens network that can help you on your path," she says.

Networking is essential for students starting their careers, but strong professional relationships can help anyone in a time of transition — be that pivoting careers, developing a new skill or vying for a promotion. Reaching out to others doesn't have to be intimidating, Malantchouk stresses, because networking is, essentially, just talking to people.

"That's something we all know how to do, and it's something that many of us like doing," says Malantchouk, who enjoys networking so

much she's made a career out of it. "I'm passionate about Stevens and about helping people. The outcome is connecting students with employers for the purpose of starting their careers, and that's fulfilling. In the role of a mentor, alumni can have that experience, too."

In many ways, the pandemic has made networking easier than ever. With video calling as the new norm, you can connect with anyone from anywhere. Despite that access, it's important to do your homework, says Malantchouk.

"In many ways, the pandemic has made networking even easier." — Nicole Malantchouk '12 M.S. '18

"Be strategic about who you're reaching out to and provide context as to how and why you have identified that person," she advises. "Showing that strategy and that interest helps the person receiving the request feel selected."

Once your outreach has been successful and you've scheduled a video call, it's necessary to set the tone of that virtual meeting so that it isn't too casual or informal. You shouldn't let the ease of networking virtually lull you into a sense of complacency, Malantchouk says. It's still an opportunity to showcase your professionalism, despite happening in your own home. Ensure that the conversation is focused and productive and pay special attention to your attire and your background. This effort will project professionalism and show that you value the time of the person with whom you're connecting.

From recent graduates to established professionals, anyone can benefit from tapping into the Stevens network. Start by doing a search on LinkedIn for Stevens alumni in your field. Through the Stevens network, you could find a mentor and receive valuable advice. Malantchouk encourages any alumni interested in mentoring current business students to reach out to her office.

"Becoming a mentor is a great way to give back to the school that helped you get where you are today," she says. ❖ — Garrett Kincaid '22



MOUSHMI CULVER '00

Mentorship not only helps improve your individual skills, Culver says, but can also help connect you with opportunities you wouldn't otherwise know about.

THE MEANING OF MENTORSHIP

Moushmi Culver '00 is a pharmaceutical executive at Merck & Co., Inc. who was recently honored as part of Yahoo! Finance's list of 2021 EMpower Ethnic Minority Executives. She ranks sixth out of 100 senior leaders of color "who are leading by example and removing barriers on the pathway to success for ethnic minority employees." An alumna and a member of the Board of Advisors at Stevens' Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science, she received the Young Alumni Achievement Award from Stevens in 2015. A passionate mentor, Culver enjoys sharing lessons she's learned along her career path with others — and here, she has some thoughts for fellow Stevens alumni.

How have you leveraged your Stevens education in your career?

Stevens has a strong technical degree program, and I feel that I graduated prepared with



NICOLE MALANTCHOUK '12 M.S. '18

Even when meeting virtually, pay attention to your attire and your setting to show you value the time of the person you're connecting with, Malantchouk says.

a solid educational foundation. I also participated in co-op, so I graduated with a technical background complemented with real-world engineering experience. The Stevens education is formatted around two concepts: one is using technology in the classroom, and the other is working in diverse groups and teams in a smaller environment. These experiences prepared me for the workplace.

What advice would you offer women and minorities in navigating their careers?

You need to make sure you surround yourself with people who are going to help support you. That can be in the form of your direct manager, a mentor, a sponsor or a coach. Sometimes, depending on the kind of the job you have, especially in technical areas, you may be faced with challenges especially as a female of color. You can learn to navigate your environment and then strive for a position of leadership where you can impact the culture from your experiences. During my career at Merck, I've been fortunate to have some amazing people around me who have supported me and helped me navigate difficult situations as a minority female leader in the company — and now I am able to give back and help others.

"I took some risks, took on some challenges and accepted roles that stretched me." — Moushmi Culver '00

Why is mentorship and building a strong support system important for a person's career?

I think mentorship and support are important because you need to obtain feedback on your areas of strength and development. A mentor can help you address that feedback and give you advice on how to improve. Having a sponsor is also important — they are the ones who help you become known when opportunities arise. I contribute my success to multiple

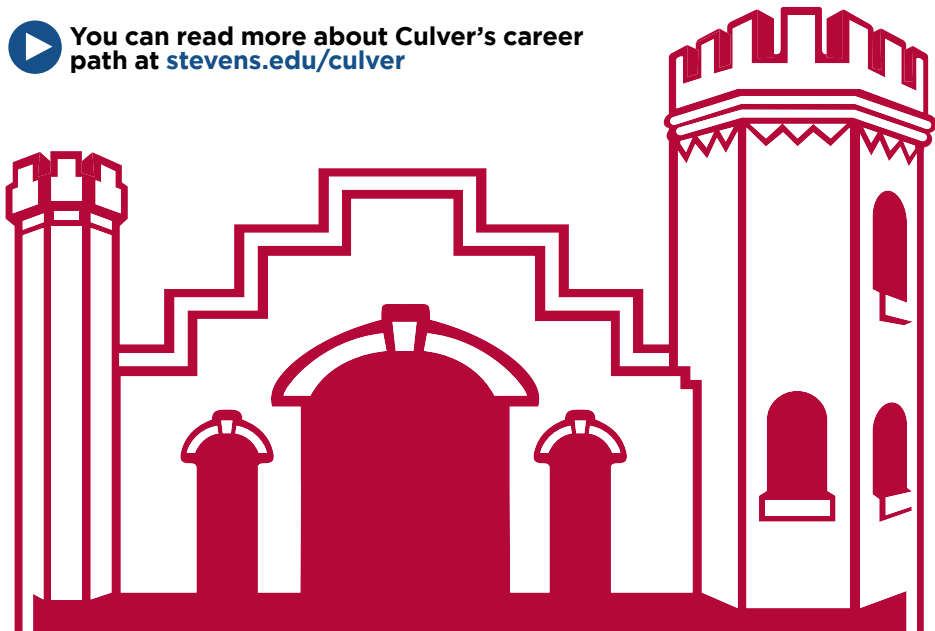
people, one being one of my former managers who is now retired. [He was a diverse leader] and he gave me advice on how to accept feedback, course-correct (because no one is perfect), and continue to improve yourself.

To close, what words of wisdom do you have for fellow alumni?

Be open-minded to try different things and take on challenges. There are roles I've had

in my career that I didn't realize I'd be doing. I took some risks, took on some challenges and accepted roles that stretched me. ❖
— As told to Kyla Buckingham

 You can read more about Culver's career path at stevens.edu/culver



PLUG IN TO YOUR STEVENS NETWORK

Do you need career information or advice from fellow alumni in your field? Or are you looking to hire current Stevens students?

"No matter where you are in your career," says Nicole Malantchouk '12 M.S. '18, "you can find someone from the Stevens network that can help you on your path."

Widen your professional network by joining the Stevens Alumni Association LinkedIn group. And for various hiring opportunities with Stevens students, please contact the Stevens Career Center at 201-216-5166 or careercenter@stevens.edu.



TO THE BEAT OF

ANTONIA ZAFERIOU STUDIES THE WAYS SOUND

Cleaning out childhood items recently, Antonia Zaferiou came across some of her grade-school writing. “I do everything with music,” it read. “When I walk, I listen to the beat of my footfalls.”

Today, that music echoes through her research. Her research group is evaluating how generating a drum beat for each footfall and other sounds affect movement strategies. The music also hums through a sample video on her website in which a dancer sways and bends, dips and twists, the dancer’s body dotted with sensors, as all around her a droning sound rises and falls in pitch, controlled by motions.

Zaferiou, an assistant professor in Stevens’ Department of Biomedical Engineering, uses sound-based biofeedback to improve balance and mobility. Her work at the Musculoskeletal Control

and Dynamics Lab examines how people balance during whole-body rotations — as when we turn around corners in our homes or turn abruptly toward someone calling our name — and how sound-based biofeedback can be used to improve balance during those movements.

“We’re seeking to improve and preserve mobility,” Zaferiou says, adding that fall mitigation is a significant part of that. “If we think about older-adult health, it has almost become assumed that older adults will fall, but it’s a really big issue in quality of life and mortality.”

Zaferiou’s research toward reducing fall risk will be furthered by two recent grants. A National Science Foundation CAREER Award in the amount of \$822,200 centers on how machine learning and wearable technology can be used to identify balance and gait deficits in fall-prone older adults and deliver

auditory feedback to improve balance while walking. A National Institutes of Health Interdisciplinary Rehabilitation Engineering Research Career Development Program grant in the amount of \$125,000 is supporting Zaferiou’s clinical research training and her work to understand the role of rhythm in sound-based biofeedback.

Rehabilitation facilities often use a timed beat from a device like a metronome to help patients learn or re-learn a cyclical movement like walking in a straight line. But studies have also suggested that older adults and adults with Parkinson’s disease may improve even more if they sing or create their own rhythm, literally walking to the beat of their own drum. One question Zaferiou aims to answer is whether sonification — conveying data from an individual’s movement through sound in real-time —

would function more like an external cue (e.g., a metronome) or an internal cue (e.g., a song in your head).

“If you’re working with a patient trying to do a cyclical movement like walking in a straight line, maybe that metronome is fine,” Zaferiou says. “But if that person has to turn — and 50 percent of our walking steps are turns — does a fixed external rhythm conflict with the task or impose on them to alter their preferred turn timing?”

The sonification studies are in early stages of lab-based research. In regard to developing sonified balance biofeedback, Zaferiou is currently examining the interplay between the sway of the body as it walks and the contact its feet have simultaneously with the ground, studying the center of mass positioning relative to the feet.

“We’re trying to put the context for

balance and the dynamics of balance together,” she says. “We’re learning a lot every single week. It’s in early stages, but we’re making sure we build a system that’s going to really help people balance.”

Her current clinical research focus is with older adults, but the technology could apply across multiple populations, including people with Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis or autism and sensory disorders. Future funding could be used to grow the lab group to pursue some of these clinical applications, pay human subject participants — who often struggle with mobility issues and miss work to contribute to the research — and support collaboration with sound designers.

Someday down the road, Zaferiou envisions scenarios where older people might walk into a community-center

“WE’RE SEEKING TO IMPROVE AND PRESERVE MOBILITY. IF WE THINK ABOUT OLDER-ADULT HEALTH, IT HAS ALMOST BECOME ASSUMED THAT OLDER ADULTS WILL FALL, BUT IT’S A REALLY BIG ISSUE IN QUALITY OF LIFE AND MORTALITY.”

type of lab for a sonic tune-up, to practice their motor and balance skills and at home, to use personalized wearable sonification technology that would alert them to concerning changes in their

THEIR OWN DRUM

CAN HELP OLDER ADULTS MAINTAIN MOBILITY

PHOTOS: JEFF VOCK



In the Musculoskeletal Control and Dynamics Lab, which opened earlier this year in the EAS Building, Zaferiou and her team work with dancers to determine how sound-based biofeedback can improve balance.

gait and balance on a day-to-day basis.

“They would know what their movements normally sound like, and if they wake up the next day and it sounded different, they would be aware of that change and equipped to address an issue in its early stages,” she says.

Although that is a long-term goal, today, the lab is opening the door to a host of discoveries.

“My Ph.D., undergraduate, and high school students will say ‘Check out this graph,’ and ‘Wow, no one has ever seen this before’ — and in these phases of doing these experiments, it happens quite often,” Zaferiou says. “Then that little spark of ‘No one has seen this before,’ quickly turns to ‘How do we explain this to people, how do we share and use this discovery?’” ❖ — Tracy Vogel

 To learn more about Zaferiou’s work and watch videos from her lab, visit www.zaferioulab.com

Remembering Sophia Hassiotis

HONORING A BELOVED STEVENS PROFESSOR AND COLLEAGUE



Friendly. Witty. Kind. Vibrant. Generous. Inspiring. A wonderful professor, and a wonderful soul.

These are just some of the admiring words that friends, colleagues, former students and others have used when remembering Sophia Hassiotis, who died on June 13, 2021, after a 22-year career as a highly respected and much-loved professor of civil engineering at Stevens.

Since joining Stevens in 1999 as an associate professor, Hassiotis served on campus committees, was elected several times to the Faculty Senate and served on the Board of Trustees' committees on alumni and development and facilities. She had spent nearly two decades helping complete the civil engineering program's reports for the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology and recently served as the associate chair for undergraduate studies of the Department of Civil, Environmental and Ocean Engineering. Hassiotis was also an active professional structural engineer, most recently working to analyze damage precursors to steel structures around the state through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation alongside her Stevens colleague Dimitri Donskoy.

In 2013, when she was honored as the first woman ever to receive the Stevens Alumni Association's Outstanding Teacher Award, she reflected on her role. "My job as a teacher is to make them fall in love with the subject," she said. "I love the subject and I want them to see the beauty in it. I want them to be as ready as they can be for the future."

In August, Hassiotis posthumously received the American Society of Civil Engineers (New Jersey branch) Educator of the Year Award.

"Sophia was the 'heart' of the civil engineering department at Stevens," says Leslie Brunell '86 M.Eng. '90 Ph.D. '96, a fellow Stevens professor and longtime friend of Hassiotis. "Her focus was always on the students and how our program could best meet their needs."

In addition to excelling as a teacher, Hassiotis was an ardent advocate for increasing diversity and inclusion at Stevens.

"She was very active, and always did what needed to be done," says Dibyendu Sarkar, one of Hassiotis' office neighbors and a professor of environmental engineering at Stevens.

"She was everywhere, fighting for making the university more diverse, bringing in more female faculty members and more LGBTQ people on campus."

She also had a commitment to the women she mentored, coached and guided during her tenure. "Professor Hassiotis was an inspiration to me, especially as a female in engineering," says Kiley Rode '07. "She was always so energetic and vibrant. She always had trust and respect for her students."

"She served as a mentor to me when I began my academic career and instilled in me the importance of being dedicated to our students," Brunell says.

Hassiotis' passion extended to just about every corner of her life, from coffee to her pride in her Greek heritage. She was known on more than one occasion to declare: "There are two kinds of people in this world: Greeks and barbarians."

She was also devoted to her family, including her daughter, Demi, her two sisters and her mother, who still lives in Greece.

"Her life was Demi and the university," Sarkar said. "Her legacy here at Stevens is her dedication to building the civil engineering program and teaching. Sophia Hassiotis and the department — you can't take one from the other."

"She will be missed on so many levels, and it will certainly take several people to fill the void this one small, brilliant and dynamic woman has left," Brunell says.

A campus memorial service will be held at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 20 at Gateway South, Room 122, with a reception to follow in Gateway North, Room 103. ❖

— Lisa Rouh and Staff Reports



Bumpy Roads Lead to Beautiful Places

Ph.D. student navigated pandemic restrictions, courseload to win national title

Winning a national championship is a difficult task. Athletes train their entire lives building toward a single event where, for a moment in time, they are the very best at what they do.

Now imagine doing that during a global pandemic, where vital steps in the athletic process, such as weight training, practices and competitions, are subject to constant disruptions and cancellations.

Then add the typical rigors of being in college, including an intense workload of doctoral-level coursework.

Which brings us to Gina Dello Russo '20 M.S. '21.

A doctoral student in socio-technical systems, Dello Russo became the eighth national champion in Stevens track & field history on May 29, 2021, when she topped the field in the 400-meter dash with a time of 54.17 seconds. She shattered both her own school records and the previous fastest time in the Middle Atlantic Conference.

The track on the campus of North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina, had been soaked with a steady rain throughout the afternoon, but Dello Russo took control of the race in the final turn and held off a late charge to post what is believed to be the 20th-fastest time in Division III history.

It was yet another achievement for the 12-time All-American, who had her na-

tional championship hopes in 2020 derailed by the pandemic.

"A major challenge at the beginning of the pandemic was the closure of all parks, tracks and gyms," Dello Russo says. "This meant a lot of running in the street and down the sidewalk without proper measurements and running surfaces. It also meant that my strength training was limited to bodyweight circuits and any creative workouts I could think of."

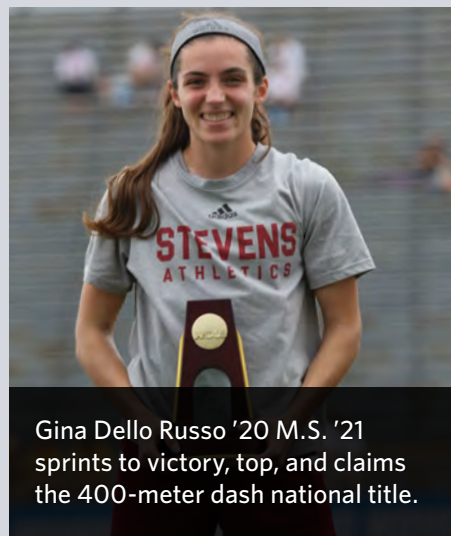
That dedication and persistence paid off for Dello Russo, who began the journey to her championship as a master's student and finished as a doctoral student. Along the way, she earned her fourth Academic All-District selection — more times than any other Stevens student-athlete in history — and was named a Top 30 honoree for the 2020 NCAA Woman of the Year Award.

"From one perspective, I knew before I started the 2021 season that I was going to win a national championship," Dello Russo recalls. "I was on the fence about competing this year, but when I spoke with [Coach Veronica Montrose], the two of us silently acknowledged the fact that we would have to suffer the commute and long days together this year because in the end, I had a really good chance of winning. My goal was always to bring Coach Montrose on the podium with me (which you only get to do if you win)."

As for when during the race she knew the title would be hers, Dello Russo points to the 300-meter mark.

"Sometimes during a 400 or a 4x400, you can just tell you're going to pass someone; there's this feeling about the relative motion between yourself and the person ahead of you, where you simply know you will overtake them before reaching the finish line," she says. "Going into the race, I was excited that I would be racing against an athlete who likes to hit the first 200 meters really hard, because I knew I'd have someone to chase down at the end, and those are the instances where I perform the best." ❖

— Charles O'Brien



Gina Dello Russo '20 M.S. '21 sprints to victory, top, and claims the 400-meter dash national title.

PHOTOS: D3 PHOTOGRAPHY; STEVENS ATHLETICS

▶ Read more about Dello Russo at stevens.edu/gdellorusso

A Powerful

A LETTER FROM FRANCES PERKINS, FIRST FEMALE U.S. SECRETARY OF LABOR, REVEALS HER FRIENDSHIP WITH A STEVENS FAMILY MEMBER

EDITOR'S NOTE: "OUT OF THE ARCHIVES" IS A NEW DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE *INDICATOR* DEDICATED TO TELLING THE STORIES BEHIND LESSER-KNOWN OBJECTS AND ARTIFACTS FROM THE SAMUEL C. WILLIAMS LIBRARY'S ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS. EXPLORE MORE AT LIBRARY.STEVENS.EDU/ARCHIVES

During a recent review of unprocessed materials in the archives, Leah Loscutt, head of archives and special collections, learned of a yellow envelope postmarked January 21, 1941. The envelope bears an intriguing return address printed in simple block letters: "The Secretary of Labor, Washington." Inside, three pages of embossed letterhead provide a window into the ongoing correspondence of two notable women — Mary Stuart Stevens Baird and Frances Perkins. Here, Loscutt shares the find with *The Stevens Indicator*, explaining the significance of these individuals and what they were discussing.

TWO INFLUENTIAL PEN PALS

Stevens Baird, the recipient of the letter, was the granddaughter of Edwin A. Stevens and Martha Bayard Stevens, the founders of Stevens Institute of Technology. Born at the family estate (affectionately known as Castle Stevens) in 1901, she lived on Castle Point until around 1910, when the structure was sold to the university for use as administrative office and dormitory space. Stevens Baird maintained close ties to the university throughout her life, serving as an honorary member of the Board of Trustees and hosting an annual treasure hunt and picnic at her Bernardsville, New Jersey, estate. She also donated the vast Stevens Family Collection to the Samuel C. Williams Library, now on permanent display in a room bearing her name.

Prior to the United States' involvement in World War II, Stevens Baird worked with Young America, a branch of the English war relief effort, serving refugees in the United Kingdom. Later, she served as an investigator for the U.S. Army, Second Service Com-



Mary Stuart Stevens Baird, circa 1920s
ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, SAMUEL C. WILLIAMS LIBRARY,
STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

mand. Like other members of the Stevens family, she was deeply committed to the cause of prison reform, serving on a variety of correctional executive boards in New York and New Jersey over 30 years. In the late 1940s, she represented the United States at the International Penal and Penitentiary Congress at The Hague.

Perkins, the letter's author, had an exceptional record of public service. Holding a master's degree in economics and sociology from Columbia University, she became head of the New York office of the National Consumers League in 1910. The following year, Perkins witnessed the devastating Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, in which 146 workers died because of the building's lack of fire escapes and other safety measures. The tragedy inspired her to lobby for worker's rights — especially the interests of women and children — through various positions within the New York state government.

Friendship



Frances Perkins, 1933
FRANCES PERKINS PAPERS, RARE BOOK & MANUSCRIPT LIBRARY,
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

After getting to know her during his time as governor of New York, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt nominated Perkins to join his cabinet as Secretary of Labor in 1933. The first woman to serve in a U.S. presidential cabinet, she worked on some of the New Deal's most influential initiatives, including the Social Security Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, which established a minimum wage, maximum weekly working hours and a ban on child labor in select industries.

A PEEK INTO THEIR CORRESPONDENCE

Though Loscutt says it is unclear how these women met or when they began their correspondence, the familiarity and depth of the letter suggest that they built a strong friendship. The letter discusses Stevens Baird's recent quarantine after measles exposure, references to FDR's famous "The Four Freedoms speech" and a suggestion to Stevens Baird by Perkins

"I am coming more and more to the feeling that we are in a phase of world development when it is ideas that count more than actions. I have always been an activist and tended to scorn the people who sat in ivory towers and thought. Now I think we may perish here in America for lack of the ability to formulate and adhere to ideas." — Frances Perkins, in a letter to Mary Stuart Stevens Baird

that she should get in contact with the Women's Division of the National Democratic Committee.

Without the context of earlier letters, some passages remain vague, such as the following assertion by Perkins: "I am coming more and more to the feeling that we are in a phase of world development when it is ideas that count more than actions. I have always been an activist and tended to scorn the people who sat in ivory towers and thought. Now I think we may perish here in America for lack of the ability to formulate and adhere to ideas."

Because the letter was written in early 1941, Loscutt believes Perkins could have been reacting to the spread of Nazi rhetoric throughout Europe and what that might mean for a neutral United States. "I think American people at the time were more isolationist. They didn't want to get involved in a war that was overseas," says Loscutt. "But I think they were realizing that we couldn't just sit by and let this happen." By the end of the year, the idea of war became reality following the attack by Japanese forces on Pearl Harbor.

The letter holds a unique place in the Stevens archives, serving as an example of intellectual dialogue between two women about the state of the world during a time when women weren't expected to be vocal about politics. By sharing ideas and taking action for change, both women moved important social and political causes forward, helping to pave the way for the next generation of women in public service. ❖

— Erin Lewis

 **Read the full letter at stevens.edu/perkins-letter**

THE
POWER OF
STEVENS
OUR CAMPAIGN.
OUR IMPACT.

Campaign by the Numbers

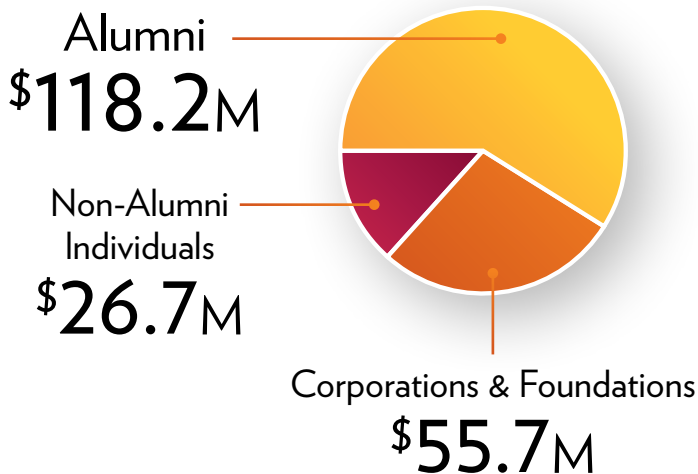
The Power of Stevens results are in!

The Power of Stevens campaign is one of the most successful endeavors in Stevens history, nearly doubling the results of the previous campaign. The statistics on this spread show the impact of the campaign, which launched to lift the university to a new level.

Alumni and friends found inspiration in the priorities of enabling *student success*, promoting *faculty excellence* and building a *vibrant campus*. Every dollar of every gift added up to reach this historic achievement. The numbers here represent the impact that philanthropy from a broad community has had on the university's thriving present and promising future.

\$200.6M
Total Raised

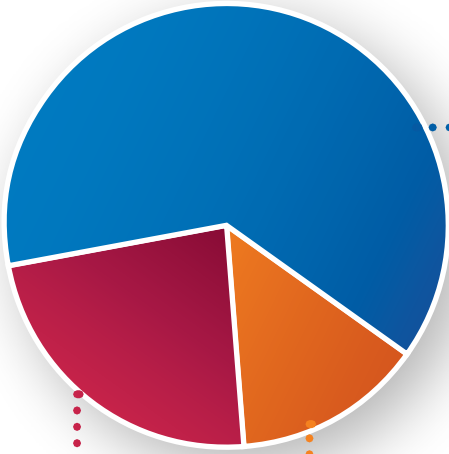
Giving by Constituency



Every Gift Counts



Giving by Priority



Student Success **\$126.3M**

158

New Scholarships Established

95%

Class of 2020 Secured Outcomes within 6 months of graduation

40.8%

Increase in Undergraduate Enrollment (Fall 2013-2020)

Faculty Excellence **\$27.5M**

18

New Chairs and Fellowships Established

22.7%

Increase in Full-Time Faculty (Fall 2013-2020)

49.4%

Increase in Sponsored Research Awards (Fall 2013-2020)

A Vibrant Campus **\$46.8M**

100%

Classrooms Renovated

**1000
+/-**

Students Will Reside in the University Center Complex

*All figures represent the period from July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2021 unless otherwise noted.

To learn more about The Power of Stevens campaign and its impact, follow us on Facebook [@stevens.alumni](#) and on Instagram [@stevensalumni](#).

A ‘Man for All Seasons’

PROFESSOR CHARLES SUFFEL, WHO SERVED GENERATIONS OF STUDENTS OVER FIVE DECADES, IS FONDLY REMEMBERED

Those who knew him loved him, for his many acts of kindness, great and small, over five decades. Three generations of Stevens alumni, faculty and staff members have recently shared just some of these stories of love, friendship and lasting gratitude in honor of professor Charles Suffel Hon. M.Eng. '85, who passed away on Feb. 4, 2021.

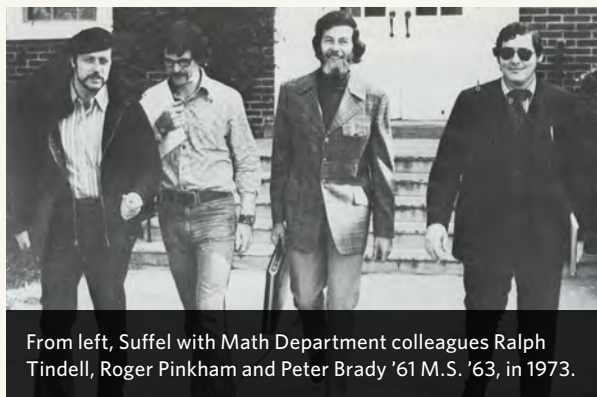
Suffel —“Charlie” — served Stevens for more than 50 years, mostly as an award-winning professor of mathematics and later as dean of graduate studies. Whether they sat in his classroom 50 years ago or worked alongside him just last year, it is striking how consistently he is remembered: a person of integrity and kindness, a warm and positive spirit, a gifted mathematician, a caring teacher, a man of humility, “a man for all seasons.”

After learning of Suffel’s passing, Brian King '83 M.S. '87 offered a long tribute to his former professor.

“I’m certain that in most instances, he was the smartest person in the room, but he never portrayed himself that way,” King writes. He remembers Suffel as an approachable, witty professor who stood apart and offered much-needed encouragement as King weighed career options after Stevens. Many years later, King found himself back at Stevens with his son, then a prospective student. There was Suffel in a classroom, at a whiteboard full of mathematical equations, still deeply fascinated by his area of study, gracious as always.

“He helped me as a teenage undergrad, as a young engineer figuring out career plans and decades later as a parent,” King writes. “Rest in peace, Charlie. You made the world a better place.”

A longtime friend and former student, Rev.



From left, Suffel with Math Department colleagues Ralph Tindell, Roger Pinkham and Peter Brady '61 M.S. '63, in 1973.

THE LINK

Gabriel Costa '70 M.S. '72 Ph.D. '84 notes that Suffel’s life revolved around three passions: God, his family and friends, and his teaching and research of mathematics.

Suffel was a multiple award winner for his teaching and research — even a black belt in karate — but never one to dwell on his achievements, Costa says.

“His math research speaks for itself,” he says. “And he had a legion of Ph.D. students who not only respected him but loved him.”

Suffel joined Stevens in 1969 as assistant professor of mathematics, rising to associate professor and later professor in 1979. He served as dean of graduate studies from 1995 to 2015 before rejoining the faculty ranks.

He was a two-time winner of the Stevens Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher Award and received the Henry Morton Distinguished Teaching Professor Award. He was also a co-recipient of the Jess H. Davis Memorial Award for Research Excellence. Suffel advised 17 doctoral students during his career, with his research focusing on graph and network theory and the reliability of networks.

Among his fellow faculty members, Suffel

was known as a strong advocate for students — and who expected the same of his colleagues.

“Most of all, I remember his passion for students,” says computer science professor David Naumann. “They told me his teaching was great. What I saw firsthand was his energy as dean, always devoted to the best interests of students. He would call me from time to time, to check whether I was giving enough attention to one or another research student. Charlie won’t be forgotten.”

Staff members all across campus spoke of a positive spirit that was infectious.

“He was so positive and encouraging,” says Linda Habermann-Ward, a former assistant in the Department of Mathematical Sciences and a close friend. “He always had a kind word and a smile. You couldn’t help but feel happiness when you saw him walk in.”

Professor Suffel is survived by his daughter, Dorothy Rose Bousseau, and her husband, Larry Pisano; his son, Charles Laurence Suffel, and his wife, Jennifer; and his two grandchildren. A memorial service at Stevens will be announced at a future date. ❖

— Kyla Buckingham and Beth Kissinger

alumni**news**



READY FOR CLASS

One of the pioneering first class of female undergraduates at Stevens, Deborah (Naas) O'Rourke '75 arrives on campus for Freshman Move-In Day in 1971. See a photo of Deborah from her graduation day on page 60.

See page 70 to learn the identity of the student who appeared on this page in our Spring/Summer '21 issue!

PHOTO: ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, SAMUEL C. WILLIAMS LIBRARY, STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

SAA President's Letter

Alumni Pride and Dedication Shine Brightly During An Extraordinary Year

Dear Alumni,

Throughout the years, one of my favorite parts of attending alumni events has been listening to the stories shared by alumni about their time on Castle Point, the path that got them here and where they have been since. Each one is different yet interconnected. After all, as alumni, we have all become a part of the Stevens family legacy.

Our story as an Alumni Association began 145 years ago, on July 1, 1876, when a group of 25 young men — recent earners of mechanical engineering degrees — gathered in Institute Hall (now the Edward A. Stevens Building). Today, our community has grown to 50,000 members worldwide with undergraduate, graduate and Ph.D. degrees across four colleges.

That our Alumni Association was able to successfully weather the challenges of the coronavirus pandemic is a testament to Thomas Moschello '63 M.S. '65, who began an overhaul of the SAA Constitution and Bylaws during his SAA presidency in 2012-2014. One of the changes made was simple: moving from paper to digital election ballots. But it would have tremendous impact, spurring a new governance structure that would be crucial when the pandemic prevented in-person activity. It would also allow us to have leadership representation from across the U.S. and abroad, while we actively recruit volunteers globally. (Please visit our website, alumni.stevens.edu, to learn more about your fellow alumni who form the Stevens Alumni Association Board of Directors.)

My point is that every Alumni Association volunteer makes a difference. I am deeply grateful to the volunteers who helped make the transition to virtual engagement so successful. Since July 2018, there have been many who have given of their time and talents to guide our association to where we are today. I would like to thank the stalwart committee chairs who went above and beyond the call of duty, especially Suzanne D'Addio '07, Michael Cahill '15, Phil Crowley '71 and John McDonnell '72. As their terms in leadership conclude, please join me in thanking them for their service to our community.

Through the pandemic, we have kept the fires of alumni pride burning brightly. When we couldn't gather in person, we gathered virtually. Our latest celebration — our extended *Red and Gray Days*, which kicked off during our 100th Alumni Weekend in June — are a testament to this. Our Association Annual Meeting was an informative snapshot of the activities



from the past year and offered a glimpse into the year ahead. We celebrated our award recipients for 2020 and 2021, caught up on the State of Stevens with President Farvardin, took virtual campus tours and shared memories through virtual milestone class reunions. Our *Red and Gray Days* continued throughout the summer and fall with presentations by campus partners on topics of interest to alumni: Stevens' fall 2021 athletics outlook, navigating the undergraduate admissions process, and diversity, equity and inclusion on Castle Point.

In just three years, we will welcome our trail-blazing first undergraduate alumnae into the

Old Guard, from the Class of 1975. As I serve as the 126th President of the SAA (as only the third woman, following Maureen Weatherall '78 M.M.S. '78 and Mary Doddy '80), I consider it an honor to do so alongside other alumnae volunteer leaders serving as SAA Directors: Suzanne D'Addio '07, Kaitlin Gili '20, Joelle Hinds '93, Dawn Madak '89, Cristina V. Martinez '94, Katherine Matos '08, Lauren Mayer '12, Elizabeth Pallone '88, Rachele Smith '81, Hailey Tanner '21 and Martha (Patty) Torres '01. Each woman has her own story to tell. And now, after thriving in the world beyond the Stevens gates, they are sharing their experiences and lessons learned with those that follow, doing their part to keep the flame burning bright!

As we continue to celebrate the impact undergraduate women have had on Castle Point over the past half century, I invite you to share your memories from your time on campus for inclusion in Celebrating 50 Years of Women at Stevens at stevens.edu/womenatstevens

If you are reading this, it is likely you are already involved in our alumni community. But if you are not and want to jump in, I extend you an invitation. Find a project that you're passionate about, and we'll connect you to something relevant at Stevens. And bring a friend! ❖

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victoria Velasco".

Victoria Velasco '04

President

Stevens Alumni Association

saapresident@alumni.stevens.edu

'44 *Editor's Note: The family of John Schlichting shared this tribute to their father and grandfather, who passed away last year at the age 97. The Indicator staff expresses our deep sympathy to his family.*

John Schlichting

John Schlichting passed away peacefully at Cedarbrook Senior Living in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, on April 28, 2020, at the age of 97. His daughter, Nancy, was able to be with him during his final days.

After his graduation from Stevens, John taught descriptive geometry and analytical drawing at the university to returning GIs from World War II.

He met Elizabeth Cook on a blind date, which took place on his boat "Peggy Dash" while sailing on the Hudson River, and they were married in 1949. After the birth of his first two children, Carol and Nancy, he joined Babcock & Wilcox Co. (B&W) in New York City in 1955 and began his 37-year career as a nuclear engineer and inventor, earning eight patents. He was a member of Tau Beta Pi, the engineering honorary society.

John was transferred to Akron, Ohio, with B&W in 1957, and he and his wife had two more children, John and Joan. He and his family were then transferred to Lynchburg, Virginia, in 1972, returning to Akron five years later, where he and his wife lived for the next 27 years. John retired from B&W at the age of 70, and then spent three years caring for his wife, before she died in 1996.

John's retirement was filled with many trips to visit and travel with his children and grandchildren, who live in Michigan, Maryland, Georgia and Ohio, as well as special trips back to Stevens for his 60th and 70th college reunions. In 2004, John moved to Michigan and lived at Henry Ford Village in Dearborn for 13 years, before spending his final two years at Cedarbrook.

John was beloved by his family, friends and caregivers for his positivity, good humor, intellec-

tual curiosity, graciousness and caring for others. He never thought there was a problem that couldn't be solved, didn't focus on his age ("It is only a number") and loved telling stories about his fascinating life. While his life wasn't easy (he lost his father when he was 18, lost his only two siblings to different diseases within a 24-hour period in 1966, and his wife got sick very soon after he retired), he never dwelled on negative situations. Throughout his life, he loved playing pool, bowling and boating, and took up golf at age 76. He drove for over 70 years without a ticket or an accident. He loved Frank Sinatra, who also was from Hoboken, and he actually thought he could sing like Frank! He will be missed by all who knew him, but they will be comforted by many wonderful memories.

John is survived by his three daughters, Carol (John) Mallon, Nancy Schlichting (Pam Theisen) and Joan (Tim) Keifling; a son, John (Eileen); five grandchildren, and a nephew. He is predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth.

'46 *July 2, 2021* — While the Class Logs include the obligation to relay sad news as well as more cheerful updates, it is surely the least-pleasant duty of a class secretary to transmit an obituary, particularly when — in this case — it involves a close friend and Navy V-12 barracks mate.

John Albert Misteli passed away peacefully in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, on January 26, 2021, at the age of 95. He had a stroke in June 2020 and never fully recovered. John was born on April 6, 1925, in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He graduated from Stevens in 1946 and began his career as a mechanical engineer. In 1956, John married Star Romoski, and they adopted their son, Tom, in 1968. John spent much of his career with Pratt & Whitney/United Technologies; he retired in 1993. He was a member of the Military Officers Association of America and volunteered at the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center for

over 25 years. He will be deeply missed by his friends and colleagues, by those whose lives he touched through his volunteer work, and by his surviving family.

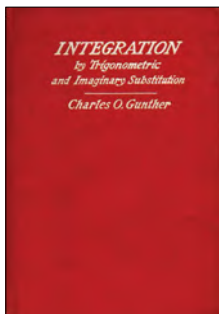
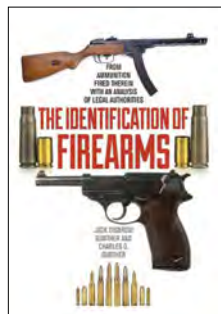
Things you might never have known about **Charles O. "Charlie" Gunther** (Class of 1900), professor of mathematics and ordnance engineering:

Although I understand that Charlie was not "beloved" by *all* classes during the long span of his career at the university, he was certainly a man to remember — with admiration, awe and even fondness — by our section of '46 for his positive influence. Until I browsed through my own library and surfed the internet, I hadn't realized that he had found time over the years to publish some of his expertise. We knew him for his side interest in ballistic studies, but I have a mint copy of his first book, published in 1907, called *INTEGRATION by Trigonometric and Imaginary Substitution*. In 1943-45, he was still distributing to the students in our section his *Notes on MATHEMATICS, Prepared for the Use of the Sophomores at Stevens Institute of Technology*, a pamphlet printed in 1937.

Equally interesting, in 1935 Charles and his brother, Jack, published *The Identification of Firearms: From Ammunition Fired Therein With an Analysis of Legal Authorities*. The 1930s provided impressive breakthroughs in the field of forensic ballistics, or firearms identification. Following the Saint Valentine's Day Massacre of 1929, where ballistics expert Calvin Goddard's testimony brought attention to the relatively new field, several forensic ballistic books were published.

The Gunthers' *The Identification of Firearms* combined the approaches of these volumes into a new book that emphasized the painstaking scientific methodology vital to firearms identification, complete with ballistics photographs, and its practical use by analyses of several legal cases where firearms identification was used. These include the infamous Sacco and Vanzetti case. The Gunther brothers applied their respective legal and military experience (Jack was an attorney and Charlie was a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Ordnance Department) to provide a comprehensive reference volume that is noteworthy for those interested in law enforcement or ballistics, as well as gun enthusiasts. The book is still in print. I've just purchased a copy.

Whether published or perished, Charlie,



Dick Boera '46 remembers Professor Charles O. "Charlie" Gunther Class of 1900 in his class log. Here are two of Gunther's books that Dick owns, and a portrait of the professor.

you're still tops among our favorites. Though most of us have forgotten it since, differential and integral calculus were firmly drilled into our gray matter when we left Hoboken behind!

Another loss to our '46 class: We learned recently that **Leon Edward Sealey** passed away on September 26, 2019, in Gainesville, Florida, at age 93. He originally moved to Florida from New York State in 2016 with his wife, Virginia (who died in 2017), to be closer to family. Leon was born on December 7, 1925, in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Bloomfield High School in New Jersey where he met his first wife, Lillian Sestilio (who died in 1977). The couple owned and operated a dance studio in Upstate New York, which grew into the Tri-City Ballet Guild. Leon was not only a brilliant engineer but also an accomplished tap and ballroom dancer. He assisted his wife in producing several ballets for stage and TV throughout the Northeast. They had one child, Cynthia (Sealey) Grayson. Leon later married Virginia Mills in Lake George, New York; they resided in the Schenectady area for over 50 years. Leon was an ensign in the U.S. Navy during World War II, stationed in Honolulu and Japan. He also served in the Merchant Marines. He received his bachelor's degree in engineering from Stevens and his master's degree in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After the war, Leon worked as a supervisor in the Schenectady GE plant, designing, building and testing turbine engines. He and Virginia, retired from GE, spent many years together traveling and operating a woodworking and crafts business.

On a happier closing note, **Henry Zimmerman** — the last name on our roster — is still "holding the fort" in Akron, Ohio, though not traveling much these days. He salutes all of us '46 fellow survivors. — **A. Richard Boera, Allen Harbor, 90 Allen Road, Apt. 27, South Burlington, Vermont 05403. (802) 495-5815; arbjlb@comcast.net**

'48 July 17, 2021 — These two Stevens '48 (plus me) are among our living classmates: Curt Van Valkenburgh, tcvan47@yahoo.com, (631) 751-0575; and Jim Ware, ellieandjim@cox.net, (714) 832-0743. And I have no recent word from Curt or Jim. So, my report is just me.

My wife, Sally, and I are both doing great. As stated earlier, my construction operations have ceased. I have six books published. From the "History Series": *Struggle of Titans, Death of an*

Empire, and Republic in Discord. From the "Human Status Series": *Who and Why are We, Our Human Destiny, and Our Future as Humans*, with two more being written, plus another 20-30 to go.

My books are published by BookLocker.com, Inc., St. Petersburg, Florida. They are available from Amazon.

Sally is active in our community, playing serious bridge and active with her many friends. I walk two miles, most days. — **Lou Shook, 757-428-1952; loushook@cox.net**

'50 July 2021 — Kurt Graf provided this report about his father, **William Graf**: Wow! Three sons, three engineers.

"I saw your article while showing William some Stevens websites. He is 93 now and has some memory problems. He still remembers Stevens, where he started from nearby Cliffside Park High School in 1943. He enlisted in the military in the fall of 1945 and served and then returned to Stevens. He has three sons and two granddaughters. He has been widowed since 1993. He played soccer and lacrosse at Stevens and worked for 30 years for Getty Oil Company until he retired in 1985. He currently resides in Orange City, Florida.

"William's three sons all have engineering degrees: His oldest son, an agricultural engineer, graduated from the University of Delaware and works for a power company in Virginia. I am an electrical engineer and graduated from the University of Central Florida. I work in construction tech and live close to William in Central Florida. His youngest son, a mechanical engineer, graduated from the University of Central Florida and works at NASA in Southern Florida. William's oldest and youngest sons each have a daughter; one is a college graduate and one is currently in college."

Frank Seiden writes: "Greetings from California, where I have been living since March 2008. We moved here from Long Island, New York, to be near our grandchildren. (My wife passed away early this year, so it is no longer "we.") I look back on my years at Stevens feeling gratitude for being well prepared for the engineering world. In those days, there was only a general engineering course with three electives in technical subjects and two in humanities. The only degree was M.E., considered a professional degree.

"After two years in the Army during the Korean War, I worked as a mechanical engineer

for several years, first at Worthington Corp. and then Sperry, and got an M.S. in mechanical engineering from Stevens in 1957. After working at Sperry, an electronics company, for a few years, I realized that a mechanical engineer had limited potential for progress, so I then got a master's in control systems from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute (now Polytechnic Institute of New York), which served me well. It qualified me to work on inertial navigation, which I did for 30 years until I retired at the end of 1991.

"When I started at Stevens in March 1946, not too long after my 17th birthday, Hoboken was the city shown in the movie *On the Waterfront*. It was a longshoreman's town. There were 30 bars on River Street between the Lackawanna Railroad station and 4th Street. Ten of them were between 3rd and 4th Streets; they filled the block except for two liquor stores stuck between the bars. There were a lot of rooftop pigeon coops.

"World War II had ended the previous August, and there was a mass return of veterans, many of whom took advantage of the GI Bill and enrolled in colleges. Stevens at that time was all male. Our freshman class was 90% veterans and the rest civilians. Naturally, I was the baby of the class, with only about four civilians in the classroom. I sat next to **Martin Selling**, the oldest in the class, who was 28. About a month after the start of the term, I was out sick, and the math instructor, also a veteran, took attendance and asked, 'Where's Junior today?' From then on, everyone called me Junior until our senior year, when some started calling me 'Frank.' Many of the men didn't know that was my name.

"I had written poems over the years since I was in high school, and I made that my hobby when I retired. About five years later, I found a writing workshop that I joined, which improved my writing. After about eight years, I was asked to lead a workshop for the non-profit organization. I did that for a year and a half until we started preparing to move to California into a retirement community called Leisure Village. After a few years here, I became the leader of a creative writing workshop, which is still going strong."

As usual, send an email or call with any news. — **Walter M. Carow, (865) 805-6134; wcarow@yahoo.com**

Don't see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.

'51 June 30, 2021 — As our 70th anniversary year draws to a close, let's reflect on our reaching a new milestone. It's been 70 years since we received our M.E. degree and left Castle Point with many fond memories. Just think how lucky we are. Recent and new graduates can't relate to twice-a-year graduation, the Castle, the Senior Trip, Engineering Camp, steam engine indicator cards, "log-log duplex," K&E slide rules, no co-eds, the blacksmith shop, Saturday labs or Professor Backer's coffee. Perhaps the "Pride of Communipaw Flats" should still be performed for incoming classes.

Our Stevens class consisted of many World War II veterans with the GI Bill paying tuition. Stevens tuition is now the highest among New Jersey colleges and universities. But starting salaries for us were in the neighborhood of \$4,000.

Our combined February and June classes had approximately 330 graduates, but statistically we now number in double digits. Unfortunately, **Bob Fairchild**, **Phil Plack** and others who previously submitted 1951 class logs are no longer with us. Wanting the log to continue, I have agreed to "carry on." If you are reading this, please confirm by sending an email to charleswetter@yahoo.com. I would like to receive updated contact information and other relevant news for future logs.

Arlene and I have made our home in Fort Worth, Texas, since 1979. I retired in 1991 and we relocated to a Fort Worth retirement community in 2005. The first half of my career was with the electric generation department of Public Service Electric and Gas Co. The second half was with the Boy Scouts of America, where responsibilities included physical arrangements for national jamborees. We are blessed with six children (five surviving), 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren scattered in New Jersey, Texas and Arizona.

Stu Goldie wrote from St. Petersburg, Florida, to say that after retiring from Honeywell, he and Betty bought a VW camper and spent many years traveling to national and state parks. The house where they raised four children is still their home. Stu started playing his violin again after 50 years and performed with several community orchestras. Until a few years ago, he tutored algebra and calculus at the local high school. Not exactly what he did professionally, when involved with inertial guidance systems for fighter aircraft.

John Gill is enjoying his retirement in Convent

Station, New Jersey, near Morristown. He was with Public Service Electric from graduation until retirement in 1988, and he specialized in designing underground transmission and distribution systems. He and Claire's marriage of 72 years ended with her passing several years ago, but it has a legacy of five children, 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. The Gills enjoyed golf at Fairmount Country Club and their membership in the New Jersey Seniors Golf Association.

I recently learned of **Bill Smith's** passing. He will be most remembered by his classmates as editor-in-chief of *The Stute*. — **Charles Wetter**, 817-348-0509 (home); 817-944-8383 (cell); charleswetter@yahoo.com

'52 April 3, 2021 — *Editor's Note: The longtime class secretary Robert Wolf is transitioning out of his role; below is an excerpt from his letter in April 2021. Read more in a future issue of the '52 log.*

Being the log writer for the Class of 1952 was an experience and a challenge – one of the most satisfying experiences of my years. It gave me the opportunity to learn so much about my class members and the role that Stevens has played, as a positive force for them and for the world. The Stevens Indicator has been my most used source in gauging the condition of the world. (And it is very tenuous now!) Thanks for the most enjoyable challenge and experience. — **The Stevens Indicator**; 201-216-5161; alumni-log@stevens.edu

'53 *Editor's Note: Charlie Schnabolk shared these thoughts on the presidential biographer and journalist Richard Reeves '60, shortly after Reeves' passing last year.*

"I read with great sadness of the passing of Richard Reeves '60. His passing brought back a lot of memories of our 50-year friendship that began in 1970 when a brief mention of Reeves appeared in the 1960 Indicator log. It reported that Dick was the New York City Hall bureau chief for *The New York Times*. This was not only an impressive title, but it was also a very unusual position for any Stevens alumnus. I am well aware that hundreds of textbooks and manuals have been published by alumni (I wrote three textbooks), but a career as a professional newspaper reporter was unheard of. The fact that he went on to become a syndicated columnist and TV personality was an uniquely amazing accomplishment for a Stevens graduate.

"I was asked by the then-Indicator editor to meet with Dick and write a story about an alumnus who gave up a well-paying engineering job to become a pauper as a newspaper reporter shortly after graduation. The main reason I had looked forward to our meeting was because just a few years earlier, in 1965, I had to make that same decision but chose to stay in engineering. I was interested in meeting with someone who took the plunge.

"We met for lunch near his Times office and discussed his meteoric rise as a journalist and, of course, shared similar undergraduate memories because he was only six years younger than me. It was a memorable interview and little did I know that 30 years later, Dick Reeves would write about an interview with me and publish it in his syndicated column."

"At that 1970 interview, I mentioned that Stevens produced a Noble Prize winner (Fred Reines '39) and CEOs of major corporations, scientists, doctors and a great many educators, but some of those achievements can be expected from an engineering school graduate. Even the artist Alexander Calder Class of 1919 used some of his engineering talents gained at Stevens to balance his million-dollar mobiles. (I actually met Calder when I had him as my luncheon guest when I was president of the Stevens Metropolitan Club in 1970.) Calder wasn't very impressive, while Richard Reeves was the real thing – an unforgettable character." (Read more from Charlie in a future class log.)

Robert Greengrove

Robert Greengrove, 91, the former class secretary, passed away peacefully at his home in Nutley, New Jersey, on April 13, 2021, surrounded by loved ones.

As a youth he worked at the family business, Pro Lumber & Hardware, in Belleville, New Jersey. There he developed his love of mechanics and tinkering which led him to Stevens.

He worked as a mechanical engineer for several years before delving into computer programming. He ended his career as the IT manager at Micro Stamping Corp in Bound Brook, New Jersey.

Robert spent his retirement creating an intricate model train layout that encompassed the entire basement of his home.

In 1953, he married Carol Birtwistle, the love of his life, and together they spent 67 incredible years raising a family and traveling the globe.

SAA Update

In the next edition of *The Stevens Indicator*, we will share a recap of the 2021 Red and Gray Days, which started with the celebration of the 100th Alumni Weekend. During the weekend, the Stevens Alumni Association (SAA) Awards Ceremony was held virtually. Recipients of the Stevens Alumni Award, the Harold R. Fee Class of 1920 Alumni Achievement Awards and the Outstanding Teacher Awards for 2020 and 2021 were honored. To listen to their stories and acceptances, please visit the library of past webinars at stevens.edu/alumni-webinars

2020 Stevens Alumni Award Recipients
All Presidents of the SAA

2021 Stevens Alumni Award Recipient
Frank Roberto '76

2020 Harold R. Fee Award Recipients
Julio Diaz '95
Zef Ferreira '00
James Western '05
Roman Malantchouk '10
Michael Cahill '15

2021 Harold R. Fee Award Recipients
Anthony Kowalski '96
Mark Biamonte '01
Brad Miller '06
Felipe McAlister '11
Jayson Yano '16

2020 Outstanding Teacher of the Year
Leslie Brunell '86 M.Eng. '90 Ph.D. '96

2021 Outstanding Teacher of the Year
Brian Borowski M.S. '04 Ph.D. '11

They purchased a Victorian house in Nutley, which they renovated room by room over the next 60 years. For decades this welcoming home was a gathering place for family and friends. He also enjoyed spending many summers in Ortley Beach, New Jersey, with family. "Robert was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather," his family said. "He exemplified perseverance and dedication to family. His jokes and advice are missed; he will live on forever in the memories of his friends and family."

Robert is survived by his wife, Carol; his four daughters Cheryl (Lin), Robin, Wendy and Amy (Bill) Gripp; and seven grandchildren Alexandria, Kyle, Ian, Kelsey, Erika, Cara and Anna. He is also survived by his brother James, sister Patricia Brown, and many nieces and nephews. — [The Stevens Indicator](#); alumni-log@stevens.edu

'54 July 2021 — Well, classmates, I hope that all of you have had your COVID-19 vaccinations by now and are beginning to be able to travel a bit. We finally got to see our daughter's family in Atlanta and attend our grandson's high school graduation there. It was quite an affair and well organized. The calling out of 500 names and handing each one their diploma took a bit of time, however.

We hopefully expect to do some camping this summer or in the fall.

I have yet to hear from any of you and begin to wonder if I am the only one left in our class? Please let me hear from you, if only to say you're

still here and are managing OK. God Bless. — [George Hromnak, 45 Glenridge Blvd., Homosassa, Florida 34446; 352-382-7445; ghromnak@brighthouse.com](#)

Editor's Note: The family of Henry Angel shared the sad news of his passing on July 6, 2021. Here is an excerpt from his obituary, edited for length. The Indicator staff offers its deep sympathy to Henry's family and friends.

Henry Angel

"It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Henry R. Angel, soulmate and beloved husband of 67 years to Sue Angel; devoted father to N. Angel Fredricks and her husband Paul, Julie Beitman and her husband Russell, Jon and his wife Evie; doting grandfather to six grandchildren; and a great-grandfather.

"Born in Brooklyn, New York, Henry's life was filled with humor, love, curiosity and, most of all, kindness. After Stevens, he furthered his studies at Yale University with a master's degree in engineering in 1958. He began his career at Sikorsky Aircraft, where he invented the autopilot for landing helicopters on aircraft carriers. He then went on to be a founding partner of T Bar Corporation before beginning Angel Engineering in the family basement.

"If you have ever had blood work done, then you have most likely benefited from Henry's groundbreaking intellectual property. He invented and earned several patents for technology that revolutionized serology. From that humble

beginning in the basement, Henry, with Sue by his side, grew Angel Engineering to become a leader in the field of blood chemistry and hematology analyzing equipment. He was the first recipient of the George Mead Medal from United Technologies for engineering achievements and had 44 domestic and international patents for his inventions.

"Henry was a husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was an established engineer, inventor, painter, boater, car enthusiast, builder and chief pancake maker at morning mynyan at Congregation Beth El in Fairfield, Connecticut. He was a prankster with a wickedly dry sense of humor who made the world a better place. May his memory be a blessing."

'55 July 13, 2021 — Greetings and good wishes for health and happiness as this "Old Guard class" moves further into the senior ranks. I regret having received only one letter from a '55er in this pandemic year. The letter was sent from where Brigham Young had told his followers: "This is the Place." And quite a place is the Salt Lake Valley in Utah, convincingly proven to me in joyous days spent at beautiful nearby forests on spectacular tall mountains, many of them capped by world-class ski-runs and facing a massive salt-laden lake.

My "one" letter was from good friend Tom Wright. Sometime in the last dozen or so years, I had a pleasant visit with Tom when he was living in St. George, Utah. I was returning by car with my son, Paul, to California from a scenic tour that featured hiking at the wonderful Zion National Park in Utah. It was great to share Tom's enthusiasm for Zion. He loved hiking in the park and savoring its grand vistas. I was reminded about his skill with words as he had demonstrated in the days that we worked together on *The Stute*. Tom has a talent to bring out smiles from his friends with ease. He and classmate Jim Spady contributed a column to *The Stute* (dubbed by me, as I remember, "Spouting Foam Out"), which cleverly provided comic relief to the rigorous Stevens weekly activities.

Like Tom, we've all traveled a long route in the nearly seven decades since we left Stevens. Most of us who are now in our upper 80s will understand and sympathize with his narrative, which is reproduced below.

"Hi, Rich: Class secretary must be among the most lonely of all positions. I understand why you

are reduced to pleading for something to include in the Class News. I've reached the age where multiple body parts no longer function reliably. On the last Sunday of May, I experienced severe pain in my chest and upper arms. Having had a heart attack in 2003, I recognized the symptoms as a heart attack and summoned the paramedics, who gave me an ambulance ride to the hospital. After a stress test followed by an echocardiogram, they performed another angioplasty and inserted one stent in a severely narrowed heart artery. This procedure was made more difficult by my kidneys, which have been on the verge of failing for several years now. The dye used in angioplasty is known to have a tendency to do a number on the kidneys. As a result, I am now pain-free and still with kidneys that remain barely functional. I have known several men who turned to dialysis in their last years, and I am determined not to follow that path. My doctors understand my decision.

"For over six years now I have been living in an independent-living facility in the Salt Lake City area. Arthritis in my ankles keeps me from doing what I love to do, hiking in the many national and state parks in and near Utah. Whoever said that 'youth is wasted on the young' knew whereof he spoke!

"I hope all is well with you and our classmates. I also hope you get some response from your plea for information. Take care and enjoy life."

To Tom, I and many who remember you wish *happiness and comfort in the days to come.*

Tom's verdict about the loneliness that might characterize the class secretary job rings on target often, but gladly not always. I have found an

unexpected benefit of holding the secretary job in the manner it can evoke good thoughts about our days at Stevens. How many of us '55ers remember hearing our "Welcome to Stevens" by the Stute's then-new president, Jess Harrison Davis? Can we picture that sunny September day 70 years ago? Our future Alma Mater was then younger (80 years) than we are now. Clearly visible in 1951 were reminders of Castle Point before Stevens, like the castle on the hill, the greenstone arch at Hudson and 8th Streets and the arch and gatehouse at the south end of the WittPenn Walk.

These memories got a revival jolt when, this June, the "Stevens at 150" *Indicator* arrived. That issue's front cover featured a spread of photos that had been taken at assorted times over the past century and a half. Down in the lower left-hand corner on *The Indicator* cover, I recognized a much younger me in a picture taken in the now-demolished Baylis Building. I guess that the year is 1954, and the day is Wednesday, our weekly "activities" day. Wednesdays had been freed of coursework so that Stevens men could have time to broaden perspectives in various directions such as sports, arts, music, theater and social events.

In 1954, I was editor-in-chief of *The Stute* and am shown on that *Indicator* cover talking with my headlines editor, Harry Morgan, as well as with Eric Beckstein, my successor as editor-in-chief. Hopefully, *The Indicator* editor will include a copy of this picture with this Class Log to help recall Morgan and Beckstein, who have both joined the long Red & Gray Line. (*Editor's Note: Please see*

this wonderful photo near the '55 log.)

Harry was one of my closest friends at Stevens, a fellow Theta Xi and a comrade on numerous outings and social events.

The Korean War was raging in the early 1950s and an assured service deferment was regularly granted to students in engineering and the sciences. Like myself and most '55 classmates, Harry had been an ROTC member in those threatening days of the Korean War. Through ROTC, Harry joined in active military service after graduation, signing up for the Air Force flight service. After training, he was assigned to duty on the Distant Early Warning Line, a U.S. defense initiative in which regular surveillance flights were flown to monitor possible Soviet activity in the Arctic Ocean areas north of Alaska and Canada. During his training years, Harry's enthusiasm with his flight duty came through in frequent messages on scenic post cards. He posted these to me in Pasadena, where I was doing graduate work for my Ph.D. at Caltech. Harry planned on using his military training background to qualify for an after-service job in aviation.

Sadly, there was not to be an after-service job; Harry lost his life when his plane crashed on a service flight. He became the first to die among our '55 classmates, and he is still mourned by many among us. — Richard S. Muller, 1519 Oxford St., Apt. H, Berkeley, California 94709-1542; muller@berkeley.edu

'57 July 2021 — The Class of 1957 will, amazingly, celebrate its 65th reunion next spring at Alumni Weekend 2022, June 3-4. The hope is that this remarkable class will gather once again on the Stevens campus. Please stay tuned for updates in the coming months.

On page 3 of this issue of *The Indicator* – the Letters to the Editor page—you can be connected to an online tribute to our former class president and longtime leader Paul Steffen, who passed away last year. Paul was truly a Stevens stalwart and a guiding light for his class when it came to supporting Stevens students, promoting excellence at our alma mater and for always supporting each other. Paul is simply irreplaceable and sorely missed. To read his online tribute, visit stevens.edu/paul-steffen

Don't see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.



Stute Editor in Chief Richard Muller '55, left, confers with headlines editor Harry Morgan '55, standing at right, and Eric Beckstein '55, seated, circa 1954, in the paper's Baylis Building offices. Read more from Richard in the '55 log.

'58 *Guest log by Bob Fiocco*

July 2021 — Hey '58ers! I am continuing to serve as guest log secretary. Mike Bonner and I would like to hear from more classmates, but we're very happy to have received the notes summarized below.

In early June, Nels Gravenstede sent a two-page letter, as well as informative year-end Christmas letters he's written. He included a recent newspaper clipping with a good picture of the almost-completed Student Housing and University Center complex (hats off again to Carol and Rich Harries!). Nels and his wife, Audrey, survived the snowy (31 inches) winter in Newton, New Jersey, and he is now very much looking forward to doing his more usual farm/house/machinery chores during the summer.

He writes of the winter, "There was no end of problems...we managed to dig our way out after being stuck at the house for three days." House electric generator problems, COVID avoidance/vaccination measures, FAA pilot license renewal problems after a pacemaker issue, and buying a 1946 Taylorcraft airplane have all kept him very busy. Also, to rebuild his new/old airplane, he says, "My shop is now back up and running with two lathes, a big Bridgeport and a DoAll." (Nels learned well from our freshman days in machine shop with Gus Toernshoff and company!)

I recall that my wife Grace and I really enjoyed being on an SAA river cruise back in 2001 with Nels and Audrey, along with several other Stevens alums. Stories about his Stevens Flying Club adventures and Picatinny Arsenal work experiences were especially interesting. I also remember the pig roast in 2009 that he and Audrey hosted at their home in Newton for a very enjoyable and tasteful Class of '58 gathering. (See the photo courtesy of class prez Nick Mestanas.) Delighted '58ers in the photo: Ed



A moment from a Class of '58 pig roast at the home of Nels Gravenstede in 2009. See the '58 log for more on who attended.

Rapoza and Nels Gravenstede kneeling in front of one of Nels' antique cars, a 1931 slant-windshield four-door sedan with fender well spares and rear trunk. Others there included Frank Gianforte, Vern Wu, Roger Paquin, Joe Skroski, Bob Mazza, Mike Bonner, Rich Smolen, Mike Busche, Milan Sowsis, Bob Walker, Nick Mestanas, and Bob Fiocco.)

Nels extends his "thanks to all of you classmates for helping me through my four years at Stevens, and making all of my adventures possible." To which I might add: "Nels, you are a great classmate to have. Thanks for all you do and have done! Stay well!"

Just in time for this log, I also received a nice two-page email from classmate Barry (Biff) Ficken. He and his wife, Gael, are more than maintaining their many social, physical, meditative and volunteer activities in spite of the pandemic. Both have fully embraced Zoom, including hosting family meetings, coordinating food-for-the-needy volunteers and involvement in garden club activities, art classes and meditation sessions.

Biff has maintained his vigorous exercise program during COVID by outfitting a room in the house with a yoga mat, elastic exercise bands, an indoor bike setup, dumbbells and an Apple watch for monitoring his activity goals. Not to be outdone, Gael's activities include plenty of golf (three times a week "and she walks the course — no cart"). Biff also mentioned starting to think about our 65th class reunion in 2023. Keep going, Fickens! You guys are an inspiration for all of us to maintain an active lifestyle.

Finally, I would very much appreciate receiving any input from you good gentlemen (and/or wives) on your status, fun activities, plans and thoughts. Long or short, they will certainly rekindle fading memories of our "Stevens Daze," as well as of our friendships of many, many years ago. An email any time would be great. I look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes for a great rest of 2021! — Michael F. Bonner, 329 Sylvania Ave., Avon by the Sea, NJ 07717-1242; mfbonner@optonline.net; Bob Fiocco, 5120 Fellowship Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920; bobfioc83@gmail.com

'59 *July 20, 2021* — Since the last class logs article, the only news I have received is sad news — two more of our classmates have passed away.

Steve Gavin died on April 2, 2021, in Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts. After earning his M.E. at Stevens, he went on for an MBA from Adelphi Uni-

versity. Steve worked at Grumman for 42 years on a number of different projects, including the Lunar Module (LEM) and the Tomcat F-14 Fighter. Steve dedicated a large portion of his life to public service and used his expertise in various volunteer capacities. During his retirement on Cape Cod, he spent 12 years on the Cape & Vineyard Energy Consortium, was a docent at the Cape Cod Museum of Art and a member of the Yarmouth Energy Committee, participated in archeological digs at Taylor-Bray Farm and restored headstones at Ancient Cemetery for the Yarmouth Historical Society. A lover of all things transportation, he was an avid classic car aficionado, helped build experimental aircraft and was a member of the Cape and Islands Model Railroad Association. He will be remembered as a true gentleman.

From Patti Romlein, we learned that Dave Romlein passed away on April 19, 2021, in Quincy, Florida. After graduating from Stevens, Dave entered the Air Force and retired as a lieutenant colonel 23 years later. He then worked for Grumman and Pratt & Whitney for 10 years before fully retiring. He is survived by Patti, two daughters and three grandsons. Dave was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity. — George C. Pezold, 120 Main St., Huntington, NY 11743; (631) 271-8817; george.pezold@transportlaw.com

'60 *Editor's Note: At press time, the Old Guard Day had been postponed. Please stay tuned for future updates.*

Guest log by John Dalton

August 2021 — Unless Covid-19's Delta variant has derailed it, we'll be gathering for our twice-postponed 60th Class Reunion on Old Guard Day, Saturday, October 23. I'm looking forward to celebrating it jointly with our friends (and some former classmates) from the Class of 1961. As you know, they narrowly edged us out for third place in the annual Class Challenge, garnering \$500.00 for their class scholarship fund.

As some are aware, I've been working with Ed Eichhorn '69 on healthcare issues for the past few years. When Covid-19 infections began raging in March 2020, Ed and I decided to form the Healing American Healthcare Coalition. Its goal is to provide physicians, nurses and healthcare professionals with accurate and current

Don't see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.

information on healthcare issues in a concise and easy-to-read way. What began as an exercise to beat boredom during the lockdown has become a passion. We just published the 38th issue of our twice monthly email newsletter, the *Three Minute Read™ (TMR)*. It provides readers with summaries and critiques of five or six articles from a wide range of sources. If the reader wants to read the full article, he or she simply clicks on the title to link to it.

Our e-book, *Healing American Healthcare - Lessons Learned from the Pandemic*, is now available at Amazon. Information about the Healing American Healthcare Coalition, the Three Minute Read™ and our blogs and podcasts is available at www.healingamericanhealthcare.org. If any classmates are interested in a succinct twice-monthly update on emerging healthcare issues, just let me know and we'll add you to our complimentary mailing list. Per aspera ad astra, John — [Donald Merino, dmerino@stevens.edu](mailto:Donald.Merino@stevens.edu); [John Dalton; jjdalton1@verizon.net](mailto:John.Dalton@verizon.net)

'61 July 2021 — "Here I go again, I hear those trumpets blow again." An appropriate lyric from one of the signature songs of the most famous person from Hoboken, Frank Sinatra. I missed submitting something for the last *Indicator*, and Fred Dietrich filled in, as I was very despondent over the loss of so many of our classmates in the last two years.

In his last missive, Art Ketterer noted the losses. I also missed the Class of '61 Zoom session for the virtual 2021 Alumni Weekend, as I was totally focused on completing a DIY house project. Karl Schinke informed me afterward that only eight classmates attended the Zoom session. Not a good response. We can take some solace as a class, however, by our excellent response in supporting Stevens via contributions. I was involved in helping a couple of classmates get Zoom-connected by putting them in touch with Edward Yao, director of alumni engagement. As a result, I'm happy to note that I got a classmate and fraternity brother to reappear after 60 years of silence: Dr. Steven Gottlieb. Some prodding on my part led to Dr. Steve's great bio as follows:

"After leaving Stevens, I married and began my professional career with the National Security Agency, where I spent six months as a civilian and then completed my Air Force ROTC obligation by working there for an additional three years. I left NSA in 1964 and worked for

Operations Research Inc. (ORI) in Silver Spring, Maryland. My first wife and I were divorced at that time. In 1968, I left ORI for Control Data Corp. in Bethesda, Maryland. Shortly after, I was given an opportunity to represent the company in a seven-company consortium, termed Urban Systems Associates (USA). With second wife in tow, I relocated to California. The consortium's mission was to determine if technology could be applied to assist city governments in solving urban problems. After a half-year, the seven of us concluded that we could help cities but could not get past the proprietary interests of our parent companies. Closure was recommended and enacted. My time with USA did provide the experience needed to successfully apply to Booz Allen in the Washington, D.C., area.

"Shortly after joining Booz Allen, we had our first child, Michelle. Soon afterward, Booz Allen gave me an opportunity to run a major federally funded project: build a 'Totally Integrated Municipal Information System.' We all moved to Wichita Falls, Texas, staying there for two years, and added a second child, Michael. Upon returning to D.C., my wife and I split up but remained friends until her death. Coping with work, marriages and kids, I managed to get a Ph.D. in business and management, with significant help from Booz Allen.

"I married Carolyn in 1977, a union that has held to this day, 44 years. My now-expanded family of four children, Lisa, Deborah, Michael and Michelle, have been and were together when I finished my 28-year career with Booz Allen, retiring in 1997 as a senior partner. We are still together, though separated by geography.

"Shortly before retirement, Carolyn and I purchased land in Austin, Texas, and over time built two houses there. Michelle, who has no children and is divorced, is a computer systems analyst. Deborah is a K-6 schoolteacher with three kids, and all are in or about to attend college. Both Michelle and Deborah reside in the Austin area.

"Lisa, a librarian, has two children, one a college junior and one entering college. They live outside of Richmond, Virginia. Michael has his own law firm, and with two children lives north of Bethesda. Besides Michelle, my other children live with their respective spouses.

"Since my retirement more than 23 years ago, I have spent considerable time with three significant hobbies: wood-turning, woodworking and photography. An even more significant commitment, however, is working with a number

of nonprofits. Two in particular have been my church and the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Arrowmont, where I currently serve as president of the Board of Governors, started as a settlement school more than 100 years ago and has been a creative center for arts and art education for more than 75 years. The school offers courses in painting, woodworking, wood-turning, drawing, glass, photography, basket-making, ceramics, fiber arts, book and paper arts, and metal working. Aside from the COVID years, we've served an international student base in excess of 2,500 students on our campus and on the road through our Art Reach programs."

Art Ketterer recently forwarded me the obituary of **Richard Spanier** from 2020 in the *Newark Star Ledger*: "Dr. Richard Fredric Spanier, 80, passed away on April 16, 2020, surrounded by family at his home in Cambridge, Vt.

"Dr. Spanier was born in Staten Island, N.Y., moved with his family to Germany, and then returned to the United States after high school to attend Stevens Institute of Technology.

"He taught at Stevens as a graduate student and while completing his Ph.D. in chemical physics there, he met his wife, Joy Lee Rudolph. Dr. Spanier joined the Rudolph family business in the mid-1960s and led it for his entire career. That business became Rudolph Technologies. After merging with Nanometrics, [the company] was known as Onto Innovation and is traded on the NYSE. Dr. Spanier holds numerous patents and is acknowledged and recognized as a pioneer within the semiconductor industry.

"He was generous, kind, prudent, foreseeing, amazingly fair and driven to always excel and succeed. He was always learning or working on something: installing fingerprint scanners in his wife's horse barn, learning to play golf right-handed when his left shoulder failed or learning to walk on three different knees.

"He loved God, his family and had many friends. He was a loved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, but also a mentor, leader and visionary. He built a beautiful family, a successful business, and left behind a legacy of kindness, generosity and wisdom that will never be forgotten.

"Dr. Spanier is survived by his wife, Joy; children, Richard, Allyson and James; grandchildren, Jessica, Michaela, Richard Henry, Anna Joy, Addison and Bodhi; great-grandchild, Richard; and his brother, Fredric Spanier.

“Dr. Spanier was buried, after a small ceremony, in Cambridge Vt., surrounded by immediate family just minutes from where he lived.”

At press time, the 2021 Old Guard Luncheon had been postponed due to COVID concerns. When this event returns to campus in the near future, it will be a great opportunity to renew acquaintances with guys we knew on campus in and around our class year. — **Jay Wartell**, letraw@yahoo.com

'62 July 2021 — With our 60th anniversary reunion rapidly approaching, your reunion committee has been hard at work discussing plans for our class. Here are highlights from a report from our reunion committee:

Dennis Blahut recently heard from **Paul Rank** who provided an update of his activities since graduation as follows: “It’s been a long time since I’ve been back to Stevens, but I still remember fondly the times we spent together. While we were not in the same fraternity, we had a great relationship. I think the last Alumni Day I attended was in 1986 when the Statue of Liberty was reopened, and the last time I was on campus was in November 2001, when I parked at Stevens and went into Manhattan to see the devastation from 9/11. The day I was there it was appropriately cloudy as I looked out from Castle Point, a stark contrast to the brilliantly clear July 4th weekend of 1986. If all goes well, I hope to make our 60th next year.

“To give a brief history, I married Joan and we had three children. I started working for Bell

Labs in 1967 and moved to Columbus (Ohio) in 1974. Joan and I separated in 1980, and she passed away in 1985 from brain cancer. In 1982 I married Sue, who had three children, so we had a blended family of six. In 1992, I spent a year in Dayton as the Bell Labs liaison at NCR and then moved on to Cincinnati in 1993, where I retired in 1999 when AT&T made an offer I couldn’t refuse. Since then, I have been volunteering at my church primarily in the area of social justice outreach.

In 2010, Sue died from pancreatic cancer. In 2011 Mary Ann and I were married. She had two children, so I now have a blended family of eight children, 10 grandkids, and one great-grandson. It is hard to keep track as they are spread out from

Seattle to London, England. Mary Ann and I moved to Scottsdale, Arizona, six years ago and really enjoy the southwest. Again, thanks Dennis for reaching out and I hope to see you in 2022.”

And this from **Dick Meincke**, who responded to Paul adding: “We are both doing well and staying active. Betty does a lot of volunteer work and I’m back at the gym going seven days a week. Following retirement in 1999, we traveled a lot, usually four major trips each year. I tell people that I am looking for a job and have traveled to Europe, Asia and Africa, but can’t find one anywhere! I keep busy doing fine woodworking, fishing and kayaking. Hope you are doing well and also maintaining a busy lifestyle.” — **Philip B. Kimball**, pbkim25@gmail.com

'63 July 2021 — I think that the best news comes from **Dick Magee** and **Tom Moschello**, Class of 1963 Fund co-chairmen, who are happy to announce that the Class of 1963 again won the Class Challenge for percent participation rate for giving. This is the sixth time we’ve won in the seven years that the challenge has been conducted, and it adds \$2,500 to our class scholarship fund. Things were a little slow, but with a big push starting on June 15, **Bruce Boylan**, **Joe Grauman** and **Charlie Perruzzi** joined us in contacting over 50 classmates by phone, email and snail mail. Like a world champion racehorse, ‘63 charged down the final stretch and won the race again!

Charlie says, “A big thanks to Dick and Tom for their never-ending dedication. Wish us well in our quest to secure special space for all alumni in one of the new buildings. He also mentioned that “I now have seven grandkids — four future leaders of America and three boys!”

Carl Benson wrote that he was celebrating the 25th anniversary of his retirement from Becton, Dickinson and Co. and is still married to Mary Lee, his Sigma Nu sweetheart of 56 years. They moved from Wyckoff to Toms River, New Jersey. He went on to say, “As an avid saltwater fisherman, I was fortunate to qualify for a commercial summer flounder (fluke) permit. During the last 25 years I have fished with local friends and those from BD. I am an advisor to Mid Atlantic Fishery’s Management Council for summer flounder, black sea bass and scup, and New Jersey Marine Fishery’s Council on summer flounder and black sea bass.

“In 2013, I proposed a study to evaluate different hook sizes to determine if we could reduce the discard mortality rate of undersized fluke. (Discard mortality is the fish that do not survive being caught and released.) I worked

with **Dr. Richard Bronson** ‘63 at Fairleigh Dickinson University, a Sigma Nu brother, to partner in this program. In 2014, **Dr. James Salierno**, also from FDU, and I planned and implemented the program, collecting almost 8,000 data points to conclude that hook size could reduce discard mortality. The results were peer-reviewed and published. Then the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection used the program results and other input to challenge the U.S. Department of Commerce, as NJ DEP decided to go out of compliance with the National Marine Fisheries requirements. NJ won.”

Joe Grauman’s note said, “I hope all of our classmates are well and safe during these difficult times. The pandemic has been dominating our lives for the past 15 months. I stopped going to the gym for my three weekly one-hour workouts in mid-March 2020, and had to make do with an old AirGometer bike in the basement for a little over a year, until I was fully vaccinated and returned there at the beginning of April 2021. I’ve managed to lose 12 pounds during that period of time and had to go get a new set of slacks.

“It has been a difficult period of time for having family get-togethers. Elaine and I were finally able to visit our younger daughter and family a couple Sundays ago. It’s a 1-hour drive but was well worth it. Other than that, life just goes on with some work in and around the house, as well as various activities on the internet. We don’t have any major travel plans for the near future, except for a long weekend visit with nearby out-of-state relatives.”

John Zajac mentioned, “Really nothing exciting to report. Things here rapidly returning to normal. Busy now with tourists. Took our first air flight last month to California to visit some family and young grandkids who seem to have doubled in size over last year. Ellen and I are doing well here on Maryland’s Eastern shore.”

Chris Coccio said, “I just completed 20 years as CEO and chairman at Sono-Tek Corp, a post-retirement gig that I thought would only be for a year. It has been very engaging to take a small struggling public company from near bankruptcy to a very successful business, applying for Nasdaq listing. When I look back, it is because of the people, and the opportunity to build something together over time that has been the real motivation.

“Laurie and I plan to resume some of our travel, which has turned into a major hobby for us. We are on the same page now when it comes to

being away from Upstate New York for the worst of the winter. I am looking forward to reconnecting in person at Stevens after more than a year of virtual Advisory Board meetings. It is truly remarkable how much has changed for the better at our school, in spite of lockdowns, and it will be great to see it for 'real.' Best wishes to you and our classmates for health and enjoyment of this life stage."

Carol and I are both doing well. We had a good winter of skiing and snowshoeing but never traveled more than about 60 miles from home. Now, Carol's rapidly recuperating from a knee replacement, and we're looking forward to more hiking, biking and helping the country's economy by traveling. — **Neville W. Sachs**, newsachseng@gmail.com

'64 July 2021 — On behalf of your class officers, I want to thank those of you who participated in the latest Stevens Fund and scholarship drive that just ended in June. Over 33% of our class contributed and donated over \$100,000 to the various aspects of the fund. Congratulations to all who contributed. Your officers did a wonderful job in contacting class members to assist in soliciting contributions and to learn about what you have been doing during the pandemic.

We heard from the following members:

Joe Weber is still working as a consultant for his old company but worked from home when COVID arose. He always had IT department backup in the office, but now from home, it's really different. Some classmates could have retired at 62, 18 or 19 years ago! Some of us are still working and enjoying it.

Carlo Alfare writes: "I am still teaching chemistry at Mercer County Community College. I do it because I still enjoy teaching and the interaction with students. My daughter is in Wisconsin with her husband, Jon. I don't know how it happened, but she also teaches chemistry, at St. Norbert College. She has three children: Benjamin (1), Evelyn (3) and Nathan (5)."

Peter Astor: "While fundraising for our class, I had the joy of talking with several of our classmates, including **Roger Nagel** and **Art Block**, who hope to get their families together for a cruise in February 2022. **John Geer** told me things were a lot quieter in Florida during the pandemic winter. Harriet and I are looking forward to returning next year. The only easy thing last year was the light traffic."

I have been busy over the last 15 months and especially since the first of the year. I have been deeply involved in working with the various local health related entities, first in setting up COVID-19 testing sites and then vaccination sites in the city.

Early to get my team vaccinated, we worked closely with our local health district, a local community health center and the hospital to set up testing sites and then vaccination clinics for our first responders, essential city employees and board of education staff and teachers, besides the eligible seniors as designated by the CDC age-related guidelines. We were able to use the facilities of ESPN to direct drive-thru clinics to get our eligible population vaccinated. Since last summer the city has been deeply involved with food disparity, co-sponsoring with the United Way regular food distribution programs for all area residents.

In closing, I also want to thank those of our class who attended the Alumni Day festivities. This was our 57th Alumni Day celebration and although done by Zoom, we all hope to be on campus next year.

Be safe and stay well. — **Harley G. Graime**, hgraime@att.net

'65 July 2021 — **George Greene** is retiring as class secretary, so at his request, it's now my task. I enjoyed editing our "Book of Bios" and see this as a logical extension. With my apologies: fitting within *The Indicator's* 800-1,000-word limit required some brutal condensation.

Stuart (Lazarus) Spaven: While searching for Stuart during my bio quest, I couldn't find a working phone number or email, and my certified letter came back with the cryptic message, "Received by Agent: 8th 3rd Mail OPS," which elicited no response. Months later, I assumed he had passed on. When Stuart received the last issue of *The Indicator* and discovered he was among the assumed deceased, he emailed George to say he was alive and well and living in Cincinnati. I hope to publish his bio soon. Welcome back, Stuart!

Karl Auerbach: "I survived COVID and stayed negative while continuing to work in a medical practice. My engineering background helped me design changes to our exam rooms, protective barriers and ventilation. I was recently honored with the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) 2021 Outstanding Achievement Award. One of the



Dick Magee '63 M.S. '64 Sc.D. '68 displays one of several fish he caught on a fishing trip off the Jersey Shore in May.

citations was for 42 years of service, including the presidency and board service of ACOEM."

John Thielke: "It has been hot in the Pacific Northwest. In the 45-plus years we have lived in our suburban Seattle neighborhood, temperatures have never gone above 100°F, but one day in late June it reached 108. We spent quite a bit of time in our basement where it was only in the 80s. Since then, temperatures have moderated, and we are back to our usual summer weather. However, the experience was a strong signal that our climate has changed. The entire West Coast is in a major drought, especially California where, already stressed, water supplies will worsen unless we get above-normal rain and snow in the fall and winter."

Dave Munson: "We survived the pandemic without problems, had our shots, and are ready to travel again. So many people have moved here from the Northeast that our highways are jammed day and night, so we usually take back roads to get where we're going. Our first post-COVID adventure was to the North Carolina mountains. Later this year, we are planning to visit Maine. There is a lot left on the bucket list and time seems to be growing shorter. I must admit that an engineering degree from Tech made

it possible to secure some outstanding technical management positions. Now, it's just a matter of staying healthy so we can live out our dreams."

Jim McCoy: "Rita and I had COVID last Thanksgiving, and now we've also been vaccinated. We lost nine people when the virus went through our facility. It was sad to walk down the hall and see doors with no names on them. But we are making progress."

Jim Griffin: "I'm okay, at least for someone of our age, with aches and pains, an occasional loss of balance, and loss of memory most of the time. After almost two years with no English classes, a nearby firm asked if I still taught. 'Yes, of course,' I answered and now have a twice-weekly 1.5-hour class of six bright students. They work for S.E.Val. Srl, a recycling company near me. Their operation is extremely interesting, and my engineering and business background makes the instruction more relevant. I am amazed at the amount of refuse and merchandise that is dumped, broken up and recycled. Absolutely the opposite of Egypt, where almost everything that broke was repaired!

"Having had two jabs of the BioNTech/Pfizer vaccine and with the official EU Digital COVID Certificate in my wallet and somewhere in my smartphone, I can move around without a mask, but I feel uncomfortable because it often draws disapproving stares. I am thinking about visiting my kids in the USA, who I haven't seen for more than three years, in October."

Alberto Lorenzoni: "We not only survived, but we got the two shots of Moderna. Now I am waiting for the mRNA to kick in, to see if my hair grows again. Unfortunately, we're unable to travel to the U.S. to visit my daughter; no EU residents are allowed into the U.S. Movement is now free inside the EU, so we'll travel north of Italy for a few weeks.

Frank Semcer: "The latest report shows '65 in second place for the Stevens Class Challenge at 32%. By the time you receive *The Indicator*, we will all know the results. BUT a HUGE thanks to all who participated.

"Mary Jane and I sold our Far Hills, New Jersey, 1898 stone house and its 275-year-old barn. We have consolidated to our Bonita Springs, Florida, home, which we bought in 1993.

"Our oldest granddaughter just graduated from Yale, received a Phi Beta Kappa key and is heading to Cambridge for a master's in philosophy. then plans to return to the USA for her doctorate in literature. We have a step-grand-

daughter at Stevens who is starting her senior year in chemical engineering. She'll be the third grandchild to graduate, and there are 13 more behind her."

Gus Koven: "Our granddaughter, Lucy Koven, is following in her father's footsteps. Today, she won a silver medal for the pairs under-23 World Rowing Competition in the Czech Republic. Her father was a two-time world rowing champ and two-time Olympian. Lucy returns to Princeton this fall after working for a year during COVID. Since there was no rowing at Princeton last year, she used the time to learn some business skills."

George Greene: "Our grandson, Robert George Greene, is at Oxford, studying for a master's in mechanical engineering, and our granddaughter, Charlotte Andrews, is at Northeastern studying environmental engineering with a minor in Spanish. — **Steve Cochran, (214) 310-2773; cochranSM@aol.com**

'66 July 2021 — It's been a long, long time since we have seen and spoken to each other, which is unfortunate. Our class officers — **George Henry, Al Zorner** and myself — plus **Phil Brower** and **Bob Dent** have been hard at work to arrange a get-together this fall. I had been waiting on Stevens with some concrete news, which arrived this morning by way of **Pete Astor '64**, who advised that there would be, as of press time for this issue of *The Indicator*, an Old Guard Luncheon on October 23, 2021. (*Editor's Note: The Old Guard Luncheon has been postponed. Please stay tuned for future updates.*)

Other than those discussions, I have not heard from many of you, except for the following.

On the way home from a Mother's Day celebration in Ohio, I received a phone call from Louise McCarthy (**Walter Korzun's** fiancée/partner), who informed me that Walt had passed away on July 30, 2020. His biography follows:

Walter was born in Allentown, New Jersey, on June 28, 1944. He grew up on a small farm in Jackson Township. He attended St Mary's School, then attended and graduated from Lakewood High School with honors, and he also lettered in track and field.

After graduating from Stevens in 1966 with a major in mechanical engineering and a minor in management sciences, Walter first worked at GE. He subsequently worked at Foster Wheeler and at Professional Management Incorporated. The majority of his career, however, was spent at

the New Jersey Department of Transportation and focused on bridge design. While at NJDOT, Walter got his PE license and a master of management science degree from Stevens in 1975. After retiring in 1998, he consulted for the Ocean County Engineering Department.

Throughout his working life, Walter continued to study in the area of finance and investing. He also spent many hours perfecting his golf game and later learning to sail. Retirement gave him the opportunity to be a snowbird, enjoying the winter months in Florida.

Walter passed away after a two-year illness. He leaves behind many friends, golfing buddies and fellow sailors, as well as his sister, Ann, and his longtime partner, Louise.

Louise was kind enough to send me a couple of recent photographs of Walt that were taken on their trips before his illness.

I'd like each of you to take a moment to specifically remember Walter. If you haven't done so already, please also give some thought to creating your biography with recent photos and send them to **Bob Dent** or me. Bob has been assembling a booklet of Stevens Class of 1966 biographies, which should be distributed at a Old Guard Day or Luncheon event sometime in the future at Castle Point.

From my perspective, Carolyn and I continue to enjoy ourselves and have not been particularly constrained by the COVID-19 pandemic. Since my last post in *The Indicator*, I have continued to sail my 1981 8.0-meter S-2 on Lake Norman (in North Carolina). While "Scandia" has been a very good boat, she is showing her age and seems to continually need more repairs and maintenance, but so are most of us in the Class of '66!

Since retirement I have remained active with the Community Singers of Lake Norman but resigned as president to take on the more important role of treasurer. In spite of the pandemic, we emerged this spring with a positive balance sheet, although our membership shrunk to fewer than 30 singers. We even performed in a small concert this spring, while wearing masks, and offered private concerts at the homes of donors.

Now that most pandemic restrictions have been lifted or relaxed, we are making up for lost time by traveling to our son and daughter-in-law's home in Orrville, Ohio, then spending time with friends in Williamsburg, Virginia. We later spent a long weekend with my sister, Elaine, and her husband, Ray Bleiweiss, in Beach Haven, New Jersey (Ray is a high school friend of **Dick Magee '63**).

As I write this *Indicator* column, we are in Katy, Texas, with my son, David, and his family. We were due to fly here on March 25, 2020, when the world was turned topsy-turvy by the pandemic. The enclosed photo was just taken on July 14, 2021, with (left to right) David '93, his wife Nadine, son Erik (almost 5), son Jakob (almost 3), me, daughter Eda (7), and daughter Sydney (17).

This visit will culminate in a long weekend at the Margaritaville Resort in Conroe, Texas. Then it's back home to North Carolina before a long trip to national parks in Utah, Arizona for my wife Carolyn's sister's birthday, and a couple of days in Las Vegas. — **Gerard W. Osborne**, scandia44@windstream.net

'67 July 2021 — I was so happy to receive and publish 32 responses from my classmates for the last issue of *The Indicator* ("Stevens at 150") that I wanted a repeat. I sent out a mass emailing, asking "Would you each please send me one sentence that says something unique/unexpected or unanticipated/worthy of note about your COVID experience?" Here are the responses, with thanks!

Ralph Bellrose: "Took a while for our names to come up in the Manatee County, Florida, lottery, but then it was less than an hour to complete the process each time. Never got out of the car."

Tom Corcoran: "COVID tested and forced me to develop my tech skills in ways I would have never imagined."

Mike Dawson: "We fled to Hawaii for a week



Walt Korzun '66 is pictured with his fiancée, Louise McCarthy. Walt passed away in July 2020, and a tribute to him appears in the '66 log.

right in the middle of the COVID mess, stayed at a huge beachfront home (a relative's) and enjoyed the time out."

Mark Groberg: "Not really unique. We have been home, both retired, fully vaccinated, and now have a new grandson and new Labradoodle puppy."

Bob Jessup: "The entire COVID-19 'pandemic' is the biggest fraud ever perpetrated on the entire world, and as such, neither my wife nor I will get 'vaccinated.'"

Bob Kopki: "We normally like to do an overseas trip every year. With COVID, that didn't make sense. Instead, we drove to national parks on the East Coast (Great Smoky Mountains, Shenandoah, Everglades) and loved it."

Lou Milano: "NEW YORK — NO/FLORIDA — YES."

Joe Pfeuffer: "Having always been fascinated by astrophysics, I have read much of what Sagan has written. Although more than a decade old, I think it's applicable for today as it was back then. Sagan wrote, 'If you want to save your child from polio, you can pray or you can inoculate. Choose science.'"

Dan Rusinak: "Stevens was a forced march with **Ken Moser** trying to fail you out and **Dick Magee '63** pulling you across the finish line. That experience prepared me to get through anything. Including COVID."

Tom Schneider: "No haircut since March 2020 — hair longer than Brad Pitt in *Troy!*"

Jeff Seeman: "COVID brought Melinda and me closer together in ways totally unanticipated — and happily so."

Richard Sieglitz: "A younger work colleague was in intensive care for 48 days and on death's doorstep three times; however, over 100 people were praying for his recovery and to the amazement of the hospital staff, he is alive and well today."

Now to "new business." **Nathan Molinari**, a sophomore majoring in electrical engineering from Staten Island, New York, was selected for the Class of '67 Scholarship. Nathan is currently enrolled in the co-op program, and during the summer and fall of 2020, he worked with a construction management company on a construction site — even through the pandemic! He



Gerry Osborne '66 is seen with his son, David '93 (far right of photo), and David's family.

started his third semester of study in February 2021. Nathan is interested in projects related to the power grid and sustainable energy. In response to several questions I posed him, Nathan wrote the following:

"I feel that a core value I have gained from my time at Stevens is an appreciation for the joy in engineering. Coming into college, I was not sure if engineering was really for me on a personal level. However, my experience at Stevens has cemented for me that engineering is as much an expression of myself as it is a way to accomplish difficult tasks. I hope that I can carry my experience at Stevens into my future and continue to enjoy my life as an engineer.

"One thing at Stevens that has completely exceeded my expectations is the co-op program. When I came to Stevens, I always intended to be in the co-op program, but I was not expecting the amount of support that exists for it. As soon as I entered the program, I received support from multiple advisors. For example, I was given the opportunity to practice interview skills. I have already had the opportunity of seven months of work experience which I will be able to carry into my future careers."

I also had a very lengthy and quite special Zoom meeting with Nathan. I was blown away by his maturity, enthusiasm and appreciation. I was also pleased to hear his gratitude regarding the '67 Scholarship. During and after the Zoom call, I wondered: Was I as sophisticated and grounded as Nathan when I was a sophomore? — **Jeffrey I. Seeman**, jseeman@yahoo.com

Don't see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.

Graduate Log

SAM BERKOW M.ENG. '88, who invented the SMAART software and designed some of the country's greatest-sounding concert halls, including the Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York, will receive the Audio Innovator Award at the 20th Annual Parnelli Awards, the Parnelli Board of Advisors announced this summer.

Berkow has designed some of the most revered concert halls in the country including revered jazz rooms in St. Louis and San Francisco, as well as renovation work for the Hollywood Bowl and the Grand Ole Opry. In 1995 he invent-

ed SMAART software, "which today remains the standard and found on the laptop of nearly every touring FOH and systems engineer in the world," according to *Projection Lights and Staging* magazine. "SMAART (Sound Measurement Acoustical Analysis Realtime Tour) tests software for real-time sound system measurements and is critical for performance venues and facilities of all kinds."

Berkow is a freelance audio-related software expert whose "passion for sound measurement and acoustical design is deep and wide,"

according to the magazine. "His first professional mixing gig was for blues great Willie Dixon, and he would continue to handle sound for various groups through college and beyond. But then he became more interested in building studios and halls that were acoustically sound." Berkow worked with Artec, an acoustics design and theater planning firm, where he collaborated on projects such as the Birmingham Symphony Hall in England; and later with the Joiner Rose Group in Dallas, before striking out on his own.

'68 July 2021 — As I prepare this class log for the Fall *Indicator*, I again hope and pray you and your loved ones are healthy and safe. I hope all of you have gotten vaccinated. I won't argue the merits of getting vaccinated. Nancy and I both got our two shots back in late January, as soon as they were available to us. I continue to wear a mask in public, even though it's no longer mandated by the local authorities. Better to be safe than sorry.

Right after I filed my last class log in early January, David Joshi sent me a news clip indicating he had received a prestigious award for his many decades of radio broadcasting his own show that features the Indian community (see this issue's "Grist from the Mill" section for more on this award). Although he worked for many years at Johnson & Johnson, I did not know he was a radio personality as well. Way to go, David!

As I mentioned in my last log, I'm going to

feature Michael Hollander in this one. Michael is currently vice president of engineering at Innovative Design, Inc. in Knoxville, Tennessee. His wife, Cindy, to whom he has been married for 18 years, is the owner of the engineering design company. They have two adult children and three grandchildren.

They recently opened up a satellite office in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands and are providing engineering services to local companies. The last time I messaged him, he said he would be looking for retired engineers who might want an assignment on the island. Please contact him if you're interested in an island assignment. He's had a pretty exciting career as an engineer. He's a registered professional engineer and certified as a lead auditor/course director for ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 audits.

His career included positions at Union Carbide, Hilton Davis, Great Lakes Chemical, NIPRO,

Merck, UNITEX, Stord-Bartz, Engelhard, Wiley & Wilson, Carpenter Co., Dames & Moore, IT Corp, EMS and, finally, Innovative Design. He's lived in West Virginia, Ohio, Arkansas, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and now Tennessee.

Internationally, he has had assignments in Italy, Spain, France, Norway, Germany, Canada and England. He has also taught engineering courses at local community colleges, as well as ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 courses from introductory to lead auditor.

He and Cindy own a condo on St. Croix and spend about 30% of their time there now. They plan to increase that to 50% as they transition the running of the Tennessee office to local staff.

Sounds like Michael has led a full life so far, with the best yet to come.

Our next classmate guest will be Joe Carra.

Keep those cards and letters coming so I have plenty of fuel for our class log! Stay safe. — Allen A. Foytlin, foytlin01@gmail.com



Chi Psi alumni from the Class of '69 gathered for a fun reunion in the Poconos. Pictured, from left, are Dale Jacquish, Frank Cifelli, David Vercollone, Joe Rocky (sitting), Don Kennedy, Phil Smith, Joe Giacone, Tom Lovdal, John Strelitz and Russ Eitel.

'69 Log by Russ Eitel
July 2021 — It has been 52 years since we left the Stevens campus for those promising jobs that were so plentiful back in our day. Some of us continued to graduate school, and some were drafted into the military during the Vietnam War. Others chose to take the alternative path to prosperity. Mostly, we graduated with an engineering or science degree, but some chose to be doctors, lawyers, bankers, salesmen, builders or something that appealed to us at that moment. Like Benjamin Braddock in "The Graduate," we were advised "There is a great future in plastics." We were too early to ride the computer and technology wave from the beginning, but we learned to adapt.



1 Martine and Frank Cashin '70 enjoy the beach at Peconic, Long Island, New York. Frank works part-time in his own practice as a professional engineer and has three children and seven grandchildren. **2** Pat and Russ Eitel '69 on a recent road trip to Mount Rushmore. The road trip included South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana and Idaho — the last four states they had not visited. **3** Gerry Crispin '69 (third from right) and his first cousins (with 73 more of their children and grandchildren also attending!) at their 44th "Cousins' Campout" at Cape May, New Jersey, in July.

What we were really learning all those years at Stevens was how to think. We learned the ability to solve complicated problems. We learned to have confidence in our abilities.

Our group of Stevens friends has mainly centered around our fraternity brothers that we lived with while at Stevens. Today, we get together with 15 to 20 alumni of all ages each month on a regular Zoom meeting/cocktail hour. We rehash old stories and update each other on milestones in our families' lives. It has been a super rewarding experience reconnecting with old friends, and I highly recommend you reach out to your Stevens friends that you haven't seen in the past 10-50 years.

Please email me (Russ) your photos that you would like included in future issues of *The Stevens Indicator*. If you forward photos from your phone, select the largest photo possible. It will be high resolution and print the best. Please forward any information and accomplishments that you

would like to share in *The Stevens Indicator*.

That's all from beautiful Austin, Texas.

— Russ Eitel, russ@eitelgroup.com; Gerry Crispin, gerry@cxr.works; Ed Eichhorn, ed.eichhorn@medilinkgroup.com

'70 July 2021 — We received quite a bit of news. Tony Cusanelli retired in April 2014 and has not regretted it at all. "I frequently wonder how I ever found time to work. My wife's great-great-uncle was killed on the first day of the battle at Gettysburg. In October 2014, we visited the site where his unit (151st Pennsylvania Infantry) fought and subsequently bought a house less than a quarter-mile from where he fell, moving here in February 2015.

"This part of Pennsylvania is quite pretty and filled with history, rolling hills, apple orchards, dairy farms and horses. Pennsylvania does not levy state taxes on pension or Social Security income, real estate taxes and health insurance rates are better than New Jersey, and the traffic is much calmer! It is a great place to retire.

"Linda Thorpe and I married during my senior year at Stevens and celebrated our golden anniversary with six other Pi Lambda Phi fraternity brothers who are also married to the women they were dating while we were at Stevens. The party of 37 people squeaked under the COVID limit of 50 two days before the country was shut down on March 16, 2020. Both of us are in good health and have avoided any issues with COVID-19."

Tony also responded to my request for information on deceased classmates, reminding me that Ron Clements was his best man and died

two years later without ever marrying. Tony can be reached at tnycusanelli@netscape.net.

We also heard from Jabe Luttrell, who is living in Key West, Florida, with his wife, JoAnn. "Our home is on a canal, and we keep our Scarab center console hovering above the water ready for instant use. Caught three mahi-mahi yesterday. Because we live at the end of the earth and the drive to anything is many hours, we use our Cessna 340A to visit friends and relatives up north in the lower 48. COVID and bad weather kept us in Florida and the Bahamas, but we're on the cusp of venturing to the cold North soon. We've noticed a lot of people visiting the Keys. Traffic is pretty heavy, even after our normal busy season (winter) is over. I wonder if any of the '70 class made it down here.

"To keep my hand in engineering, I've been designing IoT devices and started a company to sell them. Interestingly, none of the items I design now could have been designed in our tenure at Stevens. The technology just wasn't there, nor the data infrastructure. When I had my electronics company that made embedded controls, I thought the computing power in our devices was really powerful. Now in my IoTs, the computers are even faster, smaller, more capable and much more integrated as a system." Jabe can be reached at jabeluttrell@att.net.

In our attempts to provide all spouses or partners of deceased classmates with their Old Guard pin, Pete Scheckermann let us know Dave Lynch's wife, Barbara, passed around 2000 and they had no children. After graduation, Dave joined the Air Force Reserves and became a pilot flying out of McGuire. In August 1976, he was



David Joshi '68 has won a prestigious career award. Read more on pages 5 and 56.



The Class of 1970 lost two beloved members recently: Bernie Chachula, left, and Bob Wisniewski. Their loved ones have shared touching tributes in the 1970 log.



flying into Mildenhall on a C141 that crashed in a thunderstorm while on final approach.

Pete mentioned that he is doing well in Fort Mill, South Carolina, and can be reached at pscheckemail@gmail.com.

Rob Wissolik wrote, “We just moved from Lafayette, Colorado, to Sequim, Washington, on the Olympic Peninsula. My wife Carol and I love it here.” Rob can be reached at pgtiwissolik@comcast.net.

Rob also let us know that **Gordon Quinones** has died. Besides Gordon, we provide information on the passing of **Bob Wisniewski** and **Bernie Chachula**. Gordon came to Stevens from Rutherford, New Jersey, and majored in chemical engineering. Music and the trumpet topped his hobbies and interests, and he was a member of the Stevens Dance Band, the Stevens Band and the Glee Club. He was also a member of Tau Beta Pi. After graduation he attended medical school, becoming a urologist and practicing in Northern California. He worked very hard promoting Stevens when we were in school. Gordon passed away February 25, 2021, from COVID-19. We send his wife, Carol, and their children our sincere appreciation for having been able to know Gordon.

Bob died on June 7, 2020, but we became aware of his passing only recently. His life partner, Jill Savitt, kindly provided this tribute: “Bob Wisniewski grew up in the Elmwood section of West Hartford, Connecticut. As a senior in high school, he gladly accepted a scholarship to Stevens (which he shared with **Howie Brecher**) and never looked back.

“Bob loved Stevens and relished the times that became stories of being housed on a ship when dorms were scarce, of being a brother at Sigma Nu, of singing in a tux in the Stevens Choir, playing basketball, discovering the streets of Hoboken and Manhattan (McSorley’s Ale House), and a mandatory humanities class to supplement all the science and engineering classes and lab

work. He majored in chemistry and, after graduation, returned to Stevens for advanced work in electrical engineering. While he didn’t finish the graduate degree, he met one of his lifelong best friends, **Marty Lassen ’77**, during that time.

“Bob returned to Connecticut and worked at various jobs, some chemistry related, and traveled to New Mexico, California and Chicago, and after his marriage, to France often. The highlight of the 1970s was the birth of his son, Christopher, in 1979. Bob’s lifelong passion was electronics, and he enjoyed a long career in the field at Infodex, a small company that manufactured flat panel displays for military, hospitals, etc. When the company closed in the early 2000s, Bob worked for Reading for the Blind and Dyslexic as a recording engineer and used his ability to fix just about anything by starting a small business in home repairs, including roofing.

“Bob continued his love of music with voice and piano lessons, singing in various choruses, and even sang in New York City for Pope Benedict XVI. He joined a local community chorus where he met his life partner, Jill, who accompanied him through the next 20 years of his life. They explored New England and shared many interests, such as chorus, poetry, birding, dancing (salsa and swing), and walking in the woods. Bob spent the last seven years of his life living with cancer, and had to learn to stand, walk and drive again, which he did, “one foot in front of the other,” literally and figuratively. Bob, a man of science and faith, continued to live as fully as possible — generous, humble and grateful to the end, a man who always saw the good in everyone, and believed that our path is guided by a loving God.” Jill can be reached at JILL.SAVITT@new-haven.k12.ct.us.

Jed Babbin was kind enough to let us know Bernie died on April 26, 2021. Bernie came to

Don’t see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.

Stevens from Morganville, New Jersey, focusing on mechanical engineering. While at Stevens, Bernie was involved in *The Stute*, Sports Car Club, Newman Club, AIAA and Arnold Air Society, where he served as chaplain during his junior year. He could often be seen with his fellow AFROTC classmates **Jed**, **Ed Atkins** and **Rich Bennett**.

Karen Khasymska, the oldest daughter of Bernie and Diane Chachula, provided information on behalf of the family: “Bernie greatly enjoyed his time at Stevens and treasured the lifelong friendships and experiences made there. His education and ROTC experience jump-started his 32-year career as a U.S. Air Force officer, initially working as a mechanical engineer. Bernie continued on with his education, earning his MBA at the University of Georgia, his J.D. at Villanova Law School, and his L.L.M. at George Washington University, but the engineering background from his time at Stevens continued to play a central role in his work in acquisitions law. In 2002, he retired as director of contract law for the Air Force Materiel Command and continued to pursue his passion for lifelong learning through his involvement in a number of military, legal, historical, and parish communities. Bernie’s greatest pride was his family, and his legacy and love for learning, will continue to live on through Diane, his wife of 45 years; his children, Karen, Jon and Laura; son-in-law, Alex; two grandchildren; and many treasured friends.” The family can be reached through Karen at khasymskak@gmail.com.

Life is too short. Please plan to attend the Old Guard Days; a new date will be announced. Until then, stay safe and healthy and enjoy life.
— Eugene A.J. Golebiowski, eagolebiowski@att.net

’71 July 2021 — I received notice of **Randall Hansen’s** passing in June 2021. His daughter wrote that Randy enjoyed his days at Stevens, and that the school gave him a great path for a career of over 40 years in mechanical engineering, with a focus on HVAC systems for pharmaceutical companies.

Rick Gontin (formerly Gonzalez) passed away in May 2020 after a long fight with Parkinson’s disease. Always a creative thinker, when Rick Gonzalez married Mary Ann in 1976, they decided to blend their last names into Gontin. He completed a master’s degree in physics from Stevens in 1979. Rick had a wonderful career in

R&D, specializing in optics, and earned patents and awards in the aerospace, medical technology and semiconductor (lithography) industries. He worked on the Hubble Space Telescope and the Space Shuttle and improved satellite guidance systems, training the space crew on the system and earning a patent for his breakthrough work. He also developed new technology for more effectively and quickly analyzing blood samples in medical centers using laser beams built into the equipment. At his last job, at ASML, he won awards and patents for his work in lithography and oversaw R&D teams in the U.S. and the Netherlands. Rick often spoke at industry and client symposiums and presentations. He also did community work in children's sports, school and church — mostly quietly and behind the scenes. He was always there to help family and friends at difficult times in their lives.

Diane and Joe Moaba sold their house in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, for a price they couldn't refuse, to a Connecticut "refugee" escaping the Northeast. It was bought sight unseen with the buyer's realtor walking through with an iPhone. They bought a house on the In-

tracoastal Waterway in Carolina Beach, North Carolina — bigger, cheaper, and with much lower taxes.

They met up with Nan and Ken Sullivan, who are buying a house in Wilmington, North Carolina, to be near their son and family. The Sullivans plan to keep their Virginia estate for a little while.

Ginny and Paul Gaffney got together with Nancy and Bob Munczinski at their Kiawah Island, South Carolina, residence to celebrate our 50th. The Gaffneys' children all live in the Charleston, South Carolina, area.

The Class of 1971 was tremendously successful in our efforts to establish a permanently endowed Class of 1971 Stevens scholarship award. By the end of the campaign in June, we edged past our goal of \$100,000 to endow the scholarship. The donations reflected an amazing contribution from about 30% of class members.

Due to lingering COVID-19 concerns, our in-person 50th reunion in June 2021 was canceled and will likely be rescheduled for June 2022. Stevens did, however, arrange a number of remote events that weekend. I participated in four of them, and they were all very well run

and interesting. The new twin tower dormitories and student center are structurally done with inside work progressing rapidly. They should be opening by Spring 2022 and fully occupied in Fall 2022. Stevens' Fall 2021 enrollment is expected to include about 1,100 freshmen and a total of 4,000 undergraduates.

Our Class of 1971 Zoom "Reunion" on June 4, 2021, was attended by about 15 classmates and was a great time. We all started out with a brief summary of what we had done and were doing now, which morphed into some interesting life stories. The second hour was spent reminiscing about Stevens, teachers (Salwen, Furst, Steinman, etc.), the cannon theft, Wednesday ROTC drills, Saturday morning exams, the ship, etc.

After a brief ROTC/Air Force career, Roger Schatel finally settled in at AM Best in New Jersey for 23 years doing IT work. Being transferred to the cyber security division hastened his retirement in 2018. Besides working with the Stevens Alumni Association, Roger likes to take month-long trips Out West.

Glenn Babcock sold his Maryland house and moved to Venice, Florida, but bought a cottage



The Class of '71 reunited virtually this past June to mark their 50th anniversary at Alumni Weekend 2021.



NBC News interviews Deborah (Naas) O'Rourke '75 on Commencement Day 1975. Deborah was a member of the first class of women admitted to Stevens in fall 1971. See her on Move-In Day on page 43. And see more photos of the first class of women on page 63.

in Virginia to visit with his three sons and nine grandkids in the area and in North Carolina. He spent 12 years with Carrier, then 30 years with Baltimore Aircoil before retiring. Glenn still plays catcher on a real baseball team, although his throws to second base now take three hops. He is also still working with the Orioles through their Sarasota, Florida, spring training site. He is looking forward to 2024 to celebrate his 50th anniversary with Kathy. He still displays his musical skills in a Dixieland band, playing the accordion and banjo.

Debbie and Stan Hutchings spend as much time as possible with their 13-year-old grandson. With his chemistry degree, Stan spent 33 years at Hoffmann-La Roche doing synthesis research before retiring in 2005. He moved to New Hampshire and works part-time at Father's Mustache.

More stories from our virtual reunion in the next Indicator! — [William Stengle; wfs20hlm@aol.com](mailto:wfs20hlm@aol.com)

'72 July 2021 — Fellow Classmates: I'm writing to you fresh — no, exhausted (!) — from a long visit to Disney World with my grandchildren. And the Marines think their training facility in Parris Island is tough, HA!

Well, guys, our 50th Reunion will be celebrated on the Stevens campus from June 2 to 5, 2022. It is less than a year away! Please mark your calendars and make an effort to join us at the

festivities. It will be a grand celebration. We are considering campus tours, cocktail parties and a class dinner where the Old Guard pins will be distributed. The question is: What else do you want to do to make this reunion extra-special and worth the trip to Hoboken? A cruise on the Hudson, a tour of Hoboken to see how it has changed, a game at Yankee Stadium, a dinner at a Hoboken restaurant, a cruise to the Caribbean? We need your feedback because all of these options require deposits and take time to plan. **Email us!** Many thanks to those of you who have expressed interest in helping with the reunion preparations by joining the reunion committee. Everyone is welcomed to become part of our organizational team. Take it away, George...

Thanks, Enrique! Speaking about the reunion, your class officers have been meeting to provide some compelling reasons to join us at the reunion. We want to make sure our reunion is a special and exciting event unique to our class. For example, the officers are preparing a 50th anniversary booklet that will explore our years on campus and the world around us in the late '60s and early '70s — including our music, cars, venues, mixers and fraternity life. We also are collecting stories of our adventures, escapades, and memorable moments during our undergraduate days for inclusion in the booklet or for publication in future class logs. Kindly send your stories and any photos to our email addresses.

We continue to seek fraternity members who

are willing to help encourage their brothers to attend the reunion festivities. It is always more fun to celebrate with many old friends. We could use assistance with finding volunteers for **Beta Theta Pi, Chi Phi, Phi Sigma Kappa, Pi Lambda and Theta Xi**. If you are a member of one of these fraternities and would be willing to volunteer some time to calling or emailing your brothers, please contact us.

Now on to some class news.

After about 30-plus years, the lovely Maryann and I were able to catch up with Joyce and classmate **Walter (Buddy) Klosterhoff** (Theklosterhoffs@gmail.com). We had a very enjoyable lunch at a beautiful restaurant overlooking Lake Hopatcong in New Jersey. Buddy retired from PSEG's Computer Operations Group in Newark, New Jersey, after 34 years of dedicated service. Joyce and Buddy have one daughter, Dawn, born in our sophomore year. During his Stevens years, Buddy commuted on the Erie Lackawanna from Dover to Stevens while Joyce taught elementary school. Not an easy trip each day. Later, Dawn became a certified public accountant. Like her dad, she is very good with numbers. Today, Buddy has the time to spend with his two grandchildren, while Joyce and Buddy also help their son-in-law with his hair salon in Boonton, New Jersey.

We also heard from our faithful and prolific scrivener, **Christ Haritos** (Haritos8@ptd.net), who had "some news to share" with us:

"In late September 2020, my children had an extended weekend from school. They are teenagers, so there will be less things that they will want to do with their parents as time passes. With the limited lockdown narrowing our travel options, I felt that a trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, would work well for my son, a big baseball fan. I took it a step further and contacted classmate **Tom Maher** (TomMaher@aol.com), about visiting him at his farm in Tully, New York. Since my daughter loves animals, the visit would offer something for her. I was looking forward to the trip because I had not seen Tom since we graduated.

"The visit at Tom's farm was delightful. He and his wife, Mary Jane, made us welcome with a huge buffet. Our twins got a tour of the house from their son Brian, then they settled in his study for a foray into a series of electronic games.

"Tom and I spoke of our 50th class reunion. We agreed to reunite and to contact two of our friends. Tom contacted **John Corrado**, and I

touched base with **John Garibaldi**. Both agreed to come to the reunion. This has the makings of a reunion touch football game (one touchdown or closest to the goal line wins it — and then off to the bar)."

Sounds great, Christ. Thanks for reaching out to Tom and John. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the reunion. — **George W. Johnston**, gwjohnstonjr@msn.com; **Enrique L. Blanco**; elbmcb@optonline.net

'73 July 2021 — We are only two short years from our 50th reunion, and we continue to hear from more and more of our fellow classmates. Many of them have contributed and are continuing to contribute to our class gift, an endowed scholarship. A big thank you to all who have contributed! And we look forward to seeing all of you at our big reunion. Look for more information as we get closer.

We welcomed a new member of the Class of 1973 this year when the Stevens Alumni Association board unanimously voted to approve **Ron Harris** as an active member of the Class of '73. As **Bruce Blondina** so eloquently presented to the

board, "As Stevens alumni we leave with a piece of paper and a sizeable amount of knowledge and experience that are the keys to our career. Many also meet a friend they will have for life; some will meet their soulmate who will be their partner for life; hopefully, most will leave with some great memories. Ron left without the degree, but he found something very important at Stevens — his calling — his avocation and his vocation.

"Ron unabashedly put it best when he said that Stevens 'did give me the experience and skills for a very successful and fulfilling career in broadcasting. It would not have been possible without my years at Stevens, and I have always felt a debt of gratitude to the school.'

"Ron's debt of gratitude to Stevens (has been paid by) giving treasure, time, and most importantly his talent over nearly 50 years, whether that was frequently coming back East to mentor the students at WCPR or having major rock groups he knew record liners and promos for WCPR.

"Ron is well known and remembered by the Class of '73, such that within the first 24 hours, 21 of his 250 classmates had signed the petition."

A benefit from the outreach of your class

officers is that we are getting updates from some of you. Here is one from **Tom Szeluga**: "I retired about two years ago from Citibank, where I spent most of my time working in their technology risk area. I spend most of my time these days volunteering at church and local activities, Many of these have closed down because of the pandemic, but I've been able to still work three to four days a week at Morris Habitat for Humanity, where I'm working on building affordable houses for deserving families in the area."

George Shaffer has been reaching out to fellow alumni and has this update from **Rich Klockner**. Rich is still working in New York City as a safety engineer at building construction sites. Unfortunately, Rich's wife of 33 years passed away in 2020. George also had a chance to bring up some mutual friends from Stevens days: **Robert Janson**, **Dennis Hurley** and **Tom Critelli**.

We heard from **Fred Vanderbeek**, who like many of us had to cancel travel in 2020. Fred has been a regular donor to our scholarship. Thanks, Fred.

We also heard from **Joel Katzman**, who writes, "Even though I officially retired from my present company, CTCL Americas, on January 15, I am



Barbara and John McDonnell '72 with Nariman and Hoveida Farvardin at Stevens' Celebration of Philanthropy dinner, October 2019

CREATE YOUR Legacy

"To help ensure a bright future, my wife, Barbara, and I have included Stevens in our estate plan. We have designated our legacy gift to Stevens' endowment to establish a permanent scholarship fund in our names that will support future students of the College of Arts and Letters."

— **John B. McDonnell '72, Member, Stevens Legacy Society**

It's easy to include Stevens in your will or living trust, or name the university as a beneficiary of a retirement account, life insurance policy or other financial account. With these gifts:

- You control the funding property during your lifetime.
- You may change your bequest or beneficiary designation at any time.
- Your bequest or trust designation will not be subject to any potential federal estate tax.
- You gain membership in the Stevens Legacy Society for providing future support for the university.

Take action with our planning tools at stevens.giftplans.org

Contact **Michael Governor**, Stevens Director of Planned Giving, today at **201.216.8967** or michael.governor@stevens.edu



STEVENS
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY

Births

To Victoria (O'Connor) Blazeski '11 and George Blazeski '10 M.Eng. '11, a son, Erik, on 12/9/2020.

To Stephanie (Miller) Sota '11 and Alex Sota '10, a son, Austin, on 2/22/21.

Obituaries Undergraduate

R.M. Andersen '43 1/30/21
 C.H. Anderson '43 5/30/21
 J. Schlichting '44 4/28/20
 R. Bahr, Jr. '45 5/11/21
 J.A. Misteli '46 1/26/21
 L.E. Sealey '46 9/26/19
 N.D. Sellman '47 5/25/21
 D.E. Cordell '49 6/6/21
 H.C. Kellenbence '49 5/12/21
 J.F. Sullivan '49 2/2/21
 R.T. Ellis '50 2/11/21
 J.H. Helfrich '50 4/13/21
 R.L. Turner '50 4/19/21
 V.L. Dagostino '51 6/12/21
 E.W. Dittmeier '51 3/31/21
 K.R. Goller '52 6/5/21
 D.L. Hertz, Jr. '52 1/9/21

R.T. Greengrove '53 4/13/21
 H.R. Angel '54 6/30/21
 A.D. Rogers '54 3/8/21
 D.E. Nold '55 3/26/21
 J.H. Beardall '56 8/2/21
 A.E. Lager '56 Unknown
 J. Medige '56 1/21/21
 R.G. Young '56 1/12/21
 J. Plecs, Jr. '57 2/25/21
 S.L. Gavin '59 4/2/21
 D.T. Kopp '59 4/23/21
 A.A. Allan '60 2/3/21
 R.P. Forslund '60 M.S. '62 8/3/21
 E.J. Marticorena '68 4/15/21
 J.R. Wolff '68 7/22/21
 A.C. Payne, Jr. '69 5/27/21
 B.M. Chachula '70 4/26/21
 R.A. Wisniewski '70 6/7/20
 R.W. Hansen '71 6/2/21
 R.C. Reale '71 4/29/21
 C.L. Peterson '72 6/16/21
 J.J. Tamulevicz '72 3/26/21
 N.E. Langseder '77 3/4/21
 S.H. Ryder Reyes '96 10/28/20
 K.L. Wilson '99 5/5/21
 S.A. Kolonko '05 7/21/21

Graduate

C.M. Close M.S. '53 4/3/21
 M.M. Donigian M.S. '55 7/28/21
 A.P. Walsh M.S. '55 2/1/21
 R.S. Forsyth M.S. '59 3/21/21
 M. Rachman M.S. '61 1/14/21
 F. Jackson M.S. '62 4/16/21
 M.J. Hogan M.S. '65 2/7/21
 E.D. Prescott, Jr. M.M.S. '65 1/2/21
 R.C. Gibson M.S. '66 4/4/21
 P.A. Liberti Ph.D. '66 1/18/21
 M.A. Vallent M.Eng. '67 3/1/21
 R.T. Nixon M.S. '68 3/11/21
 P. Skerchock M.M.S. '68 1/17/21
 M.W. Decere M.M.S. '69 1/17/21
 S.E. Hunt M.Eng. '77 5/27/21
 T.H. Lloyd M.S. '84 7/13/21
 T.M. Bohan M.S. '93 1/10/21
 R.W. Pettiford E.M.T.M. '05 1/30/21
 J.A. Hunter M.Eng. '09 9/8/19
 G.J. Yorke M.Eng. '09 2/17/21
 A. Randazzo M.Eng. '10 4/20/21

Faculty

C. Suffel M.Eng. '85 2/4/21
 S. Hassiotis 6/13/21

still in contract with them and staying active on projects. I also represent them on technical committees in association with American Petroleum Institute and Process Industry Practices. Laura and I still stay active with some travel and with our daughters and their families. And we celebrated our 45th wedding anniversary on June 12."

The latest recipient of a Class of '73 scholarship is Erika Vargas, a civil engineering major in the Class of 2023. Erika had this to say to the Class of '73: "Thank you for the Class of 1973 Scholarship. I appreciate the assistance and am honored to have been a recipient. The additional financial support lightened the burden on myself as well as my parents, who not only take care of my two younger brothers but financially support one of my cousins, as well as my grandparents. I was able to truly delve into my courses as well as enjoy the other aspects of college without having to work a full-time job. This has truly solidified the fact that I want to be able to give back to future Stevens students. I hope to be able to participate in a scholarship fund after I graduate. Once again, thank you, and I wish you all the best!" — Anthony Callendrello, acallendrello@comcast.net

'74 July 2021 — "You've got to admit it's getting better, a little better all the time." The Beatles said it best as we hope to continue the decline of the COVID pandemic in the later part of 2021.

My recent log ended with *Per Aspera Ad Astra*. *Per aspera*. We now have terrible clarity of the collective hardship all of us lived through in 2020 and early 2021. We universally grieve for those who have suffered the greatest hardship and celebrate the incredible government, industry and scientific response to develop the vaccines to get us where we are today.

Ad Astra is our call to look "to the stars." With lots of time to reflect and think, are we ready to rediscover the light we'd been following? Or ready to add a new light, a new direction, for the rest of our journey?

Your class officers: President **Frank Donaldson**, Vice President **Greg Gemgnani**, Fund Captain **Bob Thoelen** and I will be asking for your help as we head into our 50th reunion in a couple of years. "Old Guard" may not be the term all of us want to be known by, but here we are. The "Old Guard," those protectors of what Stevens is all about, because we have helped make

it so. Our years starting in 1970, at the place that molded us, and then the decades of life that brought us to this time. We and our fellow classes of "Old Guard" bring the name of Stevens to life with our families and friends and with the organizations we joined or formed.

How should we celebrate? Our celebration should be about representing ourselves and what we have accomplished. Certainly, our success monetarily or levels of responsibility in organizations are part of it. However, our reputation and Stevens' reputation were built on the personal attributes of honesty and integrity reinforced during our time there and carried into our later lives. If these did not exist, our success and the institute's reputation would suffer greatly.

The officers will be meeting regularly and communicating our thoughts on celebrating, but please share your ideas as well so we may incorporate every idea possible.

Just a little about what I've been doing. In 2019, I'd begun researching my wife's and my family history. Gathering all the information we had or could remember from conversations with parents and other family, I began digging through every site I could. With a lot of time and patience,

the result was being able to trace ancestors back to 1800 in the U.S., Germany, Scotland, Ireland, England and Italy with certainty. Since I am the first in my side of the family born in the U.S., it meant much time searching European information. Each piece of information we had was verified, and then I started tracing online.

Online is a story by itself. The information depended upon someone from a government, church or other organization translating and typing the information correctly. Misspelled names and incorrectly read dates could have sent me in a completely wrong direction if I didn't find the originals. I didn't accept it unless I could verify the original. The conclusion for anyone doing this is: You can't trust the information on sites like Ancestry.com or similar ancestry sites without verifying. All of this research was finally combined into a narrative with the significant events of the time so our family could understand what our relatives lived through, much like we and our current families have lived through in this pandemic. It added valuable perspective of the many major upheavals in the lives of our families. It certainly made us all appreciate what our ancestors went through for us.

For the past four years I'd been working with a small local non-profit group in the area I live. They provide minor funding to support some improvements to several small downtown boroughs. Mostly rural, beautiful rolling hills, woodlands, and farms surround these boroughs. They had one major non-farm industry, slate quarrying, which declined, then ended in the mid-

1950s as asphalt shingles took over the market. Last year, a group of us began identifying how to improve the area, and I formed an investment company with them to provide more funds to the area. More to come as it evolves. — Gary A. Jung, classof1974@alumni.stevens.edu

'75 July 2021 — Dear Classmates, we hope this edition of The Indicator finds you and your families well. There has been quite a bit of activity under way with our class leadership, for which we would like to provide you an update.

Class Reunion: Our 45th reunion was cancelled due to the pandemic. We had hoped to reschedule Reunion this year, but in our discussions with Stevens it became apparent that a physical reunion in June presented too great a risk. Therefore, two virtual reunions were held via Zoom on June 4 and 5. Although no substitute for a live event, the virtual format was a good way to see old classmates and friends and share some great stories about our time on Castle Point. If all goes well, we fully expect to plan a live event in June 2022. We hope to see many of you there! Until then, we plan on a Q3 class Zoom gathering. Your suggestions for topics to cover would be appreciated.

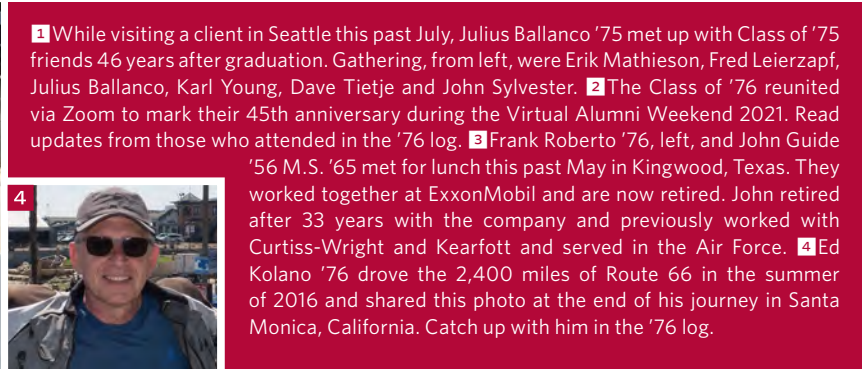
Class of '75 Scholarship Fund: This year's Stevens Day of Giving helped our class scholarship fund cross the \$100,000 mark for our class endowment. After so many years, this threshold has finally been reached and we can now begin awarding scholarships this fall of 2021. Many

thanks to all of you who generously contributed to this achievement. As you well know, 1975 was the first year in Stevens' history in which women were admitted. Therefore, in commemoration of this truly groundbreaking event, the Class of 1975 is very proud to announce that one of the two scholarships will be awarded to a female applicant. Each scholarship will be in the amount of \$3,000. The award criteria are based on superior academic achievement and financial need. Thanks again for making this possible, and we look forward to your future financial support. When you give, just please be sure to designate your gifts to the "1975 Class Endowment Scholarship Fund." Lastly, our class should be very proud of the great turnout in this year's Day of Giving — our participation percentage ranked eighth among Stevens alumni classes! Please know that your contribution in any amount will make a difference to advance the future of deserving students at Stevens.

Alumni Mentorship Program: In a number of interactions, discussions and Zoom calls with class members over the past year, a common thread has emerged with an idea to give back to Stevens in a unique way. With over 10,000 years of collective life experience within our class, there is a strong desire to help and guide those just beginning, or in the beginning or middle of their careers. **Martha Connolly** has crafted a proposal with the assistance of **Harry MacArthur** for a Stevens Alumni Mentorship Program. **Karl Young**, our class president, has reached out to Stevens and is in the process of working with the

1 A Stevens Alumni Association event welcoming the first class of women. **2** Class of '75 friends Malena Higuera, Pat La Salle, Deborah O'Rourke and Martha Connolly explore the Grand Canyon. **3** One of many alumnae gatherings through the years of the first class of women. Seated, from left, are Tina Doyle, Malena Higuera and Martha Connolly. Standing from left are Lenore Schupak '74 and Pat La Salle. **4** Lenore Schupak '74 (who graduated a year early to become the first woman to receive an undergraduate degree from Stevens) and friends.





1 While visiting a client in Seattle this past July, Julius Ballanco '75 met up with Class of '75 friends 46 years after graduation. Gathering, from left, were Erik Mathieson, Fred Leierzapf, Julius Ballanco, Karl Young, Dave Tietje and John Sylvester. **2** The Class of '76 reunited via Zoom to mark their 45th anniversary during the Virtual Alumni Weekend 2021. Read updates from those who attended in the '76 log. **3** Frank Roberto '76, left, and John Guide '56 M.S. '65 met for lunch this past May in Kingwood, Texas. They worked together at ExxonMobil and are now retired. John retired after 33 years with the company and previously worked with Curtiss-Wright and Kearfott and served in the Air Force. **4** Ed Kolano '76 drove the 2,400 miles of Route 66 in the summer of 2016 and shared this photo at the end of his journey in Santa Monica, California. Catch up with him in the '76 log.

administration to implement this program. Karl has moved Martha's proposal to the Stevens Alumni Leadership Committee for consideration. They agreed this was a great idea but could not commit to implementation this fall due to other, pre-planned programs. As a start, we will offer mentoring opportunities to the two recipients of the 1975 scholarship program this fall. Everyone in our class is welcome to contribute as a mentor and to provide advice on different topics. More communication to follow as we begin to engage with Stevens on this exciting new program.

Class of 1975 Advisory Board: An advisory board has been set up to assist the class officers in reviewing/brainstorming new ideas and policies. Seven classmates volunteered to join the board. The board has already been instrumental in crafting the guidelines for the class scholarship program. If you are interested in participating on the board, please let us know.

Seattle Micro-Reunion: A "micro-reunion" in Seattle was planned this July with Karl Young, Julius Ballanco, Dave Tietje, Eric Mathieson, Fred Leierzapf and John Sylvester. This is a great way for our class to connect locally, and we encourage you to organize such events in your areas as well.

New Class VP Appointed: Karl Young's proposal to add Martha Connolly as our second class vice president has been approved by Stevens.

Martha is an innovator and brings strong leadership skills to this role. Additionally, she represents the first class of women admitted to Stevens. As such, her voice will serve as a conduit to all women in the Stevens community and assist in getting the Alumni Mentorship Program off the ground, along with other class initiatives. Let's wish Martha the best of success in her new capacity.

As always, we look forward to news from you. We want *The Indicator* to be about you! Hope to hear from you soon! — **Harold J. MacArthur, Jr.**, harrymac@comcast.net; **Joseph A. Krieger**, joe.krieger.75@gmail.com

'76 July 2021 — Nine members of the Class of '76 Zoomed in for our 45th Reunion during Virtual Alumni Weekend. Not a bad showing, given circumstances, and not too far off other reunion classes. We had a lively discussion, and, being engineers, relied on PowerPoint slides to bring back some memories, as well as view the many changes made on campus since graduation. Tom Errington will perform some magic to make the slides available to all. Embarrassing extracts from *The Stute* and senior booklet showed just how much we changed — or not — depending on your state of denial.

Here's a brief update on the nine of us:

Tom Errington — Retired, living in Brick, New Jersey, continuing to be hopeful he can go on a cruise again but keeping busy with consulting gigs in management systems. "Our grandsons, Quinton, Declan and Nathaniel, are 5, 2 and 1, respectively. In November, we will be at the Grand Canyon for a few days. Darcy will retire February 1. Immediately after (February 2), we are cruising the Caribbean for 11 days, then touring Florida for another 18 days visiting relatives and friends, including the Aienas. In June, we will take a 26-day cruise round-trip from Copenhagen in the Baltic and North Seas out to Iceland, Scotland and many places in between.

Foster Miller — Living in Laurel, Maryland, retired from government service in 2018 and has taken advantage of retirement to travel to stamp-collecting events around the country. "In 2019, I drove over 29,000, miles, including trips to Arizona, Alabama, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and South and North Dakota. In early 2020, I bought a new car and made a quick trip to Orlando and back. The next week the pandemic hit, and I spent most of the next year on Zoom. I'm now looking forward to resuming my road trips."

Bob Wu — Retired from Starbucks Coffee International and now lives in Lake Ronkonkoma, New York.

John Zaccaria — Retired from ITT/Exelis and

is living in New Jersey. He is a proud parent after his daughter's graduation in software engineering from Stevens this past May.

Jack Leonard — Teaching in Maryland and recently remarried.

Barry Ocello — Retired from Siemens and living in Grayslake, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago.

Dennis Weinstein — Retired for the last eight years, living in Seattle, Washington.

Ken Wahl — Retired from Infinium and living on Long Beach Island. As mentioned in the last *Indicator*, their son, Nick, and his wife, Jaime, were expecting a baby boy. Lucas Michael Wahl, their fourth grandchild, was born April 5. Lucas and his mom and dad are doing great.

Frank Roberto — Retired from ExxonMobil and still living in Texas, proud parent of four plus three in-law children, and grandparent of 11.

And to the other nearly 200 who could not make the reunion, please drop me a note at FrankRoberto76@gmail.com with any updates on you and your families that we can share in the next *Indicator*.

Ed Kolano dropped a note with news of an impending retirement, saying, "I plan to pull the plug July 31 this year after 41 years of government service in the USMC and FAA. I'll probably do some consulting flight test work after that, but only fun projects. Mostly I want to get back on the road on my motorcycle. I've ridden trips of 5,000-7,000 miles most of the past 10 summers (back in the good old pre-COVID era) and have come home with some interesting stories. You can Google "kolano route 66" in case your retirement came with a case of insomnia."

An interesting article, recapping Ed's journey the length of Route 66 in the summer of 2016, includes this closing comment: "Navigational missteps, weather challenges, some awful road surfaces, parasitic itch-makers and a hotel room with no — get this — cold water, and I wouldn't change a thing. The sights, experiences, terrific riding road segments and most of all, the people we encountered, made for a 2,400-mile dopamine drip. Enjoyed every minute, even the miserable minutes, and I'd do it again. Except for crossing the desert in the afternoon in August — that was just dumb." Overall a very good read.

The accompanying picture is at journey's end in Santa Monica. — **Frank Roberto**, frankroberto76@gmail.com; **Thomas F. Errington**, classof1976news@live.com

'77 August 2021 — Hello Class of 77! Well, I must say I really messed up this time. I completely missed the deadline announcement for this issue of the *Indicator*, so I'm frantically trying to put a short bit together if only to remind all of you that (depending upon when you get this issue of the *Indicator*) we are around eight to nine months from our 45th graduation anniversary and (hopefully) the reunion. The planning dates at his point would appear to be the weekend of June 3rd through the 5th of 2022.

Depending upon where you are the Delta variance has had quite an impact, and in some cases, that's putting it mildly. This of course means that there are a few "what ifs" regarding what the reunion in June 2022 will look like. The only thing I can offer right now is for you to watch the Stevens website, the Class of '77 Facebook page, our LinkedIn site, or to sign up for the class newsletter.

Initially, Jeff, Dawn and I will be putting together plans for the reunion for our class, and as we approach the date, no doubt, we'll be recruiting support from some of you to help make it all happen.

Remember, if you want to be on the mailing list for the Class of 77 newsletter email your request to Classof1977@alumni.stevens.edu. Stay in touch with us that way or - LinkedIn: "Stevens Class of 1977" (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/4478051>) - Facebook page: "Stevens Institute of Technology: Class of '77". If you plan to donate don't forget the class of 1977 endowment scholarship. If you can't find your way to it on the Stevens website please contact the Alumni Office or any of the 1977 class officers. (Jeff Iapicco, Dawn Ortell, or myself.)

Take care, — **Paul Porzio, Producer/Host, Eclectic Hours, Radio Fairfax Sundays 10am-Noon Streaming Live; eclectichours@cox.net**

'79 June 2021 — **John Dearborn** was appointed as a director to the board of Arcanum Infrastructure, LLC in Houston, the company announced in June. Dearborn, who is also a member of the Stevens Board of Trustees, brings experience in the chemical space, both domestically and internationally, with leadership in world-scale processing plants, licensing technology and commercial negotiations, along with financial and strategic initiatives, within prior companies such as Union Carbide, Dow

Chemical, SABIC, and the Williams Companies.

Kevin Clement, chair of Arcanum's Board of Managers, said, "With over four decades of experience in petrochemicals including the LAO (Linear Alpha Olefin) space, John has led successful teams in developing and growing business platforms. We are excited he has joined our team and look forward to his leadership in making Arcanum Infrastructure, LLC a key partner to the growth in North America. John's insights and relationships will enhance our value proposition and help extend the reach of our customer base." Clement said Arcanum currently owns and operates Raven Butene-1, LLC, a fit-for-purpose Butene-1 facility in Baytown, Texas. Arcanum is a jointly owned holding company with majority interests held by global private markets firm Partners Group, on behalf of its clients, and assets managed by Ontario Power Generation, including the Ontario Power Generation Pension Fund. — alumni-log@stevens.edu

'80 July 2021 — I'm happy to share updates with you from a group of classmates we haven't heard from in a while. (Thank you, Katy!)

Helaine Horwitz Cuddy (my very first Stevens roommate!) wrote, "After graduating, I worked at IBM and got my M.S. in operations research from Brooklyn Poly. During my 35-year career, I was involved with two niche operating systems (TPF and Tandem) and their hardware/software. My area of passion and expertise was in Systems Performance Modelling. As such, I also moved around a lot, always looking for a challenge. I was living in Colorado and decided to move into doing "fix and flip" real estate before it was "big." When my hubby was diagnosed with cancer, our world changed overnight, and we moved to a house we were building on a lake in South Carolina. I purchased rental properties and have them to this day. He passed a year later, and I moved to where I live today, Brevard, North Carolina, on a lake which was always my dream. I have a beautiful daughter, Laura, and son-in-law, Max. I have a wonderful partner, Hans, who I share my life with."

Following graduation (which included both his B.E. and M.E. in four years), **Dino Favetta** worked at Exxon on some exciting projects around the world, including a one-year stint in Saudi Arabia. For the past 31 years, he's been running his own consulting company, working on a gamut of projects with a recent focus in electric storage, for which he has a number of patents. He is an

adjunct professor in the chemical engineering department at Stevens. He and his wife live in Morristown and have three children, the youngest of which is a 2011 Stevens graduate.

From Albuquerque, **Janise Baldo** shared, “Since becoming single again in 2014, life has been very busy for me in the high desert of New Mexico! In 2017, I had the opportunity to visit India and Nepal for a Buddhist festival in Northern India. Sightseeing included mosques, the Taj Mahal, temples, the Ganges, craft demonstrations and talks at local artisan shops. The trip was magical, tragic and exciting all at once. To witness first-hand the traffic flow — cars, taxis, buses, motorcycles, pedestrians, mopeds, trucks, cows, camels, dogs, bicycles, monkeys, horse-drawn carts and three-wheeled “tik tiks” — was a mystical experience. It was life-changing as well, as I am overwhelmed with gratitude to live in a country where I no longer take for granted the comforts of daily living, such as breathing clean air, drinking clean water and having access to bathroom facilities.

“The houses in Nepal were works of art, and the government provides grants to organizations dedicated to providing a healthier environment for the country. We visited Gandhi’s tomb and other historic sites. We went north to the festival in Dehra Dun, at the monastery that serves as

the seat of the Drikung Kagyu Tibetan Buddhist lineage. A Tibetan community lives and works around the monastery, and I was very taken by the amazingly intricate, beautiful gates that lead to the houses.

“I retired from my environmental, health and safety engineering job at Sandia National Laboratories in October 2018 after serving there nearly 29 years. In 2019, the labs asked me to return part-time as a technical consultant on the same environmental cleanup project that I passionately led while an employee. I have returned spring to fall every year since then to continue this important work.

“I received my Master Gardner qualification from New Mexico State University in October 2019 and have been an active volunteer working the grower’s hot line, maintaining the main garden at the Albuquerque Garden Center, creating fresh arrangements for holiday sales and growing plants for our annual Spring Plant Sale. I have been developing my home yard to offer a garden tour in the near future.

“I also had the opportunity to reignite my love of traditional Chinese brush painting with classes with a local artist, who also taught me modern Splash painting (acrylic slip dripped onto a canvas or other surface, then tilted or spun to create the art).

“I plan to do more traveling, hopefully Iceland, Europe, South America and more Asian destinations. In my retirement, there just are not enough hours in the day!”

Thank you for taking the time to share updates Helaine, Dino and Janise!

As for me, I’ve experienced both great joy and tremendous sadness since my last *Indicator* submission. In March, I became a grandmother for the first time (and am totally smitten with the little guy!). In late June, I lost my dear mother at the age of 99. Blessed, I know, to have had her in my life for so many years, and I will miss her more than I can say. Such is the circle of life, I suppose. Take care and be in touch. — **Kathy M. Burkholder McCarthy**, kathybmccarthy@hotmail.com

’81 July 2021 — We are seeing some signs of “normalcy” as we begin to come out of our pandemic cocoons with many getting vaccinated — though we know that this pandemic is not done with us yet. In the midst of all this, life still happens, and we have some news to share from a few of our fellow classmates.

Rachele Grasso Smith was recently appointed to the SAA Board as a director at large. Rachele is a senior project manager at Buckeye Partners LP, one of the largest independent liquid petroleum products pipeline operators in the U.S., and is currently responsible for the company’s New Jersey solar power-producing projects.

During her years as a Stevens student, Rachele served as the first woman president of the Stevens Student Section of ASME and played the lead role in her senior year musical, *My Fair Lady*. Since graduation, she helped develop the Stevens Parents’ Council and held the first attending students/parents get-together in her home. She and her husband regularly attended meetings of the council. Rachele and her daughter volunteered their time to man the alumni/current student table at Accepted Students Day, and she has been an active alum of the Stevens Dramatic Society. She navigated the COVID-19 climate to help make scholarship determinations as well.

Rachele, who is serving on the Class of 1981 40th anniversary committee, has been a member of the Edwin A. Stevens Society for several years and regularly attends lectures, concerts, plays and Lore-El Center events.

And from our VP, **Dave Ritter**: Thanks, Gloria, for doing a great job as our new class secretary — as you’ve seen, it’s often a challenge getting



Janise Baldo ’80 visited the Taj Mahal during a trip to India and Nepal in 2017. Read a full update from Janise in the 1980 log.

material together for the column. Here's some good news to share...

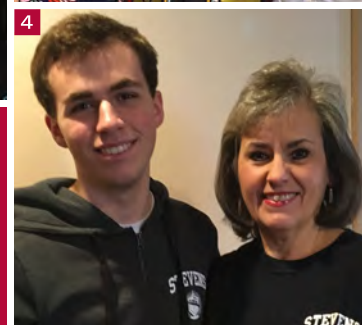
"Almost exactly two years ago, the young man who was courting our daughter Rachel went on a walk with me, and privately — not to mention properly — asked me for her hand in marriage. Timothy Hufford is a brilliant young man, currently pursuing a doctorate in molecular biology at the University of Maryland. My wife Teresa and I (and Rachel, too!) were quite impressed with this gentleman, whose list of accomplishments include playing jazz trumpet, as well as achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. They met by happenstance while swing dancing in a Glen Echo ballroom. Happily granting my permission as father of the bride-to-be, they were engaged by September 2019, just as I was returning to work at AT&T as a contractor in October. The happy couple began their wedding and honeymoon planning immediately for their May 2021 nuptials. Rachel — a Washington, D.C.-based architectural engineer — started filling out the spreadsheets and project plans. Together, they explored the wedding expos and various venues and churches, signed up for their Pre-Cana counseling, and began budgeting for what was to be a 150-invited-guests event.

"Fast forward through 2020, when the pandemic restrictions were placed — and after several contracts had already been signed for catering, photography, etc. Despite these challenges, what we ended up with was an elegant and fun gathering of over 80 [built-in social distancing!] family members and friends from a dozen states who gathered in Towson, Maryland, for a long-awaited celebration. That very weekend coincided with the lifting of local/state/church mask restrictions for the vaccinated (and the entire wedding party, and nearly all of the guests, had already received their "jabs").

"Dancing with Rachel that evening, I asked her whether all the planning of 18+ months had paid off; her grinning reply: 'This is all that we wanted — and more!' Yours truly even got a bird's-eye view from the choir loft by singing (at their specific request) during Communion.

"After honeymooning in Hawaii, Rachel wanted to review the project budget in detail to provide a baseline (for her sister's future use), and despite coming in on time and under budget, one of the key learnings we'll cover is having a contingency fund — along with a risk assessment for a global event (e.g., the pandemic) ...!

"We recently got the photographer's official



1 David Ritter '81 dances with daughter Rachel at her wedding this past May. **2** Rachel Ritter and husband Timothy Hufford greet loved ones on their wedding day this past May in Towson, Maryland. **3** Gloria Ron-Fornes '81, husband Hugo Gomes and their son, Brandon, at his graduation from Rutgers. **4** Gloria with her son, Adrian, Stevens Class of 2023.

portfolio, so we'll share a couple of them with this column. You should be able to spot Gary Jeger in at least one of them. Here's hoping we get to see each other in the upcoming year, in person, in Hoboken."

On my end, our oldest son, Brandon Gomes, received his bachelor of science degree, magna cum laude (double major in mathematics and physics) from Rutgers University in the midst of the pandemic. He was also inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. It was all virtual for him, but we made the best of it. Our youngest, Adrian Gomes, will return to in-person classes as a junior at Stevens in the fall. The last time he was on campus, he was a freshman in his first semester! We look forward to their future adventures and endeavors.

That's all for now. We are still hoping for some in-person festivities for our 40th anniversary. We will keep you informed as we work with Stevens on possibilities. Meantime, we would love to hear from you. Send me an email with some news and we'll include it in future logs. You can also join us on our Class of '81 Facebook page.

— Gloria M. Ron-Fornes, gmforne@gmail.com

'86 July 2021 — Rick Rieping, who is senior director, Applications Delivery & Support, with the Governor's Office of Information Technology for

Don't see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.

the State of Colorado, received the State Leadership of the Year award in a national awards program earlier this year. The annual StateScoop 50 Awards honor the best and the brightest who make state government more efficient and effective. The awards celebrate the outstanding achievements of peers and acknowledge tireless efforts to make a positive impact in the government IT community and in public service.

Rieping was one of four Coloradans recognized in the awards program, which is sponsored by StateScoop, a media company that reports on news and events related to IT issues within state and local government. State and local IT shops across the U.S. nominated thousands of inspiring leaders and influential projects for the awards earlier this year. StateScoop then narrowed the list to 180 finalists, and readers cast more than 3 million votes to select the winners.

According to his bio in the awards program, “Rick Rieping understands the importance of asking the right questions — and listening intently — to bring a team together and successfully deliver IT solutions. He strives to keep his teams focused on implementing innovative software for agency customers, and in turn, transform service delivery to all Coloradans. His organized approach to application and business management and his ability to identify simple changes to complex processes makes the work manageable and sustainable, which is a rare skill. Rick’s temporal precedence style allows him to skillfully identify and refine processes — both internally and for OIT’s vendor partners — to foster a culture of continuous improvement and innovation.”

In other class news, the “Bate House” — Beta Theta Pi fraternity— held a recent golf outing.



Beta Theta Pi fraternity recently held a golf outing. Some 1980s alumni made a fine turnout. From left are Steve Heck '85, Pete Ahimovic '86, Chris DiGerolamo '86, Greg Davis '83, Steve Davis '85, Doug Lionetti '86 and Don Heck '91.

Attending were **Pete Ahimovic, Doug Lionetti, Chris DiGerolamo, Mark Kudlacik '85, Steve Heck '85, Don Heck '91, Greg Davis '83 and Steve Davis '85.** — [Debi Motler, dmot419@gmail.com](mailto:Debi.Motler@gmail.com)

'89 July 13, 2021 — Hello, folks! It's super hot and humid here in Annapolis, with temps hovering around 92 degrees Fahrenheit. I hope it has cooled down by the time you all read this and that you have had a fun, relaxed summer. I caught up with several classmates during the pandemic as I had some extra time on my hands. Here is the first installment.

Darin Kalashian writes: “I had the good fortune to catch up with Dawn after the holidays and revisit all the great memories from our time at Stevens. After years of reading the many updates from everyone, I knew it was my time to share my own journey post-Stevens.

“After graduation, I moved to Massachusetts to work for Raytheon doing software and system development, working on FAA weather radar and air traffic control systems. We were bringing new innovations to the market in the way of digital transformations that transitioned these antiquated systems away from WWII technology to high-end digital ‘video game’-like systems. As we took these systems to the commercial market, I still remember the feedback from a requirements-gathering field

trip to a customer’s air traffic control tower, where we observed their primary green-sweep display showing what we thought was a lot of clutter (noise in a radar speak/white clouds on the display) — only to be told that was where the display had ‘burned out.’ They didn’t fly the planes through that part of the screen. I was very proud to be making world air travel safer!

“As we did a lot of work around the world, I remember a trip to Spain, where **Scot Pritchard** joined me and we took in many of the sights of Spain, from the Cathedral in Toledo to the World’s Fair in Seville to the Costa del Sol on the Mediterranean.

“I left Raytheon to go develop the electronic highway, the internet, with Rupert Murdock at Delphi Internet, to bring the first commercial web browser to market. I had gotten into software test automation back then, and I remember being paid to ‘surf the internet.’ I had wished there was some more interesting content back then and that we had something faster than 2,400 baud modems, but that was the price for being an early adopter.

“My career took many steps and turns, working for some great companies like MathWorks, Bose, Motorola, Hewlett-Packard and RSA. At Bose, we were developing customized audio solutions for the automotive manufacturers. I remember one project that was assigned to me where we had to travel to Germany, take a new Maserati prototype out on the Autobahn and validate our system performance and tuning. Being paid to drive fast, listen to music and play with the latest technology was as good as it could get for me.

“I am currently at VMware, leading a team working on some innovative solutions in the Big



The Rev. Gabriel Costa '70 M.S. '72 Ph.D. '84 meets Kate Duncan '98 M.Eng. '99 at West Point this summer, where Father Costa is a mathematics professor and Kate a visiting research fellow. Read more about Kate on page 28.

Data arena. Working remotely is challenging, but working with some great people and applying the next generation of technology keeps it exciting.

“While at Raytheon I met my wife, Patty, who was a nurse at Children’s Hospital in Boston; we are closing in on our 25th anniversary. Patty’s skills were invaluable as we raised our two kids, Meghan and Dan, who are now getting ready to enter their senior year in high school. Living in New England, we are very fortunate to have so many outdoor activities to split our time across. The four seasons allow us to beach down at the Cape, leaf peep in the fall, ski in the winter and renew in the spring. Patty and I have passed our passion for the outdoors onto our kids. We had our kids on skis at three years, and now they out-ski us on the slopes. North Conway, New Hampshire, has become our second home, up in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. We hike, mountain bike, ski and river tube in this beautiful valley setting. Never seems like there is enough time to do it all! Like so many others during these times, we adopted a brown chocolate lab pup, Maggie, from a rescue in Georgia, and have been introducing her to the winters here in New England. I think she likes the snow!

“The pandemic has been a challenge, though I have broken up the time by taking to the kitchen. I have enjoyed cooking up some lost recipes of traditional Armenian favorites from my parents and grandparents. It helps get me away from Zoom. While at home, I have also found time to reconnect with classmates, most recently Dawn and Ron Mahaffey. Through the years I have always truly enjoyed the updates in the class log. One of my favorites was the log where everyone

recounted the highlights of our times at Stevens; the antics of Yevick, structures and Chang, to name a few. This validated to my family that the stories I have been telling them for years were all true. The bowling ball, the singing of ‘Row, Row, Row Your Boat’ and the ‘bridge falls down and you want partial credit’ — it was all true!

“The easiest way to find me is via LinkedIn, so please don’t hesitate to reach out as I’d love to reconnect. Please keep your updates coming to the class log. Stay well and safe, and as I am sure we all are, looking forward to post-pandemic life!”

Happy to say it feels 95% back to normal for me, and I hope for all of you! I would be remiss if I also didn’t extend a personal thanks to all of you that made the *Power of Stevens* campaign a HUGE success! Over \$200 million was raised that will directly benefit scholarships, programs, buildings and more. Stevens is continually improving for the better, my friends; you are making it happen!

— Dawn Madak, dawnmadak@me.com

’95 June 2021 — Becky Seitzmeyer reports: “It’s been four years since I met my 14-year-old son, Samuel, at a Lego Adoption Match event. This photo was taken at age 11 in 2019 prior to adoption finalization. Sam is now 6 feet tall and weighs over 200 pounds!” — Sarah G. Warnes, sarah.rasmusen@gmail.com

’96 June 3, 2021 — Stephanie (Ryder) Reyes passed away at age 46 on October 28, 2020. She left behind two children, Christopher and Isabella, her husband Jose, and brother Michael Ryder ’91.



Becky Seitzmeyer ’95 with her son, Samuel, back in 2011. Read more from Becky in the ’95 and ’96 logs.

Becky Seitzmeyer ’95 writes, “I’d not spoken with her in over 20 years. We used to be good friends and had a lot of fun! [In the submitted photo on page 70], we are in her bedroom at Phi Sigma Sigma in 1993, about to cheer on Chi Phi in an inter-fraternity sports game.” — Michael L. Andreano, mandrean@gmail.com

’98 July 2021 — Carl ’96 and Liz Alfaro are the owners of Conclave Brewing in Raritan Township, New Jersey. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Conclave was jammed into a 1,000-square-foot industrial park space next to their current home — a space so small that the

Don’t see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.



1 Darin Kalashian ’89 celebrates a softball championship back in 2019 or, in his own words, the “most elusive 2019 Softball Championship celebration (15 years in the making).” **2** Darin Kalashian ’89 and his family hike in Cathedral Ledge State Park in the White Mountains in New Hampshire. From left, Darin, son Daniel, daughter Meghan and wife Patty.



Phi Sigma Sigma sorority sisters, from left, Jennifer Garner '98, Cindy Rugys '97, Stephanie (Ryder) Reyes '96 and Becky Seitzmeyer '95. Sadly, Stephanie passed away in October 2020.

brewing area doubled as the taproom. In February 2020, the brewery expanded into the former home of the Center for Educational Advancement (CEA), an 8,000-square-foot space featuring a basketball court-sized taproom, light-filled picture windows and a 30-foot-long-concrete bar, as well as two outdoor beer gardens. Murals painted by CEA students with the help of a local artist remain visible.

Carl and Liz finished Conclave's renovations about a month before COVID-19 concerns forced them to shut their doors.

"It was gut-wrenching," Carl said. "You work so hard for over a year to build it and get the plans approved. We had to take our business model, scrap it and try something different."

Conclave pivoted to online sales after the Alfarnos built a new platform for the service.

"Online sales were huge," they said. "It was literally because of the local community and our loyal customers that we were able to survive."

To learn more about Conclave Brewing, visit www.conclavebrewing.com. (This log adapted from an article by Jenna Intersimone at <https://www.mycentraljersey.com>.) — **Anthony Garofalo, III**, anthony_garofalo@hotmail.com

'10 July 2021 — Here's an update from Victoria (O'Connor) Blazeski '11 and George Blazeski M.Eng. '11.

"We have moved back to New Jersey and are excited to see all of our fellow alumni in person again. Last year, we welcomed Erik to the family, and his brother Liam is very excited. See you in the fall. — alumni-log@stevens.edu

'15 July 2021 — Brandon Griffin '15 M.S.'18 recently left his position at Stevens and moved to

Davenport, Florida, to be the director of Student Services for Keiser University. His new role will oversee orientation, graduation, student life, career development, corporate partnerships and more. — **Mark L. Scalzo**, mscalzo11@gmail.com; **Danielle M. DeFeo**, ddefeo@alumni.stevens.edu

'16 July 2021 — Shawn Maguire B.E. '16 M.S. '18 and Samantha Markowitz B.E. '16 M.S. '20 are excited to share news from 2021. Shawn defended his Ph.D. thesis from the University of Pennsylvania in August 2021, for which he won a top award

from the American Chemical Society. Samantha celebrated her fifth work anniversary at Picatinny Arsenal as a mechanical engineer and project lead. They are looking forward to moving into their first home together later this year.



Editor's Note: We heard from the now-alumna whose photo opened the Alumni News section of the Spring/Summer 2021 issue:

"Hi, that picture is me! Susan Mary Gerald Francomano '80. I was the editor of the 1980 *Link*, and I am carrying a bag of yearbook items. The one hanging out of the top of the bag is a cropping ruler used in the old days to crop photos. Thanks for including me in this special issue. I am very proud to have attended Stevens."

2021 has also been an exciting year for **Shane Arlington** B.E. '16 B.S. '16 M.S. '16 and **Eugenia Volkova** B.E. '15 M.S. '16, who celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary in May. They also welcomed a new addition to their family in January, a rescue puppy named Freya. They believe Freya is a mix of lab and hound, and she's on her way to being a running partner for both Eugenia and Shane. They both aim to defend their Ph.D. dissertations by the end of 2021 or early 2022 and are excited for their next steps in academia or beyond.

This summer, **Sarah Zahran** '17 completed an eight-week artist residency hosted by fellow Stevens alum **Bob Reed** '70 and his wife, Elaine, in Wiscasset, Maine. Sarah was the first artist to occupy the newly built creativity shed, New Beginnings. She used this time to explore her



Frank Roberto '76, left, and Derek Wheeler '96, right, were having lunch in Spring, Texas, this summer when they happened to meet Alex Sota '10. Derek works with ExxonMobil, Frank recently retired from the company and Alex works with Hewlett Packard.

creative practice and build up a body of work: drawings, paintings and sculptures. But perhaps more importantly, the time served as an important pause — a time for introspection and consideration before embarking on the next chapter of her journey. — [Kathleen Moyer Vanderburgh](#), kathleen.e.moyer@gmail.com

'21 June 3, 2021 — From Nicole Kuzler: "I was a recipient of the ASSP Foundation/ASSP New York City Chapter Scholarship. I am very appreciative of this honor and generous gift. Being a member of this organization has allowed me to connect and network with astounding safety industry professionals. Having taken many safety courses in college and with the support of the ASSP Foundation, I am confident that I will have high awareness for safe practices on my jobsites. I am truly humbled to enter this industry and work alongside professionals of all levels of experience.

"I am looking forward to being an active member in the ASSP organization as I begin my career in the construction industry. Receiving this award validates my decision to enter this field. Especially, as a woman in this industry, I will advocate for a safe workplace and ensure my voice is heard. I am eager to continue expanding my knowledge about engineering codes, standards and safeguards. I would like to thank my professors and mentors Professor Joseph Schwed, Dr. Ellyn Lester and Dr. Leslie Brunell for recommending me for this distinction. In addition to my education through the Construction Engineering and Management program at Stevens, I also have field experience from internships that I am excited to build upon during my full-time employment opportunity. I am the first engineer in my family, and I am proud to represent such an amazing profession. I plan to challenge myself in this new role and hopefully get to encourage other young women like me to join this incredibly supportive organization." — [Sarah Bertussi](#), sbertussi@yahoo.com

Don't see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.

1 Victoria (O'Connor) Blazeski '11 and George Blazeski '10 M.Eng. '11 welcomed their second son, Erik, last year. He joins big brother Liam.
2 Shane Arlington '16 M.S. '16 and Eugenia Volkova '15 M.S. '16 recently celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary and welcomed a new rescue puppy, Freya. Read more in the '16 log.
3 Stephanie (Miller) Sota '11 and Alex Sota '10 recently welcomed a son, Austin, who is seen with big sister Adelyn. **4** Sarah Zahran '17 and her art in the New Beginnings creativity shed, Wiscasset, Maine. Sarah completed a residency there this summer, sponsored by Elaine and Bob Reed '70.



A Final Thought



Khadeejah Granderson-Bilal '09, standing second from right, with honoree Leanne Metcalfe '00 and STEP alumni, students, supporters and staff at the 2019 Stevens Awards Gala.

Inspiration Through Representation

My mother has enjoyed a long career in education. Because of this, I'm privileged with the perspective she first instilled in me to always keep learning. Whenever possible, I aim to teach and learn from the perspectives of others. This lifelong commitment to learning has allowed me to share some of the skills, perspectives, relationships and experiences that have proven invaluable to me.

I interned at my firm over a decade ago and now serve as vice president, with a role in hiring. But throughout my career, I've had to navigate being the "only" in the room or at the table. I've felt the pressure to combat negative stereotypes. I've had the awkward conversations correcting the mispronunciation of my phonetically spelled name. At every step of the way, I've found it necessary to arrive honestly and authentically in every seat that I've occupied — because representation is critical.

But I've also benefited from learning from tremendous, diverse mentors and have always felt a responsibility to lift others as I've climbed. My experiences have offered a perspective that is important to developing more community and more equity within the finance profession for women — particularly women of color. For the past dozen years that I've climbed, mis-stepped and climbed again, I've found it refreshing and important to my own professional and personal development to see a growing number of women in leadership.

Recently, I was pleasantly surprised to learn from a new hire that she was so affected by my wearing my natural hair regularly that she

shared with her family that her hiring manager is Black and wears a head wrap. Again, representation — no matter how big or small — is critical. It is important for the next generation of leaders to see that this is an organization and a career where they can not only learn and grow, but also arrive authentically.

I will always fight for increasing equity in my field as well as others. That's why I'm a longtime supporter of the Stevens Technical Enrichment Program (STEP). I often reflect back on the program, which gave me access to environments, opportunities and perspectives I would not have had otherwise.

I was born, raised and currently live in a busy, diverse inner city. As a student, I demonstrated sufficient knowledge to be inducted into Chi Epsilon, the civil engineering honor society. But despite that knowledge, when I was invited to the induction, I was told the attire was "country club casual." "Country club casual" is a string of words that, at the time, I'd never heard put together before — and for which I had zero context.

Part of the reason I pledge support to STEP is because I view the program as providing soft skills and disrupting systems that have not always allowed access for people who look like me.

I am thankful for the program and its participants because through them, the program has the potential to bring more skill and more equity into the workforce by supporting diverse talent and cultivating current and future leaders. ❖ — *Khadeejah Granderson-Bilal '09*

Khadeejah Granderson-Bilal is the regional head of Regulatory Middle Office, Goldman Sachs Asset Management Operations, Goldman Sachs, Jersey City, New Jersey.

Red and Gray days

ALUMNI WEEKEND

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: JUNE 3-4, 2022

Red and Gray Days makes a much-anticipated return to Castle Point next June! We are excited to welcome you back to Hoboken, back to campus, back HOME.

Alumni Weekend 2022 will be our biggest and best yet, featuring a schedule packed with fun-filled activities and celebrations for the whole family to enjoy. Whatever your interests, we have something for everyone!



- See what's changed on campus since your time as students
- Sample some of the finest wines and beers during our ever-popular tastings
- Rekindle that special connection with fellow members of your on-campus affinity groups
- Celebrate milestone reunions with classmates near and far
- Dance the night away with old friends and new ones
- And much more!



Please visit us at stevens.edu/alumni for all the latest information from around our alumni community.



STEVENS
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
PER ASPERA AD ASTRA



THE STEVENS INDICATOR

STEVENS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
1 CASTLE POINT TERRACE
HOBOKEN, NJ 07030

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Stevens Institute
of Technology

**THE
POWER OF
STEVENS**
OUR CAMPAIGN.
OUR IMPACT.

THE POWER OF YOUR PHILANTHROPY

Your generous support of The Power of Stevens campaign has changed the face of our university.

158 new scholarships to assist students in need. 18 new named fellowships and chairs bringing prestige to faculty and enhancing their groundbreaking work. Renovations to 100% of Stevens' classrooms. Two new community-anchoring towers rising proudly above the Hudson. This is just a snapshot of what your gifts have achieved.

Thank you for your loyalty and participation, year after year. **Thank you** for contributing your time as volunteers and advocates. **Thank you** for sharing your stories and inspiring others. **Thank you** for providing the energy that will power Stevens' future.

**OUR COMMUNITY.
THAT'S THE POWER OF STEVENS.**

power.stevens.edu



STEVENS
INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY®