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To Stevens Students, Faculty and Staff:

Our spring semester is in full swing, and it's marvelous to see students and colleagues going to class, working in the labs, supporting our athletics teams and enjoying each other in the beautiful spaces in the University Center and throughout campus. I'm pleased to share a few updates since my last message.

As is our custom, we have recently finalized and posted the annual report of progress for the 10th and final year of our 2012-2022 strategic plan, *The Future. Ours to Create*. [This report](#) documents progress during the period of fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022). Stevens made extraordinary progress during the past year — meeting or exceeding a number of goals ahead of schedule and surpassing some of the record highs reached just a year ago. Our progress during the last year and over the course of the entire 10-year plan has laid a strong foundation for Stevens to aim even higher in our new 2022-2032 strategic plan, *Inspired by Humanity, Powered by Technology*.™

I am pleased to share some details about our new cohort of graduate students for the Spring 2023 semester. Applications totaled 6,351, a 24% increase over last spring. This uptick in applications allowed us to significantly improve selectivity in graduate admissions, resulting in a 49% admission rate, which is an improvement of 21 points over last spring. The Spring 2023 cohort of 720 graduate students is 13% larger than last year's class with higher average GRE and GMAT scores as well. Congratulations to all who played a role in recruiting an impressive new cohort of graduate students.

The U.S. and much of the world celebrates Black History Month in February, and our campus community has planned a [variety of events that highlight Black success and progress](#). I am grateful to the student organizations and campus groups whose collaborative work is reflected in this programming: the African Student Association, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the Black Student Union, the National Society of Black Engineers, the Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Graduate Student Life. I encourage students, colleagues and friends to join in celebrating Black History Month on campus.



Looking forward, on March 3, Stevens will host the inaugural [Neon Nights benefit to support The Jed Foundation](#), a national nonprofit that created this event to promote mental health on college campuses across the country. I am so proud of Jenna Giesecke '25 and the students of the Neon Nights Committee who are working with our partners at JED to organize this event.

As always, I encourage you to stay informed on university news by subscribing to our social channels — [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#) — and visiting [Stevens News](#). For example, on February 1, [Forbes featured extensive commentary by Vice Provost for Research and Innovation Ed Synakowski](#) about the nuclear fusion breakthrough at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Dr. Synakowski, who is a former research director at the lab, spoke of how scientists created more energy from a fusion reaction than it took to create it and of what that means for the future. In a quote that also serves as the article's title, he said, "We've brought the process that drives the stars ... to Earth."

Given all of our progress, one might say the same of Stevens!

Per aspera ad astra,

Nariman Farvardin
President