

Office of the President

1 Castle Point Terrace Hoboken, NJ 07030 stevens.edu

January 18, 2023

To Stevens Students, Faculty and Staff:

I am delighted to see so many familiar faces as our Spring semester commences. Please let me take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to campus on this first day of the Spring semester and to share a few updates since my last message.

Yesterday Stevens hosted its second annual MLK Day of Service. It was an incredible display of our community's dedication to civic engagement, not only through service projects in the Hoboken community and beyond, but also by learning from our remarkable keynote speakers: Aisha Lawrey '99, Training and Certification Global Lead for Education Programs for Amazon Web Services, and Tahesha Way, New Jersey's 34th Secretary of State. I offer my thanks to Ms. Lawrey and Secretary Way for joining us, as well as to the event organizers for programming a day that honored the life and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

I am also pleased to report that the results of the 2022 National Survey of Student Engagement showed that Stevens is making good progress in improving student engagement and success. With a record high response rate of more than 43%, Stevens' students expressed significantly higher satisfaction with the quality of the institution in a year-over-year comparison. The report also indicated that collaborative learning with other students is a significant strength at Stevens. Student success and experience are high priorities of our new Strategic Plan, *Inspired by Humanity*, *Powered by Technology*™, and I am confident we will continue to make progress in the coming years.

Students are not the only members of our community recognizing Stevens' commitment to a healthy and successful environment. I am thrilled to announce that Stevens recently earned Great Place to Work Certification™! Great Place to Work® is the global authority on workplace culture. I am grateful to the faculty and staff who participated in the survey to earn this recognition. Vice President of Human Resources and Chief Human Resources Officer Sheraine Gilliam will share further information and findings in the coming weeks.

Our faculty continue to be tapped by the media for their subject-matter expertise. <u>School of</u>

Business professor George Calhoun offered his analysis on CNN regarding the December Consumer



Price Index Report and inflation, and <u>School of Engineering and Science associate professor</u>

<u>Marouane Temimi spoke with FOX Weather</u> about the impacts of flooding on California's infrastructure <u>and the Los Angeles Times</u> about managing the influx of water during a drought. Also, <u>Alex Wellerstein</u>, <u>associate professor in the College of Arts and Letters</u>, <u>appeared on PBS Newshour</u> and was quoted in <u>The New York Times</u> about the new assessments of J. Robert Oppenheimer's role in history, among <u>other media placements</u>.

Lastly, please mark your calendar for two of our community's premier events: <u>Innovation Expo on April 28</u> and <u>Commencement on May 24.</u> More details on both events will be forthcoming soon.

I invite you to stay informed on university news by subscribing to our social channels — <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>TikTok</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u> — and visiting <u>Stevens News</u>.

Thank you for all you do for Stevens. Together we will make 2023 our best year yet!

Per aspera ad astra,

Nariman Farvardin

President