



July 1, 2021

To the Stevens Community:

Today, July 1, 2021, marks the tenth anniversary of my tenure as President at Stevens.

Ten years ago, I moved to Stevens to undertake the most significant and exciting professional responsibility of my life, working in a dynamic setting with motivated, talented and friendly people.

When my wife, Hoveida, and I first visited Stevens in early 2011, she called Stevens “the hidden gem on the Hudson.” We were both impressed with the history of the Stevens family and the spirit of innovation which permeated the university. These characteristics—along with the great potential of Stevens to play a profound role in the next technological revolution—were what attracted us to Stevens. Today, I am sending this brief message to speak from my heart about what this decade has meant to me.

During the past 10 years, our university has undergone a remarkable transformation. Stevens has grown in size and improved in stature. In almost every imaginable measure of performance, impact and productivity, the university has reached new heights of achievement. Our success—your success—has been nothing short of spectacular!

Undergraduate and graduate applications have each more than tripled, resulting in a significant growth in enrollment, improved selectivity, enhanced diversity, an impressive rise in the academic profile of students, as well as strong student outcomes, including record high graduation rates. We have added nearly 100 faculty lines, significantly expanding our academic programs, and strengthening the scope, quality and impact of the research enterprise.

The campus has been totally transformed—both through a modern IT infrastructure and through the addition and renovation of living and learning spaces, a major new state-of-the-art academic and research building, and, opening next year, a magnificent University Center Complex that will be a hub for campus life. This iconic structure will provide nearly a thousand student residents with the most stunning views they may ever have in their life!

I am thrilled and honored to report that yesterday—on the close of Stevens’ 2021 fiscal year—the university successfully concluded a \$200 million campaign, the most ambitious in our history. The success of *The Power of Stevens* campaign is due entirely to the renewed engagement and reinvigorated sense of pride of so many members of our community—members of the Board of Trustees and the President’s Leadership Council, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, industry partners, students and parents. All told, more than 14,000 donors made more than 45,000 distinct gifts to support student success, to increase faculty excellence and to enhance our

vibrant campus. I am enormously proud and grateful to the entire university community for their generosity and support of the strategic initiatives that have led to so much progress at Stevens.

Increased philanthropic support, combined with sound fiscal discipline have put Stevens in a very strong position for the future as we begin to consider our next strategic plan for 2022-2032.

So, I take this opportunity to thank all of you for contributing to this transformation. I am humbled to have had the privilege of serving you as Stevens' seventh president and am profoundly grateful to have the opportunity to work at a job that I love. Stevens is a national treasure, and I will do my utmost in the remainder of my time as president to maintain the momentum and steer the university to even greater heights. Our star is on the rise and the best is yet to come!

My concluding words at my inaugural speech in 2011 were, "I have unbridled optimism for what we will accomplish together." Ten years later, my optimism about Stevens' future is stronger than ever before.

Thank you.

Per aspera ad astra,



Nariman Farvardin
President



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