

Thank You for Igniting The Power of Stevens

The Stevens Indicator, Winter 2022

If you look into the night sky along the Hoboken waterfront — or peer from across the river, from New York City — you will see that a new light has joined the Hudson River skyline. A new Stevens sign sits illuminated atop the University Center Complex, the first time in the university's 152-year history that the Stevens name has been lit for millions to see! A grand illumination ceremony held at the start of the fall semester gathered students, faculty, staff, alumni and Hoboken residents to celebrate Stevens' spectacular progress over the past 10 years and its bright future — captured by this brilliant new light in the sky.

That beautiful evening along the Hudson was one of many memorable moments in your alma mater's history, and one that I am particularly proud to share with you as we welcome 2022 with a renewed sense of optimism, purpose and gratitude.

First, gratitude. This issue of The Indicator celebrates an historic milestone: the completion of Stevens' most successful fundraising campaign ever, The Power of Stevens. Thanks to a revitalized philanthropy and alumni engagement program, the university raised \$200.6 million to support the creation and renovation of new academic, research and student spaces; to hire and support the work of exceptional faculty; and to launch numerous initiatives to nurture student success. The benefactors of these extraordinary donations are real people: the students whose lives will be changed forever by a Stevens education; the professors whose research tackles some of the world's greatest challenges; and the students, professors and researchers who will now have the facilities needed for enhanced learning, teaching, research and community life. In this issue, some of these people — and the generous donors who made all of this possible — discuss the transformative power of these gifts, and say thank you.

The Power of Stevens enables the university to fulfill its primary purpose: to educate future generations of highly skilled graduates who will make a positive difference in the world. I feel so optimistic about the future when I meet our students, and this was especially true when I welcomed the Class of 2025 last fall, the most academically accomplished and most diverse incoming class in Stevens' history. I am proud to share some of the stellar numbers of that class: those first-year students who submitted SAT scores averaged 1440 on the standardized test, a record high. The number of women students and students from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented in STEM also reached an all-time high in the incoming class, at 33% and 21%, respectively. Our incoming students represent all regions of the U.S., as well as 15 nations around the globe. Meanwhile, our overall enrollment numbers are at record highs, surpassing 4,000 undergraduates and 4,200 graduate students, totaling approximately 8,300 students — the

highest enrollment in our history. With 11,320 undergraduate and nearly 12,000 graduate applications for the fall 2021 semester, the demand for a Stevens education has never been greater.

Our research enterprise has also reached new heights. External research funding set a new record last year, with research awards totaling \$50.6 million in fiscal year 2021. Substantial awards came from the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense, among others.

Meanwhile, research awards for fiscal year 2022 have been off to a strong start. As of fall 2021, Stevens had already earned more than \$35.6 million in external research funding.

As I write to you in early December, anticipating the warmth of the holiday season, I also look forward to spring, with great hope. In May, we anticipate a ceremony on campus to close The Power of Stevens campaign — and to thank our community that came together to ensure Stevens' bright future. More details about this exciting event will be shared in the near future. We look forward to that wonderful day — on the cusp of summer — when the Stevens community will finally reunite on Castle Point.

Per aspera ad astra,

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