



September 1, 2017

To the Stevens Community:

Please join me in extending a warm welcome to the newest members of the Stevens community, the Class of 2021, as well as the 19 new faculty that have joined us this fall. Between our new cohort of undergraduates, our new graduate students, and our new faculty, we have about 2,000 new faces on our campus from 32 states and 35 countries, and we look forward to their contributions to our rich and vibrant intellectual community.

We also welcome back our returning students and distinguished faculty and staff, many of whom have been working productively during the summer on internships, research, and special projects to advance their own futures and improve Stevens.

I want to take this opportunity to restate our mission and reaffirm our commitment to ensuring a welcoming, tolerant, and respectful environment for all members of our community. Stevens' mission is to provide a world-class educational environment for our students and to enable faculty to advance the frontiers of science and technology. Consistent with this mission, we will remain committed to the values of academic freedom and nondiscrimination in all that we do. Stevens has been and remains unrelentingly and unequivocally committed to the values of diversity and inclusion. We are a community enriched and strengthened by the talents, contributions, and engagement of each member, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, and all other attributes protected by Stevens' nondiscrimination policy. We have not and will not waver in our dedication to these principles. We will continue to work earnestly and aggressively to provide a safe, inviting, and nurturing environment—in all aspects and in all areas of our campus—for all members of our community. We will work together to make Stevens a more diverse community that visibly demonstrates these principles that we hold dear.

I am enormously proud of the Stevens community and the stellar example you have set in this era in which polarization and unrest in society and on college campuses have become more frequent. I am confident that we will continue to work together for the good of our community and all its members.

Stevens has ascended on an unprecedented upward trajectory over the last five years, and each new academic year brings new opportunities to achieve new heights and realize new dreams. With the collective and collaborative participation of each member of our community, I have no doubt that this year will be the best yet.

I look forward seeing you all on campus and wish you much success during this academic year.

*Per aspera ad astra,*

Nariman Farvardin  
President