



Springing Forward with Good News From Stevens ***The Stevens Indicator, Spring 2013***

July 1 marks the start of my third year at Stevens, and I must say that the spring of 2013 has been the busiest period of my presidency. Good things are happening all around campus, and I'm pleased to share some of the highlights with you.

As you recall, one of the priorities of our 10-year Strategic Plan is Excellence in All We Do. We are working on achieving excellence across all aspects of the university—in the students we recruit, in the educational experience we provide them, in the research we produce, in our communications and outreach, and in our internal operations. Excellence is a journey, not a destination, and while we are making substantial progress in many areas, we have a distance to go in others. As of this writing, freshman applications have increased by 21 percent over last year indicating that Stevens is becoming a more desirable university. This increase in applications enables us to increase our selectivity and accept more students with higher academic profiles. While our numbers are still preliminary, we expect the middle 50 percent range of SAT scores to increase over last year. The Fall 2013 class promises to be the most academically talented in our history!

I'm also pleased to announce that Marybeth Murphy has joined us as Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs after a distinguished career at Fashion Institute of Technology, Baruch College, and New York University. Competitive research funding is also a highlight, representing a 30 percent increase in FY13 year-to-date compared with FY12 year-end, with more than \$6 million still pending. And Stevens has aggressively launched several new research centers, programs and facilities: the Center for Complex Systems and Enterprises headed by Dr. William Rouse; the Sound Synthesis Research Center for the study, exploration and development of electronic music; and the Center for Healthcare Innovation, led by Dr. Peter Toliás. In addition, we initiated the Stevens-Hoboken partnership on the Smart City project, directed by Dr. Ali Mostashari, and held the inaugural Thomas H. Scholl Lecture Series by Visiting Entrepreneurs with Dr. David Hershberg, M.M.S. '68, as the series' first speaker. I encourage you to visit the Stevens website to learn more about these strategic initiatives.

Three students recently won very prestigious awards: David Monteiro, a Chemical Engineering major, received the Goldwater Scholarship; Jeffery DeVince, a Biomedical Engineering major, received the Whitaker Scholarship to study abroad; and Andrew Rella, a Ph.D. student in Coastal Engineering, won a \$25,000 prize from the New York City Economic Development Corporation for an innovative, ecological and cost-saving solution for completing New York City marine construction projects.

I was filled with pride as I watched the "Elevator Pitch" and "Project Pitch" competitions by students at our recent Stevens Innovation Expo, where more than 120 student projects—many with high potential for successful startup companies—were showcased. These students exemplify the innovation and entrepreneurship that is a hallmark of the Stevens education and spirit!

And lastly, the recent Stevens Awards Gala was an awesome and inspiring evening celebrating our most accomplished alumni and friends. This evening was a further confirmation that our alumni are our greatest asset as we strive to make Stevens a more recognized force in the national conversation about technological solutions to our nation's most pressing challenges. The event also illustrated the seamless

collaboration and “oneness” between the university and the Alumni Association in planning and implementing a tremendously successful program. I want to particularly recognize the substantial role that outgoing SAA President Mark LaRosa '93 has played in helping to move us in this positive direction and affirm my commitment to working with incoming President Tom Moschello '63 to build on this strong foundation.

I look forward to keeping you apprised of further progress at your university, and to dedicating my third year as President to expanding the impact of this national treasure called Stevens.

Per aspera ad astra,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Farvardin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

Nariman Farvardin
President, Stevens Institute of Technology