



**Reflecting on Our Transformation and Progress:
Stevens' 150th Anniversary
*The Stevens Indicator, Winter 2020***

The year 2020 marks a momentous occasion for Stevens — the 150th anniversary of our founding as America's first college of mechanical engineering. As Stevens enters its 150th year, a year that will be filled with celebrations, intellectual and cultural events, outreach and service activities, and many reminders of the university's impact on engineering, technology and society, we take this opportunity to reflect on some of the significant changes at Stevens over the years, and on how recent achievements prepare us for a stronger future.

Some of the most significant changes in Stevens' last 150 years can be seen in the student body itself. Since the first class of 21 young men entered Stevens as freshmen in the fall of 1871 in the pursuit of a mechanical engineering degree, Stevens has grown in size, in breadth of academic programs, in diversity and in reach. Today, Stevens enrolls 3,659 undergraduates and 3,624 graduate students who are pursuing baccalaureate, master's and Ph.D. degrees in 12 engineering disciplines, as well as in mathematics and the sciences, computer science, business, and the arts, social sciences and humanities. Overall, enrollment has grown by 51% since 2011 when Stevens launched its ten-year strategic plan, *The Future. Ours to Create*. Today, 29% of our undergraduates are female, and more than 14% are from groups that have traditionally been underrepresented in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. Our graduate students come from the U.S. and 51 other countries around the globe, with China and India representing the largest international cohorts of graduate students, and today, Stevens enrolls significant numbers of corporate and online graduate students.

As our student body has grown, so has our faculty and research portfolio. As of fall 2019, the full-time faculty complement numbers 328, a growth of 36% since 2011 and the largest in Stevens' history. As these talented new faculty, who have joined us from prestigious institutions such as MIT, Princeton and Caltech, establish strong research programs they, along with our veteran scholars and researchers, will continue to expand the size and impact of our research programs.

Perhaps the most visible symbol of change is the transformation of our campus. In the recent past, Stevens has upgraded 100% of classrooms; installed a state-of-the-art technology infrastructure; opened a magnificent new academic building, the Gateway Academic Center, on the corner of Sixth and Hudson streets; and completed dozens of renovations to academic, student life and administrative spaces. This year, we also broke ground on our most ambitious building project in history, the Student Housing and University Center. This project will house nearly 1,000 students on the site of the former Jacobus and Hayden halls, as well as a new three-story university center with stunning views of the Manhattan skyline. These and many other

projects are literally transforming the campus to prepare the next generation of students for success in a dynamic, technology-driven future.

I look forward to welcoming you to campus during our 150th anniversary celebrations to see first-hand the exciting developments at your alma mater and to engage you as we prepare for a brighter, stronger future for Stevens. Please visit our sesquicentennial website, stevens150.com, (launching on Founder's Day, February 15, 2020), to learn more about upcoming special events and to access a special collection of 150 stories commemorating this historic anniversary.

Per aspera ad astra,



Nariman Farvardin
President, Stevens Institute of Technology

