



August 16, 2013

To the Stevens Community:

One of the goals articulated in our Strategic Plan, *The Future. Ours to Create.*, is to continue to strengthen our relationship with the City of Hoboken and to further integrate and engage Stevens and its students with the local Hoboken Community. The Plan sets a goal that, “our campus will be a source of pride and engagement for our entire community, inclusive of key stakeholders in Hoboken.”

The University’s relationship with the City of Hoboken is both historic and dynamic, dating back to the days of our founder. Today’s multi-faceted partnership with the City includes many dimensions, including student volunteerism, collaborations with Hoboken schools, research partnerships, technical assistance to citizens and policymakers, and many more. In addition, our campus is a popular venue for many local events, ranging from the Hoboken Tech Meet Up, to TedX conferences to summer sports and STEM camps for local youth. Our facilities and campus are also frequently-requested destinations for a variety of official and unofficial activities by members of the Hoboken and regional communities.

As our connections with the City and State of New Jersey have grown, it has become apparent that the University needs a point office and a clearer process for coordinating the variety of initiatives with the City and State and the various stakeholder groups within the community.

To this end, I am pleased to report that Ms. Beth McGrath will serve, in addition to her duties as Chief of Staff in the Office of the President, as Stevens’ Director of Community and State Relations. This role will enable Stevens to better manage and coordinate our various points of contact with the City and its citizens. Obviously, the institutional, departmental, and personal relationships that currently exist between Stevens and the City will continue and, I hope, flourish. This appointment aims both to ensure that Stevens is effective and efficient in managing linkages with the City and State and that the appropriate processes are followed when considering requests from the City and the larger community for space, support or other types of resources.

Beth intends to work closely with members of the Stevens community who are actively engaged with Hoboken to refine our efforts so that we and our host community both benefit to the fullest.

Please join me in supporting Beth in her expanded role.

Per aspera ad astra,

Nariman Farvardin
President