



October 8, 2020

To the Stevens Community:

As we near the midpoint of the Fall 2020 semester, I write to thank all members of our university community for doing their part to promote a safe and healthy campus. I ask each of us to remain vigilant in taking all available precautions to protect our community from COVID-19 spread: following the [Health Honor Code](#), including use of face coverings, practicing social distancing, and frequent hand washing; complying with weekly on-campus testing protocols; avoiding gatherings; cooperating with contact tracing, if needed; and self-isolating and quarantining according to State of New Jersey guidance, including over the upcoming holidays; among others. Our collective adherence to these proven practices has made a difference so far this semester. Currently, the positivity rate for those in our weekly on-campus testing program is 0.146%, as reported on our campus testing [dashboard](#). While any spread of the virus is regrettable and we wish all who have tested positive a full and rapid recovery, we are cautiously optimistic that the measures and systems we have put in place will help us avoid outbreaks such as those that are occurring elsewhere.

This has been a semester like no other, and we are all continuing to learn and adapt. Although we are making the best of a difficult situation, we are all hoping for a greater on-campus presence by students, faculty, and staff in the Spring 2021 semester. We are hopeful that the numerous measures and precautions we have put in place this fall will result in low infection rates among our community, and that our individual and collective efforts will continue to promote a safe and healthy campus environment. These will be important factors in our decisions regarding the Spring 2021 semester.

I ask you all to be safe, act responsibly, and “Protect the Flock!”

Per aspera ad astra,

Nariman Farvardin
President