

THE POWER OF STEVENS

OUR CAMPAIGN. OUR IMPACT.

CAMPAIGN NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS - WINTER 2017



The Power of Stevens Reaches the \$100 Million Mark

Dear Stevens Alumni and Friends,

We are delighted to report that a recent surge in giving, including a very substantial pledge that will be publicly announced at a later date, has propelled The Power of Stevens campaign past the \$100 million milestone. Now we can set our sights on a strong finish to calendar year 2016 that will help us achieve our \$150 million goal by or before December 2018.

The impact of our campaign is very apparent across our three core priorities: Student Success, Faculty Excellence, and building a Vibrant Campus. More than 500 students are benefitting from scholarships funded by donors, 27 outstanding faculty joined our community this academic year, and next fall we will be breaking ground for the new 90,000 sq. ft. Academic Gateway Complex.

This issue of our newsletter highlights the importance of faculty recruitment and retention. Stevens is now competing with the very best universities in the nation for highly talented faculty. Such individuals look for fertile environments where they can teach bright students and conduct research with abundant resources. From endowed chairs

and research funds to support for travel to conferences and seed funding for new research endeavors, philanthropic support is vital to recruiting and retaining talent and advancing the careers of our faculty.

The end of the calendar year is rapidly approaching. If you have not yet made your annual gift, please consider doing so. Giving participation, regardless of the size of the gift, helps maintain the university's strong financial foundation and is used by *U.S. News & World Report* (USNWR) and other organizations in their rankings of universities. According to USNWR, Stevens is the 3rd-fastest-rising university in the nation. Growing our giving participation will reinforce our upward trajectory.

Finally, we wish you and your family a joyous holiday season and a prosperous 2017.

Per aspera ad astra,

Lawrence T. Babbio, Jr. '66, Hon. D.Eng. '01
Chairman Emeritus, Stevens Board of Trustees
Co-Chair, The Power of Stevens

Sean Hanlon '80
Member, Stevens Board of Trustees
Co-Chair, The Power of Stevens

ABOVE LEFT: Visual Arts & Technology Professor Christopher Manzione with VESPERS, a headset virtual reality project.

ABOVE CENTER: Mathematics Department Director Alexei Miasnikov challenges guests with Gradarius Stepwise Calculus Learning Platform.

ABOVE RIGHT: Director of the Davidson Laboratory, Professor Alan Blumberg explains coastal flood modeling.

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power.stevens.edu

Send off 2016 with a parting gift!



Many alumni find December to be an ideal time to make their annual gift:



- Take advantage of tax breaks as the calendar year ends
- Embrace the spirit of generosity during the holiday season
- Help your alma mater begin 2017 with momentum



So, as you're getting ready to give gifts to the special people in your life, consider the meaning of a gift to Stevens in December. You'll be making our students feel special too.



Every gift counts!



Consistent annual giving helps the university plan sound budgets.

Alumni participation is a key stat for college rankings.

Let's set an all-time-high participation rate!

20% in FY17!

Hit the holiday party in your area! See the list at facebook.com/stevens.alumni.

COMING SOON: the Gear Society. How long have you kept Stevens moving?

Student Success Sourcing the Storm

Powerful storms and rising seas may threaten coastal cities, but thanks to Professor Alan Blumberg and a clever team of Stevens students, residents could soon learn more about protecting their homes and preserving their quality of life.

In what they call a “citizen science project,” Blumberg and his students are designing a platform to collect social media posts from local residents during extreme weather events, including flooding and precipitation (rain and snow). The posts will be turned into valid data via statistical crowdsourcing, with clear graphical maps on a street-by-street basis displayed in real-time. Over time, researchers at the Davidson Laboratory would combine those maps with other advanced forecasting model maps to develop sharper estimates of conditions as they are occurring.

“Working with these students is very exciting for me. Already they have taken my ideas and enhanced them in ways I never imagined.”

The goal is to make residents more informed and their cities and environments more resilient against threatening weather events, with future plans to probe other life quality factors such as air temperature and traffic congestion. The project will focus first on Hoboken as a test case, including support from the city government, but Facebook is already interested in adapting the project globally.

FAMOUS FACULTY

The students are fortunate to be learning from a renowned expert in urban oceanography. Besides teaching, Dr. Blumberg is Director of the Davidson Laboratory and holder of a Chaired Professorship



This color-coded map shows flooding levels in Hoboken, with areas in red representing above 9 feet.

in Ocean Engineering supported philanthropically by the George Meade Bond, Class of 1880 fund. Blumberg frequently appears on the Weather Channel, Fox, ABC and other national news outlets. During the famous “Miracle on the Hudson,” he provided information on Hudson River currents and temperatures to first responders helping to rescue Captain Sullenberger and plane passengers on USAIR Flight 1549.

“Working with these students is very exciting for me,” Blumberg said. “Already they have taken my ideas and enhanced them in ways I never imagined. They are brilliant and focused. The opportunity to work with students like them is one of the reasons I came to Stevens in the first place. The research we are



The students are working on the weather map for their senior design project.

doing together may one day help communities better survive future storms and improve the quality of life for us all.”

MEETING OF THE MINDS

Six of the eleven students are pursuing business degrees, while the others are pursuing degrees in computer science. “By working on this project, I have learned about the science behind weather forecasting and how its accuracy can help prepare for major storms like Hurricane Sandy,” said finance major Allison McDougall ’17. “It has been great working with Dr. Blumberg, and I am really learning how to interact with students of other mindsets, like the computer science group. As a business student, it’s interesting to see how their minds solve problems.”

Computer science major Karan Shah ’17 agrees. “By working on this project, my team members and I get exposure to more than just the typical computer science problems. We get to work with Dr. Blumberg to accurately model flood data with a goal to create a resource that people around the world can use. Even if our application helped just one person, I would feel very accomplished.”

Living and Learning in Lore-EI



Even on an ornate staircase, Lore-EI residents can meet and swap ideas.

For a university that first went co-ed in 1971, Stevens has worked hard over the past five decades to make sure women who are interested in STEM careers can come to Castle Point and reach their potential.

Since 1999, the Lore-EI Center has been home to that effort in more ways than one. Named after cosmetics industry maven Lore E. Feiler, one of the most generous friends of Stevens in university history, and set in a 4,500 square foot Victorian house, Lore-EI

has beds and communal space for 16 female students and provides support for them academically, professionally and socially.

“One of our strategic goals as a university is to attract and retain women,” said Dr. Sara Klein, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, “and the Lore-EI Center provides a supportive, empowering environment in which undergraduate women can live and learn as a community.”

“Living in the Lore-EI Center both as a resident and as a resident assistant for the past three years has been one of the most personally enriching experiences for me at Stevens,” said civil engineering major Yonaida Brito '18. “Not only have I made lasting friendships, I joined a family of women empowering women to be the best they can be.”

HOME SWEET HOME

However, as Ms. Feiler might say, the house built in 1905 could use a fresh dab of powder. Current construction plans include adding more kitchen space and creating an adjacent



Yonaida Brito '18 wants a career managing large and technically demanding construction projects.

ADA-compliant bathroom; designing a patio aligned with the first floor for residents to gather outdoors, as well as installing an exterior wheelchair lift for entry into the house; beautifying the exterior with landscaping and improvements to the main entrance; and making the building more secure, potentially with a new front door using swipe card access.

Trustee Lisa Mascolo '82 remembers being one of only a handful of women to attend Stevens, but now that she is a successful executive with IBM in Washington DC, she has supported women's programs at Stevens, including the Lore-EI Center.

“Diversity of thought is essential to innovation. That diversity comes from people with different backgrounds, different experience, and differing points of view. When we empower more women to be successful, we empower innovation. The Lore-EI Center is an important resource for Stevens to recruit and support young women, and with a Stevens education, they are positioned to make a positive difference in the world. I am proud to support the Lore-EI Center and I encourage all who care about the future of Stevens and the future of our world to do so too.”



The Lore-EI house can feel like an oasis amid a bustling city like Hoboken.

Powered by ABS

The American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) has had a strong partnership with Stevens. The non-profit corporation and leading ship classification society, founded in 1862, has funded scholarships, provided guest speakers, hired graduates and worked alongside Stevens researchers. And now this close relationship is cemented with brick and mortar inside the new ABS Engineering Center.

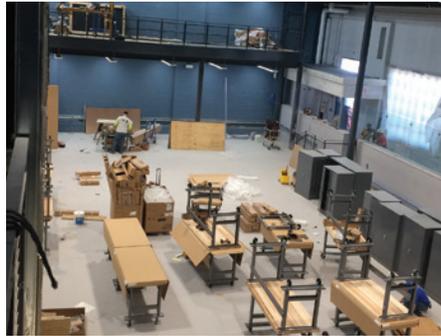


When it's complete, the ABS Engineering Center will become a vibrant part of campus.

Opening during the Fall 2016 semester at the renovated south end of the Davidson Building, the ABS Engineering Center will enable Stevens to lengthen its legacy of impact in the field of maritime innovation. The three-floor facility will include three labs for naval, structural and mechanical engineering, plus collaborative faculty offices and design space for students.

In addition to empowering faculty, the center will also foster student development, all in a modern and conducive atmosphere. "A key feature of the ABS Engineering Center is the large open atrium," said Keith Sheppard, Associate Dean in the School of Engineering & Science. "This collaborative, flexible space will primarily be used for interdisciplinary senior capstone design projects, with much of the focus related to mechanical, civil and naval engineering domains."

"Throughout my time at Stevens," said Ph.D. candidate Maggie Hayes, "my



These workstations will let students explore their ideas.

education has benefited greatly from the American Bureau of Shipping's investment in this program — from generous scholarships to participation in my doctoral committee and the helpful feedback I've received on my research, and to the commissioning of this wonderful new laboratory complex. I am excited for the future of the program and the generations of students who will benefit from this state-of-the-art facility."

In touring the new space, ABS Chairman Christopher Wiernicki said he is pleased the organization's gift will go to good use. "The new engineering center looks spectacular. ABS is proud to partner with Stevens. We believe the research here will help improve shipping conditions across the world."



Pictured above: ABS Chairman, President and CEO Christopher J. Wiernicki.

CASTLE POINT CONNECTIONS



Joe Kaminski '60 recently met with Stevens students who also attended his high school alma mater, Brooklyn Tech. One of the three original specialized schools in New York, Brooklyn Tech — whose team name is the Engineers — has become quite the pipeline to Stevens in recent years. Go Engineers! Go Ducks!



Failure is no longer an option



Fifty-three tutors worked in the WTC during Fall 2015, while 62 worked there the following semester.

“Look to your left, look to your right, only one of you will graduate.” So went the warning Stevens deans used to scare incoming freshmen. Too often the deans were right and many students did flunk, but those lost days are long gone. Stevens still challenges students with rigorous academics, but now it also offers effective programs like the Walk-In Tutoring Center (WTC) to help them survive and thrive.

“I am pleased with the help offered there, and I constantly recommend it to my students, both those needing help and those who can serve.”

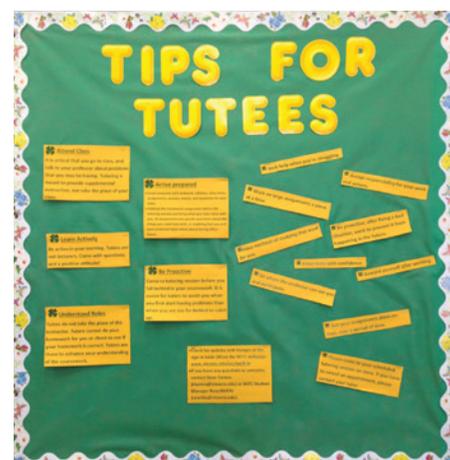
The results are evident. Since the WTC opened in the Williams Library in 2011, hundreds of students have visited for a combined 5,000-plus sessions, getting convenient academic help from peer tutors during critical

times. Over the span, the WTC has played a key role in raising the university’s freshmen retention and graduation rates to striking highs, now 95% and 83% respectively.

FACULTY APPROVED

Kamal Tamna, Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Academics and Director of the Academic Support Center, which oversees the WTC, said it trains students to seek answers rather than fumble with questions. “Without the Walk-In Tutoring Center, they might not get help at all because they wouldn’t go to their professor or TA (teaching assistant), or they might just try and figure it out on their own. But now they have a place where they can go and feel comfortable asking for help.”

Faculty also see the benefits of the WTC. “One of the things that distinguishes Stevens is the care and attention we pay to individual

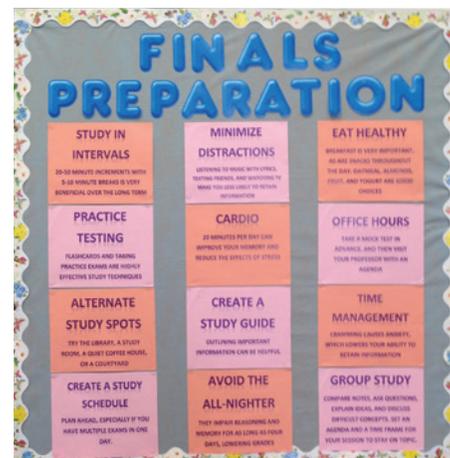


During 2015-16, 238 students made 403 visits in the fall, while in the spring, 197 visited 369 times.

students in the learning process,” said Professor Ron Besser, Director of the Chemical Engineering Program. “The tutoring center is a place that facilitates that care, where a peer tutor who has successfully navigated a course helps another student to do the same. I am pleased with the help offered there, and I constantly recommend it to my students, both those needing help and those who can serve.”

STUDENTS HELPING STUDENTS

At the WTC, students meet tutors who can help their peers understand without giving them easy answers.



The WTC is open Monday through Thursday 2-11pm; Fridays 12-5pm; and Sundays 5-11pm.

“Sometimes students come in hoping we’ll give them a quick answer so they can leave, but we want them to understand the material better so that they can find the answers themselves,” said Michael Youssef ’17, a mechanical engineering major. “When students come in stressed because they don’t understand, it can be a challenge getting them to focus, but that’s why we’re here, to help them do that.”

Thanks to donor support, tutors have received regular wages doing work relevant to their academic and career interests rather than waiting tables or minding a cash register. Because the tutors are constantly poring over technical content and explaining it to others, they are learning communication skills they will use later in their careers.



Survey response from a student: “My tutors were a lifesaver. With them I was able to make sense of what the professors lectured about and understand the big picture.”

“Tutoring has shown me how different people learn in different ways,” said mechanical engineering major Terez Lebron ’17. “This will be helpful in my

future career if I have to do a presentation or proposal and need to ensure that everyone completely understands what I am trying to convey.”

You are invited to the STEVENS AWARDS Gala

Join us at the historic Plaza Hotel for the fourth Stevens Awards Gala, as we honor the remarkably accomplished alumni and friends of Stevens Institute of Technology. Slip into your tuxedos and evening gowns and show your pride in Stevens on this most special night.

Reserve your seats by March 24, 2017 at stevens.edu/awardsgala

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 8, 2017

THE PLAZA HOTEL • FIFTH AVENUE AT CENTRAL PARK • NEW YORK, NY



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**SEE YOUR FRIENDS
FROM THE CELEBRATION
OF PHILANTHROPY!**

