

THE POWER OF STEVENS

OUR CAMPAIGN. OUR IMPACT.

CAMPAIGN NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS - WINTER 2018



Dear alumni and friends,

I am honored to write to you as the new president of the Stevens Alumni Association. In 2004, I graduated, became a proud member of our alumni community, and started my career as a high school math teacher in New Jersey. It is a path that has allowed me to encourage talented students to apply to Stevens to receive a truly enriching experience.

When thinking of our campus, I recall the “Torch Bearers” statue prominently situated on our great lawn. It has inspired generations of Stevens students – a single torch passed from hand to hand, burning bright thanks to the hard work, humility and generosity of each generation doing its part for the next.

It is impossible to repay what we received while enrolled at Stevens. Instead we each must look ahead, to see how we can pay forward. I often think of the generosity of the late Ann Neupauer. A sister of three alumni, her gift long ago made it possible for me to attend Stevens. Though I will never be able to thank Ms. Neupauer, she has inspired me to be a torch bearer myself. Her example motivates me to give back to my alma mater by contributing what I can annually to support Stevens’ upward trajectory, as well as by encouraging students and alumni alike to remain engaged with the Stevens community.

As we end 2017, I hope you feel the same way, and I encourage you to help propel that trajectory by [making a gift](#) before December 31. Please know how grateful we are for your loyal support, and thank you for keeping the torch ablaze.

Happy holidays,

Vicky Velasco '04

President, Stevens Alumni Association

ABOVE LEFT: During her time as a student, new Alumni Association president Vicky Velasco '04 was a member of Khoda, Gear & Triangle, and Tau Beta Pi.

ABOVE RIGHT: Season's greetings! Be sure to attend the big campus holiday party on December 9 or one with your [regional club](#).

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

4



Faculty Expertise

Alex Wellerstein reframes thinking on nuclear weapons.

6



Donor Spotlight

Leon Hojegan '61 looks back at his life and Stevens.

9



Carnegie Award

Donors are celebrating President Farvardin's leadership award.

Finding, and Funding, Faculty Excellence

Every fall, Stevens welcomes hundreds of new faces. Most of those are curious freshmen, but a distinguished set includes the faculty who come to call Castle Point home. This fall, 19 professors joined Stevens after teaching at Harvard, Yale, Princeton and other top colleges.

Just as students choose colleges where they can fulfill their potential, faculty look for supportive environments where they can broaden their impact. At Stevens, that support includes encouragement from campus leadership, a choice location near numerous industries that value academic research, and robust philanthropy providing resources and prestige.

WELCOMED PROFESSORS

“Faculty are the heart of a university, and as we embark on the next five years of our strategic plan, our top priority is to recruit outstanding teachers and researchers,” said Provost Christophe Pierre. “The new faculty here this year arrive with impressive credentials, and I am confident they will contribute much to our university for many years to come.”

Within the College of Arts and Letters, School of Business and School of Engineering and Science, new faculty members have expertise in business analytics, cellular biology, cybersecurity, drug discovery, internet architecture and other emerging fields.



Emily Liu, who earned her doctorate in supply chain and information systems from Penn State, has published over 30 papers.

Thank You For Being a Friend

Our Fall 2017 issue featured a story about the many friends of Stevens. Since then, one of those generous friends has chosen to support Stevens in a truly transformative way.

Thanks to the A. James and Alice B. Clark Foundation, Stevens will soon launch the Clark Scholars Program to give opportunities and tuition help to talented students underrepresented in the engineering field.

This endowed gift recognizes the university's tremendous potential, as well as the personal friendship that grew between Mr. Clark and President Farvardin when Farvardin was dean of the Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland.

Let's celebrate the power of friendship that has enriched the Clarks and

Farvardin's and will continue to enrich Stevens and its students!

And now, with the Clark Foundation covering 10% of the campaign goal

in one gift, we are just another 10% away from completing *The Power of Stevens*. Let's keep this momentum going and succeed in '18!



A. James Clark (right), along with trustee Rick Roscitt '73 (center), attended President Farvardin's inauguration in 2011.

“I decided to join Stevens so I can share my experience to help students prepare for the highly competitive global job market,” said Emily Liu, who joined the School of Business after working as a research scientist with IBM. “Meanwhile, Stevens provides me with opportunities to strengthen my research on deep learning, blockchain, and business analytics in collaboration with other outstanding faculty members.”

“The major reason I decided to come to Stevens remains the innovative relationship here between STEM and the humanities,” said Bradley Fidler, who taught information science at UCLA and USC before joining the College of Arts and Letters. “We are exploring new ways to add humanistic insight to rigorous STEM fields, not just for general awareness of social issues, but to make more effective and strategic STEM practitioners. It’s happening in undergrad education, as well as in grad and faculty research. It’s unique to Stevens, and it has tremendous potential.”

GIFTS ATTRACT TALENT

Philanthropic support has played a crucial role in recruiting excellent professors. Thanks to Dave Farber '56 establishing a chair, Stevens lured Giuseppe Ateniese from Johns Hopkins to lead the emerging computer science department. Farber’s philanthropy also supports Alex Wellerstein, a nuclear weapons historian, through the David and GG Farber Faculty Fellowship, designed to “recognize and support faculty in the College of Arts and Letters who study and raise public awareness about the social impacts of scientific and technological development.”

In the School of Business, a recent gift from Fred Paulson '59 enabled Stevens to attract Victor Luo, a former Federal Reserve economist, as the Paulson Assistant Professor of Finance.

“We are always looking for dynamic professors like Giuseppe, Alex and Victor,” Pierre said, “who are looking for a university where they can engage talented students and pursue impactful research. We are ideally situated near the financial, pharmaceutical and other major industries, and we are able to position our faculty and their expertise as something of great economic and societal value.”

The best way to recruit excellent faculty to Stevens is to offer a named chair or fellowship. Chairs and fellowships give faculty resources for teaching, research, conferences and

graduate assistants, plus prestige among their colleagues and a greater presence beyond campus, as governments, industries and the media seek their expertise.

In the future, Stevens will fill endowed chairs established by Tom Corcoran '67 (see page 11), Rick Roscitt '73, Steve Shulman '62 and the estate of Elbert Brinning, a university friend.

“A named chair or fellowship is a compelling incentive for professors to consider Stevens,” Pierre said. “As we are the second-fastest rising university in the country, we are looking for professors who match that trajectory, professors who are established but still have a desire to grow. By attracting them with opportunities and resources, we are confident we can retain them as fixtures who continue to benefit our students.”



Steve Shulman '62 and Rick Roscitt '73 are boosting faculty excellence by endowing chairs for professors in the School of Business.

A New Nuclear Expertise

Stevens professors know a lot of interesting things, such as how to protect coastlines from violent storms, how to stop high-tech trading fraud, and how to develop lifesaving drugs. And now, the university is honing a new expertise through Alex Wellerstein's gripping, interdisciplinary research on surviving nuclear weapons.

ONLY AT STEVENS

Wellerstein designed [NUKEMAP](#), a website that simulates nuclear explosions over notable cities. One could gauge the death toll from the Hiroshima bomb over New York City, or, relevant these days, the latest menacing weapon from North Korea. The

site has been visited over 25 million times and has been featured on NPR, Fox News, The New York Times, The Daily Show and elsewhere.

By training and inclination Wellerstein is a historian, though he studies a topic involving complex science. He is also a computer programmer, a rarity among traditional historians. As such, he believes few universities would be able to process his interdisciplinary work.

"The work I'm doing could probably not be done anywhere but Stevens," said Wellerstein, who has taught at Harvard and Georgetown. "Many history departments can be fairly

conservative and would look at my work as strange. Stevens recognizes it as interesting, because some problems don't fit into traditional academic silos."

His overall goal is to help people reconsider their thinking about nuclear weapons. "Since the end of the Cold War, most people think about nuclear weapons zero percent of the time, and then something happens and we go into freak-out mode, and then two weeks later something happens that has nothing to do with nuclear weapons and we drop back down to zero. I'm interested in finding ways to balance that, so when the big reminders come they're not as shocking."

WHAT DONORS CAN DO

Wellerstein benefits from two recent major philanthropic gifts, including being selected for a David and GG Farber Faculty Fellowship, supported by the legendary computer scientist Dave Farber '56, an inaugural inductee of the Stevens Hall of Achievement.

"As we continue to see from following the news, the work that Alex does has great value to society for the way he encourages us to rethink our assumptions," Farber said. "Stevens benefits from his presence as a notable professor, and I am happy to support him."

Additionally, Wellerstein, along with fellow College of Arts and Letters professor Kristyn Karl and Julie Pullen of the School of Engineering and Science, has been awarded grants from the Carnegie and MacArthur foundations to establish Reinventing Civil Defense, an advocacy group whose stated goal is to "develop new



Alex Wellerstein – @wellerstein – is often retweeted by some of the sharpest minds on social media.

CASTLE POINT CONNECTIONS

communication strategies regarding nuclear risk that have high potential to resonate with a public audience... and identify what an effective, non-partisan, level-headed approach to nuclear risk communication looks like in the 21st century.”

“All of this work has been funded by philanthropy because it doesn’t fit into the categories of most academic funding agencies,” Wellerstein said. “I can’t go to the National Science Foundation and say please fund my crazy plan to hack the culture. But philanthropists often have a lot more leeway; we can go to them and say we’ve got all these good people and all these good ideas, and all we need is a little bit of money to get started.”



Now a supporter of faculty chairs at Stevens, Dave Farber '56 was the Alfred Fittler Moore Professor of Telecommunications at Penn.



Stevens is great partners with ABS, the American Bureau of Shipping. In addition to establishing the ABS Engineering Center on campus, the organization supports several scholarships every year, including for these recipients who gathered for a September reception.



Donor Spotlight

LEON HOJEGIAN '61 M.M.S. '67

On a bright September morning, Leon Hojegan '61 arrives at Stevens for lunch with the Old Guard. “A good day for a walk,” he says, explaining the shuttle wasn’t running with the kind of confidence that comes from always having a backup plan.

Hojegan is a busy man in retirement. Busier than when he worked full-time, he said. He sits on the executive committee for the New Jersey Education Association and serves as secretary for the Vocational Education of New Jersey. Education is important to him and a key to success. He graduated from Stevens in 1961 with a B.S. in science and math and Master of Management Science in 1967. “My well-rounded education allowed me to explore a lot of different areas. I developed perseverance. You have to work at it.”

One of the skills he learned from engineering was problem solving. In the technical field you have to get to the point and solve the issue. When he made the switch to education, he noticed colleagues would write long reports, which was very different from his experience of getting things done. While he was taking courses to become certified to teach, he also turned in a paper that was worth four points. “I turned in one page. I got an A on it, but [the teacher] wrote – terse.”

It’s easy to see Leon in his former role as a teacher. He is vibrant, well-spoken, and knowledgeable about many subjects. And it’s also clear why so many former students would want to keep in touch with him. He’s candid without being opinionated and funny without a hint of snarkiness.



When he was at Castle Point, Leon Hojegan '61 was a member of The Stute, the Flying Club, and the Christian Roundtable.

Teaching wasn’t his first career or his only area of success. After graduating from Stevens, he got the draft letter. Born and raised in midtown Manhattan, he explained that there were very few eligible young people in the city at the time, so he and all his friends were drafted. He took the letter to the Air Force recruiting center and became a missile combat crew commander. It was tough work and long hours. With typical candor, he explains that he feels sorry for the launch officers today who work in isolation with just a team of two. During his term of service he had a crew of five men.

His skills have taken him into various fields. He was a successful businessman long before he began teaching math and electronics at Passaic County Technical Institute. At one time he worked for WOR and was an engineer for the Catholic Diocese in Brooklyn. He had his own business manufacturing mobile homes, recreational vehicles and fiberglass assemblies. After he sold his business, it was his wife Rosalie

who nudged him in the direction of teaching. Teaching quickly became a passion and aligned with his deeply held belief in giving back. After his wife died, he set up a scholarship at Passaic County Community College in her honor. “We’ve always been givers to charities because there is a need.”

His generosity extends far. Hojegan is a proud member of Stevens Legacy Society and a member of the Lifetime Giving Societies. “We’re making good progress. We are advancing in all the right fields. They have been moving things along in a really beautiful way. It makes you feel proud.”

The notion of giving back was ingrained in him from an early age when he attended fundraisers with his mother. He and his wife have always given back to the arts or the non-profit sector. He explained that ticket prices at NJPAC or a city opera don’t come near to covering the costs of things, so they would always include a donation. This is a value that he has instilled in his sons. “Always include a contribution. If you want these institutions, you have to support them.”

Giving back to their alma mater would be enough for many, but Hojegan is always looking for ways to help someone in need. He supports a couple of orphans in Armenia and through the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, he helps sponsor a girl’s orphanage in Panama. He also extends his time at St. John’s Episcopal Church as a volunteer and a donor.

In addition to his good works, Hojegan finds the time to travel. He’s visited India and Iceland and

plans to go to Thailand and Taiwan in January. This past summer, he was able to get his entire immediate family together for a week in Denver including both his sons, their wives and his grandkids. He is close to his family. In fact, he shares a house with one of his sons. After his wife passed away, he offered his house to his son and daughter-in-law when they were expecting another baby. His daughter-in-law told him they would only come if he stayed. Twelve years later, they are all still happily cohabitating. "It's very nice. We are close and yet we

are separate. If they know I'm busy, they won't bother me."

Hojegian is indeed busy, yet volunteers at the Museum of Natural History. At the museum, he meets people from all over the world and his natural ability to engage a crowd is still flourishing. He shared an anecdote about a business man from Korea who asked him if he could take his picture. Not only did the picture end up in a magazine, the Korean man now tells his friends when they are in New York to look up Leon on Wednesdays at the museum.

His curiosity about the natural world led him to go on several fossil digs. While out in the field, he discovered that there are dozens of museums around the world looking for curators at no salary, which is sad, he said. With his sharp intellect, he looks for solutions. When examining the practical applications of any career, it's essential to look at the salary after five years. He explains how important it is to have the right education: "If you are going to go through the trouble, it's important to do something that has a future."

Join us at the historic Plaza Hotel for the fifth 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 special night.

STEVENS AWARDS

Gala

APRIL 14, 2018

Reserve your seats by March 30, 2018 at stevens.edu/awardsgala

CASTLE POINT CONNECTIONS

Every year, donors and students meet at the [Class, Greek and Affinity Scholarship Luncheon](#), where they celebrate how philanthropy enables so many talented students to attend and succeed at Stevens!



Donor Spotlight ANN GREEN-TERREL M.S. '96



Ann Green-Terrell M.S. '96, here with her husband Tommy, earned her bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from the University of Miami.

Ann Green-Terrell appreciates the skills she honed at Stevens while getting her master's degree in technology management. She has worked for almost 30 years as an engineering manager with UPS. She lives in Houston with her husband, and together they enjoy attending events with the local Stevens alumni club.

How did Stevens prepare you for your career? Stevens was instrumental in giving me the tools necessary to excel in my career. As an industrial engineer, my work is focused on identifying the root cause of a problem and determining the best solution. Back in 1996, with the advent of new technologies and internet-based applications, my degree from Stevens gave me an improved ability not only to research and identify new technological-based

solutions, but I now have the knowledge to implement them successfully.

What do you enjoy about the Houston alumni club? It's great to socialize and network with people who share some of the same experiences at Stevens. I attended graduate school at Stevens while working full-time, so attending events and enjoying the camaraderie of the other members now is giving me more of a connection to the school.

What excites you about the future of Stevens? As a student, I was drawn to Stevens because of the university's research history. I feel that the steps Stevens is currently taking with strategic planning will only continue to attract quality individuals as students, educators and staff.

A Carnegie Honor

In September, the Carnegie Corporation of New York recognized seven university presidents with an academic leadership award, including our very own, Nariman Farvardin. Along with prestige, the award bestows \$500,000 that President Farvardin will give to four student-centric areas: scholarships, study abroad opportunities, summer pre-college, and the emergency fund for students who face sudden financial hardship.

In honoring President Farvardin, Carnegie cited a number of accomplishments for which all of Stevens can be proud. “Building on core strengths in technology and entrepreneurship,” Carnegie said in a statement, “Farvardin invested in more faculty members, support services for students, new academic and research facilities, and classroom technology. He emphasized experiential learning opportunities as a way for students to connect their education to work in their chosen fields, facilitated a 365 percent increase in students participating in international

programs, and oversaw increased applications and improved retention and graduation rates.”

“This honor is a recognition of the tremendous progress that has taken place at Stevens over the last few years,” President Farvardin said. “After much thought, I have decided to use the funds associated with the Carnegie Academic Leadership Award to further strengthen our efforts to support academically talented, hard-working and ambitious students who have significant financial need, especially those from underserved communities.”

STEVENS IN THE SUMMER

The summer [pre-college program](#) brings some 600 teens to Castle Point and immerses them in college life for up to two weeks. While living in dorms, the teens meet professors, explore academic programs, and complete a creative project. The program is popular – according to 2017 survey results, 92% of students said they would recommend the program to a friend, 88% said it made them more excited to go to college, and 77% said it increased the likelihood of them applying to Stevens as undergraduates.

Thus, the success of the pre-college program helps explain the university’s significant increase in freshmen applications this decade. “We recognize the value our summer program has both on younger students and on Stevens,” said pre-college director Christie Graziano. “We are looking to grow the program and make it even more fulfilling for those who participate, so that we can continue to see more of them choose Stevens when they’re exploring their college options.”

However, many of the brightest students who could become interested in Stevens by visiting over the summer can’t afford the program costs, especially students from underrepresented, impoverished, or first-generation backgrounds. In 2017, the average family income of pre-college financial aid recipients was \$28,539, but Stevens was able to offer help to only 25% of deserving applicants. Thus, in order to avoid losing so many of those interested students, President Farvardin has deemed the pre-college program worthy of a significant share of the Carnegie award.

STEVENS OVERSEAS

In addition to helping attract more aspiring minds to Stevens, the Carnegie award will send more enrolled students abroad for an enriching academic and cultural experience.

Since the [Office of International Programs \(OIP\)](#) opened in 2014, the number of Stevens students who go abroad for classes, internships or immersive projects has tripled. Some go individually as part of the Pinnacle Scholars package, while others enroll in two-week course trips like professor Ron Besser’s annual tour of Spain’s sustainable energy industry, or the popular School of Business look at the global economy through cities like London and Athens.

“Over the past few years, hundreds of Stevens students got a valuable experience from studying abroad,” said OIP director Susi Rachouh, who curates some 1,500 opportunities on the OIP website and helps students prepare for traveling, especially the many who have never left the United States before. “These students are →



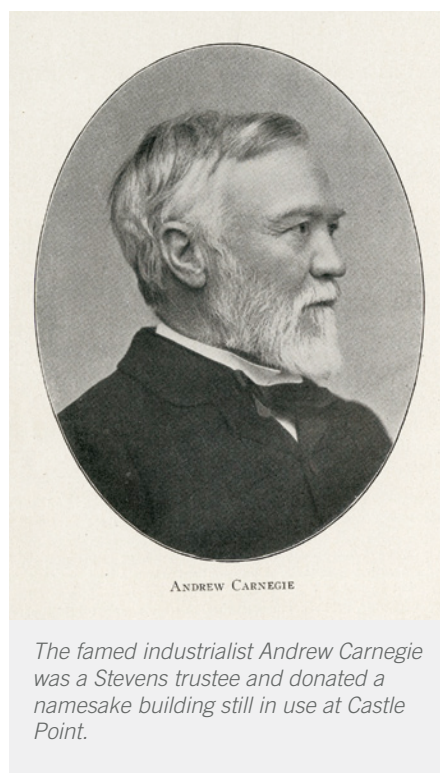
Caralyn Cyr '20 took two classes overseas on the history and architecture of Florence, Italy.

experiencing new worlds, and they are taking what they encounter overseas with what they learn on campus and are forming new perspectives they can carry into their careers.”

However, while many students are interested in studying abroad, because they expect to work in a globalized economy, many cannot afford travel expenses for multiple weeks without help. Alumni and friends like Dick Sard '62 and Erik Young have supported trips in recent years, but demand is sure to keep growing, meaning the Carnegie award and related gifts will have an immediate impact on an increasingly important aspect of student success.

SAVING STUDENTS IN NEED

The Carnegie award will also help students who find they might have to leave Stevens prematurely. President Farvardin has decided to allocate some of the money to the Impact



Assistance Fund for students with a sudden financial need.

“Sometimes unforeseen hardships, like a death in the family, sudden disability, or an accident or natural

disaster, prevent students from meeting their tuition obligations,” said Ken Nilsen, dean of student life. “When our students face these adversities they can apply for help from the Impact Assistance Fund. This vital account is supported exclusively by gifts and is awarded to students whose change in circumstances prevents them from staying at Stevens and completing their degree.”

SHOWING LEADERSHIP

Beyond the original \$500,000, the Carnegie gift could enrich Stevens even more for the way President Farvardin is using it to highlight the priorities of scholarships, study abroad, pre-college and the emergency fund, especially to benefit students from underrepresented backgrounds or who have financial need.

“On behalf of my fellow trustees, we are proud of President Farvardin,” said the board’s chair, Virginia Ruesterholz '83. “The Carnegie Corporation honored President Farvardin for his leadership, and he is a successful leader because he has embraced and implemented a bold vision for Stevens. By allocating his award this way, he continues to lead, and we are heartened to see him draw attention to student-centric initiatives we care deeply about.”



Among participants, 82% said they feel more confident in their social abilities after attending pre-college at Stevens.

Donor Spotlight

THOMAS A. CORCORAN '67 HON. D.ENG. '03

Fifty years after he graduated from Stevens, Thomas A. Corcoran '67 is proud of the life he's built as a husband and father, successful executive, engaged citizen, and supporter of his alma mater.

He came to Stevens after getting some sound advice. "I had a guidance counselor tell me Stevens might be a good school for me to apply to. I was good at math, and I knew some people who were engineers, so I thought being an engineer might be a good thing."

He remembers his Castle Point days as a brother in Beta Theta Pi and as business manager for the Link yearbook, and he especially values the time he spent in Stevens classrooms. "It gave me confidence I could stand up to the rigors of an academic environment, confidence I had learned something of value, confidence I was able to articulate a position, and confidence I could compete with others my age."

After graduating with an engineering degree, Corcoran began his career at General Electric, rising to executive positions in the company's aerospace division. Later, he served as an executive with Lockheed Martin's electronics, missiles, and space operations. He has also served as CEO of Allegheny Teledyne and Gemini Air Cargo (a Carlyle Group company). Currently, he serves as a director with L3 Technologies and Aerojet Rocketdyne. He has also been an advisor with the Carlyle Group.

"I was able to come out of Stevens and spend 26 years with GE and then go on to success in other places. I don't think I could have done that if I hadn't experienced the Stevens education."



Claudia and Tom Corcoran '67 attended The Power of Stevens public launch in May 2016.

Throughout his career, Corcoran has honed his ideas about leadership. "Leadership is about setting a vision and selecting people who support the vision, who can help you develop and continue to refine it. Leadership is also about being willing to change – knowing when to change, how to change, what to change. You could argue the only constant in the world for any of us is change, and so leadership is in many ways dealing with that."

Corcoran contributes his experience and perspective to his alma mater as a university trustee. He received the Stevens Honor Award in 1996 and an honorary doctorate in 2003. "The state of Stevens now is outstanding. We've come a long way in terms of being financially stable. The quality of our students continues to get better and better."

He is pleased to see Stevens highly ranked, including up to number 69 in *U.S. News & World Report's* prestigious national rankings for 2017. "People and institutions are recognizing Stevens is a real jewel and that students who come here are well prepared for life after school. I've talked to people from MIT, Carnegie

Mellon, Stanford, Cal Tech, you name it, and the quality of our education compares to any other technical school in America."

Among his philanthropic support of the university, he and his wife have established the Claudia and Thomas Corcoran Endowed Chair in Systems Management, which Stevens will fill in the future.

Connected to his philanthropic interest, Corcoran has refined views on faculty excellence. "The first part is being an excellent teacher, where students believe they're getting a first-class education. Professors should also encourage students to strive for excellence themselves. Secondly, faculty should be leaders in research so that they are pioneering technology or some other aspect of their profession. The third pillar would be faculty who understand the school's strategic plan and contribute to its development and implementation."

Corcoran lives in Florida and Maryland, and in addition to his business and community interests he spends time playing golf, reading, and meeting with friends. He also serves as a director of the American Ireland Fund. He and Claudia have been married for 48 years and have two children.

"Looking back, I'm proud of a lot of things. I'm proud I had a family and gave them my time. I'm proud I behaved ethically and always focused on doing the right thing, as opposed to the easy thing. I'm proud I left the businesses I led better off than when I started, and of the people I helped develop who were able to take leadership roles. And I'm proud I engaged with everyone, from the sweeper to the board, and treated people with respect."

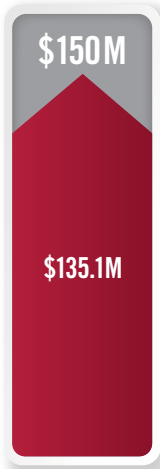


STEVENS
INSTITUTE of TECHNOLOGY
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY®

Office of Development
Stevens Institute of Technology
1 Castle Point Terrace
Hoboken, NJ 07030

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 981
S. HACKENSACK, NJ

PROGRESS TOWARD GOAL



power.stevens.edu

CASTLE POINT CONNECTIONS

A gift from Dianne '90 (Smith) and Jim '89 Szipszky will fund keynote speakers at the [LeadHERship Conference](#) for the next several years. Carla Harris, a Morgan Stanley executive, encouraged the young women at this year's October gathering.

