

THE POWER OF STEVENS

OUR CAMPAIGN. OUR IMPACT.

CAMPAIGN NEWS AND HIGHLIGHTS – FALL 2016



ABOVE LEFT: *The Power of Stevens launched with a bang during a public kickoff on May 7.*

ABOVE: *President Farvardin, Sean Hanlon and Larry Babbio are ready to lead the campaign.*

Positioned for Greater Impact

The Power of Stevens is all about people. The priorities of the campaign are to ensure Student Success, promote Faculty Excellence, and build a Vibrant Campus that enhances learning and research. It is also about donors – alumni, non-alumni friends, corporations and foundations – who are stepping up with gifts that make a difference.

The campaign is, of course, a means to an end. By supporting education and research of the highest quality and improving our classrooms, laboratories, and student life facilities, we are aligned with Stevens' mission: to be a premier, student-centric, technological research university.

This first issue on Student Success and future newsletters will highlight the people who make Stevens so special and its future so bright. Of course we will include the most important metrics, but we will feature the donors who are helping to advance this wonderful university and the students and faculty who every day strive for success and impact.

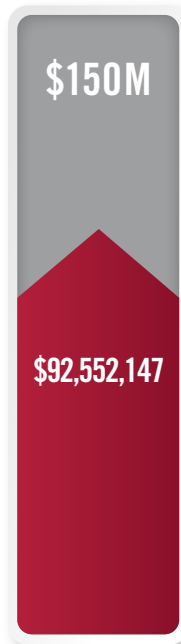
During the last five years, Stevens has been the fastest rising university in the nation, and the campaign will be pivotal to maintaining and accelerating our momentum. Integral to this success is the growing pride our alumni have in Stevens. Keep informed and stay involved. Together we will do great things!

Sincerely,

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

PROGRESS TOWARD GOAL



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power.stevens.edu

About the Campaign

The Power of Stevens has three priorities:



STUDENT SUCCESS

With scholarships and support for experiential learning opportunities, athletics and extracurricular programs, students will be prepared to succeed.



FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Stevens will thrive with the means to recruit and retain outstanding professors and promote their research on major issues facing society.



VIBRANT CAMPUS

From smart classrooms and advanced labs to modern student life facilities, building a Vibrant Campus is key to attracting academic talent.

Since Campaign Launch:



Bullish on Immersive Learning

At the Hanlon Financial Systems Center, some two dozen students are learning Wall Street ways through SSMIF, the Stevens Student Managed Investment Fund.

SSMIF students go beyond business textbooks to invest real money provided through the generosity of donors, amassing a \$400,000 portfolio since starting in Spring 2015. Though the students report to faculty advisors and ultimately to the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees, they run the fund's daily operations, with each of the team members filling a role as a portfolio manager, analyst or researcher.

“I feel like I will be more prepared for internships and my job after being in a fully functional investment fund that is such a fantastic learning environment.”

“Every week, I work with the other portfolio managers to schedule pitches for Tuesdays and Wednesdays,” said Macroeconomic Portfolio Manager Tom Flannery '17. “After analysts give pitches, the other two PMs and I discuss whether or not we will invest. I also continuously check any news headlines to make sure our sector outlook is the same. That diligence impacts which type of companies we would invest in within an industry and guides our investing strategy.”



At the Hanlon Center, students learn using advanced Bloomberg data terminals.



George Calhoun and Sean Hanlon. Calhoun, Director of the Hanlon Center, leads a growing finance program at Stevens.

STEVENS MEANS BUSINESS

Throughout the investing process, SSMIF students learn to find and analyze data, form and present convincing pitches, anticipate and mitigate risk, collaborate as a team, and make quick decisions while also planning ahead. These are real-world skills they will need for successful careers in finance, and even if they are employed in other sectors of the economy.

“It is one thing to learn in a classroom how to research and value companies, but being able to create a full, in-depth pitch is far more beneficial for a student,” said Connor Towne '17, the SSMIF Head of Research and an intern with another top 25 global bank. “I feel like I will be more prepared for internships and my job after being in a fully functional investment fund that is such a fantastic learning environment.”

Teaching business has become a big business at Stevens: among the Class of 2015 who started jobs within six months of graduating, finance was the second most popular field. With challenging immersive programs like

SSMIF, those students are ready to succeed on day one of their careers. “SSMIF required me to practice theories and utilize them rather than just learn an idea and be tested on it,” said Gerry Santacruz '15, now a full-time Commodities Strategy Analyst at Citi. “It definitely prepared me for where I am now.”

EXPERIENCE COUNTS

Donors have supported SSMIF, including Sean Hanlon '80, a Trustee, namesake of the Hanlon Financial Systems Center, and founder of his own investment firm. “I'm pleased to see students gain real-world finance experience through the undergraduate Quantitative Finance program, the Financial Engineering master's, and the SSMIF. The Hanlon Financial Systems Center, with its two world-class labs and list of annual events, supports all this. It is personally very rewarding for my wife Cathy and me to experience and be a part of all this. The knowledge and experience the students receive help them launch their careers. As donating investors in the SSMIF fund, we are excited to see it grow!”

Winning with Pinnacle

One of the most exciting vehicles for driving Student Success is the new Pinnacle Scholars program, a package of opportunities to enable Stevens' most exceptional students to realize their full potential.

The inaugural 2015-16 Pinnacle cohort includes 66 freshmen, who can remain in the program until they graduate. Each year, they will get extra opportunities for research, entrepreneurship and studying abroad, with fifth-year tuition support if they



In his Pinnacle leadership class, President Farvardin returns to his roots as a professor.

stay for a graduate degree. They will also get to stamp a cultural passport with tickets to Broadway shows and museum exhibits, and beyond even closer faculty mentoring, some will take a course on leadership taught by President Farvardin.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

"I'm most excited by the exclusive opportunities that are an integral part of being a Pinnacle Scholar," said Music & Technology major Ryan Donatacci, who serves as Vice President of the Audio Engineering Club. "Not many students can say they are in a class taught by the president of their university, and between this, the many cultural trips and events, and the funding for study abroad and research programs in the summer, there is plenty to be excited about, and I'm grateful to have been invited to participate in such a rewarding program."

Ryan Little, a Computer Science major and runner on the cross country and track teams, agrees. "My Pinnacle scholarship excites me because it represents the hard work I did in high school to prove I could succeed at



Lisa Mascolo '82 and her husband, Todd Singleton, have been leading supporters of the Pinnacle program.

a highly competitive school. It also represents opportunities for incredible connections that I might never have had access to, such as a class with Dr. Farvardin and contact with successful professionals in my field."

Admissions selects freshmen to become Pinnacle Scholars based on their academic profiles and leadership potential, with a goal of building close-knit groups of Stevens students who can match the best at any university in the country. The incoming 2016-17 cohort is almost twice as large as the first and just as stellar – 109 students boasting an average SAT score of 1465.

Trustee Lisa Mascolo '82 is one of the donors who contributed more than \$5 million to launch the Pinnacle program. "Supporting Pinnacle is one of the surest investments anyone who cares about Stevens can make. We know these students will be successful in life because they're already showing their dedication to working hard and seizing opportunity. The program will also help us attract the brightest from around the country. If we think of Stevens as one of the best universities anywhere, then it's imperative that we grow the Pinnacle program."



Retired Chairman of ADP and friend of Stevens Josh Weston Hon. D.Eng. '96 enjoys a post-lecture dinner with Pinnacle Scholars.

Rooting for the Home Team

Stevens student-athletes succeed in the classroom and at the court, mat, pool or field. In fact, because students who play sports have to balance practice, training, traveling and competing with tough classes, they often develop shrewd time management skills that propel them in their careers.



Some 650 Ducks compete on 26 teams that regularly earn average GPAs in the mid-3s.

For the 2015-16 year, ten Ducks – Charles Drake '17, Katrina Guido '18, Matthew Heinrich '16, Kyle Henry '18, Allie Masciana '17, Jillian Morneau '17, William Persson '18, Victoria Piskarev '19, Danny Polk '18 and David Schulz '18 – were honored as Scholar-Athletes by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association for earning GPAs higher than 3.5.



Gifts for athletics passed \$520,000 in FY16, a 230% jump from the previous year.

Many of the Scholar-Athletes also starred with a racquet. Matthew was named Empire 8 Conference Player of the Year and competed for the NCAA national championship, Kyle was named Stevens Sportsman of the Year, and Danny, Katrina, Charles, William and Victoria were named by the Empire 8 to either the first or second conference teams.

“My time on court is like a mini-vacation,” said Katrina, a Physics major who tied for the team lead with nine singles wins. “The class from which I just ran to make practice melts away, the impending problem sets settle to the back of my mind, and I am able to enter a state of bliss. Having that time to break up the day allows me to focus more clearly on my academic work.”



Besides varsity athletes, hundreds more Stevens students, faculty and staff use campus facilities to exercise, play club sports or take a health class.

Many players often have fond memories of their time at Stevens. “Being a student-athlete developed me into the person I am today,” said Valerie Barnhart '06, a soccer and lacrosse star, Ducks Hall of Famer, and manager of business systems analysis at AIG. “Pairing academics with athletics teaches time management and how to work in a fast environment. Sports are a great stress reliever, and the teams I was on became family. That experience drives me to give back so other students have the same opportunities.”

DONOR SPOTLIGHT PATTY TORRES '01



Patty Torres spoke about supporting the STEP Scholarship during a Class of 2016 graduation party.

Patty was a member of the SGA, Gear & Triangle, SHPE and Khoda. Now serving as Director of Global Indirect Procurement at Bacardi Martin, she is a leading supporter of the STEP Scholarship creating a more diverse student body at Stevens.

Why do you give back to Stevens?

Stevens helped me be prepared for the professional career I have now, teaching me teamwork, problem-solving and innovative thinking.

Why are scholarships important?

During my time at Stevens, the STEP Program provided me the tools outside of the classroom that helped me be successful in the classroom and even after I graduated. It's important to me to give back because if it wasn't for the support I had at Stevens, my career would not be what it is today.

What does Student Success mean to you?

A successful student is one fulfilling his or her dreams. They selected their major with a career in mind, and helping them achieve that goal with academic education, professional development and financial support is an effort we should be proud to make.

From Castle Point to the World

Madrid, London, Athens and more—more Stevens students are traveling and learning abroad thanks to enhanced programming and philanthropic support. For many students the experience is their first time overseas, and they return to Castle Point with broadened minds befitting a university growing its global profile.

“Project Jamaica helped me realize that I can make a difference, that I can lead a movement, that I can change the world for the better.”

This summer, Professor George Calhoun led 28 students to Spain to learn about international business. “This experience has allowed me to obtain a new perspective on global economics and how businesses func-



Before Spain in 2016, the School of Business led summer trips to England and Greece.

tion in different areas of the world,” said Jess Smith '17, a Quantitative Finance major. “This is something that will definitely stick with me as I head into the real world, because I’ll be able to apply what I’ve learned in so many ways.”

“You can’t appreciate differences in cultures just by reading about them,” said Verica Nakeva '18, a Business & Technology major with concentrations in International Business and Information Systems. “That’s what the world is about – meeting people, working together and finding your way. Learning to do those things well makes you successful, whether it’s on an internship or when you start working.”



Students abroad mixed learning with historic and cultural sightseeing.



Stevens students visiting Jamaica renovated Pedro Plains Primary School near Treasure Beach and Church Hill Primary School in Negril.

GLOBAL IMPACT

In another trip, 15 students on the second annual Stevens Global Service Initiative improved two impoverished Jamaican schools. The students relied on their analytical and problem-solving skills to help build a playground and a cafeteria using only locally sourced materials, a rule they followed to boost the nearby economy.

“Project Jamaica helped me realize that I can make a difference, that I can lead a movement, that I can change the world for the better,” said Biomedical Engineering major Caroline Culp '18. “Yes, it takes hard work, sweat and grit, but the end product is the most rewarding part.”

“As students of a world-class →

university, we understand the importance of improving standards of living and creating opportunities so that others can receive a high-quality education,” said Biomedical Engineering major Melanie Caba '19. “This trip was one of the biggest learning experiences of my life, and it challenged me to keep motivating others to get involved in community service, both at home and abroad.”

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

The number of students going overseas has tripled since 2013-14, when the Office of International Experiences (OIE) opened to find travel opportunities and prepare students for their trips. “The level is increasing now that



Through the OIE database, students can search almost 1,200 overseas program opportunities.

we have an office, and students are finding out that they can do it,” said Susan Rachouh, Director of the OIE. “It’s being promoted to them, and they’re finding that they’re definitely interested in having a global experience.”

Rising philanthropic support is also jumpstarting the jetsetting. For business or pleasure, Dick Sard '62, M.S. '63, Ph.D. '68 has traveled to over 50 countries across the globe, and he believes students benefit by stamping their passports during their college days. “I think it’s really important for Stevens to open the eyes of students to what is really important in the world. Study abroad opportunities provide an educational as well as pleasurable approach to learning, and they immeasurably improve the quality of students that Stevens produces.”

DONOR SPOTLIGHT JOHN ABOM '65



Strong supporters of scholarships, John and Carole Abom tour Castle Point.

Born and raised in Hoboken, John was a brother in Pi Lambda Phi, played soccer, and was active in student council and the dramatic society. Having retired as an engineer and entrepreneur, he and his wife, Carole, live in Venice, FL and enjoy visiting their eight grandchildren in PA, CA and Ireland.

Why do you give back to Stevens?

Fortunate now to be in a position to give back, donating to Stevens is my way of saying thank you for creating a learning environment that provided me with the keys to open doors of opportunity. It also allows me to support the efforts of President Farvardin, under whose brilliant leadership we’re seeing exciting Stevens advances on many fronts.

Why are scholarships important?

I would not have been able to attend Stevens without the scholarship assistance provided by the generosity of others. This is my way of continuing

the cycle of giving, so others may also attend Stevens and benefit from the many opportunities that await.

What does Student Success mean to you?

“Student Success” can take on many meanings. Does it mean graduating at or near the top of the class, or simply graduating with a degree? To me, it means much more. I associate student success with acquiring both the desire and the ability to learn. As a student, I don’t recall the volumes of materials I was required to study, but I do recall how my challenging Stevens educators implanted the aptitude and drive to analyze and resolve problems across multiple disciplines. This has helped me in many ways over the years. “Book knowledge” alone is not enough. The ability and motivation to put that knowledge to work is what “student success” means to me. It is something that will remain with the Stevens graduate forever...ad astra!



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Saturday, April 8, 2017

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stevens.edu/awardsgala