



February 10, 2012

Dear Faculty and Staff:

I am pleased to announce the formation of an external committee to review our academic entrepreneurship and technology commercialization programs. The external review committee's evaluation and recommendations will serve as a guide to improve the organization and effectiveness of these important programs at Stevens.

I wish to take advantage of this opportunity to thank the internal review committee that worked diligently to produce a very comprehensive and thorough report, summarizing the broad range of our activities in academic entrepreneurship, intellectual property protection, technology licensing and enterprise development. This report will be provided to the external review committee. In addition, the external review committee will visit the campus on February 27 and 28 and will meet with the internal review committee as well as with groups of faculty, students, and administrators.

The external review committee, representing significant expertise in entrepreneurship, technology licensing and enterprise development, will include the following members:

- Gregory Gianforte, CEO, RightNow Technologies;
- Lita Nelsen, Director, Technology Licensing Office, Massachusetts Institute of Technology;
- Tom Scholl, Partner, Novak Biddle Venture Partners;
- Herbert Rabin, former Director, Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute (MTEC), University of Maryland, College Park; and
- Daniel Raviv, Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Florida Atlantic University.

We are extremely fortunate that each member of this review committee has agreed to offer Stevens not only the benefit of his or her personal expertise and guidance, but also the time required to conduct this review. Please join me in making these members feel welcome when they visit campus later this month.

Yours truly,

Nariman Farvardin  
President