Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer
Stevens Institute of Technology
Hoboken, New Jersey

THE SEARCH

Stevens Institute of Technology (Stevens) seeks a driven, experienced and innovative information technology leader to serve as the next Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer (CIO). The next CIO will join Stevens at an exciting juncture, with continuous investments in the university's technologies, specifically in the overall campus infrastructure, teaching and learning environment, facilities and research infrastructure. The next CIO will play a pivotal role in advancing Stevens' strategic goals and objectives, leveraging technology to enhance teaching, research, operational efficiency data-driven decision-making, and in helping drive innovation. Importantly, the CIO will be a champion and change agent to lead the use of artificial intelligence to improve efficiency and effectiveness throughout the enterprise.

Since the university's founding in 1870, technological innovation has been the hallmark of Stevens' educational and research programs. Stevens comprises three schools: the Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science, the School of Business, and the School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. Across these schools, more than 8,400 undergraduate and graduate students collaborate with more than 500 faculty members and 850 staff members. The campus is a vibrant interdisciplinary, student-centric, entrepreneurial environment that advances the frontiers of science and leverages technology to confront global challenges. Stevens is home to two national research centers of excellence and joint research programs focused on critical industries such as artificial intelligence (AI); business and finance; energy and sustainability; health and medicine; quantum science and engineering; security; and urban and coastal resilience.

The Division of Information Technology has reached new heights in the past few years with remarkable and transformative accomplishments, including the launch of a centralized Research Computing Services program to support Stevens' research community; the implementation of the Computer Asset Standardization, Procurement and Replacement Program (CASPR); strengthened Enterprise Data and Analytics capabilities; creation of the Project Management Office; implementation of the state's first Wi-Fi 6 at a higher education institution; completion of IT upgrades to classroom and collaboration spaces; implementation and deployment of Workday HCM, Workday Student and Workday Finance; establishment of a new identity and access management platform to improve user experience and enhance security; enhanced IT customer service experience; opening of a new extended reality lab; and increased communication and updates about IT activities university-wide.

With a deep commitment to excellence and integrity, the CIO will provide visionary leadership in information technology, ensuring Stevens remains agile, innovative and prepared for emerging technological opportunities and risks. This role requires a leader who has high aspirations and possesses a well-informed technology risk-taking approach while fostering a culture of innovation and collaboration across the institution. Priorities include the establishment of the necessary AI and machine learning foundation; expanding the Workday ecosystem; continued IT upgrades of classroom and collaboration spaces; expanding Research Computing Services and the high-performance computing infrastructure; and in continuously staying abreast and evaluating the latest technologies to drive enhancements to our website, digital footprint and analytics that support the university's reputation and enrollment goals. This position is an on-campus role, reporting to the president. The next CIO will oversee seven direct reports across five main offices within the Division of Information Technology:

- Client Experience and IT Strategy;
- Infrastructure Services;
- Enterprise Platform and Data Services;
- Client Support and Learning Technology Services; and
- Information Security Services.

Stevens has engaged the executive search firm Isaacson, Miller to lead this critical search. Inquiries, nominations and applications, which will remain confidential, should be directed to the search firm as indicated at the end of this document.

ABOUT STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Stevens Institute of Technology, founded in 1870 by the Stevens family, is a premier technological research university with a rich legacy in fields such as engineering, finance, cybersecurity and coastal resilience. The university's history is marked by the significant achievements of its alumni, including the co-founding of General Motors and Texas Instruments, the engineering of the world's first urban power plant and the construction of the steel frames for New York City's iconic Empire State Building and Chrysler

Building. Stevens alumni also played crucial roles in designing and preparing spacecraft modules for NASA's Apollo moon missions.

The university has produced a remarkable array of influential figures, from Frederick Winslow Taylor, the father of scientific management, and Mark Crispin, the inventor of the IMAP email protocol, to Nobel Prize-winning physicist Frederick Reines, who confirmed the 'Big Bang' theory through his discovery of the neutrino. Other notable alumni include artist and inventor of the mobile Alexander Calder, award-winning journalist and political commentator Richard Reeves and YouTuber and technology influencer Marques Brownlee.

Stevens Institute of Technology continues to drive groundbreaking research through its state-of-the-art laboratories and facilities. The Davidson Laboratory is home to one of the largest and most widely renowned hydrodynamic and ocean engineering research facilities in the nation, while the Hanlon Financial Systems Lab features a simulated Wall Street trading room equipped with Bloomberg terminals and advanced financial analysis tools. At the same time, the Systems Engineering Research Center (SERC), one of two National Centers for Excellence at Stevens, is a Stevens-led consortium supported by the U.S. Department of Defense that focuses on the creation and evolution of complex systems and the development of systems engineers. The Immersion Lab enables high-definition visualization of complex concepts and data, catering to both professional and non-professional audiences. Stevens offers a diverse range of educational programs, including in-person, hybrid, research and online courses, all provided from its Hoboken campus. The university's mission is to inspire, nurture and prepare students for an increasingly complex and technology-centric world, to develop innovative solutions to the most challenging problems of our time and to expand the frontiers of knowledge.

In its Strategic Plan, titled "Stevens 2032: Inspired by Humanity, Powered by Technology," the university builds on the transformative progress of the last decade and charts a path for a future characterized by rapid change, unrelenting disruption and the deepening penetration of technology across all aspects of life and work. The plan is bold but attainable, aiming to position Stevens among the most respected technological universities in the nation and the world. View the progress of the plan here. By 2032, Stevens envisions itself as a national and global leader in technology-centric education and research, attracting exceptional students from all backgrounds who will fuel the innovation economy, and world-class faculty who will create knowledge and technologies that transform the future. The university's strategic priorities include enhancing the student experience and success, amplifying its impact through research and innovation, elevating its academic reputation and strengthening and connecting its community.

Stevens is committed to measuring its quantitative and qualitative progress, ensuring its goals are interconnected and interdependent. The university aspires to become the destination of choice for promising, academically talented students who will make a difference in the world, to grow and implement a world-class online learning environment, and to create a curriculum and campus of the future that empowers students and faculty to dream big. Stevens aims to make its mark on the world through groundbreaking research, innovation and technology commercialization, as well as by attracting

and supporting exceptional graduate students within its innovation ecosystem. The university also strives to foster a proud, cohesive and connected community whose impact is greater than the sum of its parts.

Leadership

[President Nariman Farvardin](#) became the seventh president of the Stevens Institute of Technology in 2011, ushering in an era of unprecedented growth and innovation. As the longest-serving President among four-year institutions in New Jersey, Farvardin has profoundly shaped the university's trajectory, leading Stevens through a remarkable renaissance that has elevated the institution to national and global prominence. Under his visionary leadership, Stevens gained recognition as a cornerstone of the region's technology and innovation landscape, ascending to new heights across multiple domains, including enrollment growth, student academic profile, faculty growth, research funding, philanthropic support and campus expansion. The university's significant rise in rankings and stature is a testament to the strategic initiatives implemented during his tenure.

Location

Stevens is located on a scenic 55-acre, park-like campus in Hoboken, New Jersey, with breathtaking views of the Hudson River and Manhattan. The residential campus encompasses estate-like grounds, traditional and modern academic and research buildings, residence halls and athletic facilities. The Stevens campus has been revitalized over the last few years with updated classroom facilities and keen attention to an improved student living and learning experience with a commitment to sustainability. Hoboken, often referred to as the "mile-square city" because of its small size, has a population of over 50,000 and is part of the vibrant New York City metropolitan area, just 10 minutes from Manhattan by subway, bus and ferry.

DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Division of Information Technology is dedicated to empowering Stevens' community by providing innovative technology solutions, exceptional digital customer experiences, reliable service and trusted partnerships. The division offers a variety of technology services, resources, programs and support options for Stevens students, faculty and staff in five areas: Client Experience and IT Strategy; Infrastructure Services; Enterprise Platform and Data Services; Client Support and Learning Technology Services; and Information Security Services, underpinned by the division's core values of mission-focused, integrity, excellence, versatility and transparency.

Offering robust and comprehensive [services](#), [resources](#), [programs](#) and [support](#) across the Stevens enterprise, the division also aims to provide a safe and secure technology environment for the campus community, manifesting in comprehensive [IT governance, policy and standards](#).

The division sets strategic priorities for each fiscal year. For [fiscal year 2025](#), the division prioritized ongoing IT service enhancements, strengthening academic, business and IT collaboration and driving continuous digital enhancements.

ROLE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

The next CIO is responsible for providing and managing the enterprise's infrastructure, making cutting-edge capabilities available to support Stevens' core operations and creating a culture of responsiveness, caring and commitment to excellence. The CIO will actively collaborate across the campus to ensure the utmost cybersecurity and assist data-driven decision-making and operational efficiencies through the use of improved technology tools. As a strategic thought partner, the CIO will work closely with the Vice President for Research and Innovation and the Chief Online Learning Officer to extend ways to serve faculty researchers and the broader Stevens community through the delivery of online programs.

Reporting to the President of Stevens, the CIO will oversee seven direct reports, including the Senior Director of Client Experiences and Strategic Initiatives; the Senior Director of Infrastructure Services; the Assistant Vice President for Information Technology; the Senior Director of Client and Learning Technology Services; the Chief Information Security Officer; the Financial Analyst; and the Executive Assistant. A total of 49 people work within the Division of Information Technology with an approximate operating budget of $15 million and a capital budget of $2.5 million.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Specific opportunities for the new Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer include the following:

Provide strategic leadership and develop Stevens' information technology vision

The CIO will develop an IT strategic plan that equips students, faculty and staff with the necessary tools to meet both current needs and long-term objectives. The CIO will establish a governance structure to guide IT priorities, future directions and resource allocation. This includes implementing a formal IT portfolio management process and defining performance metrics to evaluate the impact of IT initiatives. By driving a culture of technological innovation, the CIO will incentivize and motivate the adoption of new digital tools and processes across the university. Efforts will expand beyond improved data governance and analytics dashboards by implementing programs encouraging behavioral change and data-driven decision-making. The CIO will enhance communication strategies to promote and socialize IT initiatives, ensuring stakeholders understand and adopt new capabilities. Capturing the voice of IT users, the CIO will translate feedback into actionable objectives, ideally leveraging methodologies such as LEAN or other intentional culture design frameworks. The CIO will balance system reliability with financial sustainability, prioritizing uptime where it adds strategic value while recognizing that not all systems require the same level of investment in availability and protection. Additionally, the CIO will continue strengthening Stevens' cybersecurity programs to meet regulatory and contractual requirements while minimizing institutional risk. This includes developing robust business continuity and disaster recovery plans to ensure institutional resilience.

Foster university-wide collaborative relationships and proactively engage campus stakeholders

The CIO will foster a collaborative, inclusive IT environment that engages stakeholders across functions and divisions. The CIO will work closely with academic leadership to integrate technology into teaching, learning and research initiatives, including expanded use of extended reality (XR Lab) and next-generation learning environments. Partnering with administrative leaders, the CIO will implement digital transformation initiatives that improve efficiency, effectiveness and user experience. The CIO will ensure IT services align with institutional goals by actively engaging faculty, students and staff to understand their needs and priorities. Promoting a user-centric approach to technology adoption, the CIO will emphasize training, outreach and support to drive engagement. The CIO will also champion digital accessibility and inclusive design to ensure equitable access to technology for all users.

Leverage operational and technical leadership to drive innovation and efficiency

The CIO will assess and enhance campus-wide IT infrastructure, ensuring it supports institutional resilience and business continuity. The CIO will oversee the implementation and optimization of Workday Financials and other enterprise systems to improve operational efficiency. The CIO will maintain Stevens' competitive edge in digital innovation by continuously evaluating and adopting emerging technologies. This includes establishing guidelines for responsible use of emerging technologies such as AI. The CIO will lead cybersecurity initiatives to ensure compliance and risk mitigation, recognizing that different data sets require different levels of protection. Additionally, the CIO will strengthen institutional analytics by expanding data platforms and creating actionable insights that drive decision-making.

Lead, inspire, develop and support the Division of Information Technology staff

The CIO will inspire and lead the IT organization, fostering a culture of excellence, collaboration and accountability. The CIO will enhance team morale by promoting professional development, recognition and a strong sense of purpose within the division. The CIO will ensure operational excellence by supporting and implementing Stevens' Flexible Work Arrangement (FWA) policy. Additionally, the CIO will develop initiatives to attract, retain and develop top IT talent in alignment with Stevens' strategic goals.

Strengthen cybersecurity and protect institutional data

The CIO will drive a proactive approach to cybersecurity and operational resilience by embedding continuous improvement, testing and real-time monitoring across the IT environment. This includes adopting best-in-class tools and industry standards to protect institutional data, intellectual property and digital assets. Through advanced threat detection, vulnerability management and incident response, the CIO will ensure Stevens meets the highest standards of compliance and risk management. Regular audits, penetration testing and metrics-driven reporting will support transparency, accountability and ongoing enhancement of the university's digital trust. This includes developing robust business continuity and disaster recovery plans, and maturing identity and access management (IAM) and privacy compliance frameworks to build digital trust.

Strengthen research security and compliance

The CIO will enhance research security by implementing safeguards to protect Stevens' data, sensitive information and sponsored research in compliance with complex regulatory requirements. This includes ensuring adherence to standards such as NIST 800-171, CMMC and export control regulations. The CIO will collaborate with research administration, compliance offices, and faculty to manage risk and support secure research practices. By embedding security into the research lifecycle, the CIO will help maintain Stevens' reputation as a trusted partner in federally funded and industry-sponsored research.

Advance research computing and high-performance infrastructure

The CIO will lead the strategic enhancement of Stevens' research computing capabilities by investing in scalable, high-performance computing (HPC) infrastructure and services. This includes fostering partnerships with academic leadership and research faculty to align computing resources with evolving scholarly needs, supporting data-intensive research and enabling interdisciplinary collaboration. The CIO will champion the development of advanced computational environments, including cloud-based research platforms, secure data storage solutions and research software support services, to position Stevens as a leader in computational research. By promoting a research-first IT strategy, the CIO will ensure that faculty and students have access to the tools, expertise and infrastructure necessary to drive innovation and discovery.

Drive continuous digital advancements for the student experience

The CIO will lead efforts to improve the student experience by enhancing classroom technology, academic platforms and support systems. This includes working closely with academic, enrollment and student affairs teams to ensure technology supports every stage of the student journey. The CIO will also advance the use of AI and machine learning to improve services and operations. To maintain a secure and trusted digital environment, the CIO will strengthen privacy, cybersecurity and identity management practices. These efforts will ensure students benefit from innovative, efficient and secure digital experiences. Furthermore, the next CIO will partner closely with campus partners to optimize the university's digital presence in support of its strategic reputational and enrollment goals.

Lead AI and automation for strategic impact

The CIO will guide the university's adoption of AI and machine learning (ML) to improve operations, enhance services and support data-informed decision-making. This includes identifying opportunities to automate routine processes, personalize digital experiences and increase institutional agility. The CIO will ensure that AI technologies are implemented responsibly by promoting ethical standards, transparency and fairness in their use. By aligning AI initiatives with Stevens' mission and values, the CIO will help the university harness innovation while maintaining trust, accountability and compliance.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

- Proven experience leading IT strategy and operations in a complex academic or research institution is preferred. Candidates with exceptional leadership experience in similarly complex environments across other industries also will be considered.
- Strong communication and stakeholder engagement skills, with an ability to effectively translate technical concepts to diverse audiences.
- A track record of driving digital transformation, change management and technology adoption.
- Expertise in data governance, cybersecurity and enterprise system implementation.
- Strong knowledge of information security practices, with a demonstrated ability to implement and maintain compliance with regulatory standards while ensuring the confidentiality, integrity and availability of institutional data.
- Demonstrated ability to lead institutional incident response efforts in alignment with regulatory reporting requirements, ensuring timely communication, effective mitigation and continuous improvement of cybersecurity protocols.
- Ability to oversee a comprehensive cybersecurity program with a focus on data protection and research security, ensuring compliance with regulatory and sponsor requirements while safeguarding sensitive institutional and research data.
- Demonstrated ability to build partnerships and foster collaboration across an institution, including partnering with faculty, staff and university leaders in academic and research departments, enrollment management, facilities and campus operations, finance, human resources and university relations.
- Demonstrated experience delivering systems and services with security, resilience and business continuity.
- Ability to create a culture of integrity, innovation, transparency, customer service and accountability.
- Broad and deep experience across industries, higher education and/or the public sector.
- Strategic business planning experience that incorporates the enterprise's vision and direction.
- Outstanding problem-solving skills with a demonstrated track record of the creative use of technology in solving complex problems.
- Outstanding IT organizational development and change management skills.
- Ability to develop and manage employee, community and vendor relationships supporting organizational strategies.
- Demonstrated ability to assess the scope and potential impact of an issue or opportunity.
- Prior fiscal planning and personnel management experience.
- Strong negotiation skills.
- Excellent communication (oral, written and presentation) skills. Ability to communicate effectively with individuals at all levels of the organization.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent in confidence via the [Isaacson, Miller search page for the CIO](). Electronic submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

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