Fellow Alumni,
Here we are again, fully refreshed and renewed, beginning a new school year in Brooklyn!
I am particularly excited this year as we welcome our new dean, Jelena Kovačević—the first woman to head the school since its founding in 1854 as the Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute. Jelena comes from Carnegie Mellon University—where she was the Hamer­schlag University Professor, the head of the Department of Electrical and Comput­er Engineering, and a professor of biomed­ical engineering. From 1991 through 2002, she worked at Bell Laboratories as a member of the Technical Staff in the Signal Processing Research Department, and later as a member of the Mathematics of Communications Research Department.

Dean Kovačević’s “Students First” philosophy comes at a time of great change in engineering, Brooklyn and our school. Since affiliating with NYU in 2008, NYU Tandon has experienced remarkable success:
• Increasing the percentage of female undergraduates to more than 40%
• More than quadrupling research funding
• Advancing nearly 40 places in the US News and World Report rankings
• Increasing freshman SAT scores by more than 150 points

By taking the reins, Dean Kovačević will be leading us on our continued journey to becoming a top-tier engineering research institution that educates students to be global citizens of the world.

Dean Kovačević is very familiar with our rich legacy and is committed to working with the PAA to ensure that “Brooklyn Poly” remains the beacon of excellence and the “American Dream” for all aspiring engineers from diverse backgrounds and means.

This legacy, and the school’s most recent success, is a reason for all alumni to be proud. Building a more connected, diverse community that provides support for all students and alumni is a top priority for the PAA. However, our success depends on your involvement. There are many ways to support and stay connected with the school, classmates and faculty. Here are just some of the many activities available to you:
• Join the Polytechnic Alumni Association
• Attend Alumni receptions and joint alumni and student events
• Become a mentor at one of the many Incubators
• Engage your corporate recruiters to participate in career fairs and intern­ship programs
• Take advantage of Employee Giving and Matching Gift programs
• Support the “Brooklyn Poly” legacy by donating to the Promise Fund

I hope to hear from you or meet you at one of our many events this school year.

Sincerely,
Anthony Concolino EE ’82
President, Polytechnic Alumni Association
Meet the PAA’s newly elected board members, who will serve from 2018–2021.

**ISRAEL “IZZY” BOROVICH, PHD, ’67, ’68, ’71, ’05 (HON)**
Professor Emeritus of Tel Aviv University and a former CEO and Chair of El Al Airlines

**REDWAN HUSSAIN, ’14, ’20**
Program Manager, Electric Vehicle and Energy Efficiency Businesses, Con Edison

**LEANDRO R. MACIEL, PHD, ’93**
CEO, AGYA Corporation

**PAULINE MADRIZ, ’08, ’11**
Associate, Global Markets Division of Société Générale Americas Securities

**HOWARD XIA, PHD, ’86, ’88, ’91**
Chairman, Vodafone China Limited (Retired) Member, the Board of Directors, II-VI Inc

**NYU TANDON WELCOMES NEW DEAN, JELENA KOVAČEVIĆ**

Jelena Kovačević became Dean of NYU’s Tandon School of Engineering in August 2018. Her research interests include applying data science to a number of domains, such as biology, medicine, and smart infrastructure, and she is an authority on multi-resolution techniques, such as wavelets and frames. She is the author or co-author of several books—including *Foundations of Signal Processing* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) and *Wavelets and Subband Coding* (Prentice Hall, 1995)—and many scholarly articles in reviewed engineering journals. She also has 21 patents to her name. Among her many honors and awards, she is a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and the European Signal Processing Conference (EUSIPCO), and a recipient of the Belgrade October Prize (1986), the El Jury Prize at Columbia University (1991), the CIT Philip L. Dowd Fellowship (2010), and the IEEE SPS Technical Achievement Award (2016).

**370 JAY STREET**

“The opening of 370 Jay Street is a testament to several ambitions: to advance NYU’s tech efforts, to strengthen our connection to Brooklyn, and to support Brooklyn’s and the City’s evolution into a world center for creative engineering and technology innovation,” said Andrew Hamilton, President of NYU. “Ultimately it is our vision that it will house engineers, research scientists, game designers, media artists, and musicians—all interacting and collaborating under one roof. It’s particularly fitting that CUSP, an interdisciplinary center dedicated to leveraging data and technology to tackle some of the world’s most challenging urban problems, will be the building’s inaugural tenant.”
ALUMNI GIVING & PARTICIPATION

As alumni, you know how your education can open doors for the future. This year gifts from 2,591 alumni amounted to over $3.2M dollars in support of the Annual Fund, Promise Fund, endowed scholarships, programmatic, and capital support. These acts of generosity contribute directly to the student and faculty experience and strengthen our school by demonstrating our alumni community’s commitment to our mission.

Truly, it takes a village to support and amplify the everyday experiences and opportunities for our students and faculty.

There are many ways to give to the NYU Tandon School of Engineering. Whether your gift is annual, endowed, or planned, it makes an impact on current as a well as future students and faculty. For more information on ways to give, please contact Associate Dean of Development, Steve Sagner at (646)997-3298 or stephen.sagner@nyu.edu.

EXCLUSIVE TANDON ALUMNI ACCESS

As part of the NYU alumni community of almost half-a-million, Tandon alumni are eligible for global and local discounts, career services, a lifetime NYU email address, other online resources and access to these facilities:

• The Veterans Future Lab
• MakerSpace
• Bern Dibner Library

#TECHINSERVICE2SOCIETY

Representing the Tandon Technology In Service 2 Society alumni volunteer group, alumna Pauline Madriz ’08, ’11, spoke to 120 8th grade students from Brooklyn Ascend Middle School during their College and Career Day on March 6, 2018.

Alumni participated in the Tech Fair in the Heights. Pictured are Suman Sabastin ’08 and Andreína Vivas-Thomas ’17 volunteering at the American Association of Latinos in STEM.

During NYU’s Global Day of Service in Brooklyn on April 28, 2018, 16 Tandon Alumni volunteered in a four-hour session with 70 students from the Tandon K-12 STEM program. Alumnus Kai Tham ’86 is pictured here.

ALUMNI STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

The Lunch Club gives our engineering students the opportunity to network over lunch or during a site visit with alumni at their place of business.

Collaborative Research Projects allow alumni to take advantage of our unique lab facilities and cutting-edge work.

Future Lab Mentors may be NYU alumni, entrepreneurs, domain experts, or investors who have a desire to share their experience and knowledge in specific industries, technologies, and markets.

The Polytechnic Alumni Association is seeking alumni to participate on committees, on special projects, or as expert panelists.

The Young Alumni Leadership Circle allows young alumni donors to network, socialize and build relationships with current University leadership.

Alumni who participate in Employee Giving Programs make an impact on Tandon’s students with gifts that are matched by their employers.

The Wasserman Center for Career Development at Tandon connects alumni with current students to recruit for job and internship openings.

Our staff can assist you with forming a strategic partnership through alumni outreach, financial support, and more.

Contact us at: engineering.alumni@nyu.edu.

Office of Alumni Relations
1 MetroTech Center, 19th Floor
Brooklyn, New York 11201
EVENTS FOR ALUMNI IN 2018–2019

Alumni Volunteer Recognition & Meritorious Service Awards | September 28, 2018
NYU Tandon California Alumni Day | September 29, 2018
NYU Alumni Weekend & Parents Day | October 26–27, 2018
Tandon Donor Appreciation Luncheon | November 6, 2018
Tandon Celebrates its Alumni Veterans | November 8, 2018
NYU Tandon & Courant Hike & Apple Picking | November 11, 2018
Alumni Explore: Costa Rica & Panama with Tandon
Professor Fletcher (“Bud”) Griffis | December 8–16, 2018
National Engineers Week | February 17–23, 2019
NYU One Day | March 28, 2019
NYU Alumni Association Awards Luncheon | April 5, 2019
Back to School Day & Golden Jubilee Induction Ceremony | April 13, 2019
Alumni Explore: Japan Express, Osaka to Tokyo | May 26–June 3, 2019

2018 NYU CHANGEMAKERS OF THE YEAR

ELEANOR BAUM, TANDON ’61, ’64
“People said I couldn’t be an engineer,” says Eleanor Baum. “It just wasn’t something that women did.” But as early as grade school, Baum excelled at math and science. She loved thinking about how things worked. She had an engineer’s soul, and she decided becoming one would be her life’s one great rebellion. But getting a higher degree—and a job in the aerospace industry—wasn’t the end of Baum’s story. She was determined to diversify engineering and open the STEM fields to women.

That’s why she returned to academia, where she fought uphill against sexism to become the first-ever female dean of an engineering school, at Pratt Institute. Three years later, Cooper Union stole her away, and that’s where she left her biggest mark. When Baum became dean at The Cooper Union Albert Nerken School of Engineering, 17 percent of the school’s student body was female. Under her direction, that number increased to 30 percent. She helped change the way engineering is taught, insisting on hands-on, project-based learning to better prepare young engineers. Her list of accolades is long, but her 2007 induction into the National Women’s Hall of Fame stands out. “You become an engineer because you want to change the conditions of society,” she says. And she has.

MARTIN HELLMAN, TANDON ’66
“Many of the breakthroughs we’ve had in society began as fool’s errands,” says cryptologist and computer scientist Martin Hellman. He ought to know. When he entered the still-emerging field of cryptography in the 1970s, it was seen as a ludicrous career choice. The National Security Agency had a stranglehold on relevant research, and any really interesting work seemed bound to be classified.

It’s a good thing for all of us that Hellman played the fool. Along with Whitfield Diffie and Ralph Merkle, he invented something called “public key cryptography.” You might not know the term, but it’s at the center of your daily life. Without public key encryption, there could be no electronic banking, no online shopping, no secure instant messaging. It’s what keeps your digital exchanges safe from third-party interference. Hellman’s success came with personal risk. For one thing, his early publications roused the NSA, and there were calls for his incarceration. But he foresaw a public need and helped erect a paradigm that supports literally billions of people. And while his many accolades include the Turing Award—the most prestigious prize in computer science—public key cryptography doesn’t completely define him. Hellman has also worked for decades as a writer and an activist to promote global security and nuclear disarmament. “Because what good are cryptographic algorithms,” he asks, “if there is no one here to use them?”