





vision we have crafted for the college in the decades ahead. who first entered our doors—but also about our future, and the bold, forward-thinking and exciting As FIT marks its 70th anniversary, I think not only about our origina—those 100 pioneering students

the associate degree, but also baccalaureate and graduate degrees. We had our own program in college; it was part of the State University of New York system; it was authorized to offer not only 1998, so much had already been accomplished: FIT was a flourishing and accredited community reflected our founders' wish to create "an MIT for the fashion industries." By the time I arrived in a superior educational experience, one that would ensure them professional success, and one that was prompted by a passionate desire by our founders and their successors to assure HI students each year, each decade, we have built upon the accomplishments of the past. Each achievement We are, today, a vastly different institution than we were in 1944. As I look back, I can see that with

of course—and I reflect with great admiration on what my predecessors were able to accomplish. womme to approximately 10,000 full- and part-time students. None of this was realized easily, Italy and partnerships with universities throughout the world. We had a nine-building campus of our

full-time faculty by the addition of 40 new full-time significant gains in our commitment to a robust implementation. Thanks to the plan, we have made their active participation in its development and members of the community came to own through strategic plan and planning process that the academia, as well as by an ambitious and dynamic throughout society, and of course, throughout fueled by the technological revolution taking place Since 1998, progress at FIT has accelerated-

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EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE. **ROIRAGUS A ARUSSA OT** DESIRE BY OUR FOUNDERS **TANOISSA9 A YA DETAMOA9 SAW** TIA TA TNAMAVAIHOA HOAA

awarded accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums and attracts 100,000 visitors each year. the groundbreaking exhibitions and topflight public programming at The Museum at FIT, which was itself and offers a popular and growing list of minors. Our international reputation has been enhanced by critical thinking skills, we strengthened the School of Liberal Arts, which now has two majors of its own arrived. To broaden our career-oriented students' social and cultural awareness and sharpen their has grown exponentially with 14 new degree programs—some in fields that did not exist when I first professor we hired. Keeping pace with the rapid expansion of the creative industries, our curriculum positions and the creation of a program that ensured a future-focused set of competencies in every

Obama's Higher Education Community Service Honor roll three years out of the past four. enthusiastically engage in community service—so much so that FIT has been named to President than 60 clubs as well as in a strong and successful athletic and recreational program. Students Co-curricular life on the campus has become far more vibrant—with students active in more

ON A GLOBAL SCALE. CREATIVE INDUSTRIES TO PARTNER WITH THE REALED A CONTRAVOUNT NA WE ARE DEVELOPING

and reflected in a decade of activities and practices that earned recognition in 2015 from the City enhanced commitment to sustainability—a pressing issue embraced by the entire FIT community As we worked on our strategic plan, we also revised FIT's mission statement to include an that has doubled our housing capacity. and opened a new state-of-the-art residence hall five blocks north

> plant. We have beautified our grounds and purchased, renovated, the Academic Advisement Center, a fitness center and a chiller

our programs in the Dubinsky Student Center, new student lounges,

campus-adding stunning new labs and studios that serve eight of renovated and repurposed as much as possible throughout our

for our Center for Continuing and Professional Studies. We have student cafeteria and bookstore and a spacious conference center

The FIT campus has changed as well—with the addition of a new

indeed, is one of the prime goals in the strategic PROVIDES A RECORD OF IDEALISM PROVIDES A RECORD OF IDEALISM , tshT ". snoitulos ssenisud bna ngiseb evitavonni with creative industries worldwide, and develop HTWORD BLARKABLE GROWTH boundaries to stimulate innovation, partner scholars, and teachers "cross disciplinary of New York. At the same time, our vision statement foresees FIT as the institution where students,

partnerships with the creative industries on a global scale. It is, perhaps, the most ambitious of our will foster research, creative work, and strategic tert that to the support of the second s **AND ACCOMPLISHMENT.** plan and it is precisely what we are in the process

goals, but one that most appropriately captures the spirit—and mission—of this college.

.noisiv gnivlova-zyawia bna batavale our elevated and always-evolving vision. and accomplishment. Indeed, I cannot help but think how proud our founders would be of FIT today-Our remarkable growth over these past 70 years—and our resilience—provides a record of idealism

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Fashion Institute of Technology

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The first thing we think about when an anniversary arrives is

how long something important—a relationship, an institution, a country—has lasted. A year? Ten years? A hundred?

> Then we marvel at how long or how short that seems. But soon we're on to more interesting questions; we look back, and forward.

How did we get where we are? And where are we going from here?

This year marks FIT's 70th anniversary. As colleges go, that's relatively young. But we have come a long way from that tiny trade school back in 1944—

100 students in borrowed space in the Central High School of Needle Trades—to the FIT of today, an internationally renowned college with a block-long campus,

nearly 10,000 students, 48 associate, bachelor's, and master's programs,

and many thousands of successful alumni who infuse the industry with energy and insight.

As we celebrate FIT's seven decades, we reflect on the experiences, ideas, accomplishments, and hard work that shaped this institution. It has become a multidimensional and sophisticated college that serves the rapidly changing needs of our students and the industry. FIT is impressive in its broad scope. advanced facilities, remarkable faculty, and international student body who gather in a creative, empowering community.

Imagine the first graduating class seeing the FIT of today; they'd be astonished at the change.

But some important things remain the same.

The commitment to innovation and excellence and the close ties to industry that have driven our growth and infused our culture since the very beginning are still defining qualities of FIT. The seeds that were planted in 1944 continue to bear fruit and enable us to shape FIT's future. taking exciting new directions while honoring our best traditions.

Unfold the pages in your hands and see highlights of FIT's history, from its founding to the present. We are pleased to share this inspiring collection of memorable milestones, remarkable achievements, and pure nostalgia.

We know you will agree that

while FIT's past has been very, very good, the best days are still to come.



WORLDWIDE, AND DEVELOP INNOVATIVE DESIGN AND BUSINESS SOLUTIONS. BY FOCUSING ON THE THREE MAJOR GOALS, FIT WILL **BECOME STRONGER BY CONSCIOUS DESIGN AND BE KNOWN AS A** STREEGG ORGANIZATION ----**ONE THAT APPLIES AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO GREATEST EFFECT** TO AGHEVE ITS VISION