



CASE SCHOOL
OF ENGINEERING

CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

Jeffrey L. Duerk, Ph.D.
Dean, Case School of Engineering
Leonard Case Professor

March 23, 2015

President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

It is with great enthusiasm that we submit this letter to you on behalf of the faculty and administration of the Case School of Engineering in support of the Administration's effort to educate engineers to meet the NAE Grand Challenges.

Our institution is uniquely poised to meet this commitment. Since taking on the Dean's position in 2012, we have focused heavily on the undergraduate experience, taking into account a new generation of learners, a new generation of technology, and a new generation of societal problems that must be addressed through varied viewpoints and approaches.

To prepare for this new world, we have increased our emphasis on student recruitment, which has risen from 350 to 525 students per year, with a focus on retention once they have been admitted. With retention, our strategy has targeted interdisciplinary design across disciplines and team work, as well as professional practice skills like tenacity, multiculturalism, listening, oral and written communication, and basics of finances and product development. All of this development has been couched through the lens of our new Think[box] effort, a 50,000 square foot innovation facility that will house student, faculty, and community users interested in tapping their creativity and ingenuity to solve our world's most pressing problems, with access to collaboration, design, maker, fabrication, entrepreneurial, and incubation spaces.

This strategic focus, set on a historic foundation of a strong understanding of engineering fundamentals, allows us to easily move toward further embedding the NAE Grand Challenges into our student projects, coursework, and extracurricular experiences. The Case School of Engineering is pleased to be involved in this effort.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey L. Duerk, Ph.D.
Dean and Leonard Case Professor of Engineering- Case School of Engineering
Past President, International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine
IEEE Fellow, AIMBE Fellow, ISMRM Fellow, Distinguished Researcher of the Academy of Radiology Research