Merrimack College 315 Turnpike Street North Andover, Ma. 01845

March 23, 2015

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

Dear Mr. President,

Merrimack College with its dynamic School of Science and Engineering and strong liberal arts core is well matched to the goals of the Grand Challenges Scholars Program, which identifies critical engineering challenges with humanity at their core.

Across the four schools of the college — Science and Engineering, Liberal Arts, Business, and Education and Social Policy — our curriculum provides the knowledge and skills that a well-educated person requires to succeed personally and professionally. Merrimack graduates, informed by our Catholic Augustinian values, are prepared for global citizenship with all that entails — the intellect to thrive, the will to prevail and the drive to serve mankind.

Merrimack will fulfill the Grand Challenges program goals by offering senior design and/or faculty led research projects related to the Grand Challenges. Additionally, an interdisciplinary curriculum will be offered bringing together diverse course offerings and extracurricular activities from our four schools. Global and cross-cultural perspectives will be offered through study abroad, internships, or course offerings. Development of social consciousness will be fostered through service-learning initiatives such as our Haiti service trip, Alternative Spring Break, Veterans Day Mack Gives Back and other projects reflecting our core service mission. Entrepreneurship and innovation experiences will be developed through collaborations and courses in Business, Social Justice and Creativity studies. Our Graduate 10K+National Science Foundation Grant, initiated through your office, will help kick off our Grand Scholars Program incenting our first year students.

Merrimack squarely aligns with the goals of the Grand Challenge program: rigorous scientific pursuit with humanity at its core.

Sincerely,

Mary Noonan

Dean, School of Science and Engineering



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