

March 12, 2015

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

Dear Mr. President

The University of Toronto (U of T) is committed to educating future generations of engineers who will solve societal challenges in the U.S.A and abroad. Our Grand Challenge Engineers will have the expertise and conviction to lead, innovate and manage global change. The U of T has implemented several strategic initiatives to accomplish these goals:

Creative learning experience connected to the Grand Challenges

Within the Institute for Multidisciplinary Design & Innovation (UT-IMDI) at U of T, students collaborate with senior engineers and faculty to solve critical real-world problems. These creative learning experiences allow students to work on tangible design and development challenges with industry partners.

Authentic experiential learning that includes interdisciplinary practice

The Faculty's Centre for Global Engineering (CGEN) *Interdisciplinary Approach to Addressing Global Challenges* course brings together students from engineering, global affairs, business and public health. In 2014, the group designed collaborative solutions to end childhood malnutrition in Bangladesh.

• Entrepreneurship and innovation experience

U of T Engineering supports student entrepreneurship, innovation and business experience by offering a certificate and a minor in these areas. Our dedicated innovation program, The Entrepreneurship Hatchery<sup>TM</sup>, is a vibrant hub invested in building a strong entrepreneurial community and providing the resources and mentorship to enable students to turn ideas into successful start-ups.

• Global and cross-cultural perspectives

Our certificate in Global Engineering teaches students how to influence and improve conditions around the world. To promote a diverse and open multidisciplinary learning environment, we have also established international cross-cultural capstone design projects where students work together in their final year of study on an industry-based assignment.

Social consciousness through service-learning

Community-based initiatives, both local and international, are encouraged and thriving at U of T; CGEN has collaborated with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to address the sanitation challenges facing billions of people in developing countries.

The University of Toronto is dedicated to working with you and academic institutions across the U.S.A. to facilitate and foster the education of engineers who will not only address, but solve the 21<sup>st</sup> century's Grand Challenges for Engineering.

Sincerely

Cristina Amon Professor and Dean

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