



March 23, 2015

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

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you for your efforts toward ensuring that our country is positioned strongly for the future through our ability to address the complex global technical opportunities and challenges of our present and future. As the Dean of the College of Engineering of North Carolina A&T State University (NCA&T), I support your goals; and our faculty, staff, and I are actively at work in achieving key deliverables aligned with those goals. Furthermore, my College's consistent record of being America's number one producer of African American engineers at the bachelors level, translates to the responsibility we embrace to ensure that the engineering workforce we produce is competitive and able to adapt within a very dynamic global landscape.

The current 2014-2015 academic year is our inaugural year of executing NCA&T's Grand Challenge Engineers Program (GCEP@NCAT). Our excitement over the initiative is due to its alignment with our strategic agenda, as we continue to cultivate engineering and computer science leaders energized to positively impact the world. A key part of establishing our Grand Challenge Engineers program was ensuring that key stakeholders (e.g. department chairpersons, faculty, staff, industrial advisory boards of the College, etc..) of the College were in support of its goals. I am pleased to share that this has indeed been the case. One demonstration of this is that the College's advisory board of industry leaders is directly engaged as team members in reviewing and affirming the satisfactory achievement of GCEP@NCAT participants. This is critical to my College since we value successful collaborations with our corporate partners as we advance our academic, innovation, and research priorities.

Over the next few weeks NCA&T's first cohort of Grand Challenge Engineers will be evaluated. While I am of course excited to celebrate GCEP@NCAT's Year 1 results, I fully anticipate that the longer term impact of the Grand Challenge Engineers Program of North Carolina A&T will be cumulative effects that our program's graduates will have on the competitiveness and innovative workforce depth of the United States.

Sincerely,

Robin N. Coger, Ph. D.  
Dean, College of Engineering