

Frank Batten College of Engineering & Technology
Old Dominion University
5115 Hampton Boulevard
Norfolk, Virginia 23529

March 23, 2015

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


Dear Mr. President,

Poised to meet, and in truth to rise above, the challenges meeting us in the 21st century, the Frank Batten College of Engineering & Technology at Old Dominion University has not merely responded to a call-to-action but has developed within a culture of generating graduates who are prepared for current and yet-to-come demands of our constantly evolving world. Through innovative project-based coursework, a collaborative and engaging research environment, and cooperative programs with nonprofit, government, and industry entities, our College affirms the importance of aims outlined by the Grand Challenges.

Ongoing research in multidisciplinary areas as well as practical assignments shape our students for a future of real world problem-solving. ODU's newest engineering facility boasts nearly 50,000 additional square-feet of project studios and collaboratories – in which service-learning projects, including freshmen working with community charitable organizations; national and international student competition teams, handling such significant subjects as brain tumor segmentation; and, firsthand innovative and entrepreneurial decision-making, as was evident in our bids at the EPA's Solar Decathlon – occur. What is more, ODU Engineering's research portfolio comprises themes that respond to a lion's share of the Grand Challenges from cyber security to health informatics to urban infrastructure to solar energy enhancements, to name a few.

In sum, the College looks to protect the future of its educational model, *learn-by-doing*, *learn-by-discovery*, and its supporting initiatives through an endowment campaign focused on attracting the finest faculty, students and curricula to ODU and its engineering and engineering technology programs.

Sincerely,



Oktay Baysal, Ph.D., P.E., F. ASME
Professor, Eminent Scholar and Dean

cc: John R. Broderick, President, Old Dominion University