School of Engineering University of Bridgeport 221 University Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06604

March 23, 2015

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

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the School of Engineering at the University of Bridgeport, I am writing you this letter to reaffirm our ongoing commitment to educate a new generation of eminently prepared engineers. The School of Engineering (SOE) at the University of Bridgeport (UB) is home to the largest graduate engineering program in Connecticut and the second largest in New England in terms of both the number of students and graduates. UB consistently ranks among the top international universities in the U.S. The SOE at UB is home to the fastest growing graduate Biomedical Engineering program and Ph.D. program in Computer Science and Engineering in New England. The SOE at UB is internationally renowned for interdisciplinary programming, research centers and opportunities within several fields, including: Biotechnology; Advanced Manufacturing; Cyber Security; Sustainable Energy and Environment; Cloud Computing; Robotics, Intelligent Sensing and Control; Multi-Media Information Systems; and Nanomaterials & Nanobiomaterials Engineering. Sponsored research funding at the School of Engineering has quadrupled in the last four years. With a strong Industry Advisory Board, a high-tech business incubator (CTech IncUBator) and collaboration with more than 700 companies and industries, the SOE places thousands of students in STEM positions upon graduation. Our future plans will include the development of an integrated credit-bearing program / certification track at both the undergraduate and graduate levels for 20-30 students to qualify them as Grand Challenge Scholars via: (1) participating in a sponsored research activity within one of the SOE's interdisciplinary laboratories/research centers within an area related to a Grand Challenge, (2) working in one of the CTech IncUBator startup companies and competing within the State of CT business plan program, (3) spending a semester or summer abroad within one of the overseas Universities STEM programs that UB partners with, and (4) taking the service management and engineering course, which provides for venues to apply their technical experiences in societal problem. We look forward to continuing to educate the engineers of the future.

Sincerely,



Tarek Sobh, Ph.D., P.E. Senior Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research Dean, School of Engineering Distinguished Professor

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