

University of North Dakota
College of Engineering and Mines
243 Centennial Drive, Stop 8155
Grand Forks, ND 58202-8155

March 23, 2015

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

Dear Mr. President,

The College of Engineering and Mines at the University of North Dakota is committed to be part of the national effort to address the 21st century Grand Challenges. We are committed to enrich students' experience via many activities inside and outside the classroom to produce new generations of engineers who can contribute to the solution of these challenges.

For the past two years, our Jodsaas Center for Engineering Leadership and Entrepreneurship has been offering the Leadership Development Program, which is designed to provide students with added skills in business and leadership. Additionally, courses on innovation have been offered and student's projects at all levels have addressed the Grand Challenges.

Confirming our commitment to develop programs that integrate the five key elements outlined in the Engineering Deans' response to you last February, we plan to rebrand our Leadership Development Program as the UND Grand Challenge Innovators Program (UND-GCIP). Through its expanded activities and experiences, UND-GCIP will prepare students both on campus and via distance learning with the mindset and skillset to address Grand Challenges over the course of their careers. Activities will include:

- Innovation and venture creation
- Interdisciplinary and cross culture experiences
- Mentorship and experiential learning
- Research project addressing Grand Challenges

The new UND-GCIP will encourage, prepare, empower, and recognize students who will lead the way in the future as we address the Grand Challenges of the 21st century.

Sincerely,



Hesham El-Rewini, Ph.D., P.E.
Dean and Professor