



**Northern Illinois
University**
*College of Engineering and
Engineering Technology*

March 16, 2015

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

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Dear Mr. President,

Northern Illinois University's College of Engineering and Engineering Technology is committed to developing and nurturing Grand Challenge Engineers in the 21st century to meet societal needs. Our programs incorporate the following:

1. *Experiential learning* that includes interdisciplinary cooperation in public policy, biomedical engineering, engineering law, science and business, as well as distance learning by offering both graduate and undergraduate engineering online degrees.
2. *Design*: A National Science Foundation grant to establish a certificate program in nanotechnology which helps students design state-of-the-art electronic sensors, water purification, and solar panel technologies for the benefit and betterment of mankind.
3. *Entrepreneurship & Innovation*: NIU was among 20 award recipients nationwide in 2011 to accelerate growth of the Rockford Area Aerospace Network, which brought together higher education, economic, workforce and leadership development to encourage the growth of new aerospace businesses, increase expertise throughout the supply chain, and help train a high-tech workforce.
4. *Global and cross-cultural perspectives* gained through reciprocal study agreements with universities in India, China, South Korea, Columbia, Europe and Malaysia that promote involvement with globally complex issues for students studying abroad, as well as global business partnerships to increase the reach of our footprint.
5. *Humanitarian engineering projects* including Engineers without Borders, a student group that has worked in Africa on water filtration projects with research grant money, and Light Up Africa, a project developed by an NIU engineering student.
6. *Promotion of STEM education* to students everywhere, as young as middle-school age, to continue the supply of highly qualified engineers well into the 21st century.

We stand with other engineering schools across America, ready to provide top-grade engineers ready to solve the world's design, logistics and manufacturing needs.

Best regards,


Promod Vohra, Dean