



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING

C. D. Mote, Jr.
President

May 14, 2018

Dear Colleague:

Since our founding in 1964, the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) has worked to advance the well-being of the nation by promoting a vibrant engineering profession and marshalling the expertise of eminent engineers to guide public policy on matters involving engineering and technology. In this dynamic era of global changes and technological innovation, the role of the NAE as an educational and guiding resource is critically important, and your support is essential to ensuring that the engineers of tomorrow—today's girls and boys, young men and women—are engaged and equipped to tackle the most pressing challenges facing the United States and the world. [Please join me in making a gift to the NAE today.](#)

Your support backs the NAE's education program preparing K-12, undergraduate, and graduate students for 21st century engineering. To promote the dreams and drive of future engineers, the NAE is continuing to develop and expand the Grand Challenges Scholars Program (GCSP). To date, 56 engineering schools (seven of them outside the US) have adopted the program and another 60 are being considered (16 of these outside the US). In August the NAE will participate in an international workshop, hosted by City University of Hong Kong, that will seek to inspire schools in East and Southeast Asia to adopt the GCSP, make connections between active GCSPs in the region and institutions exploring the program, support exchange and cooperation between US-based and East and Southeast Asian GCSPs, and engage both regional industry and multinational corporations interested in STEM education.

Additionally, your gifts enable programs like *EngineerGirl* to introduce girls and young women to the possibilities and contributions of engineering. This year, *EngineerGirl* launched an Ambassadors program that gives US high school girls the opportunity to lead, design, and implement projects in their community while engaging and mentoring younger girls, encouraging them to think about engineering and engineering careers. The program gives both groups practical experience in engineering design.

Since the *EngineerGirl* website launched in 2001, it has drawn more than 3.3 million users to learn about career options in engineering, to hear from women involved in the field through online interviews, and to enter the site's annual essay competition. Gitanjali Rao, a 7th grade student, is one of the 8,000 students who participated in the essay contest, and went on to win \$25,000 in the 2017 Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Challenge. Speaking about her experiences with *EngineerGirl* and the essay contest, she said, "Being part of this competition and participating gave me the opportunity to look beyond what I already knew and discover new ideas and technologies. Since participating, I have a newfound passion for looking at the latest developments in technology." Her inspiring story is one of many that we look forward to as the program continues to evolve and grow.

Through these and other initiatives, the NAE, with your support, is empowering the next generation's engineers to take on and solve Grand Challenge–like problems. Flexible private funds enable the NAE to launch and expand influential programs like the GCSP and *EngineerGirl*. Your support also allows the academy to better

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educate the public about the crucial role of engineering in our society and to counter online misinformation. Outreach efforts like the NAE's *Engineering Innovation* podcast and radio series include weekly features highlighting engineering innovations and stories that provide technical context for issues in the news.

The NAE is committed deeply to providing objective, trustworthy information and guidance to policymakers, industry representatives, and the public. Your continued philanthropic investment ensures a solid foundation to both sustain our highly effective projects and spearhead inspiring future programs. I hope we can count on you to support the NAE today.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. D. Mote, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

C. D. Mote, Jr.