John L. Anderson  
President

October 5, 2020

Dear Colleague,

I hope this letter finds you, your family, and your loved ones well.

I write to you today not only to update you on our work to address the COVID-19 crisis that continues to grip the nation and world but to thank you—our members, friends, and staff—for the generous support that you continue to provide. Your commitment to our mission enables the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) to deliver leadership in a world of accelerating change and unanticipated challenges and for that, I am grateful. However, we still need your help to promote a vibrant engineering profession and provide our nation with independent engineering and technology advice, especially during crises.

Your support empowers the NAE to harness engineers’ knowledge, skills, and creativity to combat the pandemic and its devastating effects. For example, a vibrant NAE means we could quickly develop and launch the COVID-19 Call for Engineering Action. This inter-generational program seeks innovative solutions to the myriad of pandemic-related problems. We are proud that among the respondents are two international groups of students who met at the 2019 Global Grand Challenges summit and multiple alumni of the NAE’s Frontiers of Engineering (FOE) program. All of this is a true testament to the NAE’s ability to bring the engineering community together to address emerging challenges, and your support played an integral role.

Your contributions also provide critical sustaining support to programs that excite girls and young women about starting a career in engineering through EngineerGirl and convene up-and-coming engineering leaders to facilitate collaboration through FOE. You understand how important it is to strengthen and grow the engineering field. Your continued support will increase accessibility to historically underrepresented groups and build connections between engineering professionals to encourage the transfer of new techniques and approaches across fields.

The nation needs a strong, clear voice to offer guidance based on facts and without agenda. The NAE and the National Academies stand ready to provide that guidance. Every gift makes a difference through urgent initiatives and our ongoing work to promote the profession and make it accessible to everyone. Please join me in supporting the NAE by making a gift to the NAE Independent Fund today.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

John L. Anderson
Your support makes a difference

Your commitment to our mission enables the NAE to provide leadership in a world of accelerating change and unanticipated challenges. Every gift matters and makes a difference in our ability to provide leadership when it is needed most.

As a young engineer, it’s remarkable to see how incredibly interconnected our global community is...This kind of global agency reminds us that, as engineers, we have a responsibility to think critically about how we can engineer for humanity—mobilizing a force of engineers who think like this is incredibly powerful.

Rachael Lau, a Duke University GCSP student who is spearheading the internal development of the initiative and student mobilization effort.

Your support is making a difference by enabling the launch and development of new, urgent initiatives like the NAE's COVID-19 Call for Engineering Action.

Participating teams have presented ideas aimed at:

- Preventing virus spread
- Assisting vulnerable populations
- Making life easier under social distancing protocols
- Combating misinformation
FOE provides unique exposure across disciplines in forward-thinking areas that have potential global impact. The interactions during the sponsored symposium were unique and different from any other conference or workshop I have attended to date. This is a great incubator for junior scientists and engineers from academia and industry to interact in a meaningful way. The remarkable leadership at NAE is truly devoted to elevating STEM professionals nationally.

Tarik Dickens, Ph.D., FOE Alumnus & Associate Professor, The Florida A&M University-Florida State University College of Engineering

Your support is making a difference by enabling the seamless continuity of our ongoing programs like EngineerGirl and Frontiers of Engineering.

The 2020 Class of EngineerGirl Ambassadors was recently announced. Each Ambassador will implement a project she designed and developed to encourage younger girls - particularly those with little access to engineering role models - to think about engineering careers and give them practical experience in engineering design.

Learn more at engineer.org

Make your gift at nae.edu/giftform