Dear Participants:

Welcome to Oregon State University!

We are pleased to have you join us for the Getting Ready for Advanced Degrees (GRAD) Lab.

You are here today because mentors interested in your development as a student and future professional know that graduate education is a national imperative—not only for the individual seeking an advanced career in science and engineering, but also for the United States and the nation’s future as a leader in innovation and competitor in the global economy.

Earning a master’s and doctoral degree is especially important for those aspiring to positions of influence in academia, industry, and government. Our mission is to ensure that groups historically underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) – American Indians, African Americans, and Hispanic Americans – have every opportunity to achieve their highest educational goals and realize both personal and professional success.

To that end, we are privileged to offer undergraduate students in science and engineering the GRAD Lab. This half day-long experience is a comprehensive symposium designed to excite and encourage promising undergraduate engineering and science students to apply to master’s and Ph.D. graduate programs in a STEM discipline.

The GRAD Lab also provides an opportunity for you to build community and collegiality with your peers at other institutions. Hopefully the relationships you begin developing here will continue through completion of your undergraduate studies, then to graduate school and beyond.

We encourage you to take advantage of all the opportunities provided here by Oregon State University and GEM. Enjoy the various presentations and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Edward Feser Philip Mote

Provost and Executive Vice President Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School