

To: WSU Design Engineering Technology (MET) Program Faculty and Staff

From: Dean David L. Ferro

Re: Dean's Response to MET Self-Study, Reviewers' Report, and MET Program's Response to Utah Review

Date: 8/18/15

Thank you all for your many contributions to WSU's MET Review process. All MET faculty members as well as others in the Engineering Technology (ET) department, especially the chair, Rick Orr, as well as COAST/EAST's former dean, Warren Hill, participated in various stages of this review, and I am grateful to you for your thoughtfulness and thoroughness in addressing concerns of importance to the program, department, college, and university.

Like the writers of the Review Report, I would characterize the program as very effective in meeting the missions of the parent units. Faculty members have been sensitive to changes in their discipline areas and have revised curriculum to keep up with those changes. They have been supportive of co-curricular activities, internships, community-engaged learning, new tools, and collaborative multidisciplinary projects. The faculty have kept up-to-date vis-à-vis industry.

I agree that the Faculty workload is too high and have allocated a faculty line to MET for remedying this situation. The chair and I have thought through a hire that will help all faculty in ET for labs as well. Opportunities for lean manufacturing and project management and its importance should be communicated better with students. Senior Project Funding has been improved and will continue in this direction given recent resources allocated towards grants (the former dean is on retainer) and development (there now exists an assistant development director for EAST). In Addition, I believe that more projects directly relating to industry need will benefit from industry support.

WSU's MET program is healthy. It has taken many positive steps to remain so. Its next steps will carry it yet farther along a road to success for students, faculty, and staff.

David L. Ferro, dean

College of Engineering, Applied Science & Technology