Thank you for your report dated November 3, 2014, which provides recommendations following the AY13 and AY14 Academic Program Reviews (APR). The time and thoughtful effort given to the review of the APR reports is valued and appreciated. As you note in your memo, the recent changes to the APR process make this the first report from the faculty and clearly, this will be a valuable part of the overall results oriented process.

I have reviewed all of the APR reports as well as the unit’s responses to the reports. As you also know, following each APR report, a meeting is held with each unit to discuss the current status of the findings and related plans and progress. Therefore, the recommendations are not a surprise and many are areas we’ve been actively addressing over the past year.

The APR process and the Faculty review and summary supplements the annual review of reports between academic units and the Office of the Provost that we have implemented as a follow up to responses and implementation.

Below are several actions that have been a result of general or program-specific APR findings.

1. The College of Architecture has initiated a review of their curricula at undergraduate and graduate levels. They are in the process of possibly developing different offerings, including a 4+1 program - a direct response to comments and toward the goal of increasing enrollments.

2. The D. M. Smith building renovation is now high priority on the Institute capital projects list. As well as renovation to portions of the Van Leer building.
3. In the Ivan Allen College, the Institute funded seven new graduate student stipends in FY14 and 18 new Ph.D. students (with stipends and waivers) in FY15. Further, the Institute is experimenting with increases to non-resident waivers to help recruit graduate students to programs in the Liberal Arts and Humanities.

4. The Institute funded two additional sections of English 1101 in Fall of 2014 to meet the high registration demand as suggested by the APR report.

5. Additional graduate TA waivers have been provided to the College of Computing and College of Sciences to meet the additional teaching demand and provide graduate student support.

6. Three new professional masters programs have been proposed and reviewed by the Institute Graduate Curriculum Committee: Occupational Safety and Health Management, Manufacturing Leadership, and Sustainable Electrical Energy.

7. The Deans, Vice Provosts, and Associate Deans have entered discussions on enrollment management and we are currently experimenting with admission adjustments and major transfer guidelines. Enrollment projection modeling is continuously updated to help better predict enrollment by major.

8. Masters student enrollment in Engineering and Computing has been increased in response to recommendations about capacity and opportunity.

9. I have asked the Registrar to work with Chemistry and Materials Science and Engineering to find the sources and solutions to the barriers to cross-registration.

Further, as we enter into the FY16 budget cycle, the information and recommendations from the APR process will be included in the budget discussions and prioritization.