UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON
INDUSTRIAL & SYSTEMS ENGINEERING

December 1, 2018

To: Graduate School Council

Subject: ISE response to the Program Review committee's comments

We thank the reviewers (Daniel Kirschen, Mehmet Sarikaya, Rakesh Nagi, and Abhi Deshmukh) for their thoughtful comments. This memo provides our responses to each section.

Strengths
Thank you for identifying our strengths.

Challenges
We concur that space (office, lab, student, and meeting) is a concern. As we noted in our unit defined question #11, we have been trying to secure better contiguous space from the College of Engineering and the University for the last two decades. We will continue these discussions, but until the College and the University make this a top priority, we will, unfortunately, remain space-constrained.

We concur that ISE is small compared to our aspirational peer group. We have been actively recruiting outstanding faculty. Consistent with the review committee's recommendation during the exit session, our strategic plan has been to increase our faculty size to 15-20 in the coming years. To meet this goal, we will need the College and the University to approve several faculty lines for ISE in the near future.

We concur that we have limited discretionary funds for faculty recruitment and new initiatives. While we are a fairly new department (since 2009), the Chair has been actively working with College of Engineering advancement, corporate relations, and ISE alumni to build relationships that will help foster growth.

Recommendations
Strategic planning. The Dean of the College of Engineering is stepping down at the end of this academic year. We will continue to work with the next Dean to prepare a strategic, long-term hiring plan. We have also been working with our industry relations (through our executive advisory board) to establish a strategic plan that can help foster additional relationships with industry, alumni, and ISE friends.

Transparency. The Chair will provide more information about the ISE budget at the ISE faculty retreat each year.

Staff. The Chair will share the department's vision statement and strategic plan with the staff after every annual faculty retreat.

<u>Delegation of undergraduate advising.</u> Being a fairly young department with many junior faculty, the Chair decided to retain the role of undergraduate advisor. As the faculty move forward in terms of rank, the Chair will be able to delegate this task.

<u>Investment in marketing and communication.</u> As noted earlier, the Chair works in close collaboration with the College of Engineering advancement, corporate relations, and ISE alumni to build relationships that will help foster growth for ISE. In the last few years, we have created several opportunities to engage with alumni and local industry. These include:

- department website overhaul, including the addition of student and faculty videos,
- paid capstone projects,
- professional practice seminar series,
- annual ISE friends and alumni event (centered around homecoming),
- restructuring of the executive advisory board, and
- development of a Chair's council for top contributors to ISE.

We will continue to expand such efforts in the near future.

<u>Active participation in healthcare and data science</u>. The department has made a concerted effort with positive outcomes in the healthcare area over the past decade. We are now working with the e-Science Institute at the UW and are planning to offer a Data Science option at the undergraduate students starting the next academic year. We hope to provide a similar option at the graduate level in the near future.

We look forward to your final recommendation.

Sincerely,

Linda Ng Boyle
Professor and Chair