


College of Engineering
Office of the Dean

300 Weil Hall
PO Box 116550
Gainesville, FL 32611-6550
352-392-6000
352-392-9673 Fax

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Mary Ann Ferguson

FROM: Cammy Abernathy 
Dean, College of Engineering

RE: Additional Information Regarding the Formation of the Engineering School of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment

This memo aims to address issues raised during the last Faculty Senate meeting. As a reminder, the proposal is to form a school titled the Engineering School of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment which would be comprised of the Civil and Coastal Engineering Dept and the Environmental Engineering Sciences Dept. The purpose for this action is to take advantage of potential synergies in curriculum and research and to build the external prestige and reputation of this area of the college. This enhanced reputation will in turn facilitate recruitment of top graduate students and further enhance the faculty success' rate in securing more of the larger, multi-disciplinary contracts and grants. Again, it should be noted that at most institutions these two programs are housed in a single dept. We have opted to form a school rather than pursue a merger so that the unique national identity of our Environmental Eng. Program can be maintained, while at the same time securing the advantages that can come from closer ties to our Civil and coastal engineering programs. In this school model, there will be no changes in tenure and promotion, or in the faculty component of the curricular approval process. Tenure will still be held in the respective depts. and voted on by the faculty in those depts.. The same is true for the curricula of the two depts.