
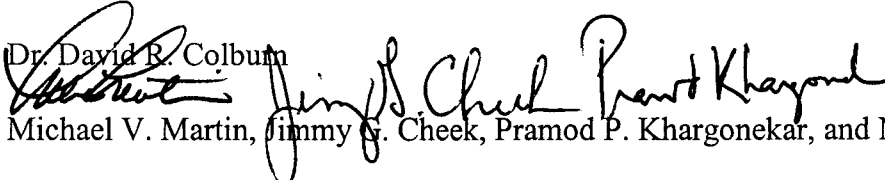




February 28, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO:  Dr. David R. Colburn
FROM:  Michael V. Martin, Jimmy G. Cheek, Pramod P. Khargonekar, and Neil Sullivan
RE: The School of Natural Resources and Environment (SNRE)

The University's strategic plan calls for the transition of the College of Natural Resources and Environment to our administratively reorganized School of Natural Resources and Environment (SNRE). What follows is a proposal for handling the structural, governance and faculty participation issues associated with this transition.

Mission:

The SNRE will provide leadership that supports the university's commitment to academic programs in ecology, environment, and environmental sciences. It will offer campus-wide, interdisciplinary degree programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels that prepare students to understand the complex issues related to ecology, environmental science, environmental quality, ecological restoration and socio-economic stability and prepare them to participate in addressing these issues in the public arena and private sector. It will serve as the programmatic home for the University-wide degree programs.

Organization and Governance:

The SNRE will be administratively housed in UF-IFAS but will programatically span the Colleges of Engineering (COE), Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS), Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs), Veterinary Medicine (CVM), and other colleges.

The overarching administrative governance of SNRE will be the responsibility of the SNRE Administrative Board (SNRE-AB) composed of the Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources (chair), the deans of COE, CLAS, CALS, and the Provost (as an ex officio, non-voting member). The SNRE director will report to the SNRE-AB.

An Associate Director for Academic Programs advised by the SNRE Academic Council (SNRE-AC) will administer the academic programs of SNRE. The SNRE-AC will be composed of participating faculty and unit leaders from across all participating colleges. The Associate Director and Director will recommend members for the SNRE-AC to the SNRE-AB.

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Funding that is currently directly allocated to CNRE's academic programs will now be allocated to SNRE academic programs.

Faculty Participation:

Three kinds of appointments/relationships will serve to engage faculty in the mission of SNRE. The current affiliate faculty, 280 members from 49 departments and 11 colleges, will continue to constitute the major source of faculty expertise for the SNRE. Faculty "affiliated" with SNRE, do so because they teach courses included in the School's curriculum, advise undergraduate students, chair graduate student committees, direct graduate student research, serve on graduate student committees, and/or work collaboratively on projects under SNRE auspices. Faculty from across the campus will be encouraged to participate in SNRE's natural resources, ecology, and environmental programs. Current CNRE affiliate faculty will automatically have affiliate status in SNRE.

Another type of faculty will be those who will have part of their effort assigned to SNRE. In the case of 12-month appointees, this will be reallocated from their current splits. In the case of 9-month (.75 FTE) appointees, SNRE may pick an additional .25 FTE to specifically work in SNRE or part of the 9-month appointment may be assigned to the SNRE.

Over the long term, a relatively small number of faculty may be hired. Once identified through the hiring process, the incumbents will be invited to select their department tenure home. SNRE would not serve as the tenure home for faculty.

We request that this transition of the CNRE to the SNRE be made immediately.

MVM/jln

Cc: C. E. Young
S. R. Humphrey
J. C. Cato
R. K. Stocker