

BOARD APPROVED
APRIL 5, 2024**Cindy Ream**
Corporate Secretary**MEMORANDUM****To:** Board of Trustees**From:** Steve Schultz, SVP and General Counsel**Cc:** Mung Chiang, President
Patrick Wolfe, Provost and Executive VP for Academic Affairs and Diversity
Christopher A. Ruhl, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer
Matt Folk, Vice President for University Advancement and Alumni Engagement**Re:** Merger of the Division of Construction Engineering and Management and the Lyles School of Civil Engineering to the Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering**Date:** March 29, 2024

Purpose. The purpose of this memo is to request approval to merge the Division of Construction Engineering and Management and the Lyles School of Civil Engineering under the redesignated name of the “Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering.”

Attachment.

- Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering memo from Dean Raman and supporting documents

Background. For nearly 150 years, Purdue has offered degrees in Civil Engineering, with degrees in Construction Engineering also being offered in the last 50 of those years. Faculty and staff have proposed that the two programs be housed under one joint school moving forward.

Request. Based on the above background and the attached memorandum, and on behalf of President Chiang and the Naming Committee, I respectfully request approval and adoption from the Board of Trustees of the resolution set forth below.

“**RESOLVED**, that the Division of Construction Engineering and Management and the Lyles School of Civil Engineering be, and hereby are, merged and redesignated as the Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering, effective July 1, 2024.”

TO: Patrick Wolfe, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Diversity

FROM: Arvind Raman, John A. Edwardson Dean of Engineering *Arvind Raman*

DATE: 03/18/2024

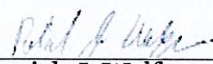
RE: Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering

Faculty and staff in the Division of Construction Engineering and the Lyles School of Civil Engineering propose to merge the two programs under one joint school to be named the Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering, effective July 1, 2024. The joint school will continue to offer two separate ABET accredited undergraduate degrees BS in Civil Engineering and BS in Construction Engineering. The naming of the joint school follows the norm of many other units on campus where more than one undergraduate degrees are offered from the same department.


There are many advantages for this move. First, by eliminating cumbersome joint appointments between the two units, this move will better allow us to attract faculty talent with expertise in construction engineering into a joint unit. Second, the move will allow for better allocation of faculty resources by allowing for faculty and instructors currently teaching in only one major to easily teach across both majors as needed or assigned. Third, Purdue Civil Engineering rankings will likely be slightly positively affected in a nationally competitive landscape with the perception that construction engineering is now part of the school. Construction Engineering majors are offered by all the top Civil Engineering programs in the country – UC Berkeley, Georgia Tech, and University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. Fourth, the joint school will be better serve undergraduate students by stronger recruitment and yield efforts with a common front end and the ability to more easily offer market-responsive certificates and concentrations across both majors. Fifth, merging the two programs under one school will enable more philanthropic giving to the joint school whose alumni's careers often cross the boundaries of these two majors. Finally, the move will allow the joint school to more easily create and offer professional master's programs in Indianapolis that address central Indiana businesses' needs.

The move will need to ensure that the required three-internship program for construction engineering majors continues uninterrupted and that there is continues to be a close partnership of the construction engineering program with the industrial advisory board for construction engineering and management. The move will also need to come up with a joint industrial advisory board for the joint school with members from the currently separate boards. Students from both programs have been consulted and feel comfortable with the transition. The merger has been discussed extensively within our faculty, alumni and with the advisory boards of both units, all of whom are generally in favor of this merger. The faculty and staff of both CE and CEM units have voted on this merger with combined results as follows: Faculty: 44-Yes and 3-No; Staff: 30-Yes and 0-No.

I fully support this move – it will help move both programs forward and help the College of Engineering.


Patrick J. Wolfe
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs and Diversity
Miller Family Professor of Statistics and Computer Science

3/21/24
Date


Mung Chiang
President
Roscoe H. George Distinguished
Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering

3/29/24
Date

Attachments

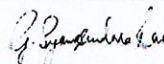

Cc: J. Dietz, M. Folk, A. McIntyre, B. Vestal

OFFICE OF THE DEAN
701 W Stadium Ave, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2021
Office: 765-494-5346



College of Engineering

TO: Arvind Raman, John A Edwardson Dean of Engineering

FROM: R. S. Govindaraju, Bowen Engineering Head of the Lyles School of Civil Engineering

Makarand (Mark) Hastak, 
Dernlan Family Head of the Division of Construction Engineering and Management

DATE: 03/01/2024

RE: Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering

For nearly 150 years, Purdue has offered the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree and for nearly 50 years Purdue has offered a Bachelor's degree in Construction Engineering (and Management). Graduates of both programs have been very successful and are highly sought after by industry.

Currently, these two degree programs are offered by two distinct academic units – the Lyles School of Civil Engineering CE (613 enrolled undergraduate students, 472 graduate students, 47.19 faculty FTE, 47 staff and lecturer FTE), and the Division of Construction Engineering and Management CEM (121 enrolled undergraduate students, 3.75 faculty FTE, 6.60 staff and lecturer FTE). CEM is a Division, so tenure track faculty teaching that program have a majority appointment in Civil Engineering.

There are close synergies between faculty and staff expertise in the two units, and many required courses for construction engineers are taught by faculty in Civil Engineering. To help advance both programs in a nationally competitive landscape, maximize synergies, and improve rankings and reputation, we request that the faculty, staff, and students of both programs be united into one joint academic unit continuing to offer two separate undergraduate degrees -BS in Civil Engineering and B.S. in Construction Engineering. In line with naming norms on campus, we propose that the new unit be renamed the Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering, to reflect the main undergraduate degrees offered by the unit.

We believe this will be a win-win situation for all stakeholders. The merger will project a united front to both external (employers, alumni, prospective students, advisory boards) and internal stakeholders (faculty, staff, and students). The combined unit will be able to offer new programs in Indianapolis more efficiently and explore new opportunities including research and professional programs. The joint school is likely to attract more undergraduate and graduate students. It will allow us to make more effective use of the combined resources of faculty and staff. Overall, rebranding as the Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering will have a positive impact on discovery, learning, and engagement.

The merger has been discussed extensively within our faculty, alumni and with the advisory boards of both units, all of whom are generally in favor of this merger. The faculty and staff of both CE and CEM units have voted on this merger with combined results as follows: Faculty: 44-Yes and 3-No; Staff: 30-Yes and 0-No.

Attachments

Cc: J. Dietz, M. Folk, A. McIntyre, B. Vestal



February 20, 2024

Arvind Raman, PhD
John A. Edwardson Dean of the College of Engineering
Neil Armstrong Hall of Engineering, Suite 3000
701 West Stadium Ave.
West Lafayette, IN 47907

Re: Support for Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering.

The Purdue for Life Foundation is supportive of a merger between Construction Engineering and Management (CEM) and Civil Engineering to become the Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering. The Purdue for Life team is equipped to continue raising and stewarding funds across the College, including the Lyles School of Civil and Construction Engineering. In preparation for the merger, our fundraisers have reviewed gift and endowment agreements in coordination with the College's business office. Key donors and board members have provided positive feedback for the plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt D Folk", written in a cursive style.

Matthew D. Folk
President and Chief Executive Officer
Purdue for Life Foundation

To: Arvind Raman, John A. Edwardson Dean of Engineering

From: Jason Dietz, Sr. Director of Finance 

Brittany Vestal, Director of Finance, College of Engineering 

Date: March 8, 2024

Re: Financial Endorsement for Merger of the Lyles School of Civil Engineering and the Division of Construction Engineering and Management

This memo documents fiscal endorsement of the proposed merger of the Lyles Family School of Civil Engineering and the Division of Construction Engineering and Management. Through a collaborative process with the Dean and Department Heads, the restricted and unrestricted fund balances, account criteria, and operating projections of both areas were reviewed. The donor stewardship impact on restricted accounts is minimal as the criteria can still be met, especially related to scholarships.

The Division of Construction Engineering and Management account balances and recurring budget allocation will transfer to Civil Engineering effective July 1, 2024. Construction Engineering and Management has been achieving a sustainable financial operating position through the provision of some annual non-recurring instructional support by the College of Engineering. The college will provide continued support to meet operational needs while expected administrative efficiencies enabled by the merger are achieved. The planned merger of the two academic units provides the opportunity to realize synergies with prospective growth in reputation, rankings, enrollment, and increased revenues.