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April 7, 2015

TO: Jose Wudka, Chair
Riverside Division

FR: Akula Venkatram, Chair
Executive Committee, Bourns College of Engineering

RE: Review of Climate, Equity & Discrimination Task Force Report

The BCOE Executive Committee supports the recommendations made by the Senate Task Force on Climate, Equality and Discrimination to address complaints related to discrimination, harassment, and gender inequity. The primary recommendation is to hire a lawyer to serve as a Campus Climate Equity Officer with the supporting infrastructure designed to handle grievances with efficiency and transparency. The Task Force recognizes that this will entail considerable new resources from the University. The BCOE Executive Committee urges cautious implementation of the recommendations to 1) ensure that there is no duplication of services already offered by University, and 2) avoid “administrative bloat” that often accompanies the creation of new offices.