January 29, 2016

TO: Jose Wudka, Chair
Riverside Division

FR: Srikanth Krishnamurthy, Vice Chair
Executive Committee, Bourns College of Engineering

RE: CNAS Reorganization Proposal

The BCOE Executive Committee discussed the CNAS reorganization. There were no issues with the proposed reorganization items that were voted on by the CNAS Executive committee. However, there were two items in the reorganization plan that caught the BCOE’s attention since they can impact Engineering.

First was the recommendation of Statistics under the Division of Life Sciences. We were wondering what impact this could have on collaborations with Engineering, especially in the rapidly growing area of Data Sciences and Bioengineering.

Second, we are assuming that the institute proposal is for research aspects of Materials Science & Engineering (MSE), rather than educational aspects. For the latter, the MSE BS, MS and PhD programs are under BCOE faculty. Joint faculty members have been hired for the program as well as home departments. Moreover, the proposal for MS&E Institute was advanced by a BCOE faculty for the Cluster Hire Program. This proposal was rejected. It would be beneficial if CNAS considers this proposal as well.