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Dear Jason,

I am writing to express my support for your efforts to create a new undergraduate degree program in Architectural Engineering in the School of Civil & Construction Engineering (CCE). An Architectural Engineering program will prepare students to become leaders in the design and construction of green, energy efficient and more complex buildings and, as such, will aide in attracting a diverse population of students.

As you know, Wood Science & Engineering (WSE) has been actively involved in the development of research on advanced wood products. One of the areas of this work is in developing strategies to showcase wood in building design and in meeting the need for energy efficient, sustainable buildings. This work will dovetail nicely with the Architectural Engineering program, and we envision the potential for collaborative course offerings.

Our programs are already strongly linked through students who pursue dual majors in Wood Science and Civil Engineering, as well as through the TallWood Design Institute. The TallWood Design Institute relies on collaboration with the University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts, as well, for experience in sustainable design and energy efficiency. This collaboration can only be strengthened with the new Architectural Engineering program.

I look forward to building upon the partnership between the School of Civil and Construction Engineering and College of Engineering and Wood Science and Engineering and the College of Forestry with an Architectural Engineering program that leverages the strengths of our schools and provides an educational opportunity that is unique to Oregon State University.

Best wishes,

Eric Hansen

Eric Hansen
Professor and Interim Department Head
Wood Science & Engineering