



The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

February 5, 2016

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2015-2016

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Undergraduate Student Representative - Ms. Taylor K. Lamb

Graduate Student Representative - Ms. A. June Brawner

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal to dissolve the Nanoscale Science and Engineering Center will be an agenda item for the February 12, 2016, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

William K. Vencill, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Pamela S. Whitten
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav



The University of Georgia

Office of the Vice President for Research

January 21, 2016

Dr. Pamela Whitten
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
203 Administration Building
Athens, GA 30602

Dear Provost Whitten,

We are writing to request the dissolution of the Nanoscale Science and Engineering Center, or NanoSEC. It reports to the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR), which is responsible for the routine review of the center and its director. NanoSEC was established over a decade ago to encourage and facilitate interactions among UGA faculty with engineering interests. Given the recent establishment and growth of the new College of Engineering, together with other developments, the rationale for NanoSEC is no longer compelling. Moreover, the last director, Dr. Yiping Zhao, resigned in the fall of 2015 and no one is currently serving as director. Dr. Lee has communicated several times with the faculty of NanoSEC and met with several of its more senior faculty. There is broad agreement that NanoSEC no longer serves an important purpose, and therefore none of the faculty are interested in serving as the next director. At this point, the only sensible course of action is to dissolve the center.

NanoSEC is a virtual center with no faculty lines or space. Hence, all its faculty members are appointed in colleges and departments. Dissolution of NanoSEC will have no impact on their status at the university or their ability to conduct research. Similarly, there are no students or degrees affiliated with NanoSEC. Students working with faculty who belong to NanoSEC will continue to work with those same faculty uninterrupted. Dissolution of NanoSEC will have no impact on students.

Sincerely,

David Lee, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research

Yiping Zhao, Ph.D.
Professor, Physics and Astronomy