110 South Central Campus Drive, Suite 2000 Salt Lake City, Utah 84112 (801)581-6931 FAX (801) 585-5477

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Lyndi Duff

Director of Curriculum Management & Technology

FROM:

Michael E. Barber

Chair, Civil and Environmental Engineering

DATE:

May 4, 2018

SUBJECT: Discontinuation of EEGP

This letter is to request the University of Utah discontinue the Environmental Engineering Graduate Program (EEGP) and all degrees and certificates associated with the program.

The program was established in 1996 as a part of an NSF program Integrative Graduate Research and Traineeship (IGERT), specifically focusing on promoting interdisciplinary teamwork between the colleges of Engineering and Mines and Earth Sciences. The program originally consisted of a Masters of Engineering, Masters of Science, and a Doctorate degree. In 2002, a certificate in Environmental Engineering was created for working professionals to gain experience in the emerging discipline. There has been one curriculum update to the Doctorate degree in 2012.

While EEGP played an important part in creating an environmental program at the University of Utah through the mid-2000's, enrollment in the program has diminished over the last decade. The Office of Budget and Institutional Analysis provided data showing the last student admission semester, when a student in the degree enrolled, and the semester of the latest degree awarded. There are no students active in the program at this time.

	Admission	Enrollment	Last Degree
Degree Name	Term	Term	Awarded
Masters of Engineering	Fall 2005	Spring 2007	Fall 2005
Masters of Science	Fall 2011	Spring 2012	Spring 2010
Doctorate of Philosophy	Fall 2009	Fall 2014	Spring 2015
Certificate	None	None	None

While no direct analysis has been completed, it is assumed that the enrollment in EEGP reduced because of the inclusion of environmental engineering and science within the departments throughout campus.

For example, we changed our graduate degrees to "DEGREE in Civil & Environmental Engineering," instead of "DEGREE in Civil Engineering." We have also created an interdisciplinary track for students seeking a MS degree in the graduate program to allow them to have flexibility in their program creation and development.

With the request to close these degrees, if a student wishes to enroll and complete their degree the Graduate Adviser will work with those in the Master of Engineering or Master of Science degrees to complete their degree through our interdisciplinary program. Those wishing to complete a Doctorate of Philosophy will work with their graduate committee to make sure the degree fulfills the Department doctorate requirements but enable them to have the flexibility that EEGP allowed them to have.

Please feel free to contact me directly with any questions. I can be reached by phone at 801-581-6931 or by email at <a href="mailto:barber@civil.utah.edu">barber@civil.utah.edu</a>.

I support the discontinuation of the Environmental Engineering Graduate Program.

Dr. Ajay Nahata

Date