Memorandum

To:            Spiros Pagiatakis, AD Research, Lassonde School of Engineering
From:      Markus Biehl, AD Academic, Schulich School of Business
CC:        Sarah Whitaker (FGS), Cheryl Underhill (Senate ASCP)
Date:        March 4, 2015

Re: Masters and PhD Programs in Civil Engineering

On behalf of the Schulich School of Business I am pleased to provide this letter to the Lassonde School of Engineering in support of its proposal to establish two graduate programs in Civil Engineering. The proposal is very clear and well documented, and Lassonde follows its charted course of asking engineering students to branch out beyond engineering. This is a valuable effort.

The proposal calls for students to take a small number of non-engineering courses, among them Schulich business and entrepreneurship courses. Schulich is already offering a series of three courses designed specifically for Lassonde students:

SB/ENTR 3400 3.00 - Business Essentials for Technology Entrepreneurs
SB/ENTR 3600 3.00 - Business Essentials for Technology Entrepreneurs
SB/ENTR 4500 3.00 - Entrepreneurship and Technology Ventures

The first two courses provide an overview of functional business knowledge, whereas the third course allows students to put their technical and business knowledge and skills to work within an entrepreneurial framework. These courses are suitable for civil engineers as well. Given current enrolment in these courses, no new faculty resources appear to be necessary to accommodate Civil Engineering students.

We believe that the proposed curricula represent a significant effort to encourage inter-faculty partnerships. Schulich fully supports this effort and the Lassonde School of Engineering’s vision of providing an innovative and interdisciplinary engineering education to its students.

On behalf of the Schulich School of Business I wish the Lassonde School of Engineering every success in implementing its new programs in Civil Engineering.