LETTER OF NOTIFICATION – 2

 ESTABLISHMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT

(Center, Division or Institute not offering primary faculty appointments

or certificate/degree programs)

1. Institution submitting request: University of Arkansas Fayetteville
2. Contact person/title: Dr. Terry Martin, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
3. Phone number/e-mail address: (479) 575-2151/tmartin@uark.edu
4. Name of Proposed Administrative Unit: University of Arkansas Resiliency Center
5. Proposed Location: Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design
6. Distance of proposed unit from main campus: N/A
7. Reason for proposed action: Resiliency is the ability of a complex system to continue to function under changing conditions and to resume functioning after catastrophic disruption. This is a critical characteristic of a sustainable system; connectivity, redundancy, and intense communications between system elements are designed outcomes. The global challenges facing humanity’s food, water, and community systems demand resiliency if the prosperity we aspire to is to be achieved. These are also local challenges; Arkansas communities are challenged with aging infrastructure and populations; childhood hunger and obesity; workforce preparation for automated technologies; and water resource management with increased demand and diminishing supplies.
8. Mission and role for proposed unit:

The mission of University of Arkansas Resiliency Center (UARC) is to inspire current generations to better understand the interconnectedness of economic, social, and environmental systems; to integrate this understanding into knowledge and technological innovation through interdisciplinary research; and to transform the systems upon which our prosperity depends, to make our region, state, and world more resilient and sustainable.

The goal of UARC will be to expand understanding of the resilient elements of food, water and urban systems that support economic and social prosperity for Arkansas and the world. UARC will focus on the challenge of food and water systems to support human prosperity across local to global scales, and community design to support human health and community resilience. UARC will leverage existing global research leadership within the University of Arkansas by strategic partnerships with business and industry supply chains to create more responsive and implementable solutions to complex challenges at the interface of food, water, and logistics. The UARC will serve as a focal point for investigating new ways to quantify complex local-to-global processes that govern food, water and urban systems. The UARC will achieve this goal by coordinating interdisciplinary education, research, and outreach in food, water, and urban systems, with a focus on solving local problems that have global applications.

1. Provide current and proposed organizational chart.

**Figure 1:** Proposed administrative structure for UARC



University of Arkansas Resiliency Center will be a U of A campus collaboration across participating colleges (Figure 1). UARC will be administered by Dr. Marty Matlock, who will serve as Executive Director. Dr. Matlock is a professor in the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department and an internationally recognized expert in resiliency design and life cycle sustainability strategies. Dr. Matlock has supervised the undergraduate minor and graduate certificate in sustainability for two years. His research focus is design and analysis of resiliency of human dominated ecosystems, from urban to rural.

**Description of Administrative Control and Lines of Authority for the Center**

The lines of authority and administrative control for the UARC are illustrated in Figure 1. UARC administration will include an executive director, an administrative assistant, and affiliated faculty stipends. Dr. Matlock will serve as the executive director, and will plan, implement, and coordinate program activities; he will report to Dean Peter MacKeith (FJSA+D), with guidance and oversight from the Council of Deans. The Administrative Assistant will report to Dr. Matlock and will support budget management, UARC communications, and academic logistics. UARC will collaborate across colleges to create inter- and trans-disciplinary programs, research, and outreach to support the academic and research missions of the School. Faculty from across colleges will affiliate with the UARC and will receive support from the UARC to support their efforts. Participating deans will form a council of deans to advise the Administrative Dean on strategic programs, implementation strategies, and other operational decisions. In consultation with the Administrative Dean and the Council of Deans, the director will convene a board of advisors composed of representatives from the business, government, civil society, and community sectors to provide a local-to-global perspective to the UARC academic and research programs.

**Academic Units Involved with UARC**

The interface of technology and the humanities is where research in food, water, and community resilience is strongest at the University of Arkansas. Knowledge without social, cultural, and economic context will not support better decisions in food, water, and community resilience. UARC will work across disciplines to create knowledge in context in order to better manage risks, create opportunities, identify innovations, and move technology to the market place. Dr. Matlock currently coordinates fourteen faculty in five collaborative teams from Engineering, Architecture, Arts and Sciences, Agriculture, and Law. The network of collaborations will expand to include every college and most departments across the UA community.

**Student Involvement**

UARC will be a student-focused organization, with undergraduate interns and graduate students working with faculty across campus. UARC will be a nexus for interdisciplinary graduate research, creating new ways of exploring and understanding complex problems. The UARC will build on the success of the Office for Sustainability (OFS) in engaging students in research and scholarship. The OFS currently supports eight MS and five PhD graduate students with mixtures of extramural and institutional funding. The OFS also supports 10-15 undergraduate interns each semester in research activities leading to reports and publications. UARC will double these numbers, supporting 25 graduate students and 30 undergraduate students per year.

1. Provide copy of e-mail notification to other institutions in the area of proposed location
2. Provide additional program information if requested by ADHE staff.

President/Chancellor Approval Date: November 6, 2017

Board of Trustees Approval or Notification Date: January 25, 2018

Chief Academic Officer: James S. Coleman Date: October 30, 2017