



January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

It is a pleasure to join together and write this letter. As Student Body Presidents, we represent over 52,000 students in the great City of Tallahassee. The FAMU and FSU Student Government Associations recognize the profound impact a twenty-seven year old partnership has had on fostering the growth of Florida's higher education institutions. As seen through its curriculum's rigor, population diversity, and success of its graduates, the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering is vital to continued innovation in the state of Florida. As student representatives for our respective institutions, we recommend that the legislature fund the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering for the recommended \$6.5 million, to secure the continuation of our rewarding joint program.

From being the only shared College of Engineering in the United States, to bringing together students from a prestigious Historically Black University and a Tier-1 Research Institution, the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering continues to offer an environment unmatched in both experience and education. Since its inception, the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering has directed its efforts to providing a progressive and challenging curriculum for the benefit of students. However, the resources needed to retain and expand the program cannot be secured without state support.

In all, the requested amount will cover five main areas of focus for the Joint College of Engineering: the recruitment of eight high quality and diverse researchers, the provision of "start-up" packages that include state of the art tools, the addition of five advisors and mentors to support student success, strengthening the graduate program, and improving the overall vitality and retention of the college. By securing development in these strategic areas, the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering can increase the number of qualified and competitive graduates pipelined into Florida's growing job market for engineers and researchers.

We hope that you see the critical role the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering plays in cultivating the prominence of our Universities and the future growth of our state. We believe that with the requested funding, the Joint College of Engineering will provide an unprecedented level of higher education that not only motivates students and researchers, but pushes them to exceed any and all expectations. Through a joint resolution passed by both Student Government legislative bodies, and through this joint letter - we truly hope to see this request come to fruition.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Moricette

In Seminole Pride,



*Sam Stenberg*