



March 23, 2021

Dr. Thiab Taha
Head, Computer Science Department
Franklin College of Arts and Sciences
University of Georgia

Dear Dr. Taha,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed framework of a School of Computing jointly administered by the College of Engineering and the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. The disciplines of engineering and computer science are becoming highly integrated due to advances in cyber-physical systems, computational sciences, information sciences, data analytics, and similar fields. Many of our peer institutions recognized this trend long ago, as evidenced by the fact that approximately three-quarters of our peer and aspirational institutions place the Department of Computer Science within their College of Engineering.

Recognizing that this is not possible at the University of Georgia, I am in favor of the proposal to create a joint School of Computing that would allow for new opportunities in research, education, and service. The proposed framework includes important details on governance, promotion and tenure, and administrative structure of the School of Computing. Faculty in the College of Engineering are currently discussing the impact of this proposal on our existing college and it is my hope that we will be able to move to the implementation phase of this initiative in the very near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donald J. Leo'.

Donald J. Leo
Dean and UGA Foundation Professor in Engineering