

We'll get the job done



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Engineers are problem solvers, and that is exactly what the world needs *now*. We face overarching energy and environmental challenges; these challenges, if not addressed, could irrevocably alter the well-being of our planet, leaving our social and economic institutions in disarray. But we aren't ready to let that happen.

The College of Engineering has identified both the environment and energy as major research thrusts. In our research centers, faculty and students are investigating everything from alternative fuels and CO₂ sequestration to air particulate emissions and climate change policy. We are looking at ways to reduce the human contribution to climate change, and we're developing measures and technologies to deal with changes that are occurring now. High levels

of greenhouse gases are already in our atmosphere, and even if we drastically slashed the amounts of these gases we pump into the air, it would take decades for the climate to respond. We have to prepare now for the changes heading our way and work relentlessly to secure our future.

To combat our energy problems along with the many other challenges facing our society, it will take innovative thinking. We need innovators to envision and create new technologies and processes, and we need entrepreneurs to bring these novel achievements to market. The College of Engineering is broadening its undergraduate and graduate curriculum to include courses and programs in entrepreneurship and innovation management. In January, we launched a new master's degree program, Engineering and Technology Innovation Management (see page 16). Our graduates will manage innovations developed in universities, corporations and private start-up companies, and deliver them to the people who need them.

We have significant work ahead of us, but we welcome the challenge. After all, problem solving is what we do best.

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