MOTION: to change the name of "Department of Civil Engineering and Mechanics" to "Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering"

The name “Department of Civil Engineering and Mechanics” was approved on February 26, 1987 through UWM Faculty Document 1538. The rationale used was to house the Mechanics faculty and courses within the Civil Engineering Department. Teaching, research, and service have evolved considerably since 1987 at UWM, CEAS and the department.

The mission of the UWM undergraduate Civil Engineering program is to educate students to become civil engineering professionals who plan, design, build, and manage the infrastructure needed for a modern urban society and the environment.

The mission of the graduate programs within the Civil Engineering & Mechanics Department is to educate students at the M.S. and Ph.D. levels through leading edge research and instruction that prepares graduates for leadership roles in industry, government, and academic institutions.

The strengths of the department are:

- Faculty research and teaching
- Undergraduate and graduate enrollment
- Industrial Advisory Council
- Federal funding, and collaboration with local agencies and industry
- Student organizations.

The department advances UWM’s mission and vision by

- Educating approximately 300 undergraduate, mostly in-state students, and 60 graduate students.
- Commitment to excellence demonstrated through scholarship and funded research
- Engagement with the community and collaborations inside and outside UWM.

The department offers numerous elective courses which allow students to work in one of four areas of concentration: geotechnical engineering, municipal and transportation engineering, structural engineering, and water resources and environmental engineering.

The department faculty voted to change its name to “Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering” to

a) Better reflect its current and aspirational teaching, research and service activities
b) Better reflect the formation of its faculty
c) Improve the visibility of its teaching, research and service activities in the area of environmental engineering
d) Have a name that aligns with nationally ranked departments
e) Continue attracting talented students and faculty in civil and environmental engineering
f) Provide a house for new graduate and undergraduate programs that its faculty wants to develop.