

Contact: Rachel Boon

**REQUEST FOR NEW DEPARTMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA:  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT**

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the request by the University of Northern Iowa to create a Department of Construction Management in the College of Arts, Humanities and Sciences.

The Council of Provosts and Board office support approval of this request.

**Reason for proposed change.** For many years, the construction management program has resided within the Department of Applied Engineering and Technical Management. By decoupling construction management from applied engineering, UNI can better promote and nurture each program's distinctiveness, provide a more focused student experience and strengthen the marketing and recruitment opportunities for both programs. Construction management and its related activities will be elevated to a department so that there is an opportunity for enhanced visibility to prospective students across the state.

By realigning the reporting structure of construction management, applied engineering can focus on growing and expanding engineering, manufacturing, and technical programs and marketing those to prospective state of Iowa students and their families.

**Effect on program configuration.** This administrative change will not impact curricula. The three faculty who currently teach within the program will join the new department. One of the three will also serve as department head. The department will remain in the Applied Engineering Building; a space allocation plan will be created and will indicate construction management specific space, office assignments and shared spaces (i.e. classrooms, labs, meeting rooms, student space).

Strategic planning efforts will engage with a wide variety of stakeholders (i.e. faculty, staff, administrators, students, advisory boards, University Relations, Institutional Effectiveness & Planning, Enrollment Management) and focus on governance structures, marketing, recruitment and enrollment. This data-informed strategic plan will be ready for implementation beginning in July 2025 and include an analysis of what employers are looking for in recent construction management graduates, as well as detailed success metrics.

**Effect on students.** This administrative change does not include any curriculum changes and all faculty will be retained. The initial transition should have minimal impact on current students, and a positive effect with the long-term opportunities described above.

**Effect on accreditation.** While the construction management program is not accredited, other programs within applied engineering and technical management are accredited through ABET. UNI will work with ABET to make sure that they are aware of the changes and have no concerns.

**Effect on resources.** This proposal will be implemented with existing one-time funds. Additional investments to base budgets will be predicated on enrollment increases, including the hiring of a separate department head for applied engineering.

**Date of implementation.** July 1, 2025.