



August 31, 2022

Council on Academic Affairs Office
Office of Academic Affairs
203 Bricker Hall 190 N. Oval Mall CAMPUS
Attn: Dr. Randy Smith, Provost for Academic Programs

Dear Drs. Andridge (Chair, CAA) and Smith (Vice Chair, CAA)

We are writing to the Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) on behalf of the Institute for Materials Research to request permission for the Institute to change its name to the ***Institute for Materials and Manufacturing Research (IMR)***.

About IMR

The Institute for Materials Research (IMR) is a multi-college, university-level institute that leads materials-related research and innovation through interdisciplinary collaboration. With research teams and centers that cross department and college boundaries, IMR provides a dimension to Ohio State's materials-related research community that transcends traditional academic structures. This has led to the creation of a research and innovation ecosystem that spans from fundamental science to engineering to translational interfacing with industry. The success of IMR's interdisciplinary approach has enabled partnerships with colleges and departments to co-lead faculty hiring programs, including the Targeted Investment in Excellence program, the Ohio Research Scholars program, and, most recently, our Materials & Manufacturing for Sustainability (M&MS) Discovery Theme program.

Materials & Manufacturing for Sustainability (M&MS)

The M&MS Discovery Theme program shifted IMR's paradigm with an expansive research and innovation focus targeting global challenges surrounding energy transitions and environmental sustainability through the exploration and implementation of advanced materials, devices, manufacturing processes and systems. This program has led to the establishment of IMR's Innovation Lab and Ohio State's first global research center of excellence: the IIT Bombay-Ohio State Frontier Center. The two dozen faculty members hired across four colleges via the M&MS program comprise an interdisciplinary cohort who are carrying out world-leading research and producing high impact innovations to address these global challenges.

Rationale for Name Change

The rationale for the change derives from the fact that IMR has intentionally expanded its scope to converge with manufacturing at the Institute level since 2015. This is greatly due to the success of the M&MS program and our work with key manufacturing centers, such as the Center for Design and Manufacturing Excellence, the Ohio Manufacturing Institute, and the IMR Innovation Lab. Most recently, we have dedicated a great deal of time and resources working with leaders at Intel to support their landmark investment in Ohio's manufacturing, higher education and leading-edge research, and we are also in the planning stage with Honda to develop a battery pilot manufacturing facility to be located on

Ohio State's campus that will be managed by IMR. Due to these activities, we have also changed the composition of our External Advisory Board to reflect a stronger manufacturing background more closely. Lastly, we just played a critical role that enabled the winning of OSU's newest NSF Engineering Research Center, the Hybrid Autonomous Manufacturing, Moving from Evolution to Revolution (HAMMER) Engineering Research Center.

We have not taken the request of this name change lightly. IMR Leaders formed a manufacturing task force in 2020 whose charter was to create and establish a visionary plan to coordinate the manufacturing-related research, development and educational activities and strategies across OSU that will establish OSU as a national leader in advanced manufacturing. The task force, comprised of several manufacturing-related faculty members and center leaders, proposed the establishment of a manufacturing-focused initiative at OSU and developed a structure and operational strategy for the Initiative operating within IMR.

Support for Name Change

We discussed the IMR Manufacturing Task Force recommendation with the IMR leadership team and key stakeholders, and it was met with strong support. We then proposed this new structure, which included a new faculty director of manufacturing and the proposed name change, to our External Advisory Board (EAB) at our 2021 EAB meeting. Our EAB was enthused to see this proposal, and they recommended that we request a name change in 2022 to codify the integration of manufacturing formally within IMR.

Attached are letters of support for the name change from Dr. Peter Mohler, VP of Research and Dr. Gene Fitzgerald, IMR External Advisory Board Chair.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request. If further details or additional supporting information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,



Steven A. Ringel, Ph.D.
Distinguished University Professor
Professor and Neal A. Smith Endowed Chair, Electrical and Computer Engineering
Associate Vice President for Research, Office of Research
Executive Director, Institute for Materials Research (IMR)
The Ohio State University
ringel.5@osu.edu www.imr.edu



8/31/2022

Council on Academic Affairs Office
Office of Academic Affairs
203 Bricker Hall
190 N Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210
Attn: Dr. Randy Smith, Provost for Academic Programs

Dear Drs. Andridge (Chair, CAA) and Smith (Vice Chair, CAA):

I am writing to the Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) to support the request of Dr. Steven A. Ringel, Executive Director, Institute for Materials Research (IMR), to change the Institute's name to the Institute for Materials and Manufacturing Research (IMR).

The IMR is arguably the university's largest interdisciplinary community consisting of more than 268 faculty members from 34 departments and 10 colleges, who are actively engaged in research and innovation across the materials and manufacturing continuum. Since its establishment in 2006, IMR has guided Ohio State's materials-allied research enterprise to be among the very best in the nation. It continues to impact the forefront of materials research, winning the most competitive and prestigious research programs and centers and enabling the attraction of top talent in areas that exploit the multi-college breadth of the university.

Over this time, the scope of activities of the Institute has expanded from a purely materials focus to include manufacturing. Formal recognition of this expanded scope through this name change will no doubt positively impact the Institute's ability to grow their global reputation of excellence in materials and manufacturing research. This recognition will more accurately reflect the IMR's present state and future vision to be the exemplar interdisciplinary academic research institute through world-class basic and applied materials and manufacturing research, technology advancement, and innovation.

Therefore, I strongly support the Institute's request to change its name to the Institute for Materials and Manufacturing Research (IMR).

Sincerely,

Peter J. Mohler, PhD
Vice President of Research, The Ohio State University



Eugene Fitzgerald
Chief Executive Officer
The SMART Centre
#10-01 CREATE Tower, 1 CREATE Way
Singapore 138602
+65-6517-8606 (office) +65-6684-2118 (fax)
eafitz@mit.edu

August 31, 2022

203 Bricker Hall 190 N. Oval Mall CAMPUS
Attn: Dr. Randy Smith, Provost for Academic Programs

Dear Drs. Andridge (Chair, CAA) and Smith (Vice Chair, CAA):

On behalf of the Institute for Materials Research (IMR) External Advisory Board, I submit this letter to the Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) to support the request of Dr. Steven A. Ringel, Executive Director, Institute for Materials Research (IMR), to change the Institute's name to the Institute for Materials and Manufacturing Research (IMR).

The IMR is recognized internationally as a leader in materials research by engaging the Ohio State materials research community to deliver scholarly impact on a national and global scale; growing their global reputation of excellence by establishing and maintaining centers of excellence and sustaining world-class research infrastructure; and creating a sustainable innovation ecosystem that provides value for their students, staff, faculty, and external partners. As the Chair of the IMR's EAB, I am intimately familiar with both the cutting-edge materials research that is conducted by the members of IMR as well as the Institute's coordination of Ohio State's manufacturing-related research, which was further stimulated by the Materials and Manufacturing for Sustainability Discovery Theme awarded to the IMR in 2015. The IMR's manufacturing leadership spans multiple colleges, has led to large center awards, and has attracted top faculty to be hired over the years. All of this is quickly establishing OSU as a national leader in advanced manufacturing.

IMR's EAB was excited to see a name change proposal from Dr. Ringel. We were enthused that the integrated manufacturing at OSU plan has come to fruition. This has been on the EAB recommendation list for multiple years, and as a complex problem distributed through OSU, the EAB appreciated the consistent effort over years to create this plan and move to an execution phase. Therefore, our board unanimously recommended that Dr. Ringel formally request the name change to fully represent the true scope of IMR to include manufacturing.

Sincerely,

Eugene Fitzgerald

Chair, OSU IMR EAB

Chief Executive Officer and Director
Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART)

Merton C. Flemings-Singapore MIT Alliance Professor of Materials Engineering
Massachusetts Institute of Technology