To: Viterbi School Faculty and Staff

From: Yannis C. Yortsos, Dean

Date: September 24, 2012

Subject: Appointment of Assistant Professor Burcin Becerik-Gerber to the Stephen Schrank Early Career Chair in Civil and Environmental Engineering

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Assistant Professor Burcin Becerik-Gerber of the Sonny Astani Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering as the inaugural holder of the Stephen Schrank Early Career Chair in Civil and Environmental Engineering. The appointment recognizes Burcin’s exceptional distinction and promise in her field.

Burcin’s research focuses on automation of data needed for complex built environments and on formalizing processes to improve sustainability, and maintainability. She holds degrees in both Civil and Environmental Engineering and Architecture, having graduated from Istanbul Technical University with a Bachelor of Architecture (1999) and an M.S. in Architecture (2001). She received an M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from UC Berkeley (2002) and a Doctor of Design (2006) degree from Harvard. Burcin joined USC in 2008 as an Assistant Professor. She has published extensively and serves as an Associate Editor for ASCE’s Journal of Computing in Civil Engineering. Her work has received substantial support from a variety of sources, including the National Science Foundation, and the Department of Energy. In 2011, she was selected to take part in the National Academy of Engineering’s Frontiers of Engineering Education Symposium for her innovative educational approaches in civil engineering. In August 2012, MIT’s Technology Review named her as one of the world’s top young innovators under the age of 35. She is currently the director of Innovation in Integrated Informatics LAB, http://i-lab.usc.edu/.

Please join me in congratulating Burcin on this well-deserved honor.