To: UF College of Dentistry,

This is to provide you an update and alert you about the next steps related to the Dental Building Environmental Quality Assessment project. You will recall that in July an outside contractor (Terracon) sent a survey to all faculty and staff who work in the dental tower as the first step of the process. There is additional information here about the project, scope and the expected steps.

The survey is complete, and Terracon is analyzing and finalizing the results. The information they have shared with us so far indicate that we had an excellent response rate (176 completed surveys out of 407 recipients) and that responses include all categories of faculty and staff with research, teaching, clinical and administrative roles. I want to thank everyone who took the time to respond, sharing your experiences and personal observations; we will provide further information as it becomes available.

Meanwhile, there is continued progress on other aspects of the assessment, some of which may be transparent to you, such as the on-site inspection of the dental tower air handlers in the basement and on the roof that were conducted earlier this month. What will be more obvious to us are the on-site inspections of offices, clinics and labs where problems have been previously reported or identified by the July survey. Terracon staff will be looking within these spaces for visible issues on walls, flooring, ceiling tiles and more, and also deploying data loggers that measure moisture, dust, temperature and other factors.

October 8 – 11 for Onsite Inspections
Terracon has proposed October 8 – 11 for the on-site inspections. Please let Charles Lesch know if you have any concerns with this timeframe so we can request adjustments where needed.

Currently there are additional roof repairs in progress to mitigate problem areas in the building including the Office of Education. UF has also replaced four of our air handlers, and is working on a plan to replace/reseal additional windows.

If you have questions or concerns about the project and its next phases, please let me know. Thank you all for your cooperation, your patience and the work you do all year long in pursuit of excellence.

Regards,

Dean Isabel Garcia