To: Provosts, Vice Presidents, Vice Provosts, Deans, Directors, and Heads of Schools, Divisions, Departments, and Offices

From: Jeffrey S. Vitter, Hovde Dean of Science

Re: Rebecca Doerge named Interim Head of the Department of Statistics

I am very pleased to announce that Professor Rebecca Doerge will assume the role of Interim Head of the Department of Statistics, effective August 18, 2008. She is substituting for Dr. Mary Ellen Bock, who will be taking a sabbatical for the coming academic year.

Dr. Doerge has been at Purdue University since 1995 and holds a joint appointment between the Colleges of Science (Statistics 75%) and Agriculture (Agronomy 25%). She is also director of the Statistical Bioinformatics Center. She received her PhD in statistics from North Carolina State University in 1993 and a Master of Science in mathematics from the University of Utah. Prior to joining Purdue, Dr. Doerge was a postdoctoral fellow at Cornell University.

Dr. Doerge’s current research encompasses four broad areas: development of statistical methodology for genetic mapping and quantitative trait loci (QTL) location; applying up-to-date genetic mapping and (e-)QTL methodology to real experimental data; assessing genetic variation and diversity of populations and germplasm collections; and understanding and analyzing gene expression, protein expression, and epigenomic data for the purpose of statistically designing and then testing (epi-)genomic/biologically-based questions.

The Department of Statistics, which includes 35 tenured and tenure-track faculty, is currently ranked in the top 10 nationally by U.S. News & World Report. Statistics is home to the very popular Statistical Consulting Service, which provides free consulting for research projects across campus, and STATCOM (Statistics in the Community), a student-run version that serves local government and nonprofit organizations.