To: Karl Petersen, Chair  
Department of Chemistry

From: Marshall Toman, Chair  
Department of English

Date: March 29, 2014

Subject: Addition of English Courses to the Biotechnology Major

The Department of English fully supports the addition of

ENGL 266: Business Writing,
ENGL 367: Technical Writing, and
ENGL 371: Proposal Writing: Change through Rhetoric

to the Biotechnology Major.

Additionally, the inclusion of ENGL 371 has prompted us to look into the prerequisites for this 300-level course. It was originally designed for students in our Professional Writing programs. We plan to see whether it is feasible to make this useful course more accessible to other majors, particularly science majors, in a manner that is likely to still ensure student success.
TO: Karl Peterson, Chair, Chemistry Department

FROM: Gary Onan, Chair, Animal & Food Science Department

RE: Biotechnology Program

The Animal and Food Science Department supports the proposed changes in the Biotechnology Program including assumption of program administration by the Chemistry Department and the proposed curricular modifications.
Hi Karl,

The Department of Plant and Earth Science supports the changes proposed to the Biotechnology Major.

Thanks,
Donavon Taylor, Chair
Department of Plant and Earth Science

Dear Gary, Don, Mark and Marshall

Attached please find the final version of the proposed Biotechnology program revisions and the supporting narrative. I do not believe that there are any significant changes since you last saw the document. I have also attached the summary of the current biotechnology program for comparison. I would like to get this information, including e-mails of support to the CAS Dean’s office by next Wednesday, if possible. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Karl

Karl P. Peterson, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Chemistry
University of Wisconsin-River Falls
715-425-3523
Hi Karl,

Grace and I have looked this over, and we fully support the incorporation of COMS 318 into the in-depth electives. Good luck with your new curriculum!

Jennifer

Jennifer Willis-Rivera
Co-Chair
Communication Studies & Theatre Arts

Professor
Communication Studies

University of Wisconsin – River Falls
River Falls, WI 54022

Hello Jennifer,

I just wanted to follow up with you on the Biotechnology Program changes which included having COMS 318 in the in-depth electives. We also discussed the inclusion in the future of a new COMS course that is being developed. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. If there are none, then I would appreciate a brief note of support to accompany the program change.

Thank you,

Karl

Karl P. Peterson, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Chemistry
University of Wisconsin-River Falls
715-425-3523
Karl Peterson

From: Hossein Najafi
Sent: Wednesday, April 16, 2014 12:37 PM
To: Karl Peterson
Subject: Re: Biotechnology program changes

Karl,

Sorry for the late response. I had to give the department sometime to think about this.

Although we find this to be a very important course for the program, given the limited resources available to the department, the department is OK with the proposed changes. We should coordinate offering the course when you feel there is a demand for it. Perhaps, a summer or j-term offering may remedy the resource issues.

Cheers,
~Hossein

Hossein Najafi, PhD
Computer Science and Information Systems Department, Chair
University of Wisconsin, River Falls
410 S. 3rd St.
River Falls, WI 54022
715-425-3335

From: Karl Peterson <karl.peterson@uwrf.edu>
Date: Sunday, March 30, 2014 at 1:23 PM
To: Hossein Najafi <hossein.najafi@uwrf.edu>
Subject: Biotechnology program changes

Dear Hossein

Attached please find the proposed revision to the Biotechnology major and the supporting narrative. We decided to place the BIOT/CSIS 373 in the in-depth elective area at this time. We do feel that bioinformatics is an important topic for our students, but given the uncertainty with future offerings of the course due to staffing and enrollment requirements, we were hesitant to make the course required. I, along with Mark Bergland from Biology, are committed to working with Tony and you to revisit the course and the role that it can play for all three programs (BIOT, BIOL and CSIS). We did not want to delay the program changes while the future of BIOT/CSIS 373 was being re-evaluated.

Please review the program changes and let me know if you have any questions or concerns. If there are none, then I would appreciate a brief letter of support.

Thank you,

Karl

Karl P. Peterson, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair