

ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY



University Curriculum Committee

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November 8, 2012

TO: Daniel Holland, Chairperson, Academic Senate
FROM: Jean Standard, Chair, University Curriculum Committee *JMS*
RE: Executive Summary – Proposal for the New General Biology Sequence

The University Curriculum Committee has approved and is forwarding for Academic Senate review the attached proposal to add a new General Biology Sequence to the Major in Biological Sciences.

The School of Biological Sciences has given a reasonable rationale for adding the new sequence:

- The primary goal of this sequence is to provide students with a solid educational background to pursue careers or continuing education in biology or related fields.
- The sequence is specifically designed to provide broad training for students interested in biology by providing a breadth of courses within the discipline, and will also allow students the opportunity to pursue individualized interests that may not be represented by one of our specialized sequences.
- Students completing this sequence would also be well prepared to pursue further educational opportunities including graduate programs (MS and Ph.D.) and/or post-baccalaureate professional schools. The General Biology sequence incorporates the requirements of the Biological Sciences Teacher Certification Sequence for students that either elect to leave the Teacher Certification Sequence or fail to meet the GPA requirements for teacher education.
- No particular effects due to establishment of this sequence are expected on programs outside of the School of Biological Sciences. The students will already be in the Biological Sciences undergraduate program. The School anticipates a modest increase in students in the Biological Sciences program, as by having this undergraduate sequence, additional students may be recruited to the School of Biological Sciences.

The School of Biological Sciences proposes adding five new sequences and deleting one sequence to reorganize the Major in Biological Sciences. Other proposed new sequences and the deleted sequence will be presented separately and are all part of the revision of the major.

The University Curriculum Committee supports the proposal to add this new sequence.

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Attachments