

To: Dr. Richard Petty, Chair
Department of Psychology

From: Randy J. Nelson, Ph.D., & John D. Oberdick, Ph.D., Co-Directors
Neuroscience Graduate Studies Program

Re: Concurrence request for Psychology 618 (Introduction to Computational Cognitive Neuroscience)

Date: 17 February 2009

We have considered the syllabus and goals for the new proposed course, "Introduction to Computational Cognitive Neuroscience". We are providing this letter of concurrence from our Neuroscience Graduate Studies Program (NGSP) in support of this course. To the best of our knowledge, no existing course at OSU overlaps with the proposed course. Although the course is targeted at graduate students and advanced undergraduate students in psychology, we believe it is also a natural fit for the Cognitive and Computational Neuroscience track of the proposed undergraduate major. We have increasing numbers of students involved in computational neuroscience projects and this course will be very useful in their training. From our perspective, this course will fill an important gap in our students' education and we suspect that students specifically advised by Drs Travers and Terman will benefit from this course. As we expand the computational neurosciences at Ohio State, this course will be important for this expansion. Thus, the NGSP is fully supportive of this course going forward.