



December 22, 2010

Nancy O'Hanlon  
Professor; Interim Assistant Director for  
Collections, Instruction, & Public Services  
The Ohio State University Libraries  
305G Thompson Library  
1858 Neil Ave. Mall

Dear Dr. O'Hanlon,

I am pleased to offer my strong support for the proposed course, Online Research and the Science Literature, Arts & Sciences 314/3142. This course will be extremely useful to undergraduate researchers, as well as students who are not directly involved in research. The nature of scientific scholarship is changing rapidly. I'm sure students will be excited by the diversity of resources they can use to explore new topics and delve deeper into their areas of expertise.

Many students do not have the skills and knowledge that this course will cover, nor will they find this level of sophisticated material in the syllabi of coursework in their majors. Google Scholar and Wikipedia are just the tip of the iceberg, as this course will demonstrate. Other valuable lessons will be the ability to evaluate the content of results from various online searches, and greater familiarity with the services of the University Libraries.

Each year's incoming freshmen are better prepared than their predecessors and many arrive with the expectation of getting involved in high-level research. I am pleased to see courses like this one, tailored to the needs of our very promising undergraduate researchers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allison A. Snow".

Professor Allison A. Snow  
Director, OSU Undergraduate Research Office