



April 20, 2014

Dr. Christopher Haddad
Associate Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

Dear Christopher:

Thank you very much for forwarding the Center of Life Sciences suggestions and comments to me. I hope the following points will address them:

We are committed to providing more regular faculty members for the biology major. In this respect, the Marion campus faculty assembly, upon the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee, has approved hiring a biology faculty member in 2014-15 (subject to the approval of the major). The plan is to have a meeting of our biology and chemistry faculty members soon to determine the area(s) of specialization for the new hire. The campus also will consult with the Center of Life Sciences and/or EEOB. Our goal is to conduct the search during the next academic year for a position to start in Autumn 2015. Future additional hiring will take place as needed and as we move forward into the program.

Regarding the second point, Bob Klips and Susan Gershman, EEOB faculty members have provided justification. As you may know, currently we offer an early and middle school licensure degree program (BSED) in education and having biology major will provide an opportunity to students to take more science courses. Ohio State Marion has a tenure track faculty member, Dr. Anna Willow, in anthropology and she wishes to offer a greater diversity of courses in anthropology. Having biology major on campus also would provide opportunities to students to diversify their experience in anthropology, EEOB, environmental science, astronomy and other science related disciplines. This year we hired a new faculty member in Physics who will start in Autumn 2014. His area of expertise is Astrophysics and he is interested in offering occasional courses in Astronomy.

Regarding third point, Ohio State Marion offers Math 1150, 1151, 1152, 1172, and some additional higher-level math courses associated with the engineering curriculum. In Statistics we offer 1135, 1145, and 3470. Knowing that Statistics 2460/2480 is required course for biology major, we will add this to our curriculum. The curriculum sheets (attached) are revised in light of this recommendation.

I hope this will help you and the NMS Committee in its deliberations. Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you very much for your help and understanding in regard to our needs.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bishun Pandey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'y'.

Bishun Pandey
Associate Dean
The Ohio State University at Marion