



June 2, 2014

Kathy Simcox  
Assistant to the Associate Deans  
College of Arts and Sciences  
114 University Hall  
230 N. Oval Mall  
Campus

Dear Ms. Simcox,

I am writing to provide the full support of the Department of Microbiology for the proposal for a new team-taught course, "HIV: From Microbiology to Macrohistory", to be taught by Jesse Kwiek from the Department of Microbiology in collaboration with Thomas McDow from the Department of History. I have been in communication with Dr. Kwiek for some time about this course, and I am excited to see it coming to fruition. HIV, perhaps more than any other disease that has emerged in recent history, provides an example of how our understanding and treatment of an epidemic is shaped at both the molecular and the societal level. The broad-based approach that Drs. Kwiek and McDow will adopt will undoubtedly be of broad appeal to a wide range of students, and will also emphasize key issues at the heart of OSU's Discovery themes. It is my hope that this will be the first of several such courses in which Microbiology will partner with other units on campus, and as such we are committed to providing the resources required to help ensure the success of "HIV: From Microbiology to Macrohistory" in pioneering this approach.

I hope that you will add your support to that of the Department of Microbiology. Thank you for your consideration, and please contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Michael Ibba, Ph.D.  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Microbiology