College of Arts and Sciences

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To: Chair of ASCC

From: Wendy Panero, Chair ASCC Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel

Dear colleagues,

The Natural and Mathematical Sciences (NMS) Panel has reviewed and unanimously approved (September 29, 2021) a proposal for a combined Molecular Genetics BS/MS degree.

The proposed combined BS/MS program in Molecular Genetics enables high-performing Molecular Genetics BS students to earn a MS in a fifth year of enrollment. This program enables accelerated students to complete the requirements for their undergraduate degree as well as coursework for a MS degree in five years on either a thesis-based or non-thesis MS plan. This program will require students achieve the goals of both programs, with application for admission to be completed in the student’s third year. Students will maintain a breadth of study in through their MS degree by following a course of study that will span four major areas of Molecular Genetics. Based on surveys of their students, they expect that 3-6 students a year will enter the program.

The NMS panel discussed the proposal on September 29, 2021, and it was approved unanimously with a few contingencies, recommendations, and comments.

In response, an updated document was received, and the proposal was approved in its final form on October 15, 2021. We advance this proposal to the ASCC with a motion to approve.

Respectfully,



Wendy Panero, Ph.D.