July 29, 2009

Dear Dr. Mote:

The Maryland Higher Education Commission has reviewed the following requests from University of Maryland College to suspend the following degree programs:

- M.S. and Ph.D. in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics;
- M.S. and Ph.D. in Behavior, Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics; and
- Ph.D. Molecular and Cell Biology

On the recommendation of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Academic Affairs, Dr. George W. Reid, I am pleased to inform you that these requests have been administratively approved for a period of up to two years. During the suspension, enrolled students may complete the degree program but no new students will be admitted. This suspension will also apply to the concentrations within the M.S. and Ph.D. Degree in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics all of which bear the same HEGIS code and CIP 26.0503. After a two year period the institution shall either discontinue or reactivate the program offerings and notify the Secretary in writing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Title</th>
<th>Degree Level</th>
<th>HEGIS</th>
<th>CIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>04-1101</td>
<td>26.0406</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>04-1101</td>
<td>26.0406</td>
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<tr>
<td>Behavior, Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>04-9902</td>
<td>26.1399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular and Cell Biology</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>04-1701</td>
<td>26.0204</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for keeping the Commission apprised of the programmatic changes being made at the University of Maryland, College Park. I wish you continued success.

Sincerely,

James E. Lyons, Sr.
Secretary of Higher Education

cc. Ms. Theresa W. Hollander, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, UMCP
Dr. George W. Reid, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Academic Affairs, MHEC
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK  
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

DIRECTIONS:  
• Provide one form with original approval signatures in lines 1-4 for each proposed action. Keep this form to one page in length.  
• Early consultation with the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs is strongly recommended if there are questions or concerns, particularly with new programs.  
• Please submit the signed form to Claudia Rector, Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.  
• Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

DATE SUBMITTED__

PCC LOG NO. 08043

COLLEGE/SCHOOL_College of Chemical and Life Sciences (CLFS)
DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM__

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD___ DELETE___ ___ CHANGE__X__

DESCRIPTION (Provide a succinct account of the proposed action. Details should be provided in an attachment. Provide old and new sample programs for curriculum changes.)  
We are suspending the M.S. and Ph.D. degree programs in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics (CBMG), Behavior, Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics (BEES), and the Ph.D. program in Molecular and Cellular Biology (MOCB).

JUSTIFICATION/REASONS/RESOURCES (Briefly explain the reason for the proposed action. Identify the source of new resources that may be required. Details should be provided in an attachment.)  
These areas of study are being subsumed under the renamed Biological Sciences Ph.D. program as Areas of Concentration, and (in a separate action) eliminated as formal options at the master’s level.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date

1. Department Committee Chair NA
2. Department Chair Norma Andrews (Chair, CBMG; Michele Dudas (director, BEES); Jonathan Dinman (Director, MOCB) 1/21/09
3. College/School PCC Chair Arthur N. Popper 1/21/09
4. Dean Norma Allewell 1/21/09
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required) 3/5/09
6. Chair, Senate PCC
7. Chair of Senate
8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost Elgath J. Lewis 8/19/09

VPAAP 8-05

CLFS – PCC for BISI  Page 24
We are suspending M.S. and Ph.D. programs in: Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics (CBMG) and in Behavior, Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics (BEES). We are suspending the Ph.D. program in Molecular and Cellular Biology (MOCB).¹ These areas of study will be subsumed, under the same or different names, as Areas of Concentration under the renamed Biological Sciences (BISI) Ph.D. graduate program. It is anticipated that these programs will be terminated within three to five years of starting BISI, thereby allowing students currently in these programs to obtain degrees from these programs if they so wish.

Very few students are actually admitted directly into these M.S. programs in these areas of study. Those who seek to obtain a master’s degree in the future may apply to the M.S. in Biological Sciences program, but generally speaking, graduate students in the various areas of biological sciences in CLFS are admitted at the doctoral level.

Status of Current Students

All current students will be allowed to receive their degrees from the programs into which they matriculated if they wish. Since Biological Sciences will continue the same courses as now offered, students will be able to take all required courses. All faculty will still be present, and there will be no change in mentor labs. Students will continue to receive financial support that was promised to them, and they will have access to the same resources as in the past.

However, we will encourage students to switch to BISI. Students who switch will receive equivalent credit in BISI to the credit they had already earned in their current programs (e.g., if they had passed candidacy exams they will have candidacy in Biological Sciences; if they had fulfilled all course requirements in their original programs, they will not have to meet new course requirements in Biological Sciences). The advantage to the switch is that students would be awarded a degree from a new and vital program, and the program would benefit from having to support fewer “grandfathered” students.

¹ There is no M.S. in MOCB.