The Brody School of Medicine
East Carolina University
AD-52 Brody Medical Sciences Building
600 Moye Boulevard • Greenville, NC 27834
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EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

Office of the Dean

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. George Kasperek
Program Planner for MS Degree in Biomedical Sciences

FROM: Dr. Phyllis Horns
Interim Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences
& Interim Dean, Brody School of Medicine

SUBJ: Support for MS Degree in Biomedical Sciences

DATE: August 31, 2007

I write to convey support from the Health Sciences Division and the Brody School of Medicine for the proposal to plan and establish the interdisciplinary MS Degree in Biomedical Sciences. The logical academic home for an interdisciplinary program in biomedical sciences is the Brody School of Medicine. The need for a program of this type has existed for some time. In a previous term as Interim Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences, I noted that the external review team for the graduate program in biochemistry recommended the establishment of a master's program. In recent meeting with the basic science chairs the need and support for a master's program was expressed. The establishment of a master's of science degree program in biomedical science is listed in the strategic plan of the Brody School of Medicine.

In supporting this initiative I recognize that resources will be required for its successful implementation. Thus, the funds generated by student enrollment will be used to provide the faculty line for the director, an administrative assistant, and the five assistantships requested in the proposal. The program director will report directly to the associate dean for research and graduate studies at the BSOM and will in addition be responsible for teaching the introduction to research course and coordinating the seminar program. Funds for routine office expenses and for producing a brochure every third year will also be provided. I am looking forward to the successful planning and establishment of this program and am confident it will provide additional educational opportunities for the students in our region and increase the collaboration and productivity of our faculty.

The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University
Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology
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http://www.ecu.edu/anatomy/

February 7, 2007

George J. Kasperek, Ph.D.
M.S. Degree in Biomedical Sciences Program Planner
The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858

Dear Dr. Kasperek,

The Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology strongly supports the proposal to establish a new interdisciplinary M.S. degree program in Biomedical Sciences. This M.S. program will be a research intensive program and thus since our faculty members have significant experience advising students in the laboratories, we will bring this expertise. The goals of our current Ph.D. program also match the overall goals of this proposed interdisciplinary M.S. program; namely:

1) To teach the fundamental concepts and theories that will allow students to understand problems in anatomy and cell biology;
2) To train students in experimental techniques which will help them solve some of these problems at the basic or applied levels;
3) To develop critical thinking, analytical and writing skills.

Endorsement by the department entails the following:

1) Faculty in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology actively participate in the team-taught interdepartmental course "Molecular Cell Biology" which is listed as ANAT 7202 and MCBI 7410. Dr. Ronald Dudek, from Anatomy and Cell Biology serves as Co-Course Director with Dr. Richard Franklin from Microbiology/Immunology. This course already serves as a core and/or required course for graduate students at the Brody School of Medicine. There is adequate capacity in this course to accommodate 12-15 additional students, and thus it should be considered for inclusion in the proposed MS degree program.
2) Students who select faculty members in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology as research advisors would be able to participate in departmental workshops and the journal club.
3) Special topics courses in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, including Current Topics (ANAT 6290), Developmental Biology (ANAT 7230), and Cell Motility (ANAT 7345) would be available for elective courses for the M.S. students.
4) Faculty members of the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology are experienced and willing to serve as mentors and thesis directors for students in the proposed M.S. program. At present there is research space and personnel to accommodate 4 to 5 M.S. students in our department in addition to our Ph.D. students.

Again on behalf of the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology I convey our enthusiastic support for the proposed M.S. program in Biomedical Sciences. Please let me know how I can assist you during this process and through to a successful implementation of this program.

Sincerely yours,

Cheryl B. Knudson, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology

The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
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February 5, 2007

George J. Kasperek, PhD
MS Degree in Biomedical Sciences Program Planner
1N 11 Brody Building
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858

Dear Professor Kasperek,

The Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology strongly support the proposal to establish a new interdisciplinary MS degree program in Biomedical Sciences. This program will integrate well into and enhance our doctoral program and was suggested in our last external review. Endorsement by the department entails the following:

- Courses offered by the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology will be available for inclusion in the proposed MS degree program. There is adequate capacity in our courses to accommodate 12-15 students per class. I would like to suggest that BIOC 7301 Biochemistry I and BIOC 7310 Molecular Biochemistry be considered for inclusion in the program.
- Faculty members of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology are ready and willing to serve as mentors and thesis directors for students in the proposed program. At present there is research space and personnel to accommodate 6-8 students in our department.

Should the director of the proposed program be recruited from the Biochemistry & and Molecular Faculty I would expect to be able to recruit a replacement faculty member.

Again on behalf of the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology I am happy to lend our support for the proposed new MS program and wish you the best of luck in your endeavors to see this process through to completion.

Sincerely,

Phillip H. Pekala, PhD
Interim Chair, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

The Brody School of Medicine
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EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

TO: George Kasperek, Ph.D., MS Degree in Biomedical Sciences Program Planner

FROM: C. Jeffrey Smith, Ph.D., Professor and Chairman

DATE: February 6, 2007

SUBJECT: Support for the MS degree program in Biomedical Sciences

This memorandum is to affirm that the Department of Microbiology & Immunology strongly supports the proposal to establish a new MS degree program in Biomedical Sciences. Our faculty are eager to participate and we welcome the opportunity to extend our graduate student training expertise to this new degree program. As you know we have participated extensively in the Biology Department's MS program and we feel that our experience with that program has prepared us to work effectively with MS level students. Our support for the new program is summarized as follows:

I. Faculty members in the department are ready and willing to serve as mentors and thesis directors for students in the proposed program. At present there is research space and personnel to accommodate 8-10 students in our department

II. All courses offered by the department will be available for inclusion in the proposed MS degree program. There is adequate capacity in our courses to accommodate 12-15 students per class. In addition, the Molecular Cell Biology course we offer jointly with the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology (MCBI 7410, ANAT 7202) is just the type of interdisciplinary course that might be considered for inclusion as part of the program's core curriculum

On behalf of the Department of Microbiology & Immunology I am happy to lend our support for the proposed new MS program. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding our support or if you wish to discuss other ways that we might assist in the successful establishment of this important program.

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

David A. Taylor, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman
252-744-2734

Pharmacology Faculty
Abdel Abdel-Rahman, Ph.D.
Saeed Dar, Ph.D.
James Gibson, Ph.D.
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The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University
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February 6, 2007

George J. Kasperek, Ph.D.
MS Degree in Biomedical Sciences Program Planner
1N 11 Brody Building, Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27834

Dear Professor Kasperek:

The Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology strongly endorses the development and implementation of a degree program leading to a Master's of Science (MS) Degree in the Biomedical Sciences. The development of such a program was recognized during our most recent graduate program review as a logical enhancement of the current doctoral program in Pharmacology and Toxicology. The faculty members of the department have long advocated the need for such a program and are supportive of this initiative with the highest level of enthusiasm. The department has the capacity to support the research efforts of up to 6-8 additional students. We have supported the research component of several students pursuing the MS degree in the Department of Biology at ECU and, therefore, have the requisite experience that should permit us to incorporate these students into our program.

We would also like to propose that PHAR 6609 (soon to be renumbered as PHAR 7609), a course that deals with basic pharmacological principles including drug absorption, distribution, metabolism, cell signaling and receptor theory, be considered as part of the core curriculum. We also offer graduate courses in the molecular basis of drug action, cardiovascular pharmacology, neuropharmacology and toxicology that might be of interest to students in the MS degree program. We can accommodate as many as 10-15 students in these courses and would welcome the opportunity.

Should the director of the proposed program be recruited from the faculty within the department, I would expect to be able to recruit a replacement faculty member since directing the program will require a full-time commitment. We are happy to support this program with the highest level of enthusiasm and support and wish you good luck in completing the process.

Sincerely yours,

David A. Taylor, Ph.D., Professor and Chair
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Cc: Dr. M. Saeed Dar, Director of Graduate Studies

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Robert M. Lust, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman
252-816-2762

February 14, 2007

George J. Kasperek, PhD
Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies
MS Degree in Biomedical Sciences Program Planner
Brody School of Medicine
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858

Dear Dr. Kasperek:

The Department of Physiology strongly supports the proposal to establish a new interdisciplinary MS degree program in Biomedical Sciences. This program will integrate well into and enhance our doctoral program.

Specific aspects of support include the following:

- Courses offered by the Department of Physiology will be available for inclusion in the proposed program. In particular, PHLY 7701, Cellular Physiology; PHLY 7702, Organ Systems Physiology; PHLY 7704, Physiological Proeteogenomics all are course that would be suitable for students exploring a masters degree with a physiology emphasis, and PHLY 7702 and 7704 would be appropriate for students following any line of investigation.

- There would be adequate space in these courses to accommodate an additional 10-15 students per class.

- Faculty in Physiology would be available as thesis mentors for students selected to this program. As you know, Physiology faculty already have a strong history of supporting mentoring master's candidates admitted to other university programs. It will be a real pleasure to provide mentoring to students in a program of our own, focused more completely on biomedical sciences. Approximately 6-8 students per year could be accommodated with the current faculty complement.

While it is premature to identify the program director, several faculty in the Physiology Department have a very strong record in graduate education, and administrative experience. Should such a person be selected, I would expect appropriate provisions to be made administratively.

Again, the faculty in physiology fully support this initiative, and wish you great success as you make your way through this process. With best personal regards,

Sincerely,

Robert M. Lust

Robert M. Lust, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman