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MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 11, 2017

TO: CESCOS Undergraduate Programs Committee

FROM: Randy Brooks, Professor and Undergraduate Programs Committee Chair
Michelle Cavallo, Director of Academic Programs
Department of Biological Sciences

SUBJECT: Changes to Biology Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts Catalog Entries

The Biology Department proposes to make the following changes to update our undergraduate programs and their respective catalog entries (see tracked changes version of the catalog description attached):

Proposed Changes to the Bachelors of Science Degree in Biological Sciences

- 1) Add the following courses to the list of approved elective choices:
 - a. Biochemistry II (BCH 3034)
 - b. Biochemistry Lab (BCH 3103L)
 - i. A given student will be allowed to use either Biochemistry II or Biochemistry Lab as a biology elective.
 - c. Comparative Animal Behavior (CBH 4024)

Proposed Changes to the Bachelors of Arts Degree in Biological Sciences

- 1) Remove Organic Chemistry Lab (CHM 2211L) and Biochemistry 1 (BCH 3033) from the list of approved elective choices.
 - a. Students pursuing the Biology BA who wish to complete these courses may use them as free electives—the BA option allows ample space (19-24 credits out of 120) for free electives. These two courses will remain within the list of elective options available to students pursuing the Biology BS.
- 2) Add the following course to the list of approved elective choices:
 - a. Comparative Animal Behavior (CBH 4024)

Proposed Changes to both the Bachelors or Arts and the Bachelors of Science Degrees in Biological Sciences

At this time, we are also updating the lists of biology core and elective courses for **both** the Bachelors of Arts and Bachelors of Science degree options to:

- 1) Include a number of newly established Biology elective courses which have recently been added to the catalog.
 - a. Life of a Biologist (BSC 2844)
 - b. Conservation Biology (BSC 3052)
 - c. Introduction to Biological Research (BSC 3453)
 - d. Biological Research (BSC 3481)
 - e. Molecular Genetics of Aging (BSC 4022)
 - f. Concepts in Bioinformatics (BSC 4434C)
 - g. Genetics Lab (PCB 4067L)
 - h. Freshwater Ecology and Lab (PCB 4301, PCB 4301L)
 - i. Genes and Development (PCB 4594)
 - j. Topics in Ornithology (ZOO 4479C)
 - k. Principles of Human Neuroanatomy (ZOO 4742)
- 2) Include two newly proposed Biology elective courses which have been simultaneously submitted for review (see attached new course proposals).
 - a. Plant Cell Biology (BOT 4542)
 - b. Directed Independent Research (BSC 4916)
- 3) Update the program cores to include a physiology course requirement and reduce the total elective credit requirements accordingly so as to avoid increasing the total number of credits required to complete the degree.
- 4) Clarify that students wishing to complete more than four courses within the “select four of five” courses portion of the program core may do so and apply additional courses from within this section toward fulfillment of the program elective requirements.
- 5) Reflect changes to the names and course numbers of existing courses which have recently been modified.
 - a. Molecular and Cell Biology is now titled Cell Biology and the course identifier has been changed from PCB 4023 to PCB 3023.
 - b. The course identifier for Evolution has changed from PCB 4674 to PCB 3674.
- 6) Include existing biology courses within the course descriptions portion of the catalog which are not currently included within the existing elective lists associated with the BA and BS programs.

