



Date: 11/20/2017

Dear Administrator,

The Northwest Bioscience Consortium (NWBC) is an NSF-funded project that brings together faculty from institutions across the Pacific Northwest emphasizing curriculum design in alignment with the recommendations of the 2011 report “*Vision and Change in Undergraduate Biology Education: A Call to Action*” from the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the National Science Foundation. This year we have invited faculty from your institution to participate in a workshop focusing on vertical alignment of biology courses. This includes articulation between two-year and four-year biology programs, as well as students advancing from introductory biology courses to upper division courses in the same institution. The workshop will be hosted by Willamette University and held on February 9-10, 2018 in Salem, Oregon. While all costs associated with the workshop (facilities, meals, supplies, etc.) will be covered by the grant, unfortunately we cannot offer support for travel and hotel stay for your faculty. On behalf of the NWBC leadership team I invite you to support your faculty so they can join us for this important workshop.

More about the NWBC: The NWBC consists of several institutions in the Pacific Northwest, working together to transform introductory biology curricula. My co-PIs and I have been working to accomplish each of the following overarching goals:

1. To align the introductory biology courses with the Vision & Change national call for biology education,
2. To generate a series of course objectives and student-centered modules for the introductory courses for both majors and non-majors characterized by active learning,
3. To streamline articulation between institutions and facilitate credit transfers, especially from 2-year to 4-year institutions, and
4. Provide faculty development opportunities and ideas for collaborations among the faculty in the NWBC institutions and beyond.

Over the past three years we identified specific objectives, established working subcommittees, solicited feedback from colleagues across the country, and have taken steps to align our Student Learning Outcomes with the *Vision and Change* document. We look forward to your faculty joining us in this workshop that will further extend our efforts to bring Vision & Change aligned introductory biology to all students in the Pacific Northwest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Stasinos Stavrianeas', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Stasinos Stavrianeas, NWBC PI
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