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Library Impact Statement for BIO 502 Advanced Scientific Communication

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LIBRARY IMPACT STATEMENT (New Course Proposal)
LIBRARIAN'S ASSESSMENT

Subject selectors will complete this form as requested, assessing library materials and collections as detailed below. Send one copy of the assessment to the faculty member who requested it. Send one copy of the assessment to the Collection Management Officer.

Program: BIO502

Department, College: Biological Sciences

Faculty Member: Professor Chris Lane

Date returned to Faculty: February 15, 2012

Librarian Completing Assessment: Michael A. Cerbo II

Collection Management Officer: Professor Joanna Burkhardt

This new 2 credit course is titled "Advanced Scientific Communication" and the Professor expects the students to conduct some research, including writing and reviewing manuscripts and grant proposals using current literature in the subject area. It is a course designed for graduate students in Biological Sciences and is part of the recommended graduate curriculum for the Ecology and Ecosystem Sciences, Integrative and Evolutionary Biology, and Cell and Molecular Biology tracts in Biological and Environmental Sciences.

We are able to add whatever appropriate monographic needs might arise for the instructor. Our monographic holdings in the biological sciences and resources on grant writing are good and any additional materials can be garnered through our library consortium (HELIN).

Access to journals in this field meets the needs of the course. Our online indexes and abstracts in biology and chemistry specifically and the sciences generally should more than meet the demands of this course. In particular, access to reference databases such as Biological Abstracts, Science Direct, Web of Science and the more general Academic Search Complete are available. There are many online journals such as Nature, and Science and many others in the field that are also available online through the Library. Websites such as the National Science Foundation's "Guide to Programs" are also accessible through the Library catalog. We are unable to add any new journal titles except through a drop/add policy that requires the department to identify a journal title (of equal value) it would like to drop from its serials list to permit the addition of another. However, our current holdings in this field seem sufficient.

Therefore, the librarian believes that the Library can support, bibliographically, the needs of the students to be able to acquire the most out of this course.

Michael A. Cerbo II,
Biological Sciences Bibliographer
15 February 2012