

Biotech Advisory Board
Fall, 2002

The Biotech advisory board did not meet in the Fall of 2002 due to schedule conflicts. However, there was a communication between the coordinator and the membership about changing the chemistry requirements of the Biotech certificate. Additionally, there was the question about changing the microbiology requirements for both the certificate and the AAS.

The consensus was to change the certificate curriculum from requiring CHEM 1411 and CHEM 1412 to requiring CHEM 1411 and BITC 2401 or 2431. The members agreed that it makes more sense, especially for the certificate, that students take more biotech classes than chemistry classes.

As for the microbiology requirement, that was tabled until we meet in person in the spring of 2003. There were concerns about whether or not students acquire skills for working with bacteria outside of a microbiology lab.

The change request for the certificate was submitted to the coordinating board for approval.

August 27, 2002

Dear _____,

I would like to change the course requirements for the Biotechnology Certificate. I have attached a copy from the catalog of those requirements. Currently, students are required to take 8 credit hours of chemistry and only 7 hours of biotechnology (excluding the co-op). I would like to change the requirement to 4 hours of chemistry (CHEM 1411) and the choice of either cell culture (BITC 2431) or molecular techniques (BITC 2401).

Additionally, we need to look at the microbiology requirement for both the certificate and AAS. Microbiology is required for both, however, the problem is that there are prerequisites of Anatomy and Physiology I & II (additional 8 hours). These have been waived for biotech students in the past, but it is becoming a problem to waive them for biotech students and not others. The course coordinators want to offer a microbiology for technical programs like biotech, but it won't transfer and would probably be too small to make each semester. Please let me know what your feelings are on this subject. Can we substitute genetics or anatomy and physiology depending of the interest of the student? Or is it your feeling that microbiology is an important part of the biotech curriculum?

The curriculum changes have to be made by November 1, so if you could give me feedback as soon as possible I would appreciate it. If you have any further suggestions or ideas on how we can improve the Biotechnology program, please don't hesitate to let me know. You can reach me at 972-377-1612 or by email at bkirkpatrick@ccc.edu.