

The email below was sent in August, 2003. Responses were from Dr. Dave Fancy, Dr. Bill Bryan, Dr. Rosanne Ciccio, Dr. Jean Helgeson. The first paragraph is a synopsis of the responses and recommendations by the members who responded.

Should we keep the A.A.S.? Keeping the AAS or having an AS+certificate does not matter to them as employers, it is the skills that matter. UTSW does not differentiate between the 2 as far as salary or position. The consensus was if you don't have the graduates and have to kill it, then that is what you have to do.

Should we, in addition to offering the certificate program, offer a Marketable Skills Certificate, which would include? A marketable skills would not help a student salary or position-wise. The degree they hold, BS or AS + certificate or AAS in Biotech is what will help them. The marketable skills may get them a job. However, it later came to light that we can't qualify for a marketable skills certificate with the courses listed due to prereqs.

Do we change the Microbiology requirement to a choice of BIOL 2420 (Microbiology); CHEM 2423 (Organic; those this has 1411 and 1412 as prereqs), BIOL 2401 or 2404 (Anatomy and Physiology) or, BIOL 2416 or 2470 (Genetics)? Yes, members agreed that offering the students a choice would be helpful, especially to be able to take a genetics course. These courses may be more valuable to students in a biotech lab than micro.

The draft proposal for the certificate was approved by members who responded, but due to the low number of respondents this will be addressed again in the spring.

The following email was sent on August 20, 2003:

Hello Members,

I need your opinions as soon as possible. I had sent this out in May and did not get feedback. It probably didn't go out, sometimes things get lost in cyberspace. We need to have changes in the works by mid-September.

It has been decided to do away with the A.A.S. in Biotech and offer a certificate only. (Due to numbers of graduates required etc). We will suggest students get an AS+certificate if they want a 2-yr degree. That will be more transferable to 4 yr institutions. Your opinions the only ones who can possibly change that decision.

Please review the following and offer feedback as soon as possible.
Feel free to call me (New number=972-578-5513), or you can email your opinions. I really appreciate your feedback.

Thank you in advance,
Bridgette

Questions that we need answered/addressed:

Should we keep the A.A.S.?

We have to have 5 graduates/year for each degree we offer. We are not making that.
We can offer an AS with a Biotech Certificate. Below is the proposed new proposed certificate requirements (Do you agree with those?)

As is stands at this moment, the A.A.S. will be chopped if I don't hear otherwise from you all.

Draft Proposal for New Certificate Requirements

First Semester
BIOL 1406 General Biology

CHEM 1411 General Chemistry
BITC 1311 Introduction to Biotechnology
BITC 1402 Biotechnology Laboratory Methods and Techniques
15 Hours

Second Semester

BITC 1401 Biotechnology Laboratory Instrumentation
2401 Molecular Biology Techniques **OR** BITC 2431 Cell Culture Techniques
BIOL 2420 (Microbiology) BIOL 2401 **or** 2404 (Anatomy and Physiology) **or** BIOL 2416 **or** 2470 (Genetics)
BITC 1391 Bioethics
15 Hours

Summer

BITC 2386 Internship
3 Hours
Total of 33 Hours

This proposal is very heavy in lab courses. It would be marketed to students who have 4-year science degrees in place or those pursuing an AS.

Should we, in addition to offering the certificate program, offer a Marketable Skills Certificate, which would include?:

BITC 1311 Introduction to Biotechnology
BITC 1402 Biotechnology Laboratory Methods and Techniques
BITC 1401 Biotechnology Laboratory Instrumentation **OR**
BITC 2401 Molecular Biology Techniques **OR** BITC 2431 Cell Culture Techniques
BITC 2386 Biotechnology Internship

That would be a total of 14 hrs.

This does not have the graduate number requirement the other degrees have.

Do we change the Microbiology requirement to a choice of?:

BIOL 2420 (Microbiology)
CHEM 2423 (Organic; those this has 1411 and 1412 as prereqs)
BIOL 2401 or 2404 (Anatomy and Physiology) or
BIOL 2416 or 2470 (Genetics)

This choice would allow students to direct their course work toward their particular area of research interest.