## PROPOSAL FOR COURSE CHANGE

To:

**Curriculum Committee** 

From:

**Biological Sciences, Biology Program** 

Date submitted: September 26, 2008

Request for: Course change

(Excluding course credit hour changes)

Submitted by: Dr. Tsunemi Yamashita, Associate Professor Biology Program

Approved by: Program Director:

Dr. Bruce Tedford

Department Head:

Dr. Charlie Gagen

Dean of School:

**Dr. Richard Cohoon** 

Reviewed by: Registrar:

Ms. Tammy Rhodes

Vice President:

Dr. John Watson

If this is a deletion or other minor change, describe and give rationale.

Conversion of existing six- credit hour course to two lower credit internship courses.

Biology internship (Biol 4116) is a six-credit course that traditionally consisted of a summer work experience in the Biological Sciences (i.e., a full-time summer job). This course has been well received by students, and students have conducted internships in Optometry, Emergency Medicine, Dentistry, Physical Therapy, and other professional areas associated with the biological sciences. The *minimum* number of hours allowed for that internship is 400. Part-time positions in potential internship areas are also available during the school year, but they do not currently qualify as internship opportunities. It would be beneficial to our students to accommodate these nontraditional types of internship/learning opportunities. To do this, we propose to break the Biol 4116 Internship to a 2-hour and a 4-hour credit course. This change, in addition to allowing our students the accumulation of internship credits for summer jobs, will allow our students to take advantage of student trainee programs and other part-time positions to earn college credit during the regular academic year.

This course assists with the goals of the assessment activities of the Biology program as it allows integration of classroom activities and course work with experiences gained from "real world" activities. For example, previous physical therapy internship experiences have allowed students to integrate muscle physiology learned in physiology and anatomy classes with individually specific strategies for patient rehabilitation.

Our proposal provides one hour of credit for every 100 hours of clock time. The credit-clock hour and the other requirements (proposal, log book, and reports) are in line with other internships on campus (Table 1).

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In addition, the catalog description will be altered to include "permission of the internship program director" as a prerequisite for students to enroll in the course.

Table 1. Summary of internships on the ATU campus

FW 4112/4114 Internship 200/400 clock hours; requires internship proposal, log book, and final report	AGBU 3993 Internship I 300 clock hours, requires log book and final report	AGBU 4983 Internship II 300 clock hours; requires log book, seminar, and final report
HA (RP) 4116 Internship 600 clock hours; requires \$100 supervisor travel fee and written report	FIN (MGMT) 4053 Internship I clock hours not specified; counts toward electives in major; requires log book, seminar, and term paper	FIN (MGMT) 4063 Internship II clock hours not specified; counts only toward general electives; requires log book, seminar, and term paper
BIOL 4116 Internship 400 clock hours; requires portfolio and written or oral report	EAM 4016 Practicum/Internship 400 hours; requires portfolio required	PSY 4234 Field Placement clock hours not specified; requires liability insurance
JOUR 4091-4 Internship credit hours based on clock hours on job, but not specified	ACCT 4083-6 Internship clock hours not specified; one semester, requires term paper	

## Current course description: BIOL 4116 Biology Internship

Each semester. Prerequisite: junior or senior standing. The course will allow students to gain experience in an occupational environment. Students will be placed in positions under the direction of a faculty advisor and work supervisor with approval of the program committee. The program will emphasize application of classroom knowledge to career goals. A minimum of 400 clock hours of supervision, a written or oral report, and a portfolio are required.

## **Proposed course descriptions:**

BIOL 4112 Biology Internship Each semester, Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing and consent of internship program director. A supervised, practical experience providing BIOL majors with a hands-on, professional experience related to their career interests. The course will allow students to gain experience in an occupational environment. Students will be placed in positions under the direction of the internship program director and work supervisor. The program vill emphasize application of classroom knowledge to career goals. Approximately 200 clock hours, a proposal, a log book or journal, a summary letter from the employment supervisor, and a written report are required. A maximum of four credit hours is allowed for BIOL internship.

BIOL 4114 Biology Internship Each semester, Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing and consent of internship program director. A supervised, practical experience providing BIOL majors with a hands-on, professional experience related to their career interests. The course will allow students to gain experience in an occupational environment. Students will be placed in positions under the direction of the internship program director and work supervisor. The program will emphasize application of

classroom knowledge to career goals. Approximately 400 clock hours, a proposal, a log book or journal, a summary letter from the employment supervisor, and a written report are required. A maximum of four credit hours is allowed for BIOL internship.

List Department Head/
Indicate Support

Yes\_\_\_\_\_No\_\_\_\_Date: 9/26/08

Program Director Consulted: Yes\_\_\_\_\_No\_\_\_\_Date: 26 Sept. 2008