

Biotechnology Animal Systems Assessment
Presented at the 5/26/2005 Faculty Meeting

Overall, students gave positive reviews of the biotechnology program on their exit interviews. This is the primary mechanism used for feedback.

Changes made to the program this year based on faculty recommendations, etc.:

- BCHM441 was moved from the requirements to the electives section.
- The Dept. is working on developing a list of past internship locations for reference by current students regarding where possible positions might be found.
- Course scheduling was updated or has been updated in the MSU Class Schedule.
- The advising form has been updated to reflect the New Core.
- Application was made and approved to have VTMB 476 as a designated core research course (VTMB 476R), effective Summer 2005.

Some suggested changes to consider are summarized below:

1. Courses

- A number of students commented that they thought VTMB101 was not very useful. Some students have gone through the program without this course for various reasons. One suggestion is to move this to the elective category so students have the option of this or any other science-related CS course for their core.
- Some students thought assigning 6 journal articles and 6 seminars instead of 12 seminars would be a better option for VTMB 477C.

2. Scheduling

- The students thought the courses should be scheduled if possible in the Course Schedule so it would be easier to set up their classes. Some students thought we should not use TBA and just set a course time.

3. Advising

- Generally, the students were satisfied with advising.

4. Internship

- The students again commented on a desire to have more help in selection of internships by providing more information on options.

5. Suggestions from the Upper Administration:

- More specific plan for evaluating student performance in the capstone. Ideally, assessment by multiple faculty members. Comments are welcome.
- More details of exit survey (This will be sent to the Assessment Committee).
- Maintain minutes of assessment (This is being done).

Recommendations (minutes) from the faculty meeting (5/26/05):

- VTMB101 will be moved from the requirements to the electives section. The required credits in non-restricted electives will increase to 12. Students will have the option of this or any other science-related CS course for their core requirement. Advisors will make sure students meet their CS requirement.
- The Dept. will continue to develop a list of past internship locations for reference by current students regarding where possible positions might be found.
- Faculty members will be encouraged to attend Capstone internship seminars and a rating/comment form will be provided for faculty member comments.