



February 16, 2021

Dear Dr. Youngblom:

Thank you and Drs. Gerson and Jones for joining me to discuss the Academic Program Review for the Biological Sciences Department. It was a pleasure to read your comprehensive self-study and to talk with you about the future of the Biological Sciences department.

I commend you and your department colleagues for your strong commitment to student learning and success, which particularly shines through in your commitment to advising and engaging students in research.

I was also pleased to see the program's commitment to professional development of faculty and the use of varied pedagogies. The level of collegiality and collaboration is evident through the work the department has done on assessing student learning and the use of the external review recommendations to develop departmental goals and strategies.

During our APR meeting, I was interested to learn more about the pilot MS in Biological Sciences program and noted the continued need for research space. We also discussed the five upcoming FERPs in the department and the prioritization and planning around positions. The need for technician support and an ongoing maintenance plan for equipment was also noted. I look forward to working with your department and dean on creation of this plan and staffing request.

The result of this Academic Program Review is that your program is approved for continuance with unqualified support. I encourage you to continue to assess program and learning outcomes in ways that will help make meaningful improvements for students and appreciate the faculty's continued dedication in the areas of advising and mentorship.

Again, I extend my sincere appreciation for the opportunity to meet with you and discuss your self-study and implementation plan. I look forward to working with you in the future and supporting your vision for Biological Sciences at Stan State.

Respectfully,

Kimberly Greer  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

---

**Office of the Provost**

One University Circle | MSR380 | Turlock, CA 95382 | T 209.667.3203 | [csustan.edu/provost](http://csustan.edu/provost)  
*A proud member of the 23-campus California State University system.*

ENGAGING · EMPOWERING · TRANSFORMING