Memorandum

From: Charles Janson, Associate Dean

To: Writing Committee, ASCRC

Date: February 24, 2009

Subject: Upper Division Writing Requirement in Biology

Attached please find an Upper Division Writing Requirement Review form for the Division of Biological Sciences. In the Division, we have close to 500 students majoring in biology, microbiology, and medical technology. In order to provide meaningful upper division writing experiences for this many students, we propose to continue with our current system of partial writing courses. Within this system, students take two or three “partial” writing courses instead of one full writing course. This allows the additional workload of writing courses to be spread out over many different faculty members. In addition, it allows students to have several different types of writing experiences in several different settings.

We suggest the following catalog language under these three majors:

**Biology:**
**Upper-Division Writing Expectation:** To meet the Upper-Division Writing Expectation for the major, biology students must take two or three partial writing courses (either three 1/3 writing courses or one 2/3 writing course plus one 1/3 writing course). Courses that qualify as 2/3 partial writing include: BIOC 486, BIOL 341, MICB 404, and MICB 411. Courses that qualify as 1/3 partial writing include: BIOC 482, BIOC 499, BIOL 304, BIOL 306, BIOL 316, BIOL 366, BIOL 403, BIOL 406, BIOL 445, BIOL 499, MICB 410, MICB 412, and MICB 499.

**Microbiology:**
**Upper-Division Writing Expectation:** To meet the Upper-Division Writing Expectation for the major, microbiology students must take MICB 404 (required) plus one more course chosen from: BIOC 482, BIOC 486, BIOL 341, BIOL 366, BIOL 445, MICB 410, MICB 411, MICB 412, or MICB 499.

**Medical Technology:**
**Upper-Division Writing Expectation:** To meet the Upper-Division Writing Expectation for the major, medical technology students must take MICB 410 and MICB 411 (both required).