




Academic Senate

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

February 9, 2021

To: Prof. James Borneman, Professor and Vice Chair
Department of Microbiology & Plant Pathology

From: Jason Stajich, Chair 
Riverside Division

RE: Proposal for a Microbiology Joint BS/MS Degree Program

At its February 8, 2021 meeting, Executive Council reviewed the proposal for a Microbiology Joint BS/MS degree program.

Some of the reviewing committees had concerns and questions. I attach responses from the Committee on Courses, Committee on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion, Committee on Educational Policy, Graduate Council, Committee on Planning & Budget, Committee on Undergraduate Admissions, and the BCOE College Executive Committee.

Thanks,
Jason

Cc: Cherysa Cortez, Executive Director, Academic Senate




Academic Senate

COMMITTEE ON COURSES

January 14, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Ming Lee Tang, Chair 
Committee on Courses

Re: Proposal for a Joint BS+MS in Microbiology Combined Five-Year
Degree Program

The Committee on Courses reviewed the proposal for a joint BS+MS in Microbiology five-year degree program at their January 13, 2021 meeting and are supportive of the proposal.

The Committee did note concern that the low GPA requirement of 3.0 for admission to the MS portion of the program is not competitive for a graduate program.



COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

January 7, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division Academic Senate

From: Xuan Liu, Chair
Committee on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Re: Proposal for MCBL Joint BS/MS Degree Program

The Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (CODEI) reviewed the proposed MCBL Joint BS/MS Degree Program. It appears that the proposal does not adhere to the Format for the Graduate Degree Program Proposal outlined in Appendix B of the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) Handbook, August 2019 revision. Relevant to the Committee's charge, a DEI plan to discuss contribution to diversity (Section 1.5, p15 of the Handbook) is missing:

Section 1. Introduction

5) Contributions to diversity: All proposals must include (a) a vision for how the program will advance UC's goals for diversity and (b) a plan that details what steps the program will take in its first five years to move it toward the identification, recruitment, and retention of underrepresented minority students and faculty. The proposal should clearly document the ways in which the program will evaluate its diversity goals. (Added August 2019.)




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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

January 11, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Stefano Vidussi, Chair 
Committee on Educational Policy

RE: Proposal for a BS+MS in Microbiology Five-Year Combined Degree Program

The Committee on Educational Policy reviewed the proposal for a BS+MS in Microbiology five-year combined degree program at their January 8, 2021 meeting and voted to support the proposal.

The Committee did note the following editorial errors that they recommend be corrected before the proposal is finalized:

- The projected flowchart of student applicants on page 8 does not include “yes” and “no” labels for the projected paths as other areas of the chart are labeled.
- The second mention of microbiology on the coversheet found on page 11 is misspelled. Additionally, the program selected that the proposed new program is interdepartmental but does not include a list of the other involved programs on coversheet.
- Under “Proposed Modifications”, item “Other”, it is indicated that it is an “Addition of MS BS/MS”; the first “MS” should be canceled.



GRADUATE COUNCIL

January 27, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Amanda Lucia, Chair
Graduate Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amanda Lucia".

Re: [Campus Review] Proposal for a Joint Microbiology BS / Microbiology MS Five-Year Combined-Degree Program

Graduate Council discussed the proposal for a Microbiology Joint BS+MS degree at their January 21, 2021 meeting. It was recommended to drop the use of the word "Joint" and just use the word "Combined" in the proposal. There may be delays when the proposal is reviewed by systemwide as CCGA considers "joint" proposals between two campuses. The Council also advises to remove all gender specific language (he/she).

The "Catalog Entry" section starting on page 7 of the proposal does not seem to correspond to the full catalog entry. It seems to be only admissions and undergraduate requirements. Therefore, it is unclear what this section is trying to accomplish.

There is a 12-unit limit on research units for the thesis (typically 297/299 for graduate students, but would also include 197 in this case), but on page 1 of the catalog entry in the thesis option, there is a requirement for 24 research units. This is not permitted in the master's degree.

The following section of the catalog entry is confusing. Is this stating that double counting is not allowed for the Comp option? Also, this is talking about electives, but in other areas of the proposal, it states that 197 will be double counted which is research units, not an elective.

Method for the Thesis Option: To make it possible to complete both degrees in five years for the **Thesis Option** – but not for the **Comprehensive Exam Option**


– the combined programs will allow up to 12 units of upper division 100 level MCBL electives, which were used for the undergraduate degree, to be double-counted and therefore used for the MS degree as well.



PLANNING & BUDGET

January 22, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Katherine Kinney, Chair 
Committee on Planning and Budget

RE: [Campus Review] Proposal for MCBL Joint BS/MS Degree Program

The Committee on Planning & Budget (P&B) discussed the proposal for a MCBL Joint BS/MS Degree Program their January 19, 2021 meeting. P&B supports the proposal with one qualification. The proposal notes that the advisors will have a “small” increase in workload. The ability of current staffing to cover this additional workload needs to be clearly addressed.

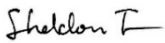


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COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

December 18, 2020

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division


From: Sheldon Tan, Chair 
Committee on Undergraduate Admissions

**RE: Proposed Degree Program: Proposal for MCBL Joint BS/MS
Degree Program**

The Committee on Undergraduate Admissions reviewed the proposal for a BS/MS Joint Five Year Combined Degree Program in Microbiology at their December 18, 2020 meeting and are supportive of the proposal.

January 27, 2021

TO: Jason Stajich, Chair
Academic Senate

FROM: Philip Brisk, Chair 
BCOE Executive Committee

RE: MCBL BS+MS

Dear Jason,

The BCOE Executive Committee requested feedback from BCOE Faculty Members who are also members of the Microbiology Program on the proposed Joint Microbiology BS/Microbiology MS Five-Year Combined Degree Program; all who responded were supportive. Based on their feedback, the BCOE Executive Committee supports the proposal as well.

