

September 12, 2008

Phil Bailey, Dean
College of Science and Mathematics

Dear Dean Bailey,

As student representatives of the Biological Sciences Department Student Fee Committee we are submitting a proposed budget for money generated through the College-based fee on behalf of the students. We speak for the entire Department when we say how grateful we are that we as students are provided the opportunity (through the self-assessed fee) to improve the quality of our education within the Department.

The budget line items and amounts are submitted by students and faculty, then prioritized and approved by the Student Fee Committee (SFC). Faculty and staff do not vote; we provide clarification and perspective on individual or Departmental requests, and we administer the committee. We have carefully assessed the growing population of the Biology Department's student body and have made decisions based on the needs of the Department. Our goal was to facilitate the needs of faculty and students in order to provide a quality educational atmosphere.

We have provided a brief narrative of the students' proposal and specific line-item amounts on the attached budget. The allocations are organized using three budget categories: 1) Student Research; 2) Access to Classes and High Quality Educational Experience; and, 3) Equipment. For each of the aforementioned categories, we the students are requesting \$125,000, \$214,000, and \$196,529 for a grand total of \$535,529.

Biological Sciences Department Student Fee Committee Proposal

Student Research: Request \$125,000

The students requested monies to support three line items within student research. The first is our Undergraduate Research Supplies and Travel (\$35,000), Graduate Research Supplies and Travel (\$30,000), and Student/Faculty Interaction Program (\$60,000). The Undergraduate allocation has been increased this year by \$5,000 to a total of \$35,000. The increase was necessary to support the growing population of biology students and therefore the increase in student research funding. The two other line items have remained the same this year but will be reviewed in next year's proposal to facilitate the growing requests.

Access to Classes and High Quality Educational Experience: Request \$214,000

The Student Fee committee would like to request funds to support a variety of programs that improve the "learn by doing" experience embraced by Cal Poly and directly impact the classroom environment and student access. The committee has once again acknowledged your important request and committed significant funds (\$156,000) to support part-time faculty for the Biology Department that directly affects student access to classes. The remainders of the requested funds for this particular part of the SFC budget have been split between several important student experience and access programs. The SFC request a \$5,000 increase in the fieldtrip budget to \$20,000 to support student involvement in required fieldtrips for various biology courses and a \$4,000 increase in the student

computing facility line item to \$14,000 to support increased proctored hours in the computer lab to allow more students to take advantage of this valuable resource on campus. We also would like to continue the vital support of plant and animal collections assistants with \$12,000 as well as help support the essential materials required for many laboratories by requesting \$12,000 to cover various Departmental supplies for majors courses.

- Part – Time Faculty (\$156,000)
 - increased access to classes by providing support for various part time faculty
- Student Computing Facility (\$14,000)
 - increase the proctored hours of the lab to allow students more access to this important resources
- Class Field Trips (\$20,000)
 - support student involvement in “learn by doing” required fieldtrips for various biology courses
- Classroom Laboratory Supplies (\$12,000)
 - support laboratory classes by providing a variety of commonly used lab items for majors
- Plant and Animal Collections Assistants (\$12,000)
 - support faculty and classes by providing money to support student collections assistants

Equipment: Request \$196,529

We are requesting money to support equipment for classroom use, faculty and student research, general equipment to maintain classroom activities, and new equipment proposed by new staff, who are providing new educational opportunities. The largest item is a new autoclave, followed by microscopes for Plant Pathology, as well as equipment for one new faculty hire. The remaining balance will be used to support and maintain classroom activities that are vital to the educational experience. See itemized list below for full breakdown.

Biological Sciences College Based Fee Proposed Expenditures

Student Research

Undergraduate Research Supplies and Travel	\$35,000
Graduate Research Supplies and Travel	\$30,000
Student/Faculty Interaction Program	\$60,000
Subtotal	\$125,000

Quality Educational Experience

Part-time Faculty	\$156,000
Student Computing Facility	\$14,000
Class Field Trips	\$20,000
Classroom Laboratory Supplies	\$12,000
Plant and Animal Collections Assistants	\$12,000
Subtotal	\$214,000

Equipment

Equipment for 1 new faculty hire	\$20,000
Autoclave for 466	\$38,000
Microscopes for Plant Pathology	\$33,600
Laptop for general use – replacements	\$8,000
Small form computers for physiology	\$5,680
Leica scope with built-in camera	\$2,100
Bio-Rad electrophoresis chambers – replacements	\$500
Qubit Systems CO2 analysis	\$6,860
JMP Software Animal Behavior Class	\$3,500
BioPAC Hardware	\$8,281
Applied Biosystems 2720 Thermal Cycler	\$4,395
Hemacytometers	\$1,880
Trailmaster cameras	\$3,600
Microscope cameras and mounts	\$3,000
Microscope lenses	\$3,000
Eppendorf MiniSpin Plus Microcentrifuges	\$2,160
Analytical balance for general lab – 65g to .0001g	\$2,200
CO2 sensor	\$4,000
Bat Detectors	\$5,000
Video Camera – Scope	\$3,000
Couches for student lobby	\$978
Luminometer	\$6,000
ADAM software	\$6,600
Projectors for labs	\$12,000
Dell Mini	\$8,000
GPS	\$1,600
Balances for general labs – 500g to .1g	\$240
Balances for general labs – 600g to .01g	\$1,160
Audiometer software for physiology	\$1,195
Subtotal	\$196,529
Grand Total	\$535,529