



Department of Biology

Spring 2020

Periodic Program Review

Biology (MS)

Michel Pelletier, Ph.D., Chair

Professors: Adam Rich, Ph.D., Rey A. Sia, Ph.D., Stuart Tsubota, Ph.D.

Associate Professors: Laurie Cook, Ph.D., Michael Fox, Ph.D., Huey Hing, Ph.D., Craig Lending, Ph.D., Bernardo Ortega, Ph.D., Michel Pelletier, Ph.D.

Assistant Professors: Rongkun Shen, Ph.D.

Instructional Support Technicians: Sarah Bolton, Dawn Cobin
Administrative Assistant 1: Lori Cornell

I. Executive Summary

The graduate program offers a solid theoretical base as well as practical skills, which provides students with opportunities to apply their knowledge to the solution of biological problems. The Department of Biology is strongly committed to faculty and student research at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The graduate program provides advanced education and skill development and also strengthens our undergraduate academic environment. The Master of Science in Biology provides students with a solid and comprehensive background in the field of biological sciences, including molecular biology, cell biology, physiology, genetics, microbiology, human biology and developmental biology. The research topics of the faculty are very diverse and cover most of the major scientific major topics such as gene regulation, signal transduction, virulence factors, development, and bioinformatics.

Our faculty is outstanding when it comes to teaching students effectively and provides graduate students opportunities to do research, pursue scholarly activities, and serve the needs of the Department, School, College, and professional organizations. The Department works well with other departments in the School of Arts and Sciences, but also with other departments including Nursing, KSSPE, and Environmental Sciences and Ecology. The Department has seen the high success of its graduate students who have participated in research projects with faculty. These students have gone on to professional schools, graduate programs, and have been hired for research positions in academics and industry.