

DRAFT  
Appendix D  
Academic Affairs Council Response

## I. Introduction

The Human Biology program is a large major with five emphases. Together, they serve students with interests in preparation for further studies of biomedical subjects in graduate school, or to work in health related fields or industry after graduation. The faculty is highly active and has continually updated the curriculum to reflect rapidly changing subject matter, technology and markets. Majors have had success in obtaining internships, and graduates have been successful in obtaining admission to graduate school, or work in the profession.

The evolving status of Green Bay as a center for medical education has provided new and potentially substantial opportunities for UWGB Human Biology students and faculty, not least of these the opening of the Medical College of Wisconsin-Green Bay Campus.

## II. Assessment

The formal assessment of learning outcomes has encountered some difficulty. Initially at least, it appears that the Human Biology attempted to assess too much in using embedded assessment, then sending a survey to alumni that intended to assess all 13 outcomes. More recently focusing on just two of the outcomes has yielded more useful results. The program is considering reducing the number of outcomes, which we believe that, even on a rotating basis, may allow them to better assess progress as curriculum is revised and updated.

Human Biology also informally tracks and discusses placement in graduate school and the job market. These have not been statistically analyzed. Student accomplishments are evaluated, and particular note is made of the state-wide awards won by Dietetics students in recent years, which seem to indicate a high level of curricular success.

## III. Accomplishments

Human Biology graduates have had substantial success, as documented by the contained in the self-study. Of particular note is the success that Dietetics students have had in obtaining internships. In recent years the percentage of students finding internships has ranged from 75% to near 100%, which is far above the state average of approximately 50%.

Students rate the major quite highly, scoring the major above the UWGB average in nearly all categories. They are afforded opportunities to work in "real life"

situations including the use of cadavers, advanced exercise analysis equipment, and use of the "Human Patient Simulation Lab" at the Bellin College of Nursing.

Human Biology faculty members also teach important general education courses that serve the entire university. Such course availability is essential to non-majors seeking to understand this increasingly important facet of science.

In 2009, the program instituted new requirements for declaring a major in Human Biology. The result has been a substantial reduction of "declared" majors, without hurting the number of graduates, which remains at >110 per year.

The faculty has probed the creation of a Masters in Nutritional Science, in part due to evolving standards in the profession, which will dictate that by 2024, those entering the profession must have a graduate degree in Nutritional Science. The committee believes that, in general, this is worth pursuing, given the expanding market conditions our graduates are encountering.

Human Biology has also developed a cooperative agreement with St Scholastica University. UWGB students meeting minimal requirements are automatically admitted to the SSU Masters degree program in Athletic Training. The program is also beginning to develop a proposal for a Masters degree in Athletic Training to be offered at UWGB.

A previously standing cooperative internship program with the Marshfield Cytotechnology Clinic has been discontinued, as MCC has recently closed. While this is unfortunate, it is beyond the control of the program. What the closing of the clinic means about the future of Cytotechnology and how this might effect our current emphasis is not discussed in the document. Still, the program sees the cooperative agreement as the basis for some new degree tracks that would allow students emphases in other areas of medical technology. Perhaps a more formal analysis of emerging market opportunities would be helpful.

Human Biology faculty members have created many new courses, and have adapted a good number of current courses for on-line offerings. They contribute frequently to Adult Degree offerings, expanding the reach of the program beyond the borders of our campus. Other courses, such as Endocrinology and Human Physiology are desired, but according to the self-study, current faculty resources do not allow for such offerings at this time.

#### IV. Program Accomplishments and Areas in Need of Attention

The Human Biology Faculty is clearly dedicated to teaching and student learning. Student feedback indicates a high level of satisfaction with instruction, and placement in graduate schools and professions is laudable. Oddly, despite the generally very high ratings given to Human Biology and the "real-world"

opportunities afforded students, alumni tend to rate the program somewhat less favorably than UWGB as a whole in this category.

Even with the reduced number of declared majors faculty feel stretched thin by teaching loads and the amount of time that must be dedicated to large lecture courses for general education. Additional sections of upper level courses that might be helpful to majors have been tabled until such time that sufficient instructional resources are available for these courses.

The program has identified its desire to increase grant funding for research as well as student/faculty scholarship. The committee believes that recent developments including the four college re-structuring, and the opening of the Green Bay campus of the Wisconsin College of Medicine may offer opportunities for expanded research both on campus and through partnerships.

#### V. Conclusions and Recommendations.

The Human Biology program at UWGB is a vibrant and popular interdisciplinary major, that serves the mission of UWGB by offering effective instruction relevant to the study of Science, Health Science, Education, the Environment, and Behavioral Science among others areas. The faculty is deeply committed to teaching and learning, and students appreciate their efforts in the classroom.

Faculty and staff in Human Biology work diligently to keep pace with rapidly evolving technology and market conditions, emerging fields in medical support careers, and other career and educational paths that Human Biology majors may pursue upon graduation. We believe that further consideration of emerging fields in health related science, the new four-college structure, and the development of relationships between UWGB and MCW-GB have the potential to yield significant results in areas of self-identified need, including grant funding, teaching positions, and student/faculty research. The AAC therefore encourages HUB to fully consider such opportunities in future planning efforts.