

January 6, 2023

Dr. Matthew Cordes  
BSW 439  
1041 E. Lowell St.  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0088

Dear Professor Cordes:

Thank you for your application for ASBMB program accreditation. We are pleased to inform you that the ASBMB has accredited your program for the **FULL seven-year term, through December 31, 2029**. Your renewal application will be due in October of 2029.

Aspects of your application that were considered particularly noteworthy included:

- The strength and scholarship of your faculty
- Research requirement for all students
- Participation in the AAU STEM initiative for teaching

Despite the overall strength of your application, some areas of relative weakness, ambiguity or concern were identified:

- There are many biology electives, but few required biology courses. How do you ensure that more biological topics (evolution, homeostasis) are covered adequately in the curriculum?
- Expand the use of active learning (e.g. POGIL, flipped classroom, JITT) throughout the curriculum

Looking ahead to your renewal application in 2029, please note that weaknesses were identified in your program in items considered "Critical" (see [rubric](#)), specifically, safety programs. These must be remedied, or partial progress toward or lack of remediation must be explained, before a new approval will be granted. It makes sense to address these deficiencies in the near term, rather than waiting until you are preparing your new application.

We continue to identify ways in which the review process can be improved in both substance and execution. In particular, we would appreciate receiving more information on the following topics as part of your next renewal application:

- Continue to evaluate and comment on how curricular changes you have made are impacting student learning and success
- Comment on how career advising is handled in your program

Additionally, please note that sections of the application may be modified slightly each year by the accreditation sub-committee. When it is time to apply for renewal, please be sure to use the latest version of the application to ensure all components are adequately addressed.

We encourage you to share this good news with your university community and stakeholders. If you are contemplating the release of an article, blog post or press release, please know that the ASBMB is very

interested in helping to promote it. We ask that you send a copy to Allison Frick, multimedia and social media content manager, at [africk@asbmb.org](mailto:africk@asbmb.org). If you send a tweet, please tag @ASBMB in it, and we'll retweet you.

Again, we thank you for your application and congratulate your program on receiving accreditation. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



John T. Tansey for the ASBMB department/program accreditation steering group