

May 27, 2012

Annual Report to the Provost (2011-2012)

Biotechnology (BIT) Program

Robert M. Kelly, Director

Programs:

- 13.8% increase in course enrollments (578) over 2010-11; 1466 lab course CH taught
- Y3 of NSF REU Program in Synthetic Plant Biology; renewal awarded for 2012-15
- Y3 of Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) Freshman Inquiry Course
- Y12 of NIH T32 Graduate Biotechnology Training Program (63 trainees to date)
- Y17 of DoEd GAANN Fellowship Program in Biotechnology (>110 fellows to date)
- Held 7th Molecular Biotechnology Research Symposium

Initiatives:

- Developed BIT lab course (BIT 100) for non-STEM majors – offered in 2011-12
- Started BIT SURE – Summer Undergrad Research Initiative
- Launched two new BIT modules (Cell Signaling, Analysis of Deep Sequencing Data)
- Re-surfaced lab benches in Jordan Hall 6th Floor teaching labs
- Negotiating with BASF (RTP, NC) for sponsorship of distinguished seminar series

Diversity:

- Held summer biotech workshops for URM students from NCHSSM
- NSF REU Program hosted several URM students in summer, 2011

Staff:

- Melissa Cox, Lab Manager, had position upgraded to reflect new responsibilities
- Dr. Laura Ott joined Program as Teaching Postdoctoral Fellow
- Dr. Laura Schenkman as Program Specialist
- Dr. Heather Miller completed PD; joining High Point University as faculty member

Recommendations/Concerns:

- Significant space problems with rapid increase in enrollments

Please refer to May 14, 2012 presentation to the BIT Administrative Advisory Committee presentation and corresponding report for additional details and examples of how BIT Program has enhanced student success, faculty research, and interdisciplinary scholarship. These materials also illustrate how BIT Program embraces a culture of constant improvement.