

Faculty of Science

Office of the Dean St. John's, NL. Canada, A18 3X7 Tel: 709 737 8154 Fax: 709 737 3316 science@mun.ca. www.mun.ca

August 9, 2010



Ms. Kim Myrick, Acting Coordinator Academic Program Reviews CIAP

Dear Ms. Myrick,

I am forwarding the Department of Biochemistry's response to the Academic Program Review Panel Report Recommendations. I have reviewed the report and discussed the action items with the Head of the Biochemistry Department. I am in agreement with most of these action items, the major issue is determining how to implement them. The major recommendation (1.0) is the recruitment of an external Head for the department. Prior to the APR process, and in order to assist the department in moving forward, I agreed to the recruitment of two new faculty members that begin their appointments this summer (Recommendation 2.1) with the understanding that funds for these positions will be obtained from imminent retirements. In the absence of additional funding, I am not prepared to approve recruiting an additional faculty member to this department until I am able to recover those funds from retirements. For that reason, I am now seeking an interim head with an agreement to recruit an external head after 3 faculty retire.

APR recommendation 4.7 was to form an ad-hoc website committee with the goal of improving and updating their site. The web issue is being addressed throughout the Faculty of Science and we are working both with Marcomm and an external consultant to do so. Implementation is intended for all Science websites including the Biochemistry department.

APR recommendation 5.2 is that Life Science Stores be administered from the Dean's office with consideration given to streamlining procedures or recruiting an additional staff member. We are now following a process that I outlined in a communication to all participants in May and I will act upon those recommendations in preference to the specific action advocated by the APR.

I am happy to discuss these or any other action issues associated with the Biochemistry

Academic Program Review.

Mark Abrahams
Professor & Dean

Sincerely

c C: Dr. M. Mulligan, Head of Biochemistry

Attachment