

December 21, 2021

Professor Suzanna Gribble
Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Department of Biological Sciences
University of Pittsburgh
A230C Langley Hall
4249 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Dear Professor Gribble:

Thank you for your application for ASBMB program accreditation. We are pleased to inform you that the ASBMB has accredited your B.S. in Biochemistry program for a **FULL seven-year term, through December 31, 2028**. Your renewal application will be due in October of 2028.

Aspects of your application that were considered particularly noteworthy included:

- University commitment to diversity including the RISE and BRIDGES programs.
- Breadth and depth of coverage of ASBMB core concepts.
- The large percentage of students who take part in research or internship opportunities.

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

- Coverage of the core concept of evolution at the advanced level.
- Student access to advanced instrumentation.
- A lack of opportunities to assess oral communication skills.

Looking ahead to your renewal application in 2028, please note that a weakness was identified in your program in an item considered "Critical" (see [rubric](#)), specifically, Underlying concept: evolution. This must be remedied in whole or part (with explanation if partial), or lack of remediation must be explained, before a new approval will be granted. It makes sense to address this deficiency 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:

- Program Assessment including use of the ASBMB exam.

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



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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. 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 sub-committee.