



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

December 11, 2025

SUSPENSION OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MOLECULAR BIOTECHNOLOGY

REQUEST:

Approval for suspension for the following academic program: **Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biotechnology**.

FACTS:

The program faculty in the Department of Biological Sciences made the decision to close the B.S. program in Molecular Biotechnology because (1) enrollments have not grown as hoped when the program was created, and (2) the department has recently implemented curricular concentrations within the B.S. program in Biology (ref. #525). It is the intention to re-formulate the core of the Molecular Biotechnology program as a concentration within the B.S. in Biology. Beyond being more consistent and accessible for students, this will allow us to better market the concentration with the goal of increasing enrollments.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

Closing this academic program to new admissions will have minimal impact on the University budget because the program will be re-formulated as a concentration within the B.S. in Biology.

RECOMMENDATION & IMPLEMENTATION DATE:

President Timothy C. Caboni recommends approval of the suspension of the **Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biotechnology** to be implemented Fall 2026.

MOTION:

Approval to suspend the following program: **Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biotechnology** with implementation in Fall 2026.

EMERITUS APPOINTMENTS

REQUEST:

Approval of faculty emeritus status for Dr. Molly Kerby, Dr. Stacy Wilson, and Dr. Margaret Gripshover.

FACTS:

Listed below are faculty members who have been recommended by tenured faculty, department chair and college dean to be awarded emeritus status. They have served the university for at least ten years and have had distinguished records of achievement and service.

Potter College of Arts & Letters

Dr. Molly Kerby, Professor, Department of Sociology, Emeritus

Ogden College of Science and Engineering

Dr. Stacy Wilson, Professor, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Emeritus

Dr. Margaret Gripshover, Professor, Department of Earth, Environmental, and Atmospheric Sciences, Emeritus

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

No funds needed.

RECOMMENDATION:

President Timothy C. Caboni recommends awarding the above individuals emeritus status.

MOTION:

Approval of emeritus status awarded for the recommended individuals.

SABBATICAL LEAVES

REQUEST:

Approval of sabbatical leaves for faculty listed below.

FACTS:

Listed below are faculty members who have been recommended for sabbatical leave by the department chair/director, College Sabbatical Advisory Committee, college dean, and the provost. As of academic year 2026-2027, each will have served the university for at least six continuous full academic years, hold the rank of assistant professor or above, and have submitted a compelling sabbatical application for the purpose of professional academic enrichment.

College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Period of Leave</u>
Andrea Paganelli	Teacher Education	Fall 2026

College of Health and Human Services

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Period of Leave</u>
Gayle Mallinger	Social Work	Spring 2027

Gordon Ford College of Business

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Period of Leave</u>
Jacob P. Byl	Economics	Spring 2027
Ron A. Rhoades	Finance	Fall 2026

Potter College of Arts and Letters

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Period of Leave</u>
Audrey Anton	Political Science	AY 2026-2027
Ann Ferrell	Society, Culture, & Justice Studies	Fall 2026
Jess Folk	English	Fall 2026

Ogden College of Science & Engineering

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Period of Leave</u>
Amy Brausch	Psychological Sciences	Fall 2026
Gordon Emslie	Physics & Astronomy	Fall 2026
T. Keith Philips	Biological Sciences	Spring 2027
Matt Woodward	Psychological Sciences	Spring 2027
Lukun Zheng	Mathematics	Fall 2026

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:

No additional resources are necessary to accommodate the sabbatical leaves. Courses usually taught by these faculty will be reassigned to other faculty members by each respective department chair.

RECOMMENDATION:

President Timothy C. Caboni recommends awarding the above individuals sabbatical leave for the terms indicated.

MOTION:

Approval of faculty sabbatical leaves for the above recommended individuals for the terms indicated.