



## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

### THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience

**Request:**

The Ohio State University requests approval to offer the Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience.

**Background:**

The Ohio State University (OSU) is a public research institution located in Columbus, Ohio, with regional campuses in Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark and Wooster. The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools accredits OSU until its next review in 2017. OSU has an enrollment of more than 55,000 students in more than 400 programs of undergraduate and graduate study.

The proposed degree program will be housed in the Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences. The program is an interdisciplinary degree developed through the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Medicine. The university also offers graduate degrees in neuroscience.

Neuroscience is the study of the brain and its development, its function in processing information and regulating behavior, and the connection between the brain and disease. The program is primarily designed for students who aspire to professional or graduate education, but also prepares students for employment in health services, pharmaceuticals, and for positions in hospital and research laboratories.

**Curriculum and Enrollment:**

The program comprises core courses in neuroscience and psychology that provide an introduction to the nervous system and its impact on behavior and cognition. Students complete data analysis courses as part of the major's foundation curriculum. Specializations in three areas are available: cellular/molecular neuroscience, systems/behavioral neuroscience, and cognitive neuroscience.

- Cellular/Molecular neuroscience examines the basic biological processes of neurons and support cells of the nervous system.
- Systems/Behavioral neuroscience studies how the nervous system is related to psychological and psychiatric disorders, how neural systems connect to specific functions such as learning, attention, and sleep and the results of dysfunction in these systems.
- Cognitive/Computational neuroscience studies how specific areas of the brain are related to thought and language.

The university anticipates the program to grow to more than 400 students after four years. Students will have numerous opportunities to pursue research and internship opportunities throughout the program.

**Faculty and Resources:**

Current faculty members are sufficient in number to meet the needs of the program and provide extensive experience in all aspects of neuroscience. Faculty members from arts and sciences, biological sciences, medicine, dentistry, engineering and mathematics/physical sciences will teach in the program.

**Recommendation:**

This program meets the Chancellor's standards for baccalaureate degrees and approval is recommended.

**End of Comment Period: August 2, 2012**

**No Comments Received, Recommend Approval**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs has verified that this institution has met the standards and requirements of the Ohio Board of Regents.

 \_\_\_\_\_ 8/6/12  
Stephanie Davidson, Vice Chancellor Date

**APPROVED**

 \_\_\_\_\_ 8-8-12  
Jim Petro, Chancellor Date

*MLC*