

Chemistry Instructional Aide I Position Request Presentation
Planning and Budgeting Council Meeting
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by
Jeanette Medina

Request Justification

Although, all STEM students take at least one chemistry class, we have not had any tutors in Organic Chemistry or Chemistry for Health Sciences in the last 3 years. We have only had 1-2 tutors for General Chemistry classes.

The STEM Center can support tutors for STEM related chemistry courses. However, students transfer by the time that they are qualified/eligible to tutor for the courses with the greater need such as Organic Chemistry and Chemistry for Health Sciences.

This is similar to the phenomenon observed in Math 200.

The nature of the subject matter may require skills and strategies beyond those introduced in lower division classes.

Request Justification

Enrollment in chemistry classes is strong, with above 100% fill rate in several courses even during the pandemic. However, we observe a significant equity gap in retention and completion by some ethnic student subgroups such as Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and Pacific Islander.

Many students lack the necessary basic skills in English and Math to understand or apply chemistry concepts. Personalized academic intervention is needed but not possible to effectively provide by the instructor alone.

We have worked closely with the STEM Center and the Learning Center to address these issues without much success.

Many opportunities for study sessions are needed to accommodate the diverse schedules of our students.

The need for a permanent and well-qualified individual who can provide adequate academic support to all students on an ongoing basis has become indispensable.



Position Duties

- Work with the instructor of record to assist students during laboratory sessions on a rotating basis. Especially for particularly complex or with a high hazard potential.
- Assist students while manipulating the existing analytical chemical instrumentation.
- Hold several weekly study sessions to complement the instructors' office hours.
- Maintain a friendly and caring student support environment for students.
- Work with instructors to proctor quizzes and exams.
- Collaborate with Faculty in the implementation of new curriculum.

Thank you for your consideration