

## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

### MERCY COLLEGE OF NORTHWEST OHIO Bachelor of Science, Human Biology

**Request:**

Mercy College of Northwest Ohio requests authorization to offer a Human Biology major within its existing Bachelor of Science degree. The program will be housed within the college's Division of Science and offered primarily on the institution's main campus in Toledo, Ohio.

**Background:**

Mercy College of Northwest Ohio is an independent institution affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church. The institution offers associate and bachelor's degrees and currently enrolls over 1,200 students. The college is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and possesses specialized accreditation for several of its professional programs. In addition, the college has been authorized by the Chancellor since December 1992.

**Curriculum and Enrollment:**

The purpose of the Bachelor of Science, Human Biology program is to prepare graduates for various fields of medicine, graduate study or science related jobs (e.g., research assistants, technologists, etc.). The curriculum, 120 semester credit hours in length, includes coursework in biology, chemistry, medical ethics, anatomy and physiology, histology, and genetics. The program also includes a field placement, to be completed in the student's final semester, which may occur in healthcare facilities, research laboratories, non-profit organizations or related organizations.

The college is projecting twenty-four full-time equivalent students in year one (fall 2011) and anticipates enrollment will grow to eighty full-time equivalent students by year four. Initial projections were based on local market analyses performed, national trends data, and in consultation with local advisory committees.

**Resource/Faculty Needs:**

The majority of the faculty are in place to teach in the program, are full-time and doctorally prepared. The college anticipates hiring two additional full-time doctorally prepared faculty to teach several biology and chemistry courses. In addition, the college plans to build an additional chemistry laboratory to support the program. The institution is pursuing federal funding to support the endeavor and anticipates the construction/renovation of the lab will be complete for program start-up.

**Recommendation:**

Mercy College of Northwest Ohio meets the Chancellor's standards for undergraduate programs and the review team recommends authorization for the Bachelor of Science, Human Biology program. Authorization will continue through December 31, 2021 to coincide with the college's next institutional reauthorization review with the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. Authorization is contingent upon the submission of annual progress reports by June 30, 2011, 2012, and 2013, which address any concerns that remain. Authorization will be withdrawn if, in the Chancellor's judgment, such reports do not demonstrate satisfactory progress toward compliance with the Chancellor's standards.

