



WESTMONT

Faculty Position Request Form

(Used for requesting a new faculty position or filling a vacant position)

Department: Biology

Submitted by: Amanda Sparkman

Date: 8/31/21

Nature of request:

This is a request for a new faculty position (addition) in the department.

This is a request to fill a vacancy.

Who is the faculty member leaving or retiring? Laura Drake Schultheis

Rationale: On a separate page, please briefly describe the curricular need for this faculty position, including benefit to the department if the position is filled and the negative impact if it is not.

Additional documents needed:

(a) Please complete the table on the next page listing courses the person will teach and the enrollment in these courses for the past 3 years. Also, identify any new courses the department hopes to offer if this position is filled.

(b) Position job description

Please submit materials to the Provost's Office.

Faculty Position Supporting Documentation

Enrollment in course during the past 3 years

Dept/Cr Num.		2021	2020	2019				
BIO 005 /8	General Biology I (2 sections)	71	87	71				
BIO 130/7	Cell Biology (lecture + lab)	19	9	16				
LS 012/4	Introduction to Life Sciences	30	33	37				
BIO xxx/4	Upper-division course in specialty area	NA	NA	NA				
BIO seminar/1	Seminar in Bioethics/Seminar in Biological Literature/Biology practicum (all of which can rotate through the department)	NA	NA	NA				

Rationale:

We are in need of a new faculty member to cover several courses critical to our major. Eileen McQuade, formerly full time in Biology, has been serving in the Provost office full time for the past few years. We have had Laura Drake Schultheis covering her courses in a 2-year position, but that position will come to a close in Summer 2022. We are now ready for a more permanent solution to covering these courses, as it is always extremely difficult to find suitable adjuncts to cover them—and in fact we feel very strongly that they are courses that need to be taught by a tenure-track faculty member. Furthermore, we need to have someone in place that can provide valuable research opportunities for students, both during the semester and during our summer research program. Given this, would like to conduct a search for a tenure-track position beginning Fall 2022. It is essential that we have someone that can cover General Biology I, which is one of the core introductory courses for major (note that Eileen previously taught Genetics, but now Yi-Fan Lu has taken that over, leaving General Biology I without a regular instructor). We also urgently need someone to cover Cell Biology lecture and lab, as this is a course particularly important for our pre-medical students, and foundational to our cellular/molecular biology track. We also hope to be able to resume fall offerings of Introduction to Life Sciences (or another Exploring the Life Sciences option), as well as have the new faculty member teach a new course in their specialty, providing much-needed diversity to our upper-division cellular/molecular curriculum (for Eileen it was Immunology, but we'd be open to other disciplines, such as Developmental Biology, Neurobiology, etc.).

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant Professor in Biology

The Biology Department of Westmont College in Santa Barbara, CA, invites applications for a full-time teaching and research position as an Assistant Professor in a dynamic department with inquisitive and talented undergraduate students. An earned Ph.D. at the time of appointment is required, and post-doctoral research experience is preferred. Preference will be given to candidates with a specialty in cell biology, immunology, neurobiology, plant/animal developmental biology, and/or genomics/proteomics. The 24-unit teaching load will involve both classroom and laboratory instruction. Teaching assignments will include an introductory biology course, Cell Biology, and a course in the applicant's specialty. Candidates should be prepared to pursue an active research program that will engage undergraduate students both during the semester as well as in a 10-week summer research experience. Westmont College expects full-time faculty to support its mission as a Christian liberal arts college in the evangelical Protestant tradition. The position will be benefits-eligible, and start in late August 2022. Please visit <https://www.westmont.edu/office-provost/open-positions> to complete the application process. Questions regarding the position may be directed to the department chair, Dr. Amanda Sparkman, at sparkman@westmont.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

