

2017-18 Proposal to Fill a Full-Time Faculty Position

1. Faculty position being proposed

Chemistry Instructor

2. Proposal being made by (list name(s) and title(s))

Dr. Lisa Wesoloski, Assistant Chemistry Professor

Dr. Anu Ganguly, Chemistry Professor

Dr. Maru Grant, Chemistry Professor

Dr. Luba Voloshko, Assistant Chemistry Professor

3. Summary description of the position

We are looking for a full-time chemistry faculty who will have a strong knowledge in Biochemistry and General Chemistry to support teaching 100% of our general chemistry courses (CHEM-109, CHEM-106A/B, CHEM-102 and CHEM-101A/B).

4. Rationale for filling this position: include examples of how this position impacts students, program needs, and college goals.

There is continued growth in all general chemistry courses. The department is suffering from a lack of manpower needed to teach the general chemistry courses and to develop curriculum and oversee instrumentation.

Two of our courses, CHEM-102 and CHEM-109, continue to be primarily taught by adjunct faculty. Both of these courses have the largest number of sections of the chemistry courses taught at Ohlone. They are the foundational prerequisite chemistry courses (followed by CHEM-101A/B) for the STEM fields and beyond. We claim to put high priority on student success, yet our students suffer when we do not have consistent instructional quality which comes with experienced, fully committed instructors. These students stand the risk of not making it in these courses and therefore not being able to transfer.

In addition, as the department has been growing with enrollment, each fulltime faculty member has assumed the responsibility of coordinating the curriculum and lab protocols among with the increasing number of adjunct faculty. Specifically, CHEM 109 has been notorious in being an incredibly detailed and fast-paced course for the health science student at Ohlone. In order to maintain a uniformly high level of instruction, one of the faculty is devoting time to coordinate the materials in all sections of the course.

Furthermore, we continue to have the issue of splitting the teaching load between the lab and lecture of a course with different combinations of full-time and part-time instructors. Having a course taught with two instructors is far from ideal as the lab and lecture are closely related in the theoretical and practical aspects. This has resulted in a heterogeneous preparation of our students as they continue their path into the more rigorous chemistry courses (CHEM-101A/B, CHEM-112A/B, and Biology to name a few). The resulting disconnect in student learning has resulted in reduce student success, especially among at-risk students. Acquiring another full-time position would greatly alleviate this problem.

5. Are there any externally imposed requirements such as a specialized program accreditation that would put this program in jeopardy if a full time position is not filled? If so, please explain.

No

6. Other information to support the position proposal (include qualitative data if applicable).

We are experiencing a significant increase in student enrollment for our Chemistry courses. In the last few years, we have been opening more sections and have reached our lab capacity (including Saturday labs). This has created a disservice to our students as all our general chemistry courses are prerequisites for majors, such as Biology, Engineering, Chemistry, Nursing, and even Computer Science. We have been delaying our students progress or risking students going elsewhere to complete their certificates. With the imminent opening of the Academic Core, we look forward to expanding the number of sections for our courses and having a fifth full-time instructor present to manage our steady enrollment increase.

The remaining questions to be completed by the Division Dean

7. A statement by the dean of the division housing this position, which includes data, evidence, and analysis. **Include all relevant information you would like the committee to consider.**

As is true in the Biology department, the Chemistry faculty are focusing on specific courses rather than being generalists. This allows the students to have faculty familiar with the current events in the field. However, as the number of sections of many of the courses has increased, it is leaving one of the courses without a fulltime lead faculty member. Adding an additional faculty will remedy this situation.

8. Is the position part of a Career Technical Education (CTE) Program? No

QUANTATIVE DATA SUMMARY: (Refer to datasheet provided by the Research and Planning Office)

9. What is the department FTES? (Data is available on the Program Review data sheet – [Academic Affairs website.](#))

Fall 2016 160.06 Spring 2017 149.87

10. What is the ratio of full-time to part-time faculty in the department?

43:57

11. What is the ratio of FTES by Adjuncts?

43:57

12. What is the current WSCH/FTEF in the department?

586

13. Does the position address an area of growth? If yes, include a five year trend line for FTES.

Yes, the chemistry department continues to grow and anticipate further growth when the Academic Core opens in Spring 2019. Currently, the department is limited by the lack of capacity of the labs.

