Dear Admissions Professional,

I am writing to inform you of a new series of chemistry courses now offered at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities so that you understand how this series prepares students for entrance to your health programs.

This three-semester series was developed specifically to prepare students in life sciences with the chemistry knowledge needed to be successful in their domains. In reducing content that is less central to the life sciences, the sequence allows students to progress through the chemistry content most critical to the life sciences, as well as engage in more advanced coursework. The 13-credit series is as follows (full syllabi may be viewed at: www.z.umn.edu/cbschemistry)

- **CHEM 1081/1065: Chemistry for Life Sciences I and Lab (4 credits):** Similar to traditional first-semester general chemistry courses, this pairing is paced more quickly, covering content from general chemistry I and moving on to content typically covered in a second semester of general chemistry.

- **CHEM 1082/1086: Chemistry for Life Sciences II and Lab (4 credits):** These courses complete general chemistry education and begin layering organic chemistry content.

- **CHEM 2081/2085: Chemistry for Life Sciences III and Lab (5 credits):** This final semester focuses exclusively on remaining organic chemistry content and its application.

The sequence is able to be shorter than a traditional series by streamlining topics that are typically covered in both general and organic chemistry, cutting review topics, and eliminating topics less central to the life sciences such as nuclear chemistry, transitional metal and coordination chemistry, and molecular orbital theory.

This series is the preferred option in the College of Biological Sciences (CBS), and in addition to this three-semester sequence, students in CBS experience a robust preparation in the physical and life sciences through these additional required courses:

- Foundations of Biology series: A nationally-recognized, award-winning foundational biology series of 12 credits that engages students in finding biological solutions to real world problems. Foundations of Biology focuses on the team nature of scientific discovery, hands on problem-solving, as well as foundational biology knowledge.

- Molecular Biology and Society: An innovative new course required of all CBS students that focuses on the central dogma of cellular processes, as well as how the implications of cellular technology play out in society.

- Biochemistry: Designed as the fourth semester after the three-semester chemistry sequence, our re-envisioned biochemistry course capitalizes on the knowledge built in the sequence to teach more in-depth and cutting edge biochemistry as relates to the life sciences.
The addition of this new chemistry sequence alongside this robust set of preparatory physical and life sciences courses result in students who are exceptionally prepared for careers in health professional programs and beyond. We ask that you review and regard these courses as satisfactory preparation for your programs. Please respond with any questions or concerns to cbsadv@umn.edu, and your email will be connected to our pre-health career coach.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Ward
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education
College of Biological Sciences
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities