

TO:

Tony Palbicke

Chair, Academic Affairs Committee

FROM:

Shaun E. Schmidt

Advisor for Pre-Pharmacy/Associate of Science (AS) in Laboratory Science

CC:

Stephen Angel, Chair, Chemistry Department

Laura Stephenson, Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Pat Munzer, Dean, School of Applied Studies

Randy Pembrook, VPAA

Matt Arterburn, President, Faculty Senate

RE:

SAS Proposal to Change the General Education Distribution for AS degrees

March 5, 2014 DATE:

The Department of Chemistry supports the proposed change to the general education distribution for associate of science degree. Chemistry is the only academic unit within the College of Arts and Sciences which currently offers an Associate of Science (AS) Degree. The AS in Laboratory Science was in part developed in response to the needs of our Pre-Pharmacy students who matriculate through a two year set of coursework at Washburn University and apply for admission to a pharmacy school such as the University of Kansas, School of Pharmacy. The coursework required for the AS in Laboratory Science was designed to be more general than what is required for admission to pharmacy school in order to address the needs of students who pursue an associate degree to work in the bio-technology industry.

The Department of Chemistry does not foresee any negative impact on the students who are pursuing the AS in Laboratory Science given the SAS proposal to change the general education distribution for AS degrees. The existing distribution requirement of 6 hours for coursework in the mathematics and science does not change which is appropriate given the designation as a science degree.