



February 10, 2020

Dear Members of the Graduate Council,

I am writing to convey Knight Campus support of the proposed Joint Graduate Program in Bioengineering that is currently being considered by the Graduate Council. In accordance with our governance documents, the Knight Campus curriculum committee reviewed the proposed program and recommended approval during their January 27, 2020 meeting. Based upon their recommendation to me, we are fully supportive of the proposal.

This program is one of my highest priorities within the Knight Campus because it will create the basis for a strong graduate program in bioengineering at the University of Oregon. As you can see in the attached emails of support from UO departments, units within the life and physical sciences see the establishment of this program as a “win-win”. It will create new opportunities for graduate student training across the UO. We have worked closely with Oregon State University to join forces in graduate education to build a program that will be stronger than either institution could deliver alone and are excited about the opportunity to help grow and support the burgeoning biotech industry in Oregon, together. We are committed to offering an innovative and rigorous student training experience that draws on the faculty expertise and research infrastructure at both institutions to prepare students for future success in academia and the private sector.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Guldberg  
Vice President and Robert and Leona DeArmond Executive Director  
Phil and Penny Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact  
University of Oregon