

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

MONROE

Department of Biology Mission Statement

As a vital component of the University of Louisiana at Monroe, the Department of Biology recognizes that its overall mission is to develop the intellectual, personal, and social potential of our students, faculty, and community. We support an appreciation for a diversity of peoples and ideas, and encourage professional cooperation and respect through interactive and collaborative efforts that enhance the educational process. We provide the university and local community with expertise in the sciences through excellence in teaching, research, and service. As they relate directly to this mission, the department recognizes our roles in:

- encouraging an understanding that evolution is at the core of all biological processes and diversity;
- immersing ourselves and our students, both undergraduate and graduate, in all aspects of the scientific process, focusing on discovery, hypothesis testing, and critical thinking;
- explaining natural phenomena using the most current data and evidence combined with underlying historical background and proper scientific context;
- guiding the development and enhancement of verbal and written communication skills so that our students are competent in the language and dissemination of biological information;
- helping students to incorporate science into their lives by making meaningful connections between biology and other academic areas;
- preparing students for future endeavors in all fields relating to the biological sciences; and
- continuing a tradition of excellence in graduate studies and research.

Approved by the faculty, 14 October 2005