MEMORANDUM

To: George H. Davis, Provost

From: Emmanuel Akporiaye, Interim Head, Department of Microbiology and Immunology
        Keith A. Johnson, Dean, College of Medicine
        James K. Collins, Head, Department of Veterinary Science and Microbiology
        David E. Cox, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
        Eugene G. Stover, Vice Provost and Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Date: August 12, 2005

RE: Proposed split and transfer of the existing Graduate Program (M.S. and Ph.D.) in Microbiology and Immunology

We are requesting permission to split the existing M.S. and Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology into two programs, and transfer the resulting programs as described below:

The M.S./Ph.D. with a major in Immunobiology to reside in the College of Medicine (COM), Department of Immunobiology; and
The M.S./Ph.D. with a major in Microbiology to reside in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS), Department of Veterinary Sciences and Microbiology.

As detailed in the attached document, the proposed split is highly beneficial to the continued successful preparation of scientists and professionals in the broadening field of Immunobiology as well as the traditional field of Microbiology.

The split is in line with the faculty specialization and focus in the discipline and sub-disciplines of Immunobiology in the current Department of Microbiology and Immunology, COM. The split also recognizes and maintains the cross-departmental and cross-college sub-disciplines of Microbiology as well as unifying the undergraduate B.S. degree program in Microbiology with the graduate program in Microbiology in CALS.

The resulting programs will each draw primarily on the faculty of a single college and department. However, both programs draw significantly on faculty who offer graduate training through other departments, as outlined in the proposal. Thus, quality in graduate education is preserved and enhanced together with efficient focusing of faculty resources.
No new resources are required to support the split and transfer. The existing faculty and the administration of the programs are drawn entirely from the two departments that will be associated with the reorganized programs. No new hires or transfer of faculty lines is required. No new courses are needed to support the resulting programs: many of the necessary courses are already offered as part of existing programs. Existing library resources are adequate to support the resulting programs. No new facilities, equipment, or other physical resources are required.

Because the new curricula are already designed, and because the split and transfer will require no new faculty, courses, or other new resources, we also request permission to skip the planning phase required of new programs, and move directly to implementation of the two programs described in the attached proposal. We request that the programs be implemented for Fall 2006 admission, and that the programs be approved to begin recruiting graduate students for admission in January 2006.

Thank you.