SUBJECT
New Site Request – USD – Minor in Biology (Online)

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY
BOR Policy 2:23 – Program and Curriculum Approval
BOR Policy 2:12 – Distance Education

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION
The University of South Dakota (USD) requests approval to offer the minor in Biology online. Currently, a majority of the courses for this minor are offered online. A proposed program modification will allow for students to complete the minor online, which will provide online students more choice. Currently, there are relatively few minors available for online students.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION
USD anticipates 1 online enrollment after four years of the program being online, as it is anticipated that moving this minor online will have minimal impact. The university requests no new resources.

Board office staff recommends approval to offer the minor online.

ATTACHMENTS
Attachment I – New Site Request: USD – Minor in Biology

DRAFT MOTION 20220802_8-F(1):
I move to approve USD’s new site proposal to offer the minor in Biology online.
University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

______________________________  ____________________________
President of the University                  Date

1. What is the need for offering the program at the new physical site or through distance delivery?
   Sufficient courses are currently already offered online to fulfill the requirements for an online minor in Biology. This request will allow students to fulfill the degree requirements for a minor online.

2. Are any other Regental universities authorized to offer a similar program at the proposed site(s) or through distance delivery? If “yes,” identify the institutions and programs and explain why authorization is requested.
   No other Regental institutions are authorized to offer a biology minor online.

3. Are students enrolling in the program expected to be new to the university or redirected from other existing programs at the university? Complete the table below and explain the methodology used in developing the estimates.
4. What is the perceived impact of this request on existing programs in the Regental system?
This will have minimal impact on the system as a whole. As courses are online, this will allow students to take suitable coursework from any of the regental institutions. This will increase student choice and create more flexibility to aid with on-time graduation.

5. Complete the table and explain any special circumstances. Attach a copy of the program as it appears in the current catalog. If there are corresponding program modifications requested, please attach the associated form. Explain the delivery of the new courses and attach any associated new course request forms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biology Minor</th>
<th>Credit hours currently available from this university online</th>
<th>Credit hours currently available from other universities available online</th>
<th>Credit hours new to this university for online delivery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core Requirements</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, Degree with Proposed Major</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If the major will be available in more than one degree (e.g., BA, BS, BS Ed) at the new site(s) and the number or distribution of credits will vary with the degree, provide a separate table for each degree.

Core Requirements
- BIOL 151/L General Biology I/Lab
- BIOL 153/L General Biology II/Lab

Electives (10 hours)
- Upper-level BIOL courses 10cr

6. How will the university provide student services comparable to those available for students on the main campus?
Students will have access to similar learning materials and the professor similar to in-person courses. As the in-person course is typically taught to ~200 students, many of the resources are already digital.

7. Is this program accredited by a specialized accrediting body? If so, address any program
accreditation issues and costs related to offering the program at the new site(s).
N/A

8. Does the university request any exceptions to Board policy for delivery at the new site(s)? Explain requests for exceptions to Board policy.
None.

9. Cost, Budget, and Resources related to new courses at the site: Explain the amount and source(s) of any one-time and continuing investments in personnel, professional development, release time, time redirected from other assignments, instructional technology & software, other operations and maintenance, facilities, etc., needed to implement the proposed minor. Complete Appendix B – Budget using the system form.
As courses are already offered online, there is no additional cost needed to provide this program.