



February 27, 2015

This letter is in support of the Community Connectors proposal by the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (SHRS) at The Ohio State University. This project is part of a larger initiative called Health Sciences Academy that focuses on mentorship to elementary and middle school students. The project would provide an excellent opportunity for SHRS graduate and undergraduate students to mentor elementary and middle school students in academic and life skills. In addition, the students would learn about the health science majors in the SHRS and the opportunities available in these majors. What a great way to inspire young students to gain a solid education toward a rewarding career in the health sciences.

I oversee one of the undergraduate academic programs in the SHRS: Medical Laboratory Science (MLS). The MLS program is a two-year program with a total enrollment of about 65-70 students. The medical laboratory science field is an exciting area for students to learn more about techniques used for the diagnosis of disease. As there are shortages in certified medical laboratory scientists in the many parts of the country, the major provides ample opportunity for employment. In addition, it provides a solid background for students that wish to pursue a post-baccalaureate degree. The opportunity to introduce students to health sciences majors early in their academic career will benefit both the student and the various health sciences professions.

The MLS faculty members and I support this program and will encourage our students to participate. In addition, we will be happy to provide information about this program to our alumni professionals such that they can become involved and share their experiences in the MLS profession with the students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tammy Bannerman".

**Tammy Bannerman, PhD, D(ABMM)
Interim Director and Assistant Professor
Medical Laboratory Science Division**