From the Chair

Thank you for your interest in the graduate program of the Department of Biological Sciences at Wayne State University. As a department, we offer a broad choice of courses, research programs and teaching opportunities. Each student follows an individualized program, but the focus is on original research that leads to participation in national meetings and publications. This prepares our students to go on to positions at prominent universities and research institutions. Our graduates have achieved successful careers in higher education, government service and business.

Wayne State University is a comprehensive, nationally ranked research institution and offers state-of-the-art research facilities. These include the Advanced Genomics Technology Center, microscopy and proteomics core facilities at the School of Medicine, and the Lumigen Instrument Center in the Department of Chemistry. The Department of Biological Sciences is also well equipped for molecular genetics, cell imaging, ecology and neurobiology.

Our Ph.D. students typically receive financial support for at least the first five years of their program. The department has 49 graduate teaching assistantships, supplemented by graduate research assistantships and university fellowships. These generally provide tuition and health benefits as well as a stipend. Safe, comfortable housing is available on campus and in many nearby apartments.

Wayne State provides a unique setting to spend your time in graduate school. Detroit is a major city with excellent cultural, sports and entertainment attractions — many of them within walking distance of campus. Midtown Detroit is experiencing a renaissance, with new buildings, restaurants, museums and housing developing regularly. While offering the excitement and diversity of urban life, metropolitan Detroit is in close proximity to Michigan’s lakes, forests and recreational sites.

The Department of Biological Sciences has strong research programs across the whole range of biological sciences. Our excellent research programs are described in the pages that follow. If you have further questions, please contact me at dnjus@wayne.edu, our graduate secretary at rpriest@wayne.edu, or our graduate committee chair at apopadic@biology.biosci.wayne.edu. I hope you will look closely at all we have to offer. We look forward to receiving your application for graduate study.

— David L. Njus
Professor and Chair