



**AMERICAN
SOCIETY FOR
MICROBIOLOGY**

Education Board

September 12, 2005

Sarah Boomer,
Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Western Oregon University
Monmouth, Oregon 97361

Dear Dr Boomer:

Thanks for your proposal to the MicrobeLibrary “A Laboratory Class Exploring and Classifying Anoxygenic Phototrophic Bacteria Using Culture-Based Approaches, Microscopy, and Pigment Analysis”. The editorial committee reviewed your activity and has accepted it with minor modifications. Your objectives are clear and you have provided good guidance for instructors.

We would like you to be more specific about safety concerns. Even though you are working with organisms in an anoxic environment, we are still concerned about possible contact with pathogenic microorganisms. We would like you to strengthen your safety warnings and precautions within the laboratory. In addition, we have some concerns about possible toxins released when the latex of gloves interacts with solvents such as methanol.

There is an error in Appendix three where *Rhodospirillum* is classified as a Eukaryote. After listening to Norman Pace this spring at ASMCUE, we also hope you would change Prokaryote to Bacteria/ Archea.

Your project is effective at helping students to recognize the diversity of microorganisms in the environment. The committee felt that it would be helpful to include questions for activities that would enable them understand the roles that these microbes take in the environment, and the significance of their numbers.

Please find attached the review sheet and the review criteria the committee uses in the review process. We hope that you can use these to aid your revision process. We would appreciate to have your revised version by October 10, 2005. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the comments above.

We do ask that you review and sign the enclosed copyright agreement form, which states that ASM has the non-exclusive right to publish the activity in the MicrobeLibrary. Contact Jean Gondwe at ASM with any questions regarding the copyright agreement. She can be reached at <jgondwe@asmusa.org> or by phone at 202-942-9299.



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Sincerely,

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