RESOLVED, that the programs in Biotechnology leading to the Bachelor of Science and the Master of Science at City College, be approved effective May 1, 2012, subject to financial ability.

EXPLANATION: These related interdisciplinary programs utilize the existing strengths of the Science Division at City College in terms of both faculty expertise and research facilities. The field of biotechnology allows scientists to modify living organisms for such purposes as drug development and environmental cleanup. The proposed BS program will expose students to college level biology, chemistry and physics and then more advanced courses in areas such as Biochemistry, Genetics and Bioinformatics. Existing courses from multiple departments will be combined to create a unique interdisciplinary program that makes scientific research a requirement for all students. The proposed MS in Biotechnology, which will require a science undergraduate degree as a prerequisite for admission, builds upon a strong foundation in standard graduate biology courses with interdisciplinary electives in biochemistry, biophysics, and biostatistics. By combining hands-on laboratory experience with scientific writing, the programs will prepare graduates to begin careers in medical, pharmaceutical, biotechnology and academic settings.