

## Dongarra

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**From:** bdmckee@utk.edu  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 13, 2006 12:08 AM  
**To:** dongarra@cs.utk.edu  
**Cc:** cbpeters@utk.edu  
**Subject:** Re: computational science program at utk

**Attachments:** Paperclip retained by Attachment Save



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Dear Dr. Dongarra,

I am writing in strong support of the proposal for an Interdisciplinary Graduate Minor in computational sciences. As you know Biology is undergoing a transformation from a largely experimental science to one in which computational approaches are coming to guide experimentation in many areas. Computational methods are especially critical in the rapidly developing areas of genomics, proteomics, protein and nucleic acid structure, molecular interactions and biochemical reaction mechanisms (among others). These areas are of central interest in my department (BCMB) and we must provide our graduate students with adequate opportunities to develop expertise in computational methods so that they can compete for jobs, grants, etc. We have offered a minor in Statistics for many years that has a format similar to the proposed minor in computational sciences. We have found it to work quite well. I would anticipate that the minor in computational sciences will be a popular program with present and future BCMB students.

Sincerely,

Bruce

Bruce D. McKee  
Professor and Head  
BCMB Department

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