

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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March 22, 2018

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[www.cbs.umn.edu/plantbio](http://www.cbs.umn.edu/plantbio)*

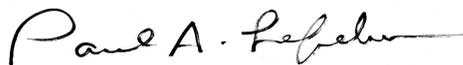
Dr. Mautusi Mitra  
Associate Professor,  
University of West Georgia;  
Department of Biology,  
1601 Maple Street,  
Carrollton, GA 30118

Dear Dr. Mitra:

I am writing to confirm the enthusiastic collaboration of the Chlamydomonas Resource Center (CRC) at the University of Minnesota in your efforts to secure funding from the ASPB BLOOME project to develop a community of students and teachers who will be using Chlamydomonas for hands-on Biology education. We will be glad to provide your participants with advice, reagents and living cultures for lab experiments. In addition, we will welcome the opportunity to make lab exercises developed in your project available on the CRC web site ([chlamycollection.org](http://chlamycollection.org)).

In our experience *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* is an ideal research organism in many areas of genetics, biochemistry, cell biology and molecular biology. I personally have used Chlamydomonas in teaching labs in cell biology and genetics over a thirty year teaching career at the University of Minnesota. The ability to grow the cells rapidly on minimal salts medium, and to perform mutant screens and selections in a matter of weeks makes Chlamydomonas an inexpensive and powerful teaching tool, similar to the way that *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* is commonly used in lab exercises. The Chlamydomonas Resource Center has developed and distributes for a nominal fee teaching kits for secondary and post-secondary laboratories, covering topics like mating, circadian rhythms, flagellar motility, hydrogen evolution and other topics. These educational kits just scratch the surface of what could be taught using Chlamydomonas. We will be glad to work with you and your project participants to develop, test and distribute new exercises to teach important biological concepts using this powerful model system. Please let me know how we can assist in your efforts. Best of luck on your application.

Yours truly,



Pete Lefebvre  
Professor, Plant and Microbial Biology  
Co-director, (with Dr. Carolyn Silflow)  
Chlamydomonas Resource Center



Error checking mail for mmitra@frodo.westga.edu. Details Dismiss

Mail



2 of 6,351

COMPOSE

Your application to ASPB for funding Inbox x

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Important

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**Pete Lefebvre** <pete@umn.edu>  
to me, Matt, Carolyn

Mar 22 (1 day ago)

Dear Dr. Mitra,  
Matt Laudon, curator of the Chlamy Center, forwarded you letter to me requesting a support letter for your funding application to the ASPB. I am happy to do so, and very happy to see your project develop. Chlamydomonas is a powerful and, I think, underutilized teaching tool. We currently offer a number of very popular teaching kits including instructions and strains on our site, but these just scratch the surface of what could be taught using Chlamydomonas. As I note in the letter we will be happy to provide living cultures, growth reagents and molecular tools, such as genomic and cDNA clones, for Chlamydomonas research.

Please let me know if the attached letter is helpful, and I'll be happy to make any changes you might recommend.

Best of luck with your application, and we at the Center look forward to working with you on this project.

Best regards,  
Pete Lefebvre  
Co-director, Chlamydomonas Resource Center

