| 95-1005 | Ohlone |

**Biology Basic Skills Enrichment Program**

The core of this project is a self-paced, individualized, multi-media instruction program, which will be enhanced by experimental study groups that encourage students to exchange information, review concepts and share frustration and success. Modules will be developed to introduce and reinforce lecture and laboratory topics covered in the transfer-level Principles of Biology classes.

This project is designed to help students who
- are ethnically underrepresented in biology majors and career fields
- are underprepared in terms of the prerequisite skills and knowledge needed for success in Principles of Biology courses
- have diverse learning styles; i.e. many slower learners can succeed in traditional biology courses if they have solid background knowledge and skills

Our initial approach will be preparing logically organized lessons utilizing laserdiscs, computer-based programs, drill and practice lessons and other independent learning techniques. We will require that students reach an appropriate mastery level on one module before proceeding to the next. To this we will add weekly small-group study sessions, an individualized unit in research techniques with student assistance from the campus Writing Lab, and a mentor program linking underrepresented students with a person with a similar ethnic/cultural background.

A Life Sciences Advisory Committee, representing regional bio-businesses, our transfer institutions and feeder high schools, will assist with planning, evaluation and mentoring, and establish a biological science network.

Project materials also will be utilized in workshops for Ohlone College instructors and for junior high and secondary school instructors and community members interested in expanding their understanding of new biotechnology techniques.