

Bio Voyage Institute, Inc.
7360 Ulmerton Road,
Unit 26E,
Largo, Florida 33771
Tel. 727-557-6633
curricula@biovoyage.org
www.biovoyage.org

19th February 2008

RE: Letter of Inquiry

Dear Sir/Madam,

The BioVoyage Institute, Inc., Florida is pleased to submit this letter of inquiry for your perusal, consideration and funding. We look forward to your positive support of our on-going mission to provide biotechnology (bioscience) education to those who need it most, namely, educationally and economically disadvantaged students.

Bioscience is any of the branches of natural science dealing with the structure and behavior of living organisms. Biotechnology is the use of microorganisms, such as bacteria or yeasts, or biological substances, such as enzymes, to perform specific, medical, agricultural, industrial or manufacturing processes. Applications include the production of certain drugs, synthetic hormones, and bulk foodstuffs as well as the bioconversion of organic waste and the use of genetically altered bacteria in the cleanup of oil spills. The bioscience and biotechnology industries are growing at an alarming rate yet there are not enough trained professionals for the number of employment opportunities that are currently available and expected to be available in the future. The Biotechnology Education Program we are in the process of developing, and would like to expand with your support, will offer advantages such as 1) the flexibility to be implemented anywhere, 2) well-rounded content of curricula materials and 3) expertise of BioVoyage Institute personnel and committed industry professionals external to the institute.

Our organization requests funding in the amount of \$2,578,800 to help expand the Biotechnology Education Program. Over a five year period, this program will offer educational curricula in the field of biotechnology to students from Kindergarten through University. It is likewise carefully crafted for use by school teachers, home-schooling educators, museums, libraries and other members of our community.

Specifically, your support will enable us to further develop and implement our Elementary, Middle and High School programs, which will include provision of highly trained bioscience professionals and the equipment needed to set up high quality laboratory facilities.

BioVoyage's Biotechnology Education Program will include student textbooks, corresponding teachers' manuals, training seminars for teachers, supplemental instructional educational materials; a mobile laboratory facility enabling lab access to schools, homes, educational institutes, workshops; and biotechnology educational support from a cadre of professionals employed in the biotechnology field.

The staff at BioVoyage have more than 60 years combined experience in the field of biotechnology, publishing, education, grant administration, program development, technical writing, manuscript editing and new product research and development, which enabled us to identify a great need for biotechnology education to train individuals for present and future career opportunities. In an ever-growing industry of biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, vaccines, medicines, education, foods, health and genetic engineering, BioVoyage's timely introduction of educational materials are particularly needed in economically and educationally disadvantaged schools. In 2002, we advanced the research and development of a biotechnology education curriculum, which will be implemented in all schools. The curriculum is introduced at the kindergarten level, thus introducing biotechnology concepts to students at a very early age. The goal is to educate all students and ensure that the demand for qualified biotechnology/bioscience employees and educators are met. We believe that our greatest achievement is having crafted biotechnology as a higher order critical thinking content area most suited for higher education and graduate students, for hands-on use at the kindergarten level.

Since it was founded in 1998, BioVoyage has worked, and continues to work, towards providing high quality and innovative biotechnology education (combining bioscience with reading, math, writing, research, culture, social studies, etc., to name a few) to students and teachers of poorly funded schools and other individuals within our community. Our Biotechnology Education Program is easily applicable for use with school districts of varying socioeconomic status, state educational agencies; and national and international communities. The aim of our educational program is to provide a highly trained, literate and skilful workforce for the present and future in the USA and to restore confidence and leadership in our technological endeavours.

Our Mission

Our mission is to advance knowledge and educate ALL students (home schools, charter schools, private schools and public schools), teachers and the community about biotechnology and its immense potential for solving human health, food and environmental challenges. BIOVOYAGE aims at improving learning, teaching and human development in a diverse, rapidly changing biotechnology society.

BioVoyage is committed to creating, developing, disseminating and preserving knowledge in biotechnology, while working in partnership with students, educators and communities to effect change from "grass-roots" national to international levels.

BioVoyage is dedicated to providing students, teachers, and the community with biotechnology education that combines rigorous academic study, curiosity through research and experiments, and excitement of discovery with the support and intellectual stimulation of a diverse industry involvement.

BioVoyage is committed to encouraging each member of its organization to develop the ability and passion to work wisely, creatively, and effectively for the betterment of all races, peoples and creeds.

Accomplishments

BioVoyage has received considerable funding and support worldwide. Collaborative research on the Medical Probe and diagnostic devices were conducted in institutions throughout the U.S. and Canada. Researchers include Joshua Ken Davidberg, PhD, primary researcher and Clifford Librach, MD, FRCS, a specialist in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at the University of Toronto. Dr. Librach helped to design the vaginal wand adapter of the Medical Probe. Other collaborators include: Kunal Mitra, PhD, Director of the Laser, Optics, and Instrumentation Laboratory, Florida Institute of Technology; Ron Waynant, MD, PhD, Johns Hopkins University and the Food and Drug Administration; (Most of the testing was done at the FDA's facilities); and Charles Lambert, MD, PhD, Health First Heart Institute.

Other grants and support include:

- ◆ Collaborative research support from the Universities of Toronto and Florence;
- ◆ Collaborative curriculum support with the Universities of Wisconsin & Iowa;
- ◆ A \$10,000 Industrial Research Assistance Program grant from the Canadian government;
- ◆ \$2,500,000 equipment funding from Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health and Property Utilization Section;
- ◆ Collaborative curriculum support and training with University of Florida
- ◆ Collaborative curriculum support and training Utah State University;
- ◆ In-kind support from the University of Florence (more than \$200,000);
- ◆ Prototype development and testing of the Medical Probe by GE Medical, Toronto;
- ◆ New business startup support from Grant Thornton, a major accounting firm.

With remarkable success, our innovative and challenging educational program was implemented at The Joseph Little~Nguzo Saba Charter School. We successfully made presentations to Palm Beach County School Board; Broward County School Board; Miami Dade County School Board, various schools in the Bahamas and the Bahamian Government. Likewise, we made presentations to schools in Jamaica and the Jamaican Government; also in Canada and other countries.

In 2006, we developed and implemented a bioscience summer program, which was highly successful. The GPA of the students taking part jumped from 'F' to 'C' in less than 90 days.

BioVoyage promises to contribute to the economic development of Florida and nationally through education, the development of a biotechnology research institution and the creation of professionals, educators, skilled, and unskilled jobs.

Recent Activities

During 2007, we spent most of our time conducting seminars and making presentations to validate acceptance of the textbooks. Based upon the feedback

received, we made changes to the textbooks. Now we are ready to go into production (print), write the additional textbooks and make delivery to our clients.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our letter of inquiry. We look forward to your anticipated support in our efforts to provide biotechnology education for all.

Kind Regards,

Joshua Ken Davidberg
Executive Director
Biovoyage Institute, Inc.