



August 14, 2017

Re: Research initiative

To whom it may concern,

The Museum of Life + Science is interested in providing an opportunity for a field research project on our campus.

The Museum is an interactive science park located on 84 acres within the Ellerbee Creek/Neuse River watershed in Durham (see attached pdfs). The project would be designed by the individual student or group from the institution and proposed to the Museum staff for approval. Implementation, upkeep, equipment and data recording would be the responsibility of the institution or its representative. Depending on the research design, museum staff may be able to facilitate installation of equipment, provide on-campus transportation of supplies, or other similar short-term tasks to assist the researcher. The duration of each research project can be mutually agreed upon, but it is our intention that this could be a long-term partnership with the institution.

The topic of the research is open ended, but the Museum's hydrologic features and woodland forest corridor would likely lend itself to ecosystem investigations not limited to: water quality, habitat/wildlife enhancements, wetland function, robotic sampling, etc.. The Museum would connect this research to our visitors representing its purpose and ongoing activity to illustrate the scientific method in action.

We would like to engage a project this academic year if possible. There is no funding available at this time from the Museum, just a site and as much assistance as we can provide. We are excited about the opportunity to provide a unique urban site as a platform for valuable research that will engage our visitors. Please feel free to contact me for further information.

Sincerely,
Jim Phillips, RLA
Director of Outdoor Environments
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