Journalism Article Cover Letter

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed a modified version of my journalism article manuscript “A Balancing Act: the Importance of Metal Homeostasis.” To address the concerns and comments raised by the 3 reviewers, I made the following changes to improve and clarify the manuscript. It is my hope that these changes make the manuscript acceptable for publication in Microreviews in Cell and Molecular Biology.

Sincerely,

Bella Limber

Reviewer 1:

This reviewer was not very helpful because they were fairly vague for the strengths and only gave one comment for one of the weakness categories. And the one comment they put as a suggestion was also vague.

However, that suggestion of rewording to dumb down some concepts a bit more, I had already planned on doing, so I agreed with it and implemented the change.

Reviewer 2:

This reviewer was just as unhelpful because of the same reasons. Only one meaningful weakness comment and somewhat more encouraging strength comments.

The one suggestion or comment they made in a weakness category was that I did not include any direct quotes from the professor I interviewed. Since I did not see it as a requirement and many of the science concepts described I paraphrased from the interview, I did not see a need to add direct quotes, especially when I didn’t take any from the interview word for word.

Reviewer 3:

This reviewer was a bit more helpful than the others, but not by much. They provided more suggestions in weakness boxes, but were mostly about grammar mistakes and the formality of my manuscript, which I did not see an issue with.

The main point they made that they suggested I change was that I make my manuscript less informal because I include pronouns such as “I” and “we” and my first paragraph was generally informal. I disagreed with this because I was told at the beginning of the semester when I wanted to talk about personal experiences, that I should do it for this assignment. Also, my writing center helper/mentor did not think there was anything wrong with the formality or pronoun use, but instead liked it.