

Chemistry

Bloomington, Indiana, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1893.

To the President of the Faculty  
and Board of Trustees,  
Indiana University,  
Gentlemen:-

The number of students  
in the chemical department during the  
three terms is as follows,

First term in class in elementary chemistry  
and in both laboratories, 71

Second term in both laboratories, 67

Third " " " " 65-

Although there was not so much original  
work done, this year, as during some other  
years, yet, the number of students and the work  
done were much greater than during any  
year since the department was created. In fact,  
between twenty and thirty students were  
refused admission on account of want of  
room, and, if we had permitted students  
to work in the laboratory without having any  
knowledge of elementary chemistry, the  
number would be greatly increased,  
provided, there were room for their  
accommodation. It may be observed,  
in this connection, that, taking into  
consideration the work in this department

is strictly elective, and, that it is attended with much greater expense than work in any other department, the number of students in this department is sufficient evidence that the facilities offered and our methods of instruction supply the wants of the students.

The number of students in the laboratory for advanced work has increased (many doubling time) so that I have no opportunity to render instruction in the laboratory for qualitative analysis, consequently, the work in this laboratory will practically be in charge of an associate or instructor and unless he is, in every respect, qualified for the work, the chemical department will fail to maintain the reputation it now enjoys. It is for this reason, that I urgently request the Board to continue the services of Mr Sherman Davis, even if it should be found necessary to increase his salary to \$15-00 per annum. In addition, the services of an assistant will be required the second and third terms in the laboratory for qualitative analysis, however, it may be that Mr Davis will undertake the work without aid the third term as his work

then will not be so arduous as during  
the second term.

For the purchase of supplies for next  
year we prepared lists, which were  
forwarded by President Coulter to five  
importing firms with requests for lowest  
terms, and, the contract was awarded to  
the lowest bidder, Messrs. Eimer & Amend  
of New York, who agrees to deliver the  
supplies on board the cars in New  
York for a stipulated sum.

Respectfully yours,  
Thos. C. Van Aarts.