

**Graduate & Postdoctoral
Training Programs
and
Interdisciplinary
Biomedical Sciences (IBS)
Curriculum**

Wayne State University

- Carnegie Foundation
“**Doctoral/research university
– extensive**”
- SOM ranked 45th among all
125 medical schools by NSF
- SOM research funding is over
\$135 million annually

Graduate Training Programs

- 11 PhD, 1 MD/PhD, 6 Masters programs
 - Approximately **385** students
- Training Grants:
 - Cancer Biology, and Toxicology
- 08-09 Enrollment 07-08 Graduates

25 PhD (62% US; M/F 13:12)	27 PhD
87 MS	67 MS

PHD:

- Anatomy and Cell Biology
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Cancer Biology
- Immunology and Microbiology
- Medical Physics
- Molecular and Cellular Toxicology
- Molecular Medicine and Genetics
- Pathology
- Pharmacology
- Physiology
- Translational Neuroscience

MS:

- Master of Public Health
- Genetic Counseling
- Radiologic Physics
- Psychiatry
- Biomedical Sciences
- Medical research

MD/PHD:

- 4 students/yr (32 total)
- 7-8 year program
- Full tuition scholarship
 - GPA ≥ 3.75
 - MCAT ≥ 11 avg.
- Combines basic science training, translational research, and state-of-the-art clinical medicine

WSU PhD Degree Requirements

- **Course and Lab Work (90 credits)**
 - 60 course credits and 30 dissertation research
- **Plan of Work**
- **Qualifying Examinations**
- **Choosing an Advisor/Mentor**
- **Dissertation Proposal**
- **Dissertation Research**
 - Dissertation Defense/Public Lecture
- **Graduation**

Ph.D. Interdisciplinary Biomedical Science Curriculum (IBS)

- **A unified knowledge base for all students**
(14 core credits 1st year)
 - Molecular Biology (5 Cr)
 - Cell Biology (5 Cr)
 - Systems Biology (4 Cr)
- **Reduce formal coursework and time-to-degree (6.7 to \approx 4.9)**
- **Allow more diversity of training**
- **Prepare students for Science in the new millennium**

Recruiting & Admissions: A Common Effort

- Recruiting Team
 - faculty and students (all programs)
 - develop recruiting strategies
 - design/produce materials
 - posters, PP presentations, flyers, and interactive multimedia CD-ROM
 - targeted campus visits
 - annual recruiting day/open house
- School-wide stipend award (admissions) committee
 - Stipends awarded on a competitive basis

Financial Support Available

- Competitive Graduate Research Assistantships
- University Fellowships
- Training Grants
- Stipend (**\$20,000**), plus Tuition, Fees and Subsidized Health Care (total ≈ \$35,500)

IBS Graduate Research Assistantship Philosophy

– Student Empowerment

- Portability (Support follows student)
- Student able to transfer among programs, under appropriate conditions, if desired

– Stable support for at least 4 years

- 100% for years 1 & 2 and
- 50%/50% for Yrs. 3 & 4
 - (Graduate Progs./Advisor or Department)

Co-Curricular Activities

- Graduate Student Research Day
- Graduate Student Symposium
- Student Council
- Parties?
- Dean's Brown Bag Lunches

Career Placement

Over 385 PhD Graduates since 1998

- **>85% go on to postdoctoral positions in:**
 - Universities
 - Government (NIH)
 - Industry/Biotech
- **Remainder continue at professional schools (medicine, law) or go directly into non-research teaching jobs**
- **>20% hold faculty positions**

Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

- Provide services to postdoctoral scholars and faculty supervisors.
- Enhance learning and productivity of WSU postdocs through postdoctoral policies to include:
 - A centralized appointment process
 - A common, but flexible, curriculum for postdoctoral training
 - Providing equal access to university resources and benefits regardless of funding source
 - Establishing time frame for postdoctoral transition to independence
 - Establishing a minimum baseline stipend, plus a stipend scale
- Facilitate effective mentoring and PD progress through creation of a required Individual Development Plan (IDP) with annual review
- Conducting an entry/exit interview
- Exploring career development options, such as
 - expanded educational curricula, writing workshops, assisting in training grant applications, career opportunities in industry and other private sectors, etc.

MD/PhD Program

Program Mission:

- Attract the best and brightest
- Provide outstanding physician-scientist training
- Obtain NIH MSTP support within 5-7 years
- Seed local and national residency and fellowship programs with our graduates
- Attract fully trained graduates back to our faculty

MD/PhD Program

Fall 2008

- 65 applicants
- 17 interviews
- 4 offers
- 3 acceptances
 - 1 female, 2 male
 - GPA range: 3.6 – 3.9
 - MCAT range: 11.0 – 12.0

MD/PhD Support

- Four medical tuition scholarships each year (≈\$100,000)
- Grad tuition (4 cr/sem), yrs 1 & 2
- Annual stipend
 - \$20,000
- Summer support (1st & 2nd yr)
 - \$2,500
- First full research year supported by Graduate Programs 100%
- PI responsible for support thereafter

Graduate Faculty Status

- **Regular (full) Graduate Faculty**
 - University appointment in a degree granting department
 - Mentor PhD and MS students
 - Serve on dissertation/thesis committees
 - Graduate School service
 - Teach graduate courses
- **Associate Graduate Faculty**
 - University appointment
 - Serve on PhD/MS committees
 - Mentor MS students
 - Teach graduate courses
- **Adjunct Graduate Faculty**
 - No University appointment
 - Volunteer, non-paid
 - Limited participation

Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Scholars

- On the Web at:
 - www.med.wayne.edu
 - Follow the link to the Graduate Programs page
- Email us: gradprog@med.wayne.edu
- By Phone: **313-577-1455**
- By Mail:
 - Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Scholars
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 - Wayne State University School of Medicine
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 - Detroit, MI 48201