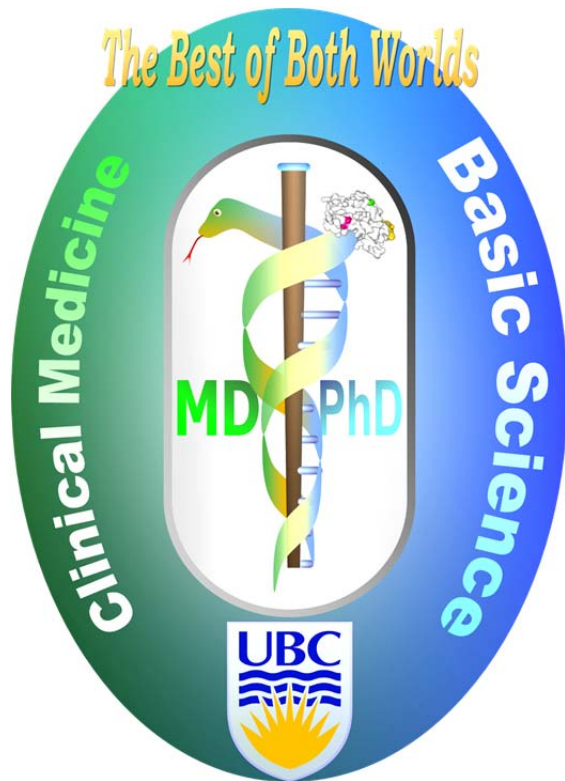


UBC MD/PhD PROGRAM



Research Areas

Public Health

Neuroscience

Anatomy & Physiology

Biochemistry

Medical Genetics

Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

Urology

Sports Medicine

and more ...

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.... with great passion for research?

.... interested in receiving a stipend while attending medical school at UBC?

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The UBC MD/PhD Program is a prestigious and challenging course of studies. The goals of the program are to develop and nurture future "physician-scientists" in all fields of medicine. Our students are trained to translate basic discoveries into improving diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease in patients.

Value of MD training

- Diverse knowledge, including most forms of human disease
- Realities of patient care
- Clinical thinking and decision-making
- Clinical implementation of new ideas

Value of PhD training

- Experience in critical assessment of evidence and experimental design
- Writing/reviewing grants and papers
- PhD credibility as a researcher
- MD/PhD program: more time to observe mentors and choose residency

UBC MD/PhD Program

<http://www.med.ubc.ca/mdphd>



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UBC MD/PhD Program

Financial Support:

- MD/PhD tuition fee is \$4,993.05 per year (2017-2018). This fee is charged in place of, rather than in addition to, the MD-only program tuition charge (currently \$17,755.38 per year)
- All MD/PhD students receive a studentship award through the MD/PhD Program (annual stipend \$21,000 and \$1,000 research allowance, renewable each year for a maximum of six years)
- First year students also receive the Faculty of Medicine Graduate Support Initiative Funding
- Top-ranked incoming students are eligible for the new MD/PhD Studentship awards which cover tuition and stipend
- Students are eligible for the UBC Four Year Doctoral Fellowship

Why choose MD/PhD @ UBC? Facts ...

- The UBC MD/PhD Program is a 7-year program
- Find your perfect supervisor from the highly regarded faculty members within the Faculty of Medicine
- You have your curriculum customized to synergize with your research
- You choose to work in one of the four medical programs
- There is sure to be a graduate program that aligns with your research interest
- Plenty of financial support: reduced tuition, scholarships, travel awards and research stipends
- The program hosts regular seminars for trainees and advocates for scheduling to balance research and clinical demands
- The program is expecting growth in student numbers in the coming academic years
- Connect with the highly motivated medical and graduate students ready for academic discussion, sports outings or a night of fun
- UBC is one of the top 3 Medical Schools in Canada and UBC is highly ranked among all Universities in the world
- UBC Faculty of Medicine has 6 affiliated research institutes and 15 affiliated research centres with cutting edge research tools

STUDENT PROFILE



Parker Jobin is in his fifth year of the program. Supervised by Dr. Chris Overall in the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology program, his research aims to expand our understanding of the roles of a class of proteases, matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs), in biology and develop techniques to monitor their activity in clinical samples. Advancements in proteomic methods have allowed the identification of a vast number of characterized and novel protease substrates, leading to speculation of partnerships previously unknown. Historically, the MMP family of proteases was thought to account for only degenerative changes in diseases and matrix turnover. However, broadly inhibiting them as therapy failed in clinical trials, indicating what is now known that MMPs possess a wide substrate specificity incorporating both homeostasis and disease. It is important to understand what MMPs cleave, as novel substrates may carry out beneficial roles and thus should not be blocked by drugs. Using MMP knockout mice and other knockdown models, he studies the role MMPs have in processing major classes of substrates in addition to designing selective reaction monitoring (SRM) assays and neo-epitope antibodies for translating MMP activity into clinical tools. Parker graduated in 2013 from UBC with a BSc in Honours Biochemistry. Outside of his projects, Parker has also served the program as its Graduate Student Society councilor and is an alumnus of UBC's men's volleyball team.

STUDENT PROFILE



Paulina Piesik is our current student representative in her fourth year of the program. She is supervised by Dr. Jan Dutz in the Experimental Medicine program. Paulina's research is in the field of skin immunology, particularly how it relates to systemic inflammation and immune tolerance. Allergic and autoimmune disorders are on the rise, creating enormous fiscal and psychosocial burdens on patients and the Canadian healthcare system. One promising therapeutic avenue to treat these conditions is immunomodulation, whereby the immune system is "reprogrammed" to suppress unwanted inflammation. Regulatory T cells (Tregs) are potent contributors in suppressing inflammation and can directly restrain inflammation in a manner that targets specific antigens, or molecules that are causative to inflammatory disease. Human skin is particularly rich in Tregs. Paulina will be exploring immunomodulatory strategies that harness the tolerogenic potential of skin Tregs to treat systemic inflammatory disease. Previous to entering the program, Paulina completed a BSc in Honours Cell Biology with a thesis on cell stress-coping mechanisms. Outside of research, she co-chairs the UBC Students in Health Undergraduate Research Conference and plays clarinet for the Medical Undergraduate Symphony Ensemble.

<http://mdprogram.med.ubc.ca/mdphd/students/>

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