



Molecular Genetics
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

~WELCOME TO the MOGEN community~

Talk Link: <https://play.library.utoronto.ca/login?sessionExpired=true>

Today's Goals:

- Learn about the program
- Learn about the current application process
- Have your questions answered



MolecularGeneticsUT



@MoGen_Grad



Molecular Genetics
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

~WELCOME TO the MOGEN community~

An Outstanding Environment for Scientific Discovery, Learning, Professional Development, and Building Networks



MolecularGeneticsUT



@MoGen_Grad



How to participate today (after all, this session is for YOU!):

1. Type questions in the Chat Box
2. Unmute yourself and chime in!



Molecular Genetics
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



Your Chair and Grad Coordinators: We're here to help!



Dr. Tim Hughes
Chair

mogen.chair@utoronto.ca
The Donnelly Centre,
Rm. 1302



Dr. Lori Frappier
Grad Coordinator

lori.frappier@utoronto.ca
MaRS, Rm1633



Dr. Michael Wilson
Associate Grad
Coordinator

michael.wilson@sickkid.ca
PGCRL, Rm 14-9713



Your Grad Program Administrators:



Purnoor Bala
Grad Program Coordinator
admissions
rotations, courses

Mgy.info@utoronto.ca
MSB, Rm 4396



Josh Paglione
Grad Program Coordinator
committee meetings,
exams, awards, funding

graduate.coordinator@utoronto.ca
MSB, Rm 4396

Graduate Studies in MoGen:

-MSc

-PhD

+Computational Biology & Molecular Genetics Track

-MSc in Genetic Counseling

-MHSc in Medical Genomics



Why do you want to go to graduate school?

Are you excited about discovery-based research and innovation?

Are you curious about how molecules, cells, and organisms do what they do?

Do you like solving puzzles at the bench or computationally?

Goals For our MoGen MSc/PhD Students

Learn how to be an effective scientist, solve problems, communicate clearly.

Make a contribution to your field, figure out how something in the world actually works, publish!

Build a CV, soft skills, and a network that will set you up for your next career steps.

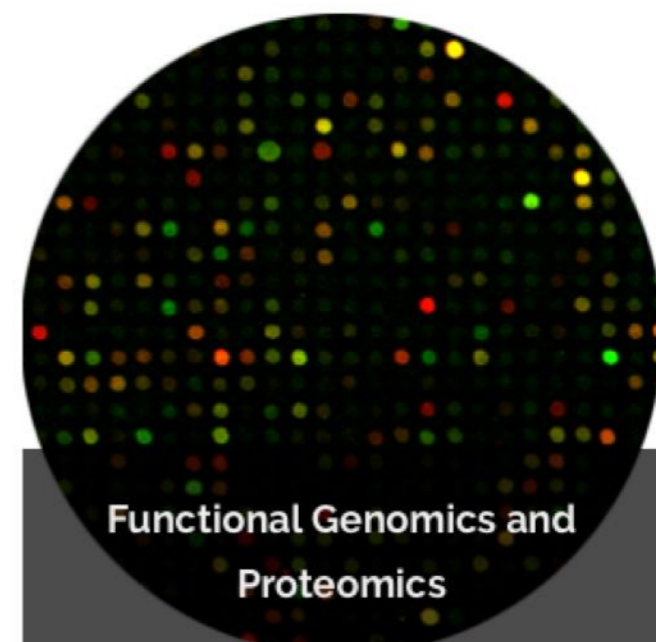
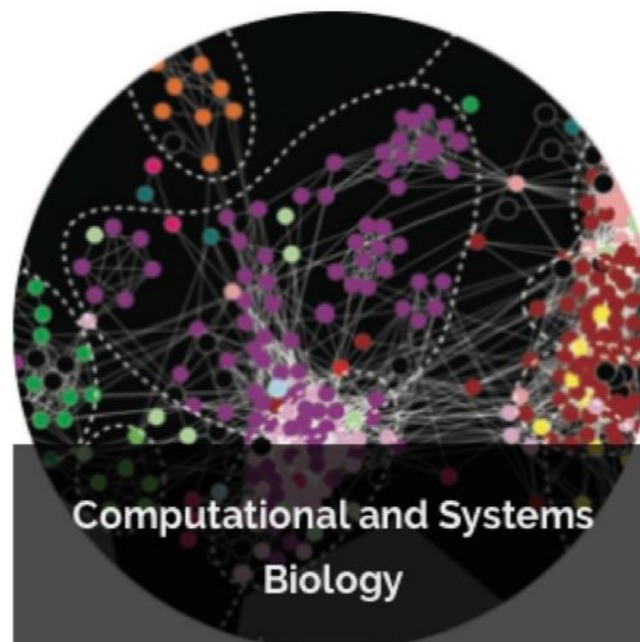
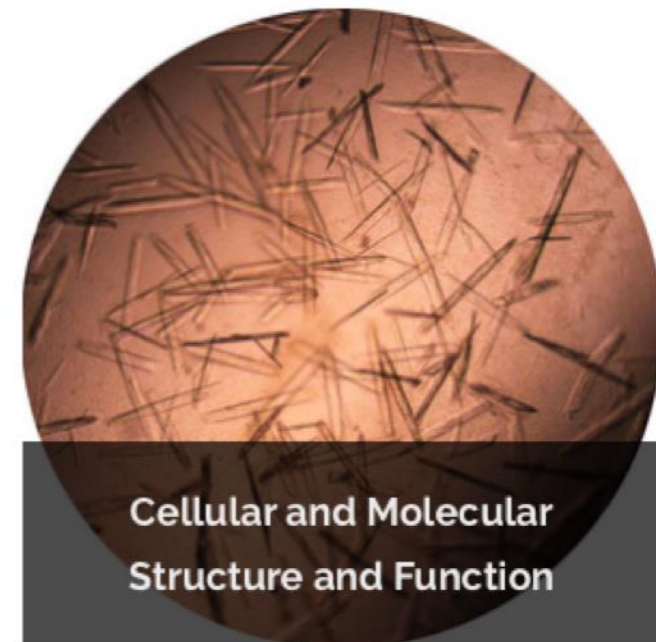
Best features of MoGen: Outstanding Faculty

Over **100** award winning faculty who are scientific leaders on the international stage.



Best features of MoGen: Cool Research Areas

Research strengths at the frontiers of biological research & discovery;
Collaborative Programs to build University-wide networks



Best features of MoGen: Cutting Edge Research Facilities

State-of-the-art research nodes all within walking distance in
downtown Toronto



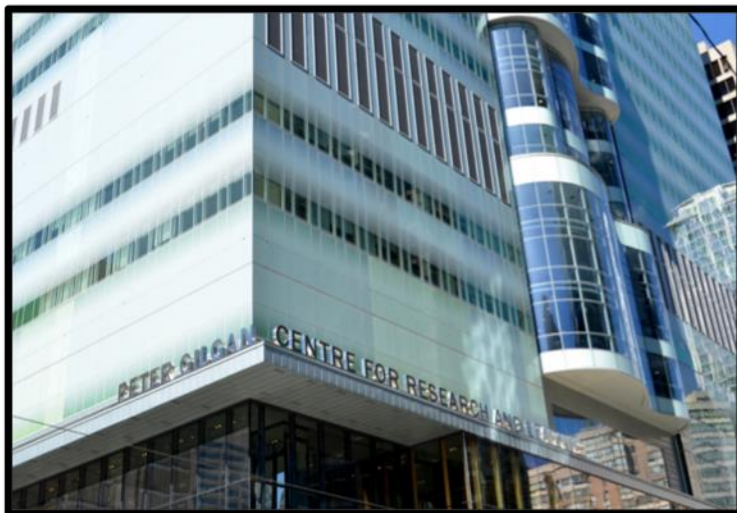
Medical Sciences Building
1 King College Circle



Donnelly Centre
160 College Street



Ontario Institute for Cancer Research
101 College Street



Peter Gilgan Centre for
Research & Learning
686 Bay Street



Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum
Research Institute
600 University Avenue



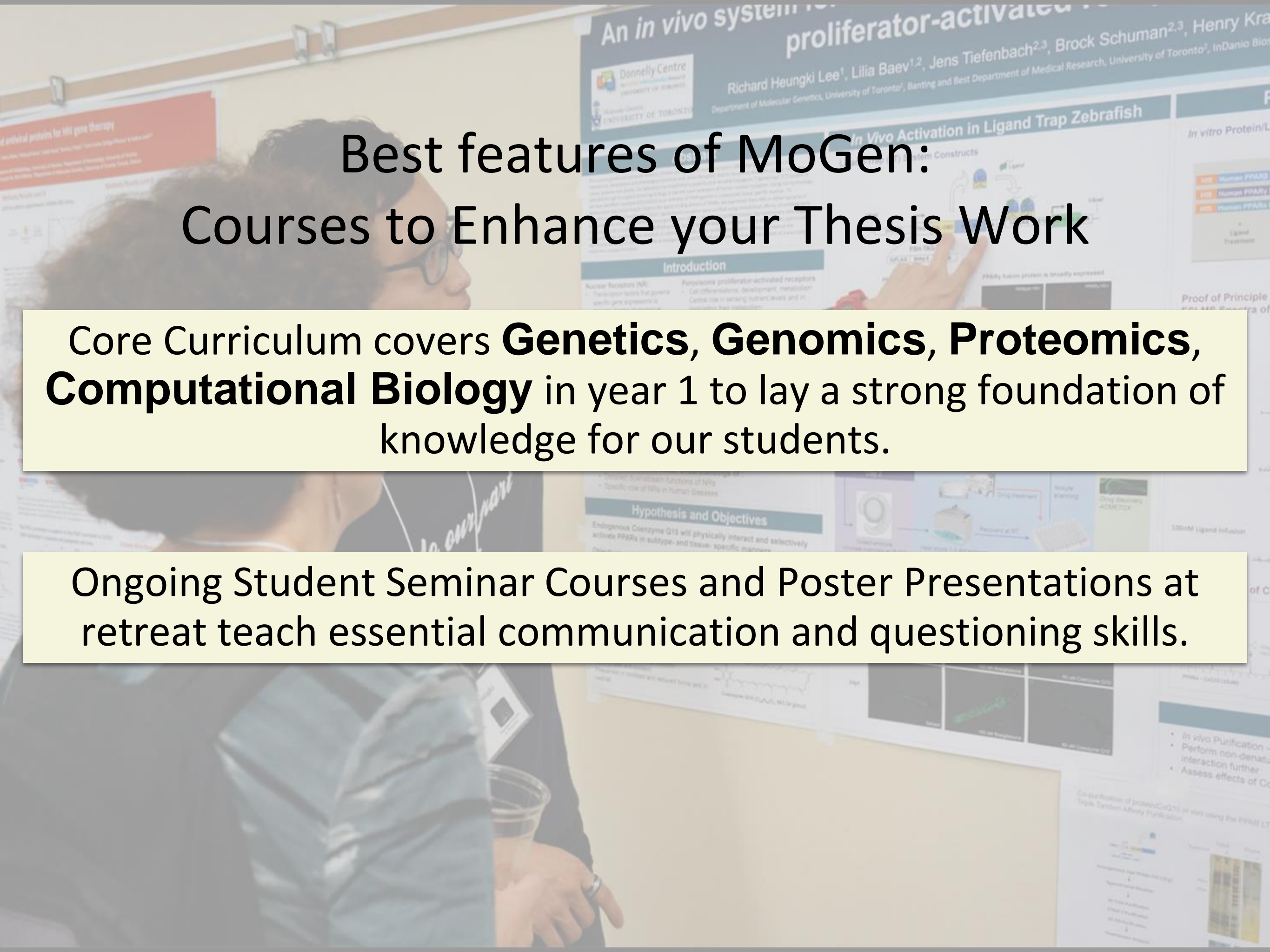
MaRS West Tower
661 University Avenue



Best features of MoGen: Rotations!

Our rotation program allows students to sample different research areas, and make a highly educated choice of research topics, laboratories and supervisors.

Three rotations in the first semester allows you to discover your scientific passion, find a mentor and lab environment that will foster your development, and build your skills and networks.

The background image shows a student seminar. A student with glasses is looking at a poster on a wall. The poster is titled "An in vivo system for... proliferator-activated..." and lists authors: Richard Heungki Lee¹, Lilia Baev^{1,2}, Jens Tiefenbach^{2,3}, Brock Schuman^{2,3}, Henry Kra... The poster also mentions the Donnelly Centre and the Department of Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto. Other posters are visible in the background, including one titled "In Vivo Activation in Ligand Trap Zebrafish" and another titled "In vitro Protein..."

Best features of MoGen: Courses to Enhance your Thesis Work

Core Curriculum covers **Genetics, Genomics, Proteomics, Computational Biology** in year 1 to lay a strong foundation of knowledge for our students.

Ongoing Student Seminar Courses and Poster Presentations at retreat teach essential communication and questioning skills.

Best features of MoGen: Engaged, Supportive Community

We are an engaged community that prioritizes mentorship and the student experience, cultivating an environment that promotes your success!

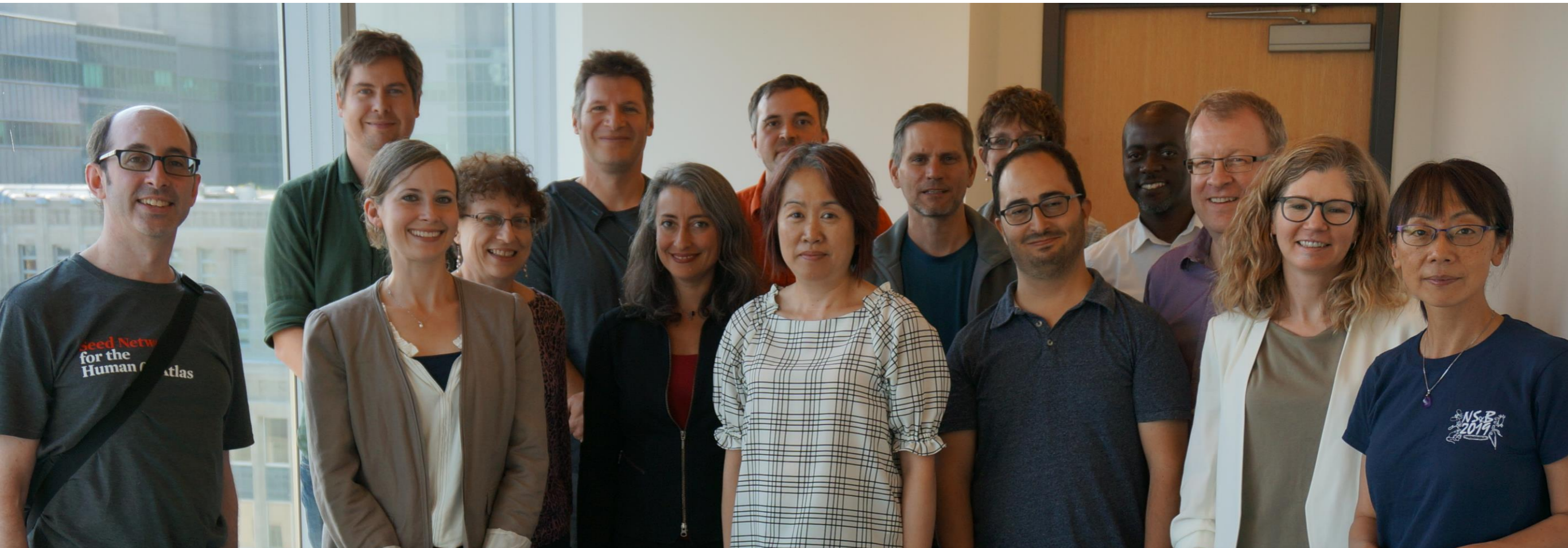
Opportunities to TA, write for our eNews letter and website, organize career and social events.

We enable students to become leaders and have a dynamic Graduate Student Association. In turn, they contribute to building a community we are all proud of!

Best features of MoGen: Engaged, Supportive Community



Your Grad Team: We're here to help!



Role: In-node resources, mentors,
counsellors for students and faculty



Best features of MoGen: Alumni Engagement and Networking

Many of our the graduates of our program are now leaders in academia, research, health care, and the private sector.

We engage alumni in bimonthly workshops and a once per year symposium.

We are committed to the success of our students, and have pioneered a career development program to **EDUCATE** our students about career possibilities when they complete their training, **EMPOWER** trainees to effectively network and identify career opportunities, and **ENABLE** trainees to develop skills required to succeed in diverse careers.

Guaranteed Stipend 2022-2023 (harmonized base funding agreement)

**MSc Total:
\$32,840**

**PhD Total:
\$35,602**

**International PhD Total:
\$36,358**

**Tuition \$7,980
*\$27,980 for Intl. MSc**

**Living Allowance
\$24,860 MSc
\$27,622 PhD**

**International Students
pay UHIP
\$756**

-up to \$4,000 top up for bringing in a scholarship

How do I learn more about the department and life as a grad student?

Check out our MoGen website, including a video about the program.

Also check out the GSA website and Facebook page,

<http://mogen.sa.utoronto.ca/>

Molecular Genetics GSA



Follow us on social media:

@MoGen_Grad

MolecularGeneticsUT

Talk to current students! (one on one and via social media)



Today's Info Session:

1. Graduate Studies in MoGen
2. How to Apply
3. Your Questions

How do I apply?

Find the full procedure on our website:

<http://bit.ly/1t7r3nJ>

All applications are submitted electronically at:

<http://apply.sgs.utoronto.ca>

Deadlines for Sept. 2023 start date:

Nov. 15th

Jan. 15th

May 1st

Suggested for
International students

Apply early and go in with your strongest application
(you get one chance per admissions cycle)!

MSc and PhD Streams

MSc: Applicants who have never been enrolled in an MSc program before, but have a B+ average or better in all relevant courses in their BSc. MSc students can reclassify to become PhD students or finish with an MSc.

Preferred: Direct Entry PhD

Applicants who have never been enrolled in an M.Sc. program but have an average of A- or higher in all relevant courses can apply for direct entry into our PhD program. **We will automatically consider you for the M.Sc. program if you don't meet the requirements for direct entry PhD.** If you change your mind about completing the PhD, there is a mechanism to switch to M.Sc.

PhD Regular: Those students who have a Molecular Biology thesis-research based MSc with an A- or higher average may apply for entry into our PhD program. (Authorship is preferred.)

What does my application packet contain?

Letter of Intent

Transcripts

CV

2 Letters of Reference

*Sponsorship form(international M.Sc. students)

*English language proficiency (international students who did University degree in language other than English)

Cost: \$120

Applicant Checklist

Refer to the application instruction on the Department of Molecular Genetics website:

www.moleculargenetics.utoronto.ca. Please ensure the completeness of your application using the following checklist:

Indicate the program you are applying for: M.Sc. Ph.D. Ph.D. (Direct Entry) Ph.D. (CBMG)

I have entered all personal data, current contact information and educational information on the SGS online application.

I have submitted contact information for at least TWO referees, including an institutional email address. For referees without an institutional email address, I have contacted mgy.info@utoronto.ca with that referee's name, title, institution, phone number, relationship to me and their nonc institutional email address, and received further instruction.

I have submitted payment of my application fee (none-refundable)

I have uploaded scanned copies of transcripts and their accompanying legends, from all the postc secondary institutions I have attended, to my online application.

****Note: transcripts must be complete and legible in order to be evaluated. Full course codes and course titles must appear on the transcript.** Transcripts submitted with no legend will not be accepted.

I have uploaded my CV to the online application. The CV was saved as a PDF document before uploading.

I have uploaded my Letter of Intent to the online application. The Letter of Intent was saved as a PDF document before uploading.

No hardcopies of any documents, including references, have been submitted as part of this application.

If applicable, I have submitted an English Language Proficiency test score to the University of Toronto.

I have ensured the completeness of my application and uploaded the Applicant Checklist as a PDF file to my online application.

For M.Sc. International/Visa applicants:

I have secured a supervisor from the Department of Molecular Genetics prior to submission of my online application (This is only required for international M.Sc. students).

My sponsor, Dr. _____ will complete and submit the sponsorship form and email it to mgy.info@utoronto.ca by the application deadline.

Name

Date

Use the Checklist
as a guide for
completing your
application. The
MoGen rules
supersede SGS
rules.

Application Process: Letter of Intent

We require a structured Letter of Intent which addresses:

Past and current research experience.

Research interests, or
faculty you

graduate study and
thesis.

Long-term profes
Mo

MSc or PhD in
.

-2 pages
-be focused, succinct
-write in letter style
-be authentic/sincere

Clarify any details of your academic path relevant to your application.

Clarify any impact of Covid-19 on your application (this may be relevant to your research experience statement).

Application process

Transcripts:

Evidence of Outstanding Education (4 year BSc or MSc):

->3.3/4.0 GPA or >B+ avg.

->80% in Genetics, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology Courses
(Scanned transcript from every post-secondary institution)

Lab Research Experience:

-beyond the classroom! eg. summer work, 2nd or 3rd year project and 4th year thesis

-if you were unable to acquire lab experience due to Covid-19, explain this in your letter of intent

-We encourage all students to apply, regardless of research experience

Letters of Reference: at least 2

-From PI who supervised your thesis OR

-From PI who supervised your summer research OR

-From PIs who knew you well in your courses

Interviews: Many students will be interviewed, especially those without research experience.

International Applicants

- Must submit the results of an English language proficiency test if you graduated from a non-Canadian university where the language of instruction/examination was not English (ex. TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, COPE)
- M.Sc. Applicants must secure a sponsor within the Department. Your sponsor sends a form to Purnoor stating they will sponsor you.
- Ph.D. applicants do not need a sponsor to apply

New: Application fee is waived for Iranian students

Finding a Sponsor

This could be a faculty member you have already worked with.

Contact faculty in whose research you are interested by email. Send them your CV and transcripts and explain your interest in their lab. Meet or Zoom/Skype with them.

The department does not facilitate identifying sponsors; it is the applicant's responsibility.

Visas/Study Permits

Visa processing times are slowed (~12 weeks last summer) so apply early.

Students must arrive by program start date in Sept.

Computational Biology in Molecular Genetics Track-PhD

The CBMG track aims to provide students with an immersive computational biology education. Students are admitted to the Molecular Genetics PhD program and are provided opportunities and courses specific to their discipline to maximize their training potential. For both Biologists who have programming expertise and Quantitative Scientists with less Biology background.

Coordinators: Profs. Gary Bader and Hannes Rost

Curriculum: Regular PhD Curriculum plus 2 Advanced Computational Biology Courses

CBMG Application/Admissions

- A Bachelor's degree in life sciences or quantitative disciplines (physics, math/stats, computer science, chemistry or engineering).
- An undergraduate average of A- or higher (or equivalent).
- Evidence of comfort and ease with computer programming, e.g. academic excellence in multiple computer courses, computational research, programming through employment or extracurricular activities.
- Academic excellence in two or more quantitative subjects: calculus, linear algebra, probability/statistics or other math or quantitative courses.
- Research experience outside the classroom — wet or dry, biological or non-biological. This includes summer studentships, a lab job that involves working on scientific problems and most fourth-year honours projects.
- A completed online application form indicating "CBMG" in the "Proposed Area of Study".
- At least two letters of reference.
- A letter of intent - be sure to explain your interest in the CBMG Ph.D. track.
- A successful interview.

When accepted:

Attend recruitment day (in March and June)
to hear more details about our program and
meet with students and PIs

Return acceptance letter promptly
Deadline is ~10 weeks after offer

Consider rotation labs, talk with PIs (we survey students
in the summer to find out your first rotation choice)

We hope you'll join us next fall!

Questions?

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