

Molecular Mechanisms of Microbial Pathogenesis Training Program (MMMP)

The University of Michigan

The MMMP is an NIH funded training grant which provides an array of opportunities for both graduate and post-doctoral training that are intended to supplement your individual research program. The programmatic requirements have been crafted to provide a broader appreciation for microbial pathogenesis and infectious diseases than might be typical in a departmental graduate program.

All trainees are required to attend and participate in the Microbiology 813 Pathogenesis Journal Club, which meets on Monday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. in the Wheeler Lecture Room at 5623 Medical Science II. In addition, trainees are required to participate in MEDID-I.101.U, a discussion course taught collaboratively between the Department of Microbiology and Immunology and the Infectious Diseases Division of the Department of Internal Medicine. This course combines basic microbial mechanisms of pathogenesis with clinical correlations of infectious diseases. Finally, NIH requires trainees to attend sessions on the Responsible Conduct of Research. To satisfy this requirement you may sign up for PIBS 503.

Students with a demonstrated interest in pathogenesis training and who are at least in their second or, preferably, third year of graduate training are eligible for the MMMP. Students are typically appointed to the MMMP for a two-year term. In terms of the number of predoctoral slots we have been awarded by NIH, the MMMP is a relatively small training program. We have only three predoctoral slots each year, therefore, the MMMP will only call for applications every other year (1999, 2001, 2003, etc).

Students are nominated by an MMMP faculty member. A student who chooses a mentor not in the MMMP program but whose research area is appropriate for pathogenesis training may bring that faculty member into the Program by applying for support and having the mentor provide a CV, letter of research interest, funding support and training record.

Application materials consist of a letter from the mentor nominating the student, a copy of the student's complete Rackham application which includes the statement of purpose, GRE scores, transcripts, and letters of recommendation. The student should also write a statement as to why he/she thinks they are appropriate for the MMMP.

For any information regarding the MMMP, please contact the Program Director, Dr. Victor DiRita or Margaret Allen, Program Administrator (see below for contact information).

Victor DiRita, Ph.D.
Campus address: ULAM, 010 ARF, Box 0614
Phone: 936-3804
E-mail: vdirita@umich.edu

Margaret Allen
Microbiology and Immunology
5641 Med Sci II, Box 0620
E-mail: allenm@umich.edu