Student Participation in the Scientific Community

Students in the MolTox Program present at the following conferences:

- Society of Toxicology (SOT)
- Southern California SOT (SCSOT)
- American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)
- Experimental Biology
- American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS)

Besides having opportunities to collaborate with many UCLA institutes and faculty, MolTox students have collaborated with the following institutions:

- Brookhaven National Laboratory
- Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI)
- Fibrogen Inc.
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
- Southern California Particle Center
- UCLA Veteran’s Hospital

★ Sabeeha Merchant, Ph.D (Professor of Biochemistry)- metals toxicology
★ Jeffrey H. Miller, Ph.D (Professor of Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics)- mutagenesis, mutational pathways and DNA repair, genetic toxicology
★ Andre Nel, MD, Ph.D (Professor of Medicine)- respiratory and nano toxicology.
★ Frank Pajonk, M.D., Ph.D (Associate Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology)- radiation biology
★ Suzanne E. Paulson, Ph.D (Professor of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences)- environmental toxicology
★ Beate Ritz, MD., Ph.D (Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health)- environmental toxicology
★ Wendie Robbins, Ph.D (Professor of Nursing and Environmental Health Sciences)- reproductive toxicology
★ Michael Roth, M.D. (Professor of Medicine)- toxicology of inhaled substance abuse.
★ Robert Schiestl, Ph.D (Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine/Environmental Health Sciences)- carcinogenesis, environmental toxicology
★ Joan S. Valentine, Ph.D (Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry)- metals toxicology
★ Z. Zhang, Ph.D. (Professor of Epidemiology)- molecular epidemiology

★ These represent our “mentoring faculty members” who can act as advisors for doctoral theses.

Contact Information

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Molecular Toxicology Interdepartmental PhD Program
Website: [www.ph.ucla.edu/moltox](http://www.ph.ucla.edu/moltox)
Introduction

The Molecular Toxicology (MolTox) Interdepartmental program at UCLA has 28 faculty members from sixteen different departments within three schools (Public Health, Medicine and the college of Letters and Science). The program offers a doctoral degree (Ph.D.) in Molecular Toxicology. Doctoral students have the opportunity to rotate in several laboratories during their first year in the program before selecting a permanent training laboratory and mentor. Alternatively, some students can directly join a research laboratory in their first year. Strong areas of research include: mechanisms of chemical carcinogenesis, toxicity of reactive oxygen and nitrogen species, air pollution toxicology, nanotoxicology, radiation toxicology, and the role of toxicants in Parkinson’s disease. Students are provided a generous stipend along with tuition, fees, and health insurance remissions. The program in Molecular Toxicology continues to define graduate training in toxicology. Graduates of our program are primed for leadership roles in academia, government, and industry. Our alumni are a testament to the program’s success and have acquired the training, talent and confidence to excel in their careers.

For further information on the program, housing, curriculum, and life in Los Angeles please visit our website at: www.ph.ucla.edu/moltox

Admission Requirements

The University requires applicants to have an acceptable bachelor’s degree with a minimum of a B (3.0) average in upper division coursework. Applicants should have completed a 4 unit undergraduate course in statistics and are recommended to have completed coursework in calculus, cell biology, genetics, physiology, microbiology, molecular biology, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, and physical chemistry by the time that they would matriculate into the program. Excellent students from all disciplines will be considered for admission, with the opportunity to make up deficiencies during their graduate curriculum. Applicants must provide three letters of recommendation, GRE/MCAT scores, official copies of transcripts, TOEFL scores (if applicable), and a statement of purpose. An online application must be submitted at: http://www.gdnet.ucla.edu/gasaa/majors/molecotox.html or http://www.ph.ucla.edu/students_apply.html

Financial Support

All students admitted to the Ph.D. program will receive financial support covering an annual stipend (currently $27,500), and tuition and fees. These funds come from a variety of sources including the UCLA Graduate Division, a training grant from the NIEHS, Teaching Assistantships, and grant funds to the student’s mentor. Students are also encouraged to apply for national and UCLA scholarship opportunities.

Faculty and Research

* Jesús Araujo, M.D., Ph.D (Assistant Professor of Medicine, Director of Environmental Cardiology)- Environmental cardiology and biology of vascular endothelial oxidative stress

* Judith Berliner, Ph.D (Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine)- mechanisms of endothelial inflammatory activation by phospholipid oxidation products

* Jeff Bronstein, M.D., Ph.D (Professor of Neurology)- environmental and neurotoxicology, Parkinson’s disease

* Gautam Chaudhuri, M.D., Ph.D (Professor of Pharmacology)- reproductive toxicology and carcinogenesis

* Marie-Francoise Chesselet, Ph.D (Chair of Neurobiology)- neurotoxicology, Parkinson’s disease

* Catherine Clark, Ph.D (Professor of Biochemistry)- function of coenzyme Q

* Michael Collins, Ph.D (Professor of Environmental Health Sciences)- developmental toxicology

* Curtis Eckhart, Ph.D (Professor of Environmental Health Sciences)- molecular basis of boron essentiality and toxicity in humans and animals.

* John Froines, Ph.D (Professor of Environmental Health Sciences)- risk assessment, environmental toxicology

* Richard Gatti, M.D., Ph.D (Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine)- radiation and genetic toxicology

* Hilary Godwin, Ph.D (Professor of Environmental Health Sciences)- metals and environmental toxicology

* Oliver Hankinson, Ph.D (Program Director, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine)- environmental toxicology and carcinogenesis

* Philip Harber, M.D., M.P.H (Professor of family medicine)- bioinformatics of environmental hazard exposure

* Louis J. Ignarro, Ph.D (Nobel Laureate, professor of Molecular and Medical Pharmacology)- molecular toxicology of nitric oxide

* David Krantz, M.D., Ph.D (Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences)- neurotoxicology

* William McBride, Ph.D (Professor of Radiation Oncology)- radiation toxicology

* William Melega, M.D., Ph.D (Professor of Molecular and Medical Pharmacology)- neurotoxicology

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3D-HPLC chromatogram of aflatoxin B1 metabolism