Introduction

Acadia Sinica has established the Taiwan International Graduate Program (TIGP) in collaboration with a consortium of key national research universities in Taiwan. The purpose of this program is to develop the pool of research manpower in the modern multidisciplinary fields that are important for the future economical and social development of Taiwan and to enhance the innovative potential and academic standards of research in these and related fields.

TIGP offers Ph.D. programs in selected inter-disciplinary areas in the physical sciences, applied sciences, engineering, biological and agricultural sciences, life and medical sciences, and humanities and social sciences. All courses are offered in English.

Acadia Sinica assumes principal oversight of the academic options of the Program. It will provide the intellectual leadership, the research resources, and the research and physical facilities. Qualified and interested faculty members of the participating national research universities are invited to join as affiliated faculty of the Program, and participate in the teaching of courses, supervision of research, and mentoring of the international graduate students.
The TIGP program in Molecular Medicine

The complete mapping of the human genome ensures that we will witness breakthroughs in biomedical research at an accelerated pace in the coming decades. For the first time in the history of medicine, the physiological functions and pathology of normal and disease genes are being studied at both molecular and genomic levels. Although the lag between the identification of disease-associated genes and the development of clinical applications is rapidly decreasing, major challenges in the postgenomic era are beginning to rise. An efficient collaboration that integrates basic science, clinical research, and biotechnology should address these challenges.

The Molecular Medicine program (MM) is offered by the Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Academia Sinica and the School of Life Sciences, National Yang-Ming University. The MMP program has 115 faculty members with diverse disciplines in both fundamental and translational research. We have not only established vigorous collaboration with the research communities at Academia Sinica, but also developed close ties with clinicians in major medical centers throughout Taiwan. The MMP into MM (remove P) program is designed to offer rigorous training and exciting research opportunities to Ph.D. students who are interested in working on the frontier areas of biomedical sciences. The teaching and research objectives of our comprehensive Molecular Medicine Programs are three-fold:

1. To promote biomedical research and pursue excellence of science by developing a strong teaching and research program in frontier biomedical sciences;
2. To broaden and deepen our understanding of human diseases: from structure to function and from physiology to pathology;
3. To strengthen and promote translational research by bridging basic science and clinical studies and to expedite the development of biomedical technology.

Research Topics

The MM program has many faculty members whose research projects encompass both basic and clinically-oriented research.

(1) Functional Genomics and Bioinformatics
   - Disease Gene Discovery Using Genomic and Proteomic Approaches
   - Functional Genomics
   - Bioinformatics

(2) Molecular and Cellular Basis of Gene Function
   - Gene Regulation
   - Apoptosis and Cell Cycle Regulation
   - Signal Transduction
   - Differentiation and Development
   - Immunology
   - Structural Biology
   - Electrophysiology

(3) Disease Mechanisms
   - Molecular Epidemiology and Toxicology
   - Cardiovascular and Blood Diseases
   - Neuronal Diseases
   - Virus and Infectious Diseases
   - Cancer and Neoplastic Transformation

(4) Medical Biotechnology
   - Biochips and Microarrays
   - Disease Gene Diagnosis
   - Stem Cell Biology
   - Cell and Gene Therapy
   - Drug Design and Development
   - Nanomedicine
Faculty Members

Academia Sinica

Dr. Ya-Jen Chang
Ph.D. National Taiwan University
Allergy and Asthma / Innate Immunity

Dr. Yi-Cheng Chang
M.D. National Taiwan University
Ph.D. Academia Sinica and National Taiwan University Joint Program of Translational Medicine
Diabetes Mellitus and Obesity / Genetic Epidemiology

Dr. Chien-Chang Chen
Ph.D. University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Electrophysiology / Cardiovascular Function / Gene Targeting / Mouse Genetics

Dr. Chih-Cheng Chen
Ph.D. University College London
Pain / Neurobiology / Mouse Genetics

Dr. Ching-Feng Cheng
Ph.D. University of California, San Diego
Mouse Phenotyping / Integrative Physiology / Molecular Cardiology

Dr. Yijuang Chern
Ph.D. University of Massachusetts
Signal Transduction / Gene Regulation

Dr. Cathy S.-J. Fann
Ph.D. University of Iowa
Genetic Statistics / Genetic Epidemiology

Dr. Patrick C.H. Hsieh
Ph.D. University of Washington (Seattle)
Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine / Nanobiotechnology / Translational Research

Dr. Che-Ming (Jack) Hu
Ph.D. University of California, San Diego (Bioengineering)
Nanoparticles and Nano-biointerface

Dr. Yi-Shuian Huang
Ph.D. University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center
Translational Control / Molecular Neuroscience

Dr. Dennis W. Hwang
Ph.D. National Taiwan University
MRI method development

Dr. You-Di Liao
Ph.D. National Taiwan University
Protein Chemistry / Antitumor Ribonucleases / Antimicrobial Protein / Peptides

Dr. Jung-Hsin Lin
Ph.D. University of Duisburg, Germany
Pharmacoinformatics / Computational Biophysics

Dr. Teng-Nan Lin
Ph.D. University of Missouri-Columbia
Cerebral Ischemia / Angiogenesis / Neurochemistry

Dr. Yi-Ling Lin
Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles
Molecular Virology / Viral Pathogenesis / Viral Immunology

Dr. Fu-Tong Liu
Ph.D. University of California
Galectins / Allergic Inflammation / Atopic Dermatitis

Dr. Yun Mou
Ph.D. California Institute of Technology
Computational Protein Design / Antibody Engineering / Cancer Research / Immunotherapy

Dr. Steve R. Roffler
Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley
Monoclonal Antibodies / Prodrugs / Surface Expression

Dr. Ching-Feng Cheng
Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Molecular Epidemiology / Cancer Genetics
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Sheau-Yann Shieh</td>
<td>Ph.D. Baylor College of Medicine</td>
<td>Cancer Research / Molecular Biology / Biochemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Chiaho Shih</td>
<td>Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Molecular Virology / Viral Hepatitis and Hepatoma / Cancer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Hsiu-Ming Shih</td>
<td>Ph.D. University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Signaling Transduction / Ubiquitin / Sumoylation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Jr-Wen Shui</td>
<td>Ph.D. Baylor College of Medicine</td>
<td>Host Defense / Mucosal Immunology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Bai Chuang Shyu</td>
<td>Ph.D. Goteborg Univ., Sweden</td>
<td>Electrophysiology / Pain and Epilepsy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Song-Kun Shyue</td>
<td>Ph.D. University of Texas-Houston</td>
<td>Viral Vector / Gene Transfer / Vascular Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Jung-Hsiang Tai</td>
<td>Ph.D. Michigan State University</td>
<td>Molecular Parasitology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Tang K. Tang</td>
<td>Ph.D. Yale University</td>
<td>Molecular Genetics / Cell Mitosis &amp; Germ Cell Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Mi-Hua Tao</td>
<td>Ph.D. Columbia University</td>
<td>Cancer Vaccines / Immunotherapy / Gene Therapy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Woan-Yuh Tarn</td>
<td>Ph.D. National Tsing Hua University</td>
<td>RNA Processing / Nucleocytoplasmic Transport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Guey-Shin Wang</td>
<td>Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University</td>
<td>Post-Transcriptional Control / Cardiovascular Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Yu-Ting Yan</td>
<td>Ph.D. University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey</td>
<td>Molecular Genetics / Developmental Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Pan-Chyr Yang</td>
<td>Ph.D. National Taiwan University</td>
<td>Cell and Molecular Biology / Cancer Genomics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Ruey-Bing (Ray) Yang</td>
<td>Ph.D. University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Center</td>
<td>Receptor Biology / Signal Transduction / Vascular Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Shi-Bing Yang</td>
<td>Ph.D. University of Göttingen, Germany</td>
<td>Neurophysiology and Energy Homeostasis</td>
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<td>National Yang-Ming University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Amy P. Chang</td>
<td>Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University</td>
<td>Epigenetic and cancer regulation / Sumoylation in epigenetic regulation and chromatin remodeling / Autophage signaling in tumorigenesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Yuan-I Chang</td>
<td>Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University</td>
<td>Epigenetics / Hematopoiesis / Cancer Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Yih-Hsin Chang</td>
<td>Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University</td>
<td>Obesity / Metabolic Syndrome / Diabetes Mellitus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Chi-Ju Chen</td>
<td>Ph.D. Genetics Program Michigan State University</td>
<td>Molecular Virology / Host-Virus Interaction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Hong-Chen Chen</td>
<td>Ph.D. Cornell University</td>
<td>Cell Biology/Cancer Research/Bioimaging</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Mei-Yu Chen</td>
<td>Ph.D. BCMB program, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine</td>
<td>Molecular Mechanism of Amoeboid Chemotaxis and Cancer Invasion / Mechanism of TOR Signaling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Nien-Jung Chen</td>
<td>Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University</td>
<td>Molecular Immunology / Transgenic and Knockout Mouse Model / Inflammation Modulatory Surface Receptors / TLR and TNFR Signal Transduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Wei-Yi Chen</td>
<td>Ph.D. National Defense Medical Center, Taiwan</td>
<td>Neuronal circuit / Protein indicator / Advanced microscopy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Hung-Chi Cheng</td>
<td>Ph.D. in Neuroscience, Karolinska Institute, Sweden</td>
<td>Neurosurgery / Neurochemistry / Cell Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Irene Han-Juo Cheng</td>
<td>Ph.D. Cornell University, Ithaca, New York</td>
<td>Biochemistry / Molecular and Cellular Biology / Genetic Neurodegeneration Diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Tzu-Hao Cheng</td>
<td>Ph.D. Pharmacology, Rutgers University/UMDNJ</td>
<td>Biological Functions of MDM2 Isoforms / Regulation of PolyQ Mediated Protein Aggregation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ya-Wei Cheng</td>
<td>Ph.D. Institute of Neuroscience, National Yang-Ming University</td>
<td>Social Neuroscience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Affiliation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Tsui-Ting Ching</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Kentucky</td>
<td>Genetic control of aging / Development of high-throughput anti-aging drug screening in C. elegan platform</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Shih-Hwa Chiou</td>
<td>Ph.D., National Yang-Ming University</td>
<td>Stem Cell / Eye Immunology &amp; Virology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Chi-Yuan Chou</td>
<td>Ph.D., National Defense Medical Center</td>
<td>Protein structure and function / Biomolecular interactions / Molecular Enzymology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Teh-Ying Chou</td>
<td>Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine</td>
<td>Invasion and Metastasis of Lung Cancer / Thoracic Pathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Yun-Chia Jenny Chou</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Florida</td>
<td>Nerve Chemistry and Neural Pathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Yeh-Shiu Chu</td>
<td>PhD, Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI) University</td>
<td>Mechanobiology / Cell-cell adhesion and membrane dynamics / Light microscopy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Ming-Yi Chung</td>
<td>Ph.D., Pathobiology, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis</td>
<td>Human Genetics and Genomics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Ivan Dzhagalov</td>
<td>Ph.D., Duke University, Durham, USA</td>
<td>Cell Development / Clearance of Dead Cells and Phagocytosis / Intravital Imaging</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Ming-Ji Fann</td>
<td>Ph.D., California Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Development and Regeneration of Nerves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Shu-Ling Fu</td>
<td>Ph.D., State University of New York at Stony Brook</td>
<td>Molecular Biology / Cancer Research/Anti-cancer natural products</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Ao-Lin Hsu</td>
<td>Ph.D., Med. Chem. and Pharmaceutics, University of Kentucky</td>
<td>Molecular Genetics of Aging / Dietary Restriction / Longevity Regulation / Drug Discovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Chia-Lin Hsu</td>
<td>Ph.D., Duke University, Durham, USA</td>
<td>Metabolic regulation of immune cell’s functions / Multifaceted roles of lysosomes in immune cells / Innate immunity sensing and regulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Hsien-Yeh Hsu</td>
<td>Ph.D., Cornell University, Ithaca, New York</td>
<td>Cell and Molecular Biology / Cell Model / Diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Chi-Ying F. Huang</td>
<td>Ph.D., Iowa State University</td>
<td>Genomics Medicine / Signal Transduction / Cancer Biology / Systems Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Hsuan-Cheng Huang</td>
<td>Ph.D., National Taiwan University</td>
<td>Network Biology / Systems Biology / Bioinformatics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Jie-rong Huang</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Cambridge, UK</td>
<td>Structural and functional characterization of disease- related intrinsically disordered proteins using NMR and computational modeling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Shuen-Iu Hung</td>
<td>Ph.D., National Yang-Ming University</td>
<td>Pharmaco Genomics / Immune Disorders / Human Genetics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Lung-Sen Kao</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA</td>
<td>Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Szu-Hao Kung</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of South Florida</td>
<td>Molecular Virology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Jean-Cheng Kuo</td>
<td>Ph.D., National Taiwan University</td>
<td>Cell adhesion / Dynamic regulation of cytoskeleton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Hsueh-Te Lee</td>
<td>Ph.D., National Cheng-Kung University</td>
<td>Neurophysiology / Neurovascular disease research / Tumor selective metastasis research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Hsiao-Hui Lee</td>
<td>Ph.D., National Taiwan University, Taiwan</td>
<td>Molecular and Cellular Biology / Biochemistry / Cell Mechanics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Oscar K. Lee</td>
<td>Ph.D., University College London</td>
<td>Stem Cell Biology / Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Tzong-Shyuan Lee</td>
<td>Ph.D., National Defense Medical Center</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Physiology / Immunology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Yi-Jang Lee</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of Rochester</td>
<td>Cofilin Function / Radiosensitivity &amp; Metastasis of Cancer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Wan-Chun Li</td>
<td>Ph.D., University of BATH, UK</td>
<td>Cancer Biology / Cell Biology / Regenerative Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Chao-Hsiung Lin</td>
<td>Ph.D., The State University of New York at Stony Brook</td>
<td>Proteomics and Applications of Mass Spectroscopy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Chi-Hung Lin</td>
<td>Ph.D., Department of Biology, Yale University</td>
<td>Genomics / Cell Biology / Biophotonic</td>
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</table>
Dr. Ching-Po Lin  
Ph.D. National Taiwan University, Taiwan  
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) / Diffusion Spectrum Imaging (DSI) / Bioengineering / Image Processing

Dr. Chung-Chih Lin  
Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University  
Cellular and Molecular Biology of Organelles

Dr. Wey-Jinq Lin  
Ph.D. Biochemistry, University of California, Riverside  
Signal Transduction / Mitochondria / Protein methylation

Dr. Fu-Chin Liu  
Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Neural development and plasticity of the basal ganglia circuits in the mammalian forebrain

Dr. Shwu-Huey Liaw  
Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles  
Structural Biology and Protein Engineering

Dr. Cheng-Chang Lien  
Ph.D. University of Freiburg  
Neurophysiology / Electrophysiology and Neurobiology

Dr. Jeng-Fan Lo  
Ph.D. University of Illinois  
Molecular Immunology / Molecular Oncology

Dr. Yu-Li Lo  
Ph.D. University of Minnesota at Twin Cities  
Nanomedicine / Liposome and nanoparticle / Anticancer drug and adjuvant

Dr. Bei-Jung Lin  
Ph.D. University of Goettingen / International Max Planck Research School  
Neuroscience / Behavioral Electrophysiology / Learning and Memory

Dr. Wailap Victor Ng  
Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA  
Molecular Biomedicine / Proteomics Analysis / Systems Biology

Dr. Yueh-Hsin Ping  
Ph.D. The State University of New Jersey/UMDNJ  
Gene Regulation / Molecular Interaction / MicroRNA

Dr. Bing-wen Song  
Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University  
Neurodegenerative Diseases / Neurogenetic Diseases / Molecular Genetics / Neurotherapeutics / RNAi / Stem Cell Therapy

Dr. Chung-Wai Shiau  
Ph.D. The Ohio State University  
Medicinal Chemistry / Drug Discovery

Dr. Kuang-Hui Sun  
Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University  
Immunology / Molecular Biology / Microbiology

Dr. Jin-Wu Tsai  
Ph.D. Columbia University, USA  
Neural Development / Neural Degenerative Disorders / Optical Microscopy / Mechanobiology / Stem Cell Biology / Biophotonics

Dr. Ting-Fen Tsai  
Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University  
Mouse Genetics and Human Disease Models

Dr. Meei-Ling Tsaun  
Ph.D. University of Texas at Dallas  
Pain Neurobiology / Drug Development for Neuropathic Pain

Dr. Ping-Hui Tseng  
Ph.D. The Ohio State University  
Signal Transduction

Dr. Hsin-Ell Wang  
Ph.D. National Taiwan University  
Radiation Chemistry / Nuclear Medical Pharmacology / Nuclear Medicine

Dr. Won-Jing Wang  
Ph.D. National Taiwan University  
Centrosome and Cilia Biology / Molecular and Cell Biology / Cancer Research

Dr. Fen-Hwa Wong  
Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University  
Tumor Biology and Signal Transduction

Dr. Cheng-Wen Wu  
Ph.D. Case Western Reserve University  
Viral Oncology / Gene Transcription / Cancer Metastasis

Dr. Ding-I Yang  
Ph.D. University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, Minnesota  
Molecular Biology / Cellular Biology / Neuroscience

Dr. Muh-Hwa Yang  
Ph.D. National Yang-Ming University  
Cancer Biology / Medical Oncology

Dr. Ueng-Cheng Yang  
Ph.D. Princeton University  
Genomics / Gene Express / Proteomics Data Analysis / Disease Gene Discovery

Dr. Jenn-Yah Yu  
Ph.D. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
mRNAs / Neural Development / Germline Stem Cells
Curriculum and Degree

Introduction
The education and training of graduate students are the major mission of this program and will include in-depth laboratory training programs, scientific courses and seminars, and forums involving outstanding speakers (e.g. Nobel laureates; members of the National Academy of Sciences, USA, ROC, etc.) from abroad. During the first year of study, graduate students in the MM program will take two multidisciplinary core courses, which cover the entire spectrum of biomedical sciences from the principles of macromolecular structure to the function of biological systems at the whole organ level. With this broad perspective, students are prepared for advanced course work in specific areas of interest. The various research groups spanning nearly every major field in biomedical sciences offer a variety of advanced courses. By selecting different combinations of advanced courses, graduate students have the flexibility to formulate an interdisciplinary education tailored to their individual interests and career objectives. Laboratory rotation during the first year provides in depth laboratory experience and opportunity to survey cutting-edge research in different fields of biomedical science. Students should complete their formal coursework with a qualifying exam before advancing to his/her Ph.D. candidacy.

Required courses:

1. Molecular Medicine (3 credits)
   This course covers a rapidly evolving area of biomedical sciences that include molecular basis of cellular function and patho-physiological aspects of disease medicine such as cancers, infectious diseases, neurological and cardiovascular disorders, and hereditary disease. Furthermore, new technologies and their application on molecular medicine are also discussed.

2. Molecular and Cell Biology (4 credits)
   This course is mainly offered by Molecular and Cell Biology program. The current state of molecular cell biology will be addressed, including the structure and function of molecules within the cells, the interactions between cells, and development of different organisms.

3. Seminar in Molecular Medicine (1 credit per semester, total 4 credits for the first two years)
   The course is composed of a series of weekly “journal club” presentation and discussion in which graduate students lead a review and discussion of recently published, cutting-edge scientific papers of major interest in the field of Molecular Medicine.

4. Laboratory rotations (1 credit)
Elective courses:

1. **Experimental Approaches in Molecular Medicine**
   This course covers a broad spectrum of modern bioscience technology, including basic and advanced methods in molecular and cell biology and application of computational biology, such as genomics in diseases and genetic epidemiology.

2. **Immunology**
   This course will cover basic topics in cellular and humoral immunity with the goal of providing the students with adequate background to effective read and understand immunology related research papers. Practical immunologically-related techniques used in the lab will also be introduced.

3. **Translational Medicine**
   This course is obtaining the basic and clinical knowledge of various human diseases and relevant research models. To learn current techniques and tools used in genetic discoveries, pharmacogenomics and drug development. Knowing bioethical issues and rules relevant to human studies.

4. **Elective courses are also offered by other graduate programs within the TIGP**
   including Developmental Biology, Molecular Pathology, Structural Biology, Virus and Cell Interactions, Bioinformatics and etc.

Requirements for the Ph.D. Degree

1. Satisfactory completion of an oral qualification exam administered by a committee of the faculty. This examination should be taken no later than the beginning of the third-year enrollment. The student could turn in one non-thesis topic with a one-page abstract. The topic will be confirmed by the education committee. A formal proposal should be developed by the student for examination by a faculty committee appointed by the program office. In case of failure, the student should take it once more. Every student must advance to Ph.D. candidacy by the end of the third year of graduate study.

2. Satisfactory completion of at least 18 credits in formal courses including required courses and elective courses, and 12 credits for the Ph.D. thesis. Note that an extra of 12 credits in formal courses is required for those who enter the program with a B.S. degree. Students holding only a B.S. degree require evaluation from the admission committee to advance into the Ph.D. program at the end of their first year of study.

3. Satisfactory completion of rotation in two laboratories (1-2 months/one lab) in the first year. The lab rotations should be finished before the beginning of the second-year enrollment. After lab rotation, students may choose his/her thesis advisor and start full-time research.

4. Completion of a satisfactory investigation and presentation in the form of a thesis (12 credits), approved by a committee of the faculty. Oral defense of the thesis by the candidate before a committee of the faculty.

5. Written acceptance of the thesis by each member of the final oral examination committee.
6. The Ph.D. candidate can graduate in 4 to 7 years, depending on the specific research project and the student’s effort. But no more than seven years may elapse between the date of matriculation and fulfillment of all requirements for the degree.

7. Students should give an annual progress report to the thesis committee. The first annual report should be given during the period of the third-year enrollment.

**Admission to the Ph.D. Program**

We encourage students from around the world to apply. The official application deadline is March 31, every year. Applicants are therefore encouraged to submit their applications early.

Individuals (either international students or students from Taiwan) with a B.S. or M.Sc. degree (or equivalent) from an accredited institution are eligible to apply. Information provided in the following documents will be used to evaluate the applicant’s qualification for admission.

1. Two official copies of undergraduate and graduate (if applicable) academic records or transcripts. A grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale for all undergraduate or graduate study is preferred.

2. TOEFL (or equivalent) score: all applicants whose first language is not English must submit a TOEFL (or provide evidence to show that they have recently completed two or more years of study in an English-speaking country. Applicants in Taiwan may take the General English Proficiency Test (GEPT) administered by the Language Training and Testing Center. A minimal score of 550 on paper-based, 79 on internet-based TOEFL test is required for admission to the program.

3. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores: All applicants are highly recommended to submit a GRE General Test Score. An advanced Subject Test in biochemistry, cell and molecular biology, chemistry, or biology is highly recommended. The GRE test may be waived in exceptional situation. Please contact the MM program office if you are unable to meet this GRE requirement. A high GRE score will significantly enhance the chance of admission to the program.
4. Three letters of recommendation commenting on the applicant’s personal character, and qualifications for independent study, including work ethics, intellectual ability, research potential, and scientific motivation.
5. Statement of purpose and plan for graduate study (in English)
6. Other evidence of scholarly achievements
7. The evaluation process also includes an interview. Local candidates will be asked to come to Taipei for interviews, and international students will be interviewed by phone.

TIGP now offers an online application option, via our website. If you wish to submit your application online (recommended), please proceed to the online system: http://db1x.sinica.edu.tw/tigp/

Alternatively, if you wish you submit your application by post, please send it to the following address:

Admissions Office
Taiwan International Graduate Program
No. 128, Sec.2, Academia Road,
Nankang, Taipei 11529
Taiwan

The submitted application materials will not be returned to applicants under any circumstances. The complete application materials should be received by TIGP before March 31.
Degree Conferral Policy

Based on the Regulations of the Ministry of Education in Taiwan, students will officially register with our partner university (School of Life Sciences, National Yang-Ming University). Upon completion of the program, each student will be conferred a Ph.D. degree by the partner university and a certificate jointly signed by the President of Academia Sinica and the Director of TIGP.

Fellowship and Stipends

TIGP provides fellowship support of NT$34,000 (about US$1,060) per month for all graduate students during the first year of their enrollment. The support will be extended for another two years upon evidence of satisfactory progress towards the degree. In subsequent years, the financial support for outstanding students will be from his/her thesis advisor’s grant. The amount of the support will be at the discretion of the advisor.

Medical Insurance

(For international students only.) Six months after the student receives the Alien Resident Certificate (ARC), the student will be qualified for Taiwan’s National Health Insurance Program (NHI). The students pay the Premium and will be entitled to the same medical coverage as Taiwanese citizens.

Cost of Study

The tuition fee is about US$2,100 per year.

Living and Housing Costs

Academia Sinica has a dormitory building for TIGP graduate students near the Academia Sinica campus. Rooms are available to TIGP first-year students for NT$5,500 per month. Off-campus private housing is generally more expensive. Rents for off-campus apartments range from NT$5,000-15,000 per month. In addition, Yang-Ming University also provides dormitory rooms in Yang-Ming campus.
Correspondence and information

For general information regarding TIGP, please contact:
Ms. Huan-Yi Shen Administrative Assistant
Taiwan International Graduate Program 128 Academia Rd., Section 2
Nankang, Taipei 11529 Taiwan
E-mail: tigp@gate.sinica.edu.tw Tel: 886-2-2789-8050
Fax: 886-2-2785-8944

For information concerning this program, please contact:
Coordinator: Dr. Sheau-Yann Shieh
Program Assistant: Ms. Megan Huang
Institute of Biomedical Sciences
128 Academia Rd., Section 2
Nankang, Taipei 11529 Taiwan
E-Mail: tigppmpp@ibms.sinica.edu.tw
Tel: 886-2-2789-9114

Website Information:
Taiwan International Graduate Program, Academia Sinica
http://tigp.sinica.edu.tw
Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Academia Sinica
National Yang-Ming University
http://mmp.web.ym.edu.tw/bin/home.php

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