

**GSBS Standing Committee Reports
For September 22, 2022
Faculty Meeting**

Academic Standards Committee (Dr. Ali Azhdarinia, Chair)

The Committee has met 7 times since the last faculty meeting and approved:

- 61 Advisory Committees
- 9 Requests for Secondary Area of Concentration
- 29 Requests for Committee changes
- 18 Petitions for M.S. degree Candidacy
- 45 Petitions for Ph.D. Candidacy
- 5 Waivers of first-author publication
- 1 Dismissal

Other Business:

Proposed a policy on pursuit of certificate program while an active PhD student at GSBS:

“GSBS students may pursue certificate programs during their PhD training with written permission from their advisor and the Office of Academic Affairs. The program should be related to the area of the student’s studies at GSBS and should not delay progress toward their degree. Students who are on Academic Probation will not be permitted to participate in a certificate program”

Discussed the following changes to Publication Exception Policy and Permission for Defense (to be effective Sept. 1, 2022)

- For the publication exception policy, first-author paper must have been submitted prior to the waiver request and propose that this be sent to the ASC at least three months (90 days) prior to defense date;
- For permission to defend, in favor of advanced deadline, maybe at least three months prior to defense; find out what other schools are doing
- Recommend that at some point (maybe when a student is in their 4th or 5th year) that a memo is sent to the student’s committee advising them of the timelines as they get near to degree completion
- Formalize when the committee signs off that the student is ready to defend

Admissions Committee (Dr. Wenbo Li, Chair)
Actions on Applications*

	Ph.D.	M.S.	S.M.S.	Total
Application Received	794	119	282	1195
Admitted by Dean	122	27	13	162
Rejected by Dean	636	91	269	996
No Action – Student Withdrew	36	1		37
Offers Accepted	63	15	12	90
Offers Declined	56	11	1	68
Offers Deferred	3	1	-	4

** Ph.D. applicant counts do not include M.D./Ph.D. Students*

Dean Actions on Ph.D. Applications*

DEAN ACTION	Total
Admit PhD	122
No Action Student Withdrew	36
Reject	636
Grand Total	794

** Ph.D. applicant counts do not include M.D./Ph.D. Students*

Student Actions for Applicants Offered Admission*

STUDENT ACTION	Ph.D.	M.S.	S.M.S.	Grand Total
Accept	63	15	12	90
Decline	56	11	1	68
Defer	3	1	-	4
Grand Total	122	27	13	162

* Ph.D. applicant counts do not include M.D./Ph.D. Students

Total GSBS Applications Received

DEGREE	U.S. Citizens & Permanent Residents	Non-U.S. Residents	Grand Total
Ph.D.	309	485	794
M.S.	44	75	119
S.M.S.	252	30	282
M.D./Ph.D.	251	-	251
Non Degree	2	-	2
CRAM	16	1	17
Grand Total	874	591	1465

Average GPA of Applicants

DEGREE	All Applicants		Admitted Applicants		Entering Students		Overall GPA
	Domestic	Int'l	Domestic	Int'l	Domestic	Int'l	
Ph.D.	3.50	3.53	3.63	3.71	3.61	3.69	3.52
M.D./Ph.D.	3.82	-	3.90	-	3.93	-	3.82
M.S.	3.41	3.45	3.348	3.69	3.28	3.76	3.44
S.M.S.	3.57	3.50	3.49	3.61	3.49	3.26	3.56
Overall	3.54	3.52	3.63	3.70	3.56	3.68	3.53

In previous years, this section included GRE information of applicants. For 2022 Admission year, applicants were not required to submit GRE information, except for PhD applicants

applied for Medical Physics program. Thus, GRE information is not included in the report this year, but will be provided upon request.

Entering Class 2022 Degree Program – by Term

DEGREE	Spring 2022	Summer 2022	Fall 2022	Grand Total
Ph.D.	3	2	58	63
M.D./Ph.D.	-		6	6
M.S.	-	-	15	15
S.M.S.	-	-	12	12
Non Degree	-	-	2	2
CRAM	-	-	16	16
Grand Total	3	2	109	114

Entering Class 2022 Degree Program – by Gender

DEGREE	Female	Male	Grand Total
Ph.D.	42	21	63
M.D./Ph.D.	1	5	6
M.S.	14	1	15
S.M.S.	10	2	12
Non Degree		2	2
CRAM	15	1	16
Grand Total	82	32	114

Entering Class 2022 Degree Program – by Residence

DEGREE	Texas	Out of State	Non US	Total
Ph.D.	9	23	31	63
M.D./Ph.D.	3	3	-	6
M.S.	11	1	3	15
S.M.S.	3	8	1	12
Non Degree	2	-	-	2
CRAM	15	-	1	16
Grand Total	43	35	36	114

“Entering Class” includes only applicants who were offered admission and have accepted offer

Applicants by Race/Ethnicity

DEGREE	Total Applicants	White	Black	Asian	American Indian	Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Race Unknown	International	Hispanic
Ph.D.	794	188	36	67	8	1	58	7	485	57
M.D./Ph.D.	251 (49)*	17	9	14	2	-	2	1		13
M.S.	119	25	5	8	1	-	9	1	75	14
S.M.S.	282	203	13	32	5	-	28	5	30	23
Non Degree	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-		1
CRAM	17	11	3	2	-	-	6	-	1	6
TOTAL	1465	445	66	124	16	1	103	14	591	114

Interviewed Applicants by Race/Ethnicity

DEGREE	Total Applicants	White	Black	Asian	American Indian	Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Race Unknown	International	Hispanic
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Ph.D.	130	45	6	15	2	-	8	5	58	15
M.D./Ph.D.	49	17	9	14	2	-	-	1	-	13-
S.M.S.	55	39	3	10	-	-	5	3	2	3
TOTAL	234	101	18	39	4	-	13	9	60	18

Interviewed Applicants by Gender

DEGREE	Female	Male	Grand Total
Ph.D.	79	51	130
M.D./Ph.D.	24	25	49
S.M.S.	51	4	55
TOTAL	154	80	234

An individual can declare more than one race/ethnicity

Only Ph.D., M.D./Ph.D., and S.M.S. applicants were interviewed

**Data of race/ethnicity for MD/PhD applicants is from only 49 interviewed applicants*

Admitted Applicants by Race/Ethnicity

DEGREE	Total Applicants	White	Black	Asian	American Indian	Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Race Unknown	International	Hispanic
Ph.D.	122	44	7	13	2	-	10	-	52	15
M.D./Ph.D.	23	7	4	10	1	-	1	1	-	2
M.S.	27	10	2	2	-	-	4	1	11	7
S.M.S.	13	8	-	3	-	-	1	-	2	1
Non Degree	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
CRAM	17	11	3	2	-	-	6	-	1	6
TOTAL	204	81	16	31	3	-	22	2	66	32

Entering Students by Race/Ethnicity

DEGREE	Total Students	White	Black	Asian	American Indian	Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Race Unknown	International	Hispanic
Ph.D.	63	19	5	6	2	-	3	-	31	8
M.D./Ph.D.	6	2	2	2	1	-	1	-	-	1
M.S.	15	7	2	1	-	-	3	1	3	6
S.M.S.	12	8	-	3	-	-	1	-	1	1
Non Degree	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
CRAM	16	10	3	2	-	-	5	-	1	5
TOTAL	114	47	12	15	3	-	13	1	36	22

An individual can declare more than one race/ethnicity

Universities Attended by Ph.D. Applicants Who Were Offered but Declined Admission

INSTITUTIONS	Number who went there
Baylor College of Medicine	3
Duke University	3
University of Wisconsin	2
University of Pennsylvania	2
UT Southwestern	2
California Institute of Technology	1
Columbia University	1
Cornell University	1
Gerstner Sloan Kettering	1
New York University	1

Princeton University	1
Rice University	1
Scripps Research Institute	1
Texas A&M University	1
University of California, San Diego	1
University of California, Santa Cruz	1
University of Cambridge	1
University of Chicago	1
University of Colorado Anschutz	1
University of Michigan	1
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill	1
University of Pittsburgh	1
University of Utah	1
University of Virginia	1
University of Washington	1
University of Texas at Austin	1
Washington University at St. Louis	1
Yale University	1
Total Responses:	35

Observations:

1. Numbers of applicant for Ph.D. and M.S. degrees increase, but MD/Ph.D. and S.M.S. degree applicants decrease comparing to last year.

DEGREE	2022	2021	Different	% Change from Last Year
Ph.D.	794	751	43	6%

M.D./Ph.D.	251	255	-4	-1.6%
M.S.	119	111	8	7%
S.M.S.	282	325	-43	-13%
Overall	1446	1442	4	Less than .03%

2. Domestic Applicants increase in PhD degree, but decrease in MS and SMS degrees.

DEGREE	U.S. Citizens & Permanent Residents		Non-U.S. Residents		Overall	
	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021
Ph.D.	309	276	485	475	794	751
M.D./Ph.D.	251	255	-	-	251	255
M.S.	44	54	75	57	119	111
S.M.S.	252	294	30	31	282	325
Grand Total	856	879	590	563	1446	1442

3. Applicant's Acceptance rate is equivalent to last year's (56% this year VS 55% last year)

DEGREE	2022			2021		
	Admitted	Accepted	Acceptance Rate	Admitted	Accepted	Acceptance Rate
Ph.D.	122	63	52%	147	74	50%
M.S.	27	15	56%	31	21	68%
S.M.S.	13	12	92%	13	11	84%
Overall	162	90	56%	191	106	55%

4. Percentage of International Students in Entering Class slightly decreases from 2021's (39% this year VS 41% last year)

DEGREE	% of Non-U.S. Students in Entering Class	
	2022	2021
Ph.D.	49%	53%
M.S.	20%	33%
S.M.S.	8%	-
Overall	39%	41%

* No Non-US students for S.M.S. degree in Entering Class 2021

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Curriculum Committee (Dr. Shane Cunha, Chair)

1. The Committee had four (4) meetings since the last faculty meeting in October.

2. Approval of New Proposed Course (1) and Course Requests (2)

a. New Proposed Course

GS02 1021: Supervised Clinical Experience in Radiation Therapy Physics

b. Increased of Credit Hour (from 1 to 2 SCH)

GS04 1781: Pragmatic Bioinformatics for Bench Scientists (new course number: GS04 1792)

c. Reactivation and Reduction of Credit Hour (from 2 to 1 SCH)

GS21 1162: Effective Career Planning (new course number: GS21 1191)

3. Discussed 11 courses that will undergo the review.

Major Course Review (8 courses)

a. GS01 1033: Introduction to Biostatistics and Clinical Trials

b. GS02 1042: Imaging Science

c. GS02 1073: Fundamental Anatomy, Physiology, and Biology of Med. Physics II

d. GS04 1781: Pragmatic Bioinformatics for Bench Scientists

e. GS11 1622: Topics in Medical Genetics I

f. GS14 1181: Graduate Neuroanatomy

g. GS21 1061: Critical Thinking in Science

h. GS21 1017: Foundation of Biomedical Research (Core Course)

GS21 1018: Foundation of Biomedical Research for Quantitative Students

Follow-up Course Review (3 courses)

a. GS04 1781: Pragmatic Bioinformatics for Bench – done on

b. GS06 1132: Application of Tumor Immunology in the Clinical Setting

c. GS14 1024: Systems Neuroscience

4. Student Focus Group meetings conducted/scheduled for the following courses:

GS04 1253: Principles of Genetics and Epigenetics – done on Jan. 25

GS02 1073: Fundamental Anatomy, Physiology, and Biology of Med. Physics II
done on Feb. 9

GS14 1181: Graduate Neuroanatomy – scheduled on Feb. 24

GS04 1103: GS11 1622: Topics in Medical Genetics I – scheduled on Mar. 3

5. Presented, discussed, and/or approved the following items.

- a. Committee Charge and Procedural Guidelines
- b. Committee assignment/s of courses for review (major and follow-up)
- c. Procedure for reviewing GSBS Courses
- d. Finalization of report reviewing the future of GSBS online courses.
- e. GSBS guidelines for Spring semester classes.
- f. Process in reviewing the Core Course.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Dr. Melinda Yates, Chair

The GSBS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Standing Committee has met monthly since its formation in December 2021. As a new committee, our focus has been on establishing priorities and initial plans for key projects.

Recent accomplishments:

- All members of the committee completed LinkedIn DEI training
- Supported two sessions to engage, recruit, and inspire students from underrepresented backgrounds during the summer research programs
 - DISCOVER BIOMEDICINE (Drs. Shadding and Yates) via webinar
 - Exceeding Expectations: Underrepresented Scientists Leading the Way (collaboration with GEC, Postdoc Office, and others) via an in-person and Zoom hybrid event
- Committee identified initial short-, medium-, and long-term priorities (see table below) and have created subgroups to focus on developing action plans for these areas.

Short-term (6 months or less)	Medium-term (6-12 months)	Longer-term (12 months+)
Increase awareness of funding opportunities (diversity supplement)	Compile info on existing DEI efforts across GSBS programs	Climate survey continuation
Engage with summer students from underrepresented backgrounds to enhance potential recruitment to GSBS	Identify priorities for additional community DEI training	Engage URM alumni
Identify committee members who can serve as recruitment partners (via Ambassador program)	Create progress “timeline” that will be included on GSBS Diversity webpage to enhance communication and transparency on committee plans and action	Pilot program to increase representation of diverse faculty/scientists at program seminars

As a completely new committee, all members have agreed to remain on the committee this year and will start the typical rotation for next year. We hope that additional members of the GSBS community (faculty, staff, and students) will consider volunteering in the spring.

Faculty

Melinda Yates, PhD (Chair)
 Jennifer Czerwinski, MS CGC
 Candelaria Gomez-Manzano, MD
 Daniel Harrington, PhD

Institution

MD Anderson
 UTHealth
 MD Anderson
 UTHealth

Ralf Krahe, PhD

MD Anderson

Staff

Karen Weinberg

UTHealth

Kari Savannah Brewer

MD Anderson

Natalie Sirisaengtaksin

UTHealth

Students

Taylor Halsey

MD Anderson

Mabel G. Pérez-Oquendo

MD Anderson

Josue E. Pineda

MD Anderson

Membership Committee: Dr. Mary Farach-Carson, Chair

The Committee met three times since the last Faculty Meeting in March.

The Committee approved the following:

- 12 applications for Regular Membership
- 6 applications for Associate Membership
- 3 change of status request from Associate to Regular Membership
- 3 change of status request from Regular to Distinguished Senior Lecturer Membership
- 34 reappointments
- 13 reappointments with commendation
- 1 reappointment with highest commendation
- 7 reappointments with encouragement

Other matters considered by the Committee:

The committee recommended increasing point values given for the following activities:

- Serving as a secondary advisor to a student
- Serving on a student committee
- Service on the DEI Committee (new item)

Student Scholarship Committee (Dr. Jingfei Ma, Chair)

Discussed the Spring Awards criteria and evaluated 61 applications for 10 different fellowship/scholarships and selected 21 new awardees as shown below:

AWARD	WINNERS	ADVISOR	PROGRAM	INSTITUTION
American Legion Auxiliary	Vahid Bahrambeigi	Anirban Maitra	GE	MDACC
	Emily Caggiano	Cullen Taniguchi	CB	MDACC

Fellowship	Hunter Mehrens	Stephen Kry	MP	MDACC
	Kelly Nealon	Laurence Court	MP	MDACC
	Nick Newkirk	Swathi Arur	GE	MDACC
	Vivian Salama	David Fuller	CB	MDACC
	Madeline Steiner	Michael Curran	IMM	MDACC
	Daisy Diaz-Rohena	Deepa Sampath	CB	MDACC
	Shannon Hartzel *	Stephen Kry	MP	MDACC
	Kyle LaBella *	Ron DePinho	CB	MDACC
	Heather Sonnemann *	Greg Lizee	IMM	MDACC
	Kareem Wahid *	David Fuller	QS/MD-PhD	MDACC
Rosalie B. Hite Fellowship	Servando Hernandez Vargas	Ali Azhdarinia	TAP	UTH
	Mo-Fan Huang	Dung-Fang Lee	GE	UTH
	Vahid Bahrambeigi *	Maitra	GE	MDACC
	Rui Ye *	Lin	CB	MDACC
Russell and Diana Hawkins Family Foundation Discovery Fellowship	Xu Zhang	Fabricio Do Monte	NS	UTH
	Jing Cai *	Tong	NS	UTH
Schissler Foundation Fellowships	Jayanta Mondal	Jason Huse	CB	MDACC
	Sonia Patel	John Heymach	CB	MDACC
Larry Deaven, Ph.D. Fellowship	Maria Gacha Garay	Jichao Chen	GE	MDACC

in Biomedical Sciences	Yun Yan	Nick Navin	QS	MDACC
Mariyln and Frederick R. Lummis, Jr. MD Fellowship	Takese McKenzie	Jian Hu	NS	MDACC
Linda Wells GSBS Outreach Award	Takese McKenzie	Jian Hu	NS	MDACC
	Sonia Patel	John Heymach	CB	MDACC
Goldstein-Altman Foundation Discovery Fellowship	Aasish Gupta	Kristy Brock	MP	MDACC
John and Rebekkah Harper Fellowships	Dong Ho Shin	Juan Fueyo	CB	MDACC
	Ruoyu Wang	Wenbo Li	GE	UTH
Sowell-Huggins Fellowship in Cancer Research *	Hanghui Ye	Nick Navin	GE	MDACC

*Renewal

Other awards provided to GSBS students through other review mechanisms.

➤ **Presidents' Research Scholarship**

RECIPIENTS	ADVISOR	PROGRAM
Vidhi Chandra	Dr. Florencia McAllister	CB
Jiexi Li	Dr. Ron DePinho	CB
Kareem Wahid	Dr. David Fuller	QS
Ruoyu Wang	Dr. Wenbo Li	GE

➤ **Linda M. Wells GSBS Outreach Award**

RECIPIENTS	ADVISOR	PROGRAM
Takese McKenzie	Dr. Jian Hu	NS
Sonia Patel	Dr. John Heymach	CB

➤ **Dissertation Awards**

2021 Alfred G. Knudson, Jr., Outstanding Dissertation Award

RECIPIENT	ADVISOR	PROGRAM
Brian Anderson	Dr. Kristy Brock	MP

2021 UHealth GSBS Dissertation Award

RECIPIENT	ADVISOR	PROGRAM
Unekwu Yakubu	Dr. Kevin Morano	MID

➤ **Review of the Research Grant Award finalists - *Pending.***