

# Admissions Committee 2023-2024

Committee Chair: **Jun-Ichi Abe, M.D., Ph.D.** Biochemistry & Cell Biology; Cancer Biology

The admissions committee met the following dates to discuss PhD applications:

Nov. 1, 2023 – introductory/orientation meeting

Nov. 29, 2023

Jan. 17, 2024

Jan. 31, 2024

Feb. 14, 2024

Feb. 28, 2024 – Upcoming

Apr. 17, 2024 – Upcoming MS admissions committee meeting

- Total PhD applications received: 1473
- Total complete PhD applications: 1154
- Total Biomedical PhD applications completed: 1047
- Total Medical Physics PhD applications completed: 96
- PhD applications reviewed by Admissions Committee: 664\*  
(\*Final PhD Committee Meeting will be held 2/18/24)
- Interview offers: 142
  - Declined offer to interview: 13

The processing of Biomedical MS applications has not yet started.

- Total SMS applications received: 496
- Total complete SMS applications: 222
  - Genetic Counseling: 206
  - Medical Physics: 15
- Total MS in Biomedical Sciences received (all apps, not complete, to date\*): 205  
*\*The Committee will meet on April 17<sup>th</sup> to review applications to the MS program*

Degree program	Fall 2024 (# of completed apps)	Fall 2023 (# of completed apps)	% change
PhD	1154	995	+16%
MS	1*	97	TBD
SMS-GCP & Med Physics	221	279	-21%

\*Deadline April 1 for MS in Biomedical Sciences

For comparison, 1015 PhD applicants and 981 complete PhD applications were received for Fall 2023.

Academic Affairs Office  
**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**  
Activity Report  
**(September 2023 – January 2024)**

- 1. The Committee had three (3) meetings since the last faculty meeting in August 2023.**
- 2. Approved changes to GS14 1024: Systems Neuroscience**
- 3. Completed follow-up course review for GS02 1073: Fundamental Anatomy, Physiology and Biology of Medical Physics I**
- 4. Discussed courses that will undergo major and follow-up review.**

**Major Course Review (10 courses)**

- GS01 1023: Survival Analysis
- GS01 1143: Introduction to Bioinformatics
- GS02 1103: Introduction to Medical Physics II: Medical Imaging
- GS02 1193: Introduction to Medical Physics I: Basic Interactions
- GS04 1051: FEM: Imaging Cells and Molecules
- GS06 1113: Emerging Concepts of Immunology
- GS07 1015: Microbial Genetics and Physiology
- GS11 1012: Cancer Genetics (Genetic Counseling)
- GS11 1181: Biomedical Ethics for the Genetic Counselor
- GS21 1051: The Ethical Dimensions of Biomedical Sciences

**Follow-up Course Review (3 courses)**

- GS06 1013: Fundamental Immunology
- GS11 1113: Introduction to Statistical Genetics and Bioinformatics
- GS12 1164: Human Pathobiology

- 5. Completed course review of the following courses:**
  - GS02 1103: Introduction to Medical Physics II: Medical Imaging
  - GS07 1015: Microbial Genetics and Physiology
- 6. Course review reports for presentation/discussions at February meeting:**
  - GS01 1023: Survival Analysis
  - GS04 1051: FEM: Imaging Cells and Molecules

- 7. Student Focus Group meetings for the following courses:**

**Scheduled:**

- GS01 1143: Introduction to Bioinformatics – Feb. 27

**To be scheduled in March:**

- GS02 1193: Introduction to Medical Physics I: Basic Interactions
- GS11 1012: Cancer Genetic Counseling (Cancer Genetics)
- GS11 1181: Biomedical Ethics for the Genetic Counselor

**4. Other items presented and discussed:**

- Committee Charge and Procedural Guidelines
- Committee assignment/s of courses for review (major and follow-up)
- Procedure for reviewing GSBS Courses
- Commended course/s for academic year 2023
- Dr. Jeff Frost to assume the role of Dr. Mattox in the Committee.

**Membership Committee Activity Report (October 2023 – January 2024)**

**Dr. Deepa Sampath, Chair  
Dr. Rodrigo Morales, Past Chair**

The Committee met three times since the last Faculty Meeting in September 2023.

The Committee approved the following:

- 17 applications for Regular Membership
- 15 applications for Associate Membership
- 24 reappointments
- 16 reappointments with commendation
- 4 reappointment with highest commendation
- 5 reappointments with encouragement
- 2 Distinguished Senior Lecturer appointments

**Program Directors Committee (Dr. Harry Karmouty-Quintana, Chair)**

The Committee met two times since the last Faculty Meeting and discussed the following topics:  
(November, February)

- Requesting facilitators for Scientific Writing Course
- Requesting Director for Spring Scientific Writing Course
- Requesting facilitators for Mentoring Works
- Faculty Membership
- Admissions Update
- Program Director Elections
- Program Steering Committee Meetings

**STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE  
Activity Report  
September 2023 - January 2024**

1. Discussed the Fall 2023 awards criteria and evaluated 109 applications for 31 different fellowship/scholarships and selected 61 new awardees including renewal fellows as shown below:

Award Name	Recipients	Advisor	Program	Institution
Charlene Kopchick Fellowship	Mekenzie Peshoff	Louise McCullough	NS	UTH
John J. Kopchick Fellowships	Hana Baroudi	Laurence Court	MP	MDACC
	Stephen (Steve) Farmer	Sheng Zhang	MTB	UTH
	Kevin Liu	Emil Schueler	MP	MDACC
	Chrystine Gallegos	Carmen Dessauer	NS	UTH
	Bridgitte Palacios	Jian Hu	NS	MDACC
	Kaylene Lu	Jian Hu	CB	MDACC
	Amanda Warner	Don Gibbons	CB	MDACC
	Mo-Fan (Elena) Huang	Dung-Fang Lee	GE	UTH
	Skylar Gay	Laurence Court	MP	MDACC
	Pengju Gong	Chunru Lin	CB	MDACC
Dr. John J. Kopchick Fellowships (Renewal)	Takese McKenzie	Jian Hu	NS	MDACC
	Eyad Shihabeddin	Jiaqian Wu	NS	UTH
	Cuauhtemoc Ulises Gonzalez	Vasanthi Jayaraman	MTB	UTH
Jesse B. Heath, Jr. Family Legacy Award	Anik Banerjee	Louise McCullough/ Jennifer Wargo	IMM	UTH
	Khondakar Sayef Ahammed	Ambro van Hoof	MID	UTH
	Shannon Erhardt	Jun Wang	GE	UTH
EllenTaylor Goldin Legacy Award	Sharvari Dharmiah	Jason Huse	CB	MDACC

Michael E. Kupferman, MD Fellowship	Mary Adeyeye	Xiangli Elefteriou/ Brendan Lee	GE/ MD-PhD	UTH
James E. Tempesta, M.D. Endowed Scholarship	Xinru Chen	Jinzhong Yang	MP	MDACC
Gigli Family Endowed Scholarship	Emma Billings	Leslie Dunnington	GCP	UTH
	Brandy Walker	Rachel Miller	GE	UTH
Andrew Sowell-Wade Huggins Scholarships in Cancer Research	Swathi Mohapatra	George Calin	CB	MDACC
	Hanghui Ye	Nicholas Navin	QS	MDACC
	Zecheng Yang	Wantong Yao	IMM	MDACC
	Lucas McCullum	C. Dave Fuller	MP	MDACC
	Mohammad Fayyad Zaman	Frederick Lang	CB	MDACC
Cancer Answers/Sylvan Rodriguez Scholarship	Shao-His (Paul) Hung	Cassian Yee	IMM	MDACC
The Antje Wuelfrath Gee and Harry Gee, Jr. Family Legacy Award	Ping Xu	Nicholas Navin	QS	MDACC
T.C. Hsu Scholarship	Yangxi Zheng	Yair Reisner	IMM	MDACC
	Dalia Hassan	Jichao Chen	GE	MDACC
Investing in Students Futures Scholarship	Peyton High	Kendra Carmon	MTB	UTH
	Larissa Tavizon	Danielle Garsin	MID	UTH
	Junke (Kris) Wang	Nicholas Navin	QS	MDACC
	Shao-Ping (Emily) Yang	Dihua Yu	IMM	MDACC
Ray Meyn Scholarship for Cancer Research	Yun Yan	Nicholas Navin	QS	MDACC
	Yangxi Zheng	Nicholas Navin	QS	MDACC
George M. Stancel, Fellowship in Biomedical Sciences	Mitchell Slapik	Michael Beierlein	NS	UTH
	Hao-Nien Chen	Dihua Yu	IMM	MDACC
Steve Lasher and Janiece Longoria Graduate Student Research Award in Cancer Biology	Ahmed Emam	John Tainer	GE	MDACC
Oates Family GSBS Endowment	Paula Bender	Vasanthi Jayaraman	NS	UTH
	Javier Leo	Di Zhao	CB	MDACC
R.W. Butcher Achievement Award	Maria Gacha Garay	Jichao Chen	GE	MDACC
Sylvan Rodriguez Foundation Scholarship honoring George M. Stancel, PhD	Guillaume Trusz	Michael Curran	IMM	MDACC

Sam Taub and Beatrice Burton Endowed Fellowships in Vision Disease	Alexandra McConnell	Michael Beierlein	NS	UTH
Roberta M. and Jean M. Worsham Endowed Fellowship	Dounya Jalloul	Michael Beierlein	NS	UTH
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Endowment	Sarah Shin	Harry Karmouty-Quintana/ Danielle Wu	MTB/ MD-PhD	UTH
	Yating Li	Cassian Yee	IMM	MDACC
	Mitheera V	Gigi Lozano	GE	MDACC
Wei Yu Family Endowed Scholarship	Ericka Humphrey	Yejing Ge	GE	MDACC
The Fadine Jackson Roquemore Scholarship in Cancer Research	Ko-Chien Chen	Ronald DePinho	CB	MDACC
Molly S. Bray, PhD Scholarship	Krithikaa Rajkumar Bhanu	Michael Curran	IMM	MDACC
City Federation of Women's Club Endowed Scholarship in the Biomedical Science	Amanda Solbach	Sheng Zhang	NS	UTH
Ralph B. Arlinghaus, PhD Scholarship	Vicky Chuong	Fabricio Do Monte	NS	UTH
	Broderick Turner	Michael Curran	IMM	MDACC
Fernando Aron Yarrito Scholarship	Michael Longmire	Scott Evans	MTB/ MD-PhD	MDACC
Floyd Haar, MD, Endowed Memorial Research Award in Memory of Freda Haar	Jasper Chen	Albert Koong/ Ron DePinho	QS/ MD-PhD	MDACC
Cancer Answers Scholarship	Rebecca Lim	Kristy Brock	MP	MDACC
	Alan Lopez	Emil Schueler	MP	MDACC
Henry W. Strobel , PhD Endowed Scholarship	Fre'Etta Brooks	Stephen Kry	MP	MDACC
The Janet Elaine Pierce Frye Scholarship for Cancer Research	Henry Meyer	Radhe Mohan	MP	MDACC



**2. Program-based award and award through other review mechanism.**

➤ **Dee S. and Patricia Osborne Endowed Scholarship in the Neurosciences**

RECIPIENTS	ADVISOR	PROGRAM
Paula Bender	Vasanthi Jayaraman	NS
Stephen (Steve) Farmer	Sheng Zhang	NS
Heather Tsong	Andrea Stavoe	NS

**2. Other accomplishments**

- Conducted SSC Fall Award meetings on Dec. 7 and 12, 2023 for MS/Pre candidacy and Post-Candidacy Awards, respectively.
- Conducted Kopchick Finalists interview on Jan. 11. 2024.

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