

# **GSBS Standing Committee Reports**

## **2025**

**DATA SET: March 2025 to August 2025**  
**Academic Standards Committee**  
**(Dr. Michelle Hildebrandt - September 2024 to Present)**

The Committee has met 6 times since the last faculty meeting and approved:

42 Advisory Committees

6 Requests for Secondary Area of Concentration

33 Requests for Committee changes

15 Petitions for M.S. degree Candidacy

27 Petitions for Ph.D. Candidacy

8 Waivers of first-author publication

The Committee also voted to dismiss one student due insufficient academic progress.

## ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE FINAL REPORT - CALENDAR YEAR 2025

### Actions on Applications\*

	Ph.D.	M.S.	S.M.S.	Total
Application Received	879	155	211	1245
Admitted by Dean	135	19	13	167
Rejected by Dean	717	136	196	1049
No Action – Student Withdrew	27	-	2	29
Offers Accepted	74	10	11	95
Offers Declined	58	8	2	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	135
No Action Student Withdrew	27
Reject	717
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>879</b>

\* 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	74	10	11	95
Decline	58	8	2	68
Defer	3	1	-	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>167</b>

\* 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.	412	467	879
M.S.	58	97	155
S.M.S.	194	17	211
M.D./Ph.D.	290	*	290
Non Degree	-	2	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>1537</b>

*\* International applicants are not eligible for the MD/PhD degree program*

### Average GPA of Applicants

DEGREE	All Applicants		Admitted Applicants		Entering Students		Overall GPA
	Domestic	Int'l	Domestic	Int'l	Domestic	Int'l	
Ph.D.	3.55	3.54	3.75	3.75	3.72	3.72	3.55
M.D./Ph.D.	3.89	-	3.96	-	3.95	-	3.89
M.S.	3.33	3.39	3.71	3.77	3.74	3.76	3.37
S.M.S.	3.60	3.44	3.74	3.94	3.75	-	3.59
<b>Overall</b>	<b>3.58</b>	<b>3.51</b>	<b>3.77</b>	<b>3.75</b>	<b>3.75</b>	<b>3.72</b>	<b>3.54</b>

### Entering Class 2025 Degree Program – by Term

DEGREE	Spring 2025	Summer 2025	Fall 2025	Grand Total
Ph.D.	2	4	68	74
M.D./Ph.D.	-	2	6	8
M.S.	1	-	9	10
S.M.S.	-	-	11	11
Non Degree	-	-	2	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>105</b>

### Entering Class 2025 Degree Program – by Gender

DEGREE	Female	Male	Grand Total
Ph.D.	46	28	74
M.D./Ph.D.	4	4	8
M.S.	6	4	10
S.M.S.	9	2	11
Non Degree	2	-	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>105</b>

### Entering Class 2025 Degree Program – by Residence

DEGREE	Texas	Out of State	Non US	Total
Ph.D.	26	28	20	74
M.D./Ph.D.	1	7	-	8
M.S.	6	2	2	10
S.M.S.	1	10	-	11
Non Degree			2	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>105</b>

*“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.	879	220	38	127	5	3	23	43	467	90
M.D./Ph.D.	290	21	4	19	-	-	1	7	-	-
M.S.	155	28	8	19	1	-	4	6	97	15
S.M.S.	211	152	8	24	5	2	9	12	17	28
Non Degree	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1537</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>133</b>

### Interviewed Applicants by Race/Ethnicity

DEGREE	Total Applicants	White	Black	Asian	American Indian	Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Race Unknown	International	Hispanic
Ph.D.	197	69	9	49	1	-	9	12	66	29
M.D./Ph.D.	51	21	4	19	-	-	1	7	-	-
S.M.S.	64	48	2	11	-	-	1	1	3	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>34</b>

### Interviewed Applicants by Gender

DEGREE	Female	Male	Grand Total
Ph.D.	125	72	197
M.D./Ph.D.	25	26	51
S.M.S.	55	9	64
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>312</b>

*An individual can declare more than one race/ethnicity  
Only Ph.D., M.D./Ph.D., and S.M.S. applicants were interviewed*

### 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.	135	56	5	32	1	-	5	10	36	22
M.D./Ph.D.	17	5	1	9	-	-	1	2	-	-
M.S.	19	6	1	5	-	-	1	-	8	2
S.M.S.	13	11	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	1
Non Degree	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>25</b>

### 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.	74	31	2	16	1	-		4	20	17
M.D./Ph.D.	8	1	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
M.S.	10	4	1	4	-	-	1	-	2	1
S.M.S.	11	10	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
Non Degree	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>

*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	1
Harvard University	1
Mayo Clinic	1
University of British Columbia	1
University of Georgia	1
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	1
University of Wisconsin	2
UT Southwestern	2
<b>Total Responses:</b>	<b>10</b>

*Due to a higher numbers of acceptances, enrollment was capped prior to April 15 and alternate institution information was not captured for many applicants.*

### Observations:

1. Total numbers of applicants decreased by 10% (mainly in PhD degree, 19%) compared to last year.

DEGREE	2025	2024	Different	% Change from Last Year
Ph.D.	879	1091	-212	- 19%
M.D./Ph.D.	290	250	40	16%
M.S.	155	140	15	10%
S.M.S.	211	222	-11	- 5%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1535</b>	<b>1703</b>	<b>-197</b>	<b>- 10%</b>

2. Numbers of domestic applicants increased (954 vs 812), but international applicants greatly decreased compared to last year (581 vs 891)

DEGREE	U.S. Citizens & Permanent Residents		Non-U.S. Residents		Overall	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
Ph.D.	412	302	467	789	879	1091
M.D./Ph.D.	290	250	*	*	290	250
M.S.	58	54	97	86	155	140
S.M.S.	194	206	17	16	211	222
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>812</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>1535</b>	<b>1703</b>

*\* International applicants are not eligible for the MD/PhD degree program*

3. Applicants' overall Acceptance rate is slightly higher than last year's (57% this year vs 54% last year)

DEGREE	2025			2024		
	Admitted	Accepted	Acceptance Rate	Admitted	Accepted	Acceptance Rate
Ph.D.	135	74	55%	139	65	47%
M.S.	19	10	53%	34	23	68%
S.M.S.	13	11	85%	10	10	100%
<b>Overall</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>54%</b>

4. Percentage of International Students in Entering Class this year (mainly for PhD degree) significantly decreases from 2024 (26% this year vs 55% last year)

DEGREE	% of Non-U.S. Students in Entering Class	
	2025	2024
Ph.D.	27% (20/74)	59% (39/65)
M.S.	20% (2/10)	39% (9/23)
<b>Overall</b>	<b>26% (22/84)</b>	<b>55% (48/88)</b>

*There were no non-US students for the SMS degree in Entering Class 2024 and 2025*

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Academic Affairs Office  
**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**  
Activity Report  
(February - August 2025)

1. The Committee had four (4) meetings since the last faculty meeting in January 2025.
2. Discussed and approved new course proposals:
  - **Molecular and Translational Biology (MTB) Program Curriculum Changes/New Modular Course Proposals**
    1. **Current Methods in Molecular and Translational Biology (CMMTB)**  
**Module 1: Core Module, (Summer)** *Course Director: John Putkey, PhD*
    2. **CMMTB-Module 4: Advanced Omics (Fall)**  
*Course Directors: Dung-Fang Lee, PhD and Xiaotian Zhang, PhD*
    3. **CMMTB-Module 3: Structural and Functional Analysis of Proteins (Fall)**  
*Course Director: Alex Gorfe, PhD*
    4. **CMMTB-Module 2: Animal and Cell Models Systems (Fall)**  
*Course Director: Cindy Farach-Carson, PhD*
  - **Neuroscience Program – Elective Courses Requirement**
    - Combine GS14 105: Neurobiology Learning & Memory with GS14 1071: Translational Neuroscience as program elective course requirement
3. Review completed for the courses:
  - Major Course Review (10 courses)**
    - GS01 1273: Modern Nonparametrics
    - GS02 1133: Introduction to Radiation Protection
    - GS02 1213: Therapy Medical Physics II
    - GS02 1223: Diagnostic Medical Physics II
    - GS04 1093: Biology of Cancer Metastasis
    - GS11 1152: Approaches to Genetic Counseling Research II
    - GS13 1024: Molecular Basis of Cell Signaling
    - GS14 1024: Systems Neuroscience
    - GS14 1183: Biology of Neurological Disease
    - GS21 1014: Design and Management of Clinical Trial
  - Follow-up Course Review (1 course)**
    - GS02 1093: Introduction to Medical Physics I: Basis Interactions

**4. On-going review for the following courses:**

**Major Course Review (1 courses)**

- GS21 1235: Basic and Translational Cancer Biology

**Follow-up Course Review (1 course)**

- GS06 1103: Emerging Concept in Immunology

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

- Use of Generative AI tools.
- Adding one course for major review (GS04 1235: Basic and Translational Cancer Biology)

**Membership Committee**  
Activity Report  
**March 2025 – August 2025**  
**Dr. Haoqiang Ying – Chair**

The Committee met three times since the last Faculty Meeting in February 2025.

The Committee approved the following:

- 23 applications for Regular Membership
- 13 applications for Associate Membership
- 53 reappointments
- 14 reappointments with commendation
- 7 reappointments with highest commendation
- 9 reappointments with encouragement
- 2 reappointments not recommended for renewal
- 1 reappointment move from Associate to Regular

**Program Directors Committee (Dr. Bill Margolin, Chair)**  
**New chair will be Dr. Kristin Eckel-Mahan**

The Committee met two times since the last Faculty Meeting and discussed the following topics:  
(April & July)

- Frequency of PDC meetings (Ms. Weinberg)
- Stipend policy reminder (Ms. Weinberg)
- GSBS requirement for in-person thesis defenses (Dr. Frost)
- Guiding Question: How is the Program encouraging faculty to take on course direction?  
How can we work together to support best practices in education for lecturers/course directors? (Dr. Margolin)
- FY 26 PDC meeting Schedule (Ms. Weinberg)
- Defense Notifications (Ms. Weinberg)
- Guiding Question: Does your program provide resources and/or incentives to students who apply for external fellowships? How does your Program encourage students to attend scientific meetings? (Dr. Margolin)

## STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Activity Report

February - August 2025

- Discussed the Spring Awards criteria and evaluated 93 applications for 8 different fellowships/scholarships and selected 28 new awardees as shown below:

AWARD	RECIPIENT	ADVISOR	PROGRAM	INSTITUTION
American Legion Auxiliary Fellowship	Paula Bender	Kristin Eckel-Mahan	NS	UTHH
	Drew Boagni	Dihua Yu	IMM	MDACC
	Spring Hwang	Jian Hu; Jason Huse	CB	MDACC
	Angela Gearhardt	Stephen Kry	MP	MDACC
	Rebecca Lim	Kristy Brock	MP	MDACC
	Andres Lopez *	Candelaria Manzano-Gomez	IMM	MDACC
	Kaylene Lu *	Jian Hu	CB	MDACC
	Yuejiang (Cindy) Liu *	Humam Kadara	CB	MDACC
	Fabiola Ester Lujan *	Daniel Frigo	MTB	UTHH
	Annette Machado	Jason Huse	GE	MDACC
	Rachel Morris	Kristinen Pauken	IMM	MDACC
	Mariana Najjar	Dung-Fang Lee & Hui-Wen Lo	CB	UTHH
	Natalie West	C. Dave Fuller	MP	MDACC
Rosalie B. Hite Fellowship (MDA Award)	Chae Yun (Kate) Cho	Kadir Akdemir	CB	MDACC
	Cheng-En (Allen) Shen	Yuan Pan	CB	MDACC
	Lei Yang	Nicholas Navin	QS	MDACC
	Hao-Hien Chen *	Dihua Yu	IMM	MDACC

	<b>Andrew Gillard *</b>	Candelaria Manzano-Gomez	CB	MDACC
<b>Russell and Diana Hawkins Family Fdtn. Discovery Fellowship</b>	<b>Jacob Mattia</b>	Wenbo Li	QS	UTHH
	<b>Bridgitte Palacios*</b>	Jian Hu	NS	MDACC
<b>Schissler Foundation Fellowships</b>	<b>Mo-Fan Huang</b>	Dung-Fang Lee	GE	UTHH
	<b>Cara Biddle</b>	Kendra Carmon	MTB	UTHH
<b>Larry Deaven, Ph.D. Fellowship in Biomedical Sciences</b>	<b>Lucas McCullum</b>	Clifton Fuller	MP	MDACC
	<b>Sseu-Pei Hwang</b>	Catherine Denicourt	GE	UTHH
<b>Marilyn and Frederick R. Lummis, Jr. MD Fellowship</b>	<b>Annette Wu</b>	Wen Jiang	IMM	MDACC
<b>Linda Wells GSBS Outreach Award</b>	<b>Gemalene Sunga</b>	Simon Young	IMM	MDACC
	<b>Amanda Warner</b>	Michelle Hildebrandt	CB	MDACC
<b>Sowell-Huggins Fellowship &amp; Faculty Mentor Recognition Award</b>	<b>Peyton High</b>	Kendra Carmon	MTB	UTHH

\* Renewal

## 2. Other awards provided to GSBS students through other review mechanisms.

### ➤ Presidents' Research Scholarship

RECIPIENTS	ADVISOR	PROGRAM	INSTITUTION
<b>Khondakar Sayef Ahamed</b>	Ambro van Hoof	MID	UTHH
<b>Stephen Farmer</b>	Sheng Zhang	MTB	UTHH
<b>Takese McKenzie</b>	Jian Hu	NS	MDACC
<b>Yun Yan</b>	Nicolas Navin	QS	MDACC

### ➤ Dissertation Awards

#### *2024 Alfred G. Knudson, Jr., Outstanding Dissertation Award*

RECIPIENT	ADVISOR	PROGRAM	INSTITUTION
<b>Yiyun Lin</b>	Nicolas Navin	QS	MDACC

#### *2024 Michael R. Blackburn Outstanding Dissertation Award*

RECIPIENT	ADVISOR	PROGRAM	INSTITUTION
<b>Joan Jacob</b>	Kendra Carmon	MTB	UTHH

➤ **Review of the finalists for the GBSBS Research Awards** – *review on going.*

1. Dr. John J. Kopchick Research Award
2. President's Research Excellence Award
3. The Pauline Altman-Goldstein Discovery Research Award
4. The Michael R. Blackburn, Ph.D. Research Accelerator Award

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WC/jal/08.12.25

**Student Success and Well-Being Committee  
(Dr. Kendra Carmon – 2025 Fall Report)**

- The GSBS Student Success and Well-Being Committee introduced itself to the graduate students at this year's GSAW event. We hosted a table, provided lunch, and distributed our Wellness Survey. Students that completed the survey received dessert, stickers with our new emblem, and had their names entered into a raffle for swag. We also provided students with a list of wellness resources (mental, physical, financial, and other) that are available through the GSBS. Overall, we had a tremendous student turnout.
  
- Our Wellness Survey that was distributed to the GSBS students during GSAW and advertised in the Essential received 108 responses. The committee plans to review the results and discuss how to present them to the larger GSBS community.
  
- We are encouraging all GSBS faculty to register for the NIH OITE "Raising a Resilient Scientist" Series that was cancelled last year. It will be offered again this fall starting September 29th. An email was sent out to all GSBS faculty at the end of August. GSBS will give credit toward future reappointment for taking one or more of these workshops.