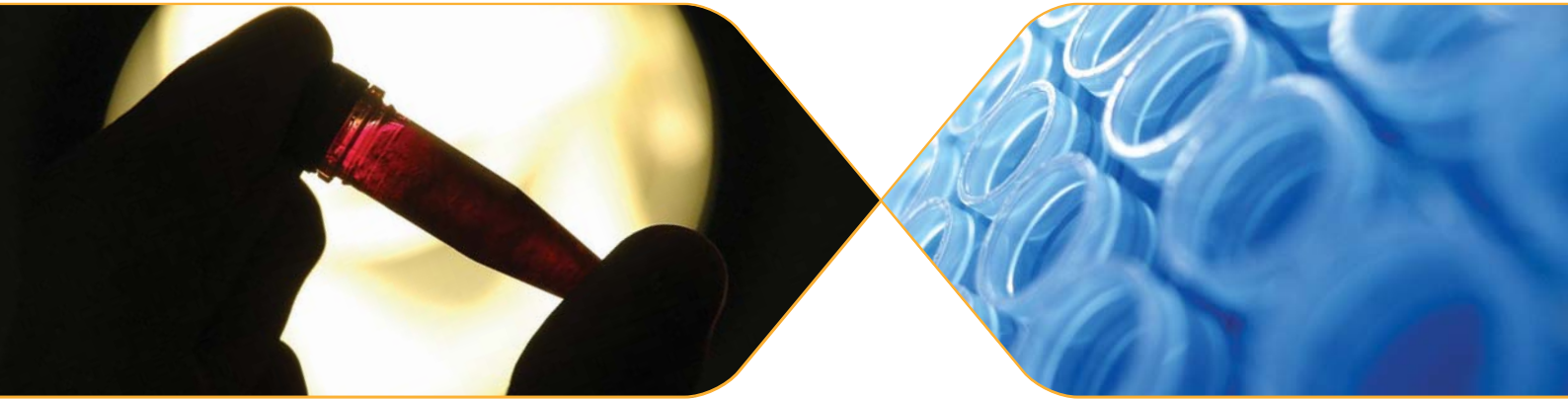




UCD College of Life Sciences Graduate School

UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science



Overview of Graduate Research

Looking for a dynamic and challenging environment to advance your career by pursuing a PhD degree?

The UCD School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science (SBBS) offers excellent research opportunities each year to outstanding graduates interested in the areas of Health & Healthcare Delivery and Energy & the Environment, both of which are of national and international importance. In SBBS we harness the complementary energies of research and teaching to drive graduate education. Our goal is to produce confident, highly-skilled graduates with the potential to make major contributions to the knowledge economy in Ireland and abroad.

Our track record speaks for itself: Principal Investigators in SBBS have international standing in research as evidenced by grant income,

publications and numbers of PhD students. The School has over 140 PhD students and over 60 postdoctoral fellows. Graduate students are supported by grant awards from external agencies such as Science Foundation Ireland, the Health Research Board, the Irish Research Council for Science, Engineering and Technology, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Agriculture, the European Union, the Wellcome Trust and by the University in the form of Research Demonstratorships. Our research income is typically in the region of €7-10 million per annum. PhD students in SBBS are encouraged to present their findings at both national and international research conferences. In addition, we are committed to publishing research findings in top-ranking, peer-reviewed journals.

SBBS Research Areas

- Infection Biology investigates virulence mechanisms in important pathogenic microbes, transmissible spongiform encephalopathies and host responses to infection.
- Structural Biology researchers focus their efforts on understanding the biological and biomedical significance of protein-protein, protein-DNA and protein-inhibitor complexes.
- Neuroscience investigators study the underlying causes in a range of central nervous system conditions.
- Cancer research is focused on basic mechanisms of disease, molecular therapeutics and identification of biomarkers.
- Diabetes and Vascular Biology work closely with various other schools within UCD investigating diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Go to <http://www.ucd.ie/sbbs/sbbsresearch/> for further details.

UCD Structured PhD degree

As part of the UCD structured PhD degree, graduate students in the School receive a broad training in their chosen research field, including generic research skills and advanced technologies in addition to oral and written communications, project management and entrepreneurship skills. In addition to their primary supervisor, our PhD students have the support of a Doctoral Studies Panel made up of the Supervisor, a mentor and an advisor. The Doctoral Studies Panel meets with the graduate student at least twice a year to provide expert guidance and mentoring.

Thematic PhD programmes

SBBS brings together expertise in the three key research areas described above, namely Infection Biology, Structural Biology and Mechanisms of Disease (Cancer, Diabetes & Vascular Biology and Neuroscience). In order to enhance graduate training, PhD students working in each of these research areas are aligned to thematic PhD programmes. These programmes are characterised by topical seminar series and lectures by world-renowned experts, journal clubs at which PhD students and supervisors participate and opportunities to take taught modules in areas relevant to the PhD student's research project. The thematic PhD in Neuroscience builds on a PhD programme in Molecular Neuroimmunology, developed under EU Marie Curie Actions hosted in association with the UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science and the UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science & Veterinary Medicine. The School has also developed a thematic PhD programme in Infection Biology. In addition the School contributes to a PhD programme in Bioinformatics and Computational Biomedicine in the Conway Institute.

Interested in applying?

We welcome inquiries and applications from suitably qualified prospective graduate students and will provide further information about our research programmes and opportunities available.