

## Consider the Medical Scholars Program (MD/PhD) at Illinois!

James W. Hall, EdD,  
Associate Dean, Student Affairs &  
Medical Scholars Program  
University of Illinois College of Medicine  
at Urbana-Champaign

## MD/PhD: Different Programs

- MSTP vs. non-MSTP
  - Size of programs (varies)
  - Sequencing of studies (varies)
  - <http://www.aame.org/research/dbr/mdphd/programs.htm>
- Other joint degree options: MD/MBA, MD/JD, MD/MPH

## Consider the MSP

- MSP Model
- 8 years on average (totally dependent on your success in the lab).
- Varying majors: Biomedical Sciences (MCB, Neuro); Other Sciences (Nutritional Sciences); Engineering (BioEng, Radiological Eng); Social Sciences & Humanities (Community Health, History of Medicine); Professional (MBA, Law)
- Students apply and matriculate from all over the country

## What are we looking for in applicants?

## Admissions

What makes a successful MD/PhD candidate?

- MCAT scores
- GPA
- Research Experience
- Letters of Recommendation
- Essays
- Extracurricular Leadership Activities
- Volunteer/Clinical Experience

## How do you apply?

## Application Steps

- AMCAS & personal statement & MD/PhD Essays
- Supplemental applications
- MSP application
- Apply to particular grad program separately (if needed)
- Make sure you meet the pre-reqs!
- Pre-reqs for UICOM:  
<http://www.med.uiuc.edu/msp/pdf/ComRequire.pdf>

## MSP Application Process

- Apply to University of Illinois College of Medicine (code #128) via AMCAS by November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Complete and submit the Medical Scholars Program On-line Application and submit three letters of recommendation, all official transcripts, a copy of your MCAT, GRE, LSAT and/or GMAT scores, and a copy of your AMCAS application to the MSP by December 31<sup>st</sup>
- MSP On-line application available at:  
<http://www.med.uiuc.edu/msp/Admissions.asp>

## MSP Application Process (2)

- Your application to the MSP will also serve as your Grad Department Application except for Law and MBA Programs.
- You should contact your respective departments to which you are applying to find about additional requirements needed such as GMAT, LSAT and GRE scores and writing samples.
- Submit Secondary Application to University of Illinois College of Medicine by January 15<sup>th</sup>.

## How to Shine at Your Interview

- How the interview days are typically structured
- Do your homework! (look up faculty)
- <http://www.med.uiuc.edu/msp/>
- Examples of typical questions
- Be able to explain your research projects in detail and be aware of other projects going on in your lab.
- Good manners

## Decision-Making Process

- Accepted at
  - PhD (JD/MBA) + COM + MSP
- Need your acceptance by
  - April 15<sup>th</sup>.

## 2008 Entering Class Overview

- ~130 completed applications submitted
- ~50 interviews
- 16 2008 entering class size
- Varying majors: Biomed sciences (MCB, Neuro); Other sciences (Nutritional Sciences), Bioengineering, Non-science (Kinesiology, Ag Econ)
- 2008-2009 Target Entering Class Size: 20

## Where do our graduates go after MSP?

- 2008 Match List:  
[http://www.med.utuc.edu/msp/pdf/2008MS\\_PMatch.pdf](http://www.med.utuc.edu/msp/pdf/2008MS_PMatch.pdf)
- Top Residency Programs in the nation
- Post-docs at top universities in the nation

## What Happens Once I am in MD/PhD?

## Typical MSP Pattern

Year 1: Graduate Classes/Research  
Years 2-5: Research/ M1 Classes  
Year 6: M2 Classes  
Year 7: M3 Clerkships  
Year 8: M4 Electives

## M1 Classes

Fall	Spring
Anatomy	Anatomy
Biochemistry	Biochemistry
Histology	Histology
Immuno/Micro	Immuno/Micro
Intro Human Disease	Intro Human Disease
Physiology	Physiology
Embryology	Behavioral Science
Genetics	Neuroscience
Medical Statistics	

## M2 Classes

### Fall

Epidemiology  
History & Physical Diagnosis  
Fund Clinical Problems  
Pathology  
Pharmacology

### Spring

Intro to Psychiatry  
HxPxDx  
Fund Clinical Problems  
Pathology  
Clinical Tutorials  
Clinical Microbiology  
Diag Medical Imaging

## M3 Core Clerkships

Family Medicine (4 weeks)  
Internal Medicine (12 weeks)  
Pediatrics (8 weeks)  
Psychiatry (8 weeks)  
Obstetrics & Gynecology (8 weeks)  
Surgery (8 weeks)

## M4 Requirements & Electives

Internal Medicine II (4 weeks)  
Surgical Subspecialty (4 weeks)  
Medicine & Society (4 weeks)  
Electives (20 weeks)

## Opportunities/Requirements

Clinical Preceptor Program (optional)  
CPR current certification as of M2  
Universal Precautions  
United States Medical Licensing Exams  
Step 1 after M2  
Step 2 Clinical Knowledge during M4  
Step 2 Clinical Skills during M4

Questions?