Our Mission

The Multi-Organ Transplant Student Research Training Program offers a comprehensive educational curriculum for both undergraduate students as well as students in professional and graduate schools. Through formal seminars, discussion forums, and direct health/research experience, you will gain a general understanding of the field of clinical research. Furthermore, the program provides you with the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gained through research-oriented tasks to projects that will contribute to the growing field of knowledge in transplantation.

What will I gain from this?

Comprehensive Learning

Over the course of the academic year, you will be exposed to a variety of academic disciplines that are directly related to transplantation and clinical care, a few of which include:

• Basic sciences, such as immunology & pharmacology
• Clinical epidemiology
• Biostatistics
• Health services research
• Bioethics & psychosocial aspects of clinical care

Hidden Benefits

In our program, we work hard to make many enrichment opportunities available to you, which may serve to satisfy any curiosities you may have about organ transplantation or health care in general. Some of them are listed below:

• Weekly research seminars hosted by a multi-disciplinary teaching faculty
• Shadowing physicians and allied health professionals at transplant clinics
• Organ transplant surgeries observation sessions
• Medical education rounds
• Scientific journal clubs
• Clinical research practice training courses (certificates granted upon completion)
• Research safety training workshops
• Seminars on conducting clinical research using tools such as PubMed and Medline
• Scientific and grant writing workshops
• Data management training
• Scientific conference participation
• Career nights & other social/educational events
How do I get admitted into the program?

At the University of Toronto, students may be admitted into our program via a number of venues:

• Research Opportunity Program: ROP299Y
• Independent study course/thesis/research project courses, such as HMB499Y and NEW390Y
• New College Service Learning Program course for upper year undergraduates: NEW495Y
• Work-Study program
• Determinants of Community Health (DOCH2) course placements: offered to medical school students in their second year.
• Summer student research program: via CREMS, EIT, IMS, and SEP*
• Graduate student practicum placements: offered through the Dalla Lana School of Public Health Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics Programs

Additionally, students also have the option of joining the program via:

• International medical/research student internships
• Summer student research program: via CREMS, EIT, IMS, and SEP*
• University Health Network – volunteer services (pre-arranged placements)
• Specially arranged placements via other college/university programs (undergraduate and graduate)

* 
IMS: Institute of Medical Sciences Program
CREMS: Comprehensive Research Experience for Medical Students
EIT: Education Information Technology Program
SEP: Summer Experience Program

Meet Your Mentors

Olusegun Famure, MPH, MEd, CHE

Olusegun (Segun) Famure is a research associate in the Multi-Organ Transplant Program – Division of Nephrology at the Toronto General Hospital, University Health Network, and a part-time teaching associate at the Department of Health Services Management, Ryerson University. In addition to the advanced degrees he has obtained in both the field of public health and education, he holds a Certified Health Executive (CHE) designation from the Canadian College of Health Service Executives. He is also a past recipient of the Health Services and Policy Research Training Award from Ontario Training Centre. His research interests lie in areas of health curriculum development, chronic care delivery modelling, health program evaluations and quality of life assessments.

S. Joseph Kim, MD, PhD, MHS, FRCPC

Dr. S. Joseph Kim is a transplant nephrologist in the Multi-Organ Transplant Program – Division of Nephrology at the Toronto General Hospital, University Health Network, and an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Department of Medicine, University of Toronto. Dr. Kim is recipient of the Clinical-Scientist Award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and holds a PhD in Epidemiology and a Masters in Biostatistics from Johns Hopkins University. His research interests are in the areas of access and outcomes of kidney transplantation using data from both centre-based and population-based cohorts.
Heather Ross, MD, MHSc, FRCPC

Dr. Heather Ross is the Director of the Cardiac Transplant Program and Deputy Director of the Multi-Organ Transplant Program at the Toronto General Hospital, University Health Network, and an Associate Professor of Medicine in the Department of Medicine, University of Toronto. In addition, she is the Head of the MSH/UHN Heart Failure Program, and the Director of Education for the University of Toronto Transplant Institute. Dr. Ross holds a Masters in Bioethics from the University of Toronto, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in cardiac transplantation at Stanford University. Her research interests lie in the areas of immunosuppressive drug therapies, use of phenomenological methodology to address psychic distress experienced by transplant patients, organ preservation, and end of life care in patients with heart failure.

Testimonials

“Awesome program – gained a lot of theoretical and practical knowledge in research, science and medicine.” – Kevin Quach, undergraduate in Pharmacology and Biochemistry programs, University of Toronto

“I am very glad that such a training program was created, would like to see a continuum of programs like this in the future.” – Lucia Yoon, undergraduate in Human Biology—Genes, Genetics and Biotechnology program, University of Toronto

“The medical seminars and clinical observations were invaluable as it enabled me to examine clinical practice in a Canadian setting.” – Ivan Martin, graduate student in Medicine, National University of Colombia

“The program has given me a wealth of knowledge and experience in clinical research providing me a foundation from which to launch my career.” – Nicholas Phan, graduate student in Clincical Research program, Humber College

Contact Information

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