



# UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER



## Training Program in Oral Science D.D.S.-Ph.D. Training Program

University of Rochester, School of Medicine & Dentistry  
Marquette University, School of Dentistry

The DDS/PhD program is offered jointly by Marquette University School of Dentistry and the School of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Rochester. The Training Program in Oral Science (TPOS) supports combined training in Clinical Dentistry and in Basic Science Research which results in two separate degrees:

1. DDS degree offered by the Marquette University School of Dentistry.
2. PhD degree offered by the University of Rochester, in one of the following areas: Anatomy, Biochemistry, Biology, Biomedical Engineering, Biophysics, Chemistry, Genetics, Microbiology and Immunology, Neuroscience, Pathology, Pharmacology, Physiology or Toxicology.

The offered curriculum focuses on the integration of basic science and clinical dentistry in all training activities and includes cross-disciplinary training in oral infectious diseases and molecular, cellular and craniofacial biology with an emphasis on understanding the mechanisms that underlie the clinical manifestations of oral disease. The goal of the program is to generate a pool of dentists-scientists with a strong background both in clinical dentistry and in basic sciences, able to pursue research careers in dental academic, federal or industrial organizations.

### Program Description:

The estimated length of this program is 7 years. During years one through three the candidates work full-time at Marquette School of Dentistry in order to complete the requirements of the first 3 years of the standard curriculum for the DDS degree. During this time the DDS/PhD candidates are also expected to complete a minimum of two summer research rotations at the University of Rochester. Upon successful completion of these rotations the candidates are granted provisional acceptance into the PhD program. During years 4 and 5 the candidates work jointly towards the academic and research requirements for their PhD degree and towards the completion of the clinical requirements for their DDS degree as specified by the School of Dentistry. Clinical training continues in the clinics of the Eastman Department of Dentistry at the University of Rochester, under the supervision of the faculty of the general practice and/or specialty training programs. The final two years of the program (years 6 and 7) are dedicated to the completion of the research project and the PhD thesis.





**Student Oversight:**

Dental students are assigned a mentor from the Marquette University School of Dentistry, Arthur F. Hefti, DDS, PhD. The TPOS Program Director, Robert G. Quivey, Jr., PhD, serves as the research mentor at the University of Rochester until a PhD mentor is chosen. A clinical mentor, Todd Thierer, DDS, MS, Director of the General Practice Residency Program in the Eastman Department of Dentistry is assigned to oversee the clinical requirements of the 4th year of dental school completed at the University of Rochester.

**Financial Support:**

Financial support for the DDS/PhD program is provided primarily through the TPOS Training Program. The program provides tuition, fees and health insurance benefits, as well as generous stipends (currently \$25,500) during years 4 to 7 of the program (including the 4th year of dental school). In addition, the program provides a stipend of ~\$3,500 for each summer research rotation during years 1 to 3 of the program.

Candidates, who have been granted provisional acceptance into the PhD program, typically after the end of the 1st or 2nd year of the program, may also be eligible for scholarships awarded to DDS/PhD candidates on a competitive basis by Marquette University School of Dentistry. DDS/PhD candidates may also receive financial support to present their research results at the annual conference of the American Association for Dental Research.

**DDS/PhD Program Description**

Year		Activity	Location	Supervision from Marquette	Supervision from U of R
1-3	Fall/Spring	Dental Curriculum	Marquette University School of Dentistry	Drs. Hefti & Lynch	
	Summer	Research rotations (at least 2)	Univ. of Rochester, Center for Oral Biology		Dr. Quivey
4-5		Clinical Requirements/ Research and coursework	Univ. of Rochester, Eastman Department of Dentistry and Center for Oral Biology	Drs. Hefti & Lynch	Dr. Thierer, Dr. Quivey and Thesis advisor
6-7		Research and Thesis	Univ. of Rochester Center for Oral Biology		Dr. Quivey and Thesis advisor

\*For additional information, please contact either:

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