

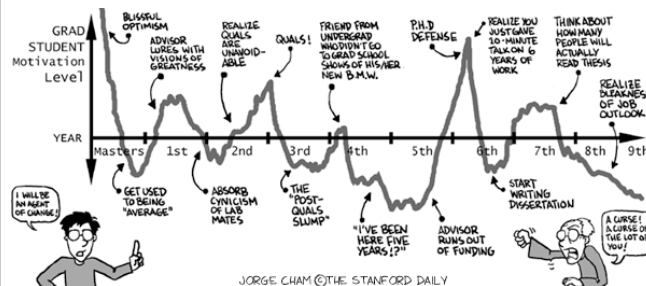
Microbiology Postgraduate Forum

October 29, 2009

Agenda

- Introduce new postgrads to the Department/Postgraduate Programme
- Structure and requirements of the Programme
- Key procedures and time-lines
- Changes in the last year
- Discussion of any relevant issues
- Reception

The PhD Process



Microbiology Department

<http://www.ucc.ie/en/microbiology/>



College of Science, Engineering and Food Science
Microbiology

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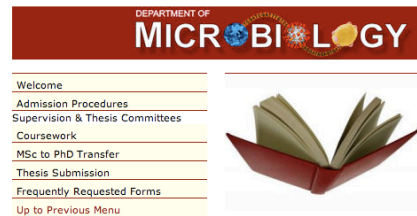
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Head of Dept:
Prof. Gerald F. Fitzgerald

University College Cork (UCC) has built an international reputation in the excellence of its teaching and research programme in Microbiology, and this is reflected in the calibre of its graduates and the success of the Department in obtaining competitive research funding from National and International sources. The Department of Microbiology has 14 academic staff who are active and productive in research.

Microbiology postgraduate programme

<http://www.ucc.ie/en/micropg/>

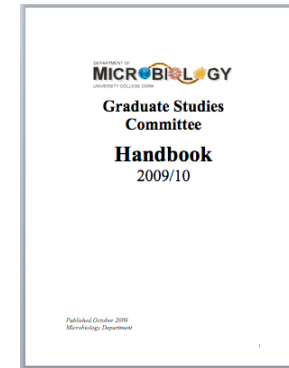


Supervision and Thesis Committees

Thesis committee:

The University stipulates that PhD students have both a supervisor and an advisory committee and the Microbiology Department extends this to all research postgraduates (MSc and PhD). "In the case of Science, a scientific advisory panel of 2 - 4 staff must be established to oversee the supervision and project. This panel normally consists of a supervisor and advisor and up to 2 additional staff members. Either the supervisor or advisor must be a permanent

Postgraduate Handbook –download from site



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The way it used to be.....

Supervisor



Graduate Student

•Examination ← •Thesis ← •Research Project



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Why did it have to change.....?

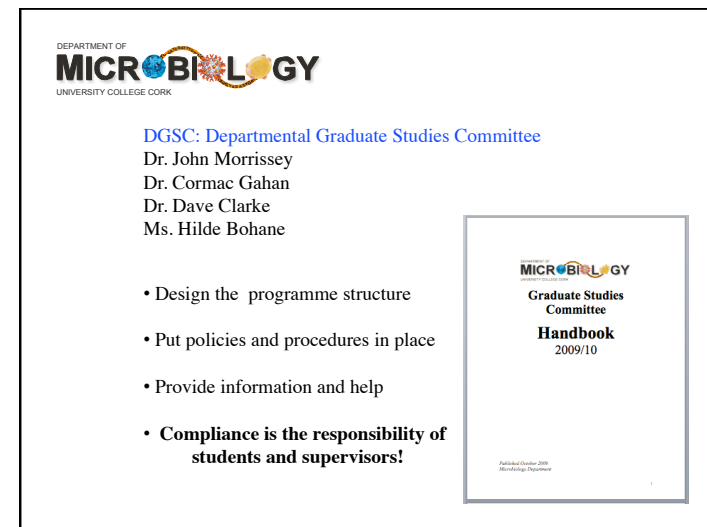
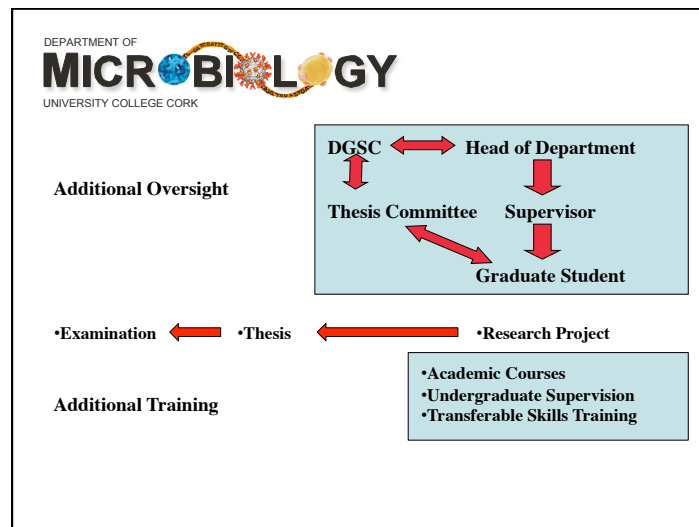
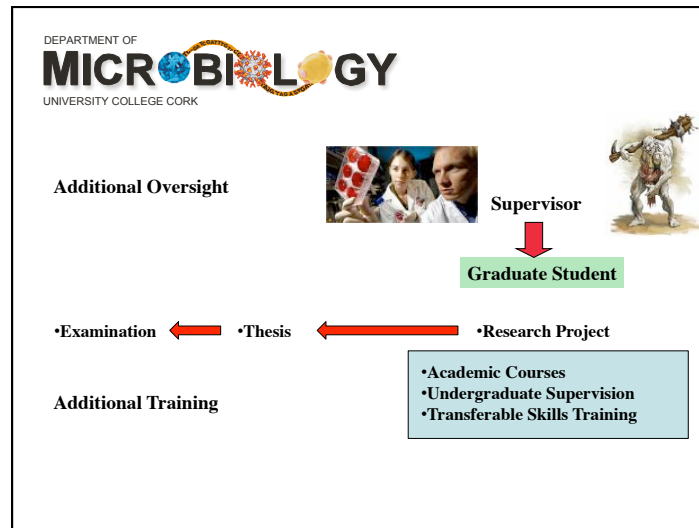
Supervisor

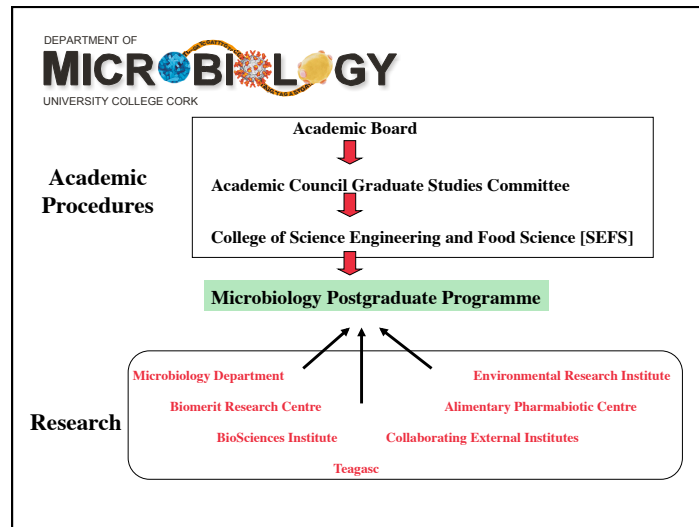


Graduate Student

•Examination ← •Thesis ← •Research Project







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What does the Microbiology Programme entail?

- Coursework
- Thesis Committee
- Annual reports
- MSc – PhD transition
- Demonstrating undergraduate labs

Please use the logo and acknowledgement the programme!

Current College Calendar Entry

*“PhD candidates undertake an equivalent of **90 ECTS credits for each calendar year of full-time research**, or proportional equivalent for part-time students. Students will complete a minimum of 270 credits (3 years, full-time) and a maximum of 360 credits, for consideration for the award of PhD”*

*“A number of generic and disciplinary training modules are available to PhD candidates to provide them with research and transferable skills. **Students may take modules up to a maximum of 90 credits as part of their PhD studies as advised by their Supervisor(s)**”.*

Obligatory Courses for Microbiology Programme

PG6001 – STEPS – 2 day workshop in December

PG6005 – Biotechniques – 2 day workshop in Spring

Training opportunities at UCC

PG6001 STEPS - Scientific Training for Enhanced Postgraduate Studies (5 credits)
 PG6003 Teaching and Learning Module for Graduate Studies (5 credits)
 PG6005 Biotechniques (5 credits)
 PG6006 Commercialisation Skills for Research (5 credits)
 PG6007 PATHS - Postgraduate Training for Arts, Humanities, Commerce and Social Sciences (5 credits)
 PG6009 Information Literacy (5 credits)
 PG6014 Scientific Outreach and Communication (5 credits)
 PG7001 The PhD: Getting Started and Generic Skills (5 credits)
 PG7002 Professional Training of Research Postgraduates in the Humanities & Social Sciences (5 credits)
 PG7003 The PhD II: From Development to Completion (5 credits)

•Academic modules in taught MSc courses

- MSc Food Science
- MSc Biotechnology
- MSc Computational and Systems Biology
- MSc Biomedical Science

Thesis Committee

Composition

- Supervisor**
- Co-supervisor** if applicable
- Advisor** - one other member of Microbiology Academic Staff
- Other relevant expert(s)**

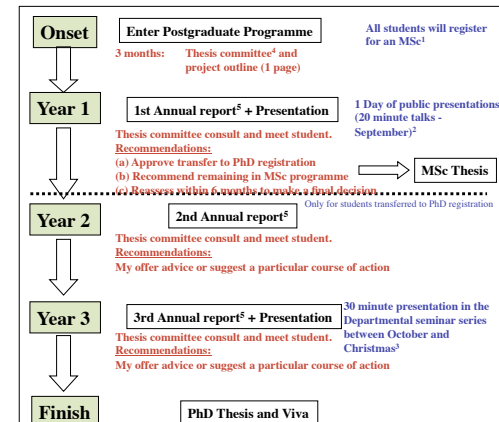
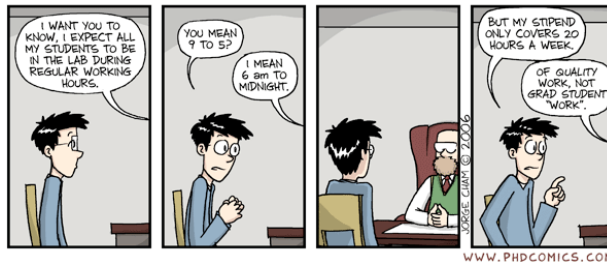
Role

- Review progress of the student
- Provide additional advice and input to the student
- Protect the interests of the student**

Practice

- Committee to be formed within 3 months of starting
- Annual meetings and reports

Communication is important



**Department of Microbiology
Seminar List, October-December 2009**

8th October – Prof. Stanley Moore, Department of Biochemistry, University of Saskatchewan – ‘Structural Studies of the *Helicobacter pylori* Flagellar Export Apparatus’

15th October – Student Seminars: Heather McLaughlin & Patrick Browne

22nd October – Prof. Steffen Backert – School of Biomolecular & Biomedical Science, University College Dublin – ‘Oncogenic signal transduction: lessons from *Helicobacter pylori* virulence factors’

29th October – POSTGRAD FORUM – Postgraduate students to attend

5th November – Student Seminars: Hazel O’Connor & Saranna Fanning

12th November – Student Seminars: Alleson Dobson & Jeroen Muller, Moorepark Food Research Centre

19th November – Dr. Kevin O’Connor – School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Sciences, University College Dublin – ‘Biodegradable plastic synthesis by bacteria: A technological and molecular exploration’

26th November – Prof Geraldine Butler School of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science, Conway Institute, University College Dublin – ‘Sex in fungi: evolution and genomics’

3rd December – Student Seminars: Sinead Doherty & Aditya Upadrasta, Moorepark Food Research Centre

Recent Changes to Viva Procedures

- from College Calendar

“The Examination Board for a PhD thesis will normally consist of one Internal Examiner and one External Examiner”

“The Supervisor(s) is normally expected to be present at the viva voce examination and to contribute to discussions when invited to do so by the Internal and External Examiners”

“The Supervisor(s) will not normally be present while the Examination Board are considering their recommendations”

College Calendar: Rules and Regulations



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Gaeilge English

Prospective Students
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Academics and Staff
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Alumni, Donors and Friends
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PROVISIONAL CALENDAR

2008/2009

The finalised Calendar will be available on 22nd September, 2008

University Calendar

2008/2009

Part 2: Postgraduate Degrees and Diplomas

General Information

[Degree of Doctor](#)

[Degree of Master](#)

[Postgraduate Diplomas](#)

[Postgraduate Certificates](#)

[Higher Diplomas](#)

[University Wide Modules](#)

[Modules for Postgraduate Training](#)

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Registrations and fees

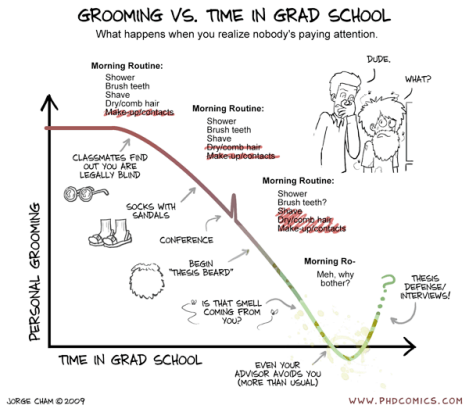
What has changed?

- UCC has recently introduced a policy to ensure that PhD students register each year until their thesis is submitted.
- The policy applies to all full-time students registered at UCC from 2008/09 onwards.
- Full fees must be paid for 4 years

What happens if I don’t finish my PhD by the end of Year 4?

- If you have not completed by the end of year 4, you will be required to register each year until you submit your thesis and will be liable for a continuation fee. The continuation fee for 2010/11 is €1,700.

How do you know what year a postgrad is in?



Sources of Information – all aspects of postgraduate: registration to viva

- Graduate Studies Handbook
- Graduate Studies Office
<http://www.ucc.ie/en/graduatestudies/>
- College Calendar
- Microbiology Website
<http://www.ucc.ie/en/micropg/>

Graduate Studies Office

<http://www.ucc.ie/en/graduatestudies/>



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Online Registration now open for 2009-10

PhD Registration 09/10

Forms and Regulations

Postgraduate Handbook

Postgraduate Skills Training

Thesis Submission

Orientation and Induction Presentations

FAQs

The Write Up

Contact Us

Resources



General topics

- Correspondence and communication
 - email to UCC student account
 - website
- Safety
- Disciplinary Societies
- Postgraduate Society

Laboratory Safety

Legal Obligations: University - Department - Supervisor - Researcher

Department Policies - Legal Obligations - GMOs

Waste Disposal

Laboratory Coats

Handling Chemicals - safety glasses

Proper Microbiological Practice



SGM



Postgraduate Student Meetings Grants (2010)
Spring 2010 Meeting, Edinburgh, 30 March - 2 April 2010
Autumn 2010 Meeting Nottingham, 7-10 September 2010

Scientific Meetings Travel Grants
£350 for travel to another European country
£500 for travel outside Europe.

President's Fund For Research Visits
Awards of up to £3000 are available for making research visits of up to 3 month's duration

FEMS Membership



Postgraduate Committee

- Gives post-grads a voice in departmental decision-making
- Organises scientific and social events in the department
- Helps generate cohesiveness in the department

Current Committee

Aileen O Connell - Auditor
Adam O Driscoll - PRO
Aoife Thompson - Treasurer
Sarah Crowley - Social Secretary
Ciarsdan Campion - Secretary



UCC Microbiology Society
Welcome to all Post-grads
(New, Old, UCC, Teagasc)

WELCOME RECEPTION

Venue: Glass Atrium

Time: 5pm

Cost: Free



The life of a postgrad.....

