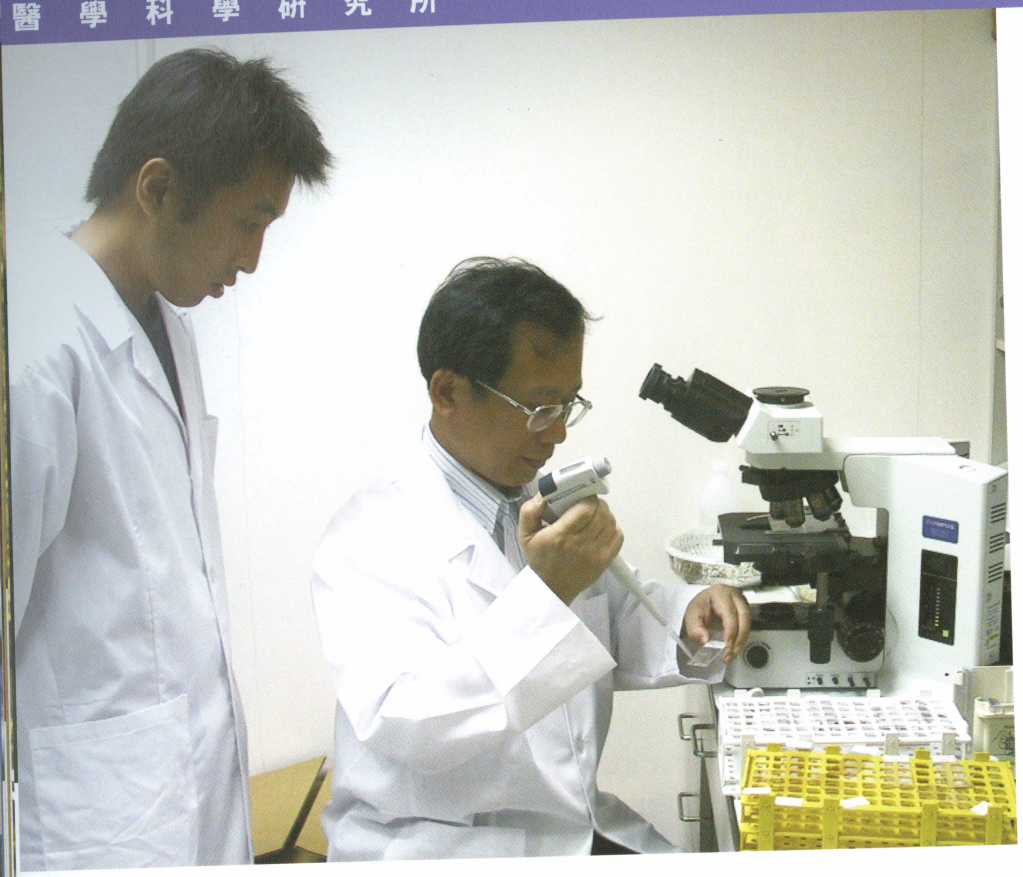


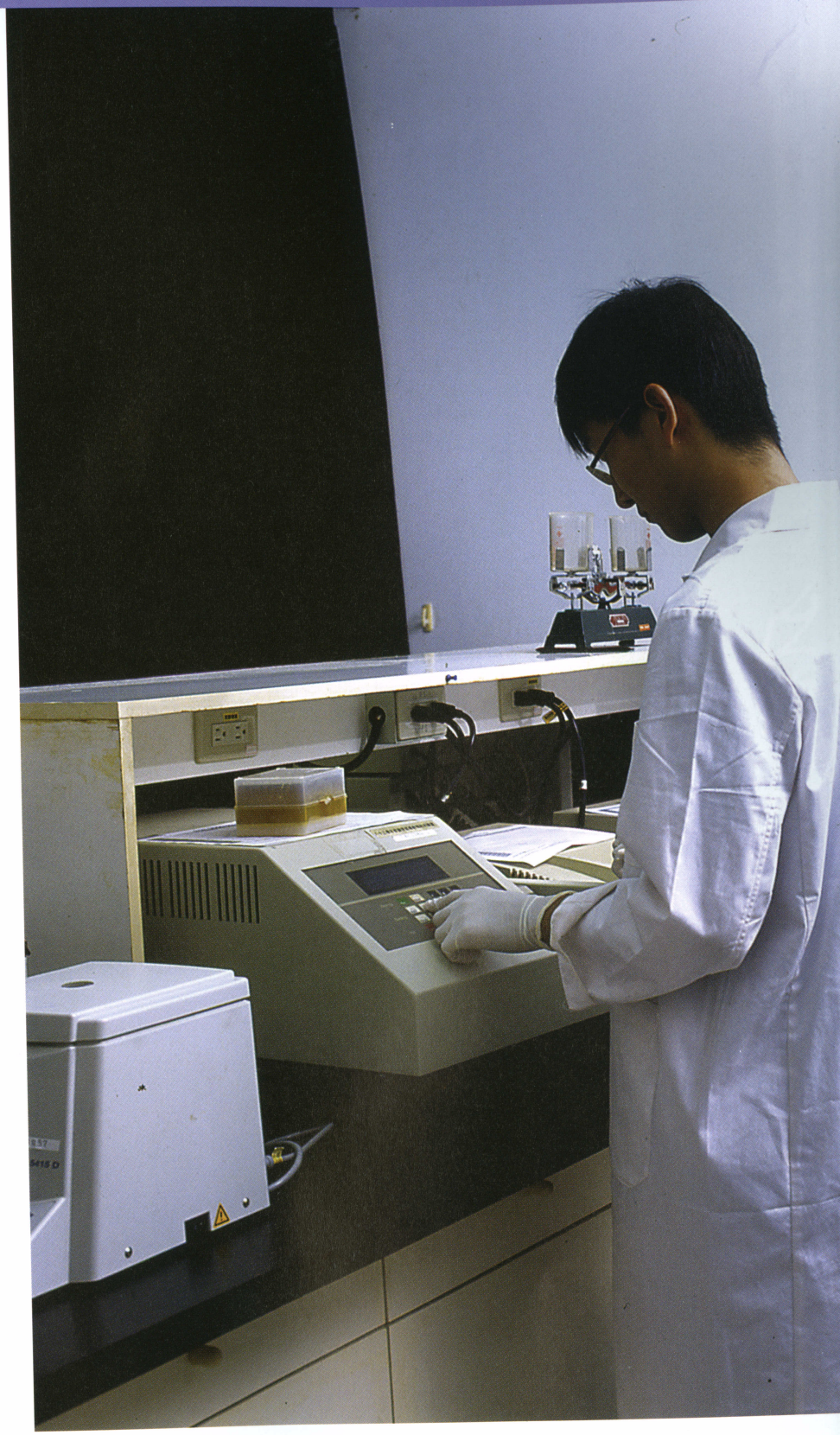
History and overview

The Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences(GIMS) at Taipei Medical University was authenticated by Ministry of Education in 1995 and established in 1996. GIMS was found by merging five previous Graduate Institutes including Basic Medical Science with master and PhD programs, Cellular and Molecular Biology with master and PhD programs, Medical Laboratory and Biotechnology with master program and offering in-service refresher courses, Pharmacology with master degree and Neuron Science with PhD program only. Under supervision and guiding of the former chairperson, Dr. Lin, Chien-Huang and the current chairperson, Dr. Lee, Wen-Sen, this recreated GIMS makes steadily progress in various aspects including teaching, research and community service. This accomplishment is attributed to an adequate integration of outstanding faculties and scientists, rich teaching experience and abundant research resources/equipments from each original program. We expect this energetic GIMS will grow stronger and can compete with other elite research institutes or programs in Taiwan today. Currently, GIMS offers master and doctoral program as well as in-service refresher courses in five subprograms with specialization of microbiology and immunology, molecular pharmacology, biochemistry and molecular cell biology, cellular physiology and neuroscience and medical laboratory science and biotechnology. In PhD program, students are not required to specify any one of subprograms; however, students who are pursuing master degree are obligated to specify and register into one of these subprograms. Development strategies include integration of research resources, development of research characteristics, the pursuit of academic excellence, and enthusiasm in international perspective.

Direction and focus of development include research oriented teaching and learning and disease oriented basic research

GIMS is research oriented institute and emphasizes the importance of graduate students with rational and logical consideration and planning to solve the questions appeared in experimental studies or research during graduate training. To strengthen students fundamental professional knowledge and skills in biomedical science, GIMS offers several core courses related to biomedical research for students, such as cellular biology, molecular biology, applied statics, experimental designing, seminar in special topic and a coach course in improving scientific article writing. Beside these required core courses, each subprogram will also provide students several elective courses with characteristic professional topics associated with one of five subprograms' specializations. Under these well-planned courses and training, students will achieve more precise professional knowledge and advanced experimental skills.

GIMS also performs disease-oriented basic research. GIMS is inclining to concentrate on the basic medical research related to medical issues and diseases. In GIMS, scientists use advanced equipments, technique and tools to decipher the causes of diseases, to dissecting the cellular and molecular mechanisms of diseases, to explore the potential genetic causes of - or correlation to- diseases and to decode the mysterious of regulation/modulation of diseases as well as those disease-causing proteins involved in cellular signaling pathway with tissues. Our goal, however, is to develop or provide better preventions to diseases and treatments for patients. Our current primary research fields as following: identification of the pathogeneses of cerebrovascular diseases and neurodegenerative diseases, understanding of cancer pathogenesis and development of



Goal of Education

In order to comply with the guidelines in the field of national biomedical research program, we design two distinct aims for PhD and master graduates in GIMS. To have each doctoral candidate to become a competent scientist or a primary investigator who can propose and execute scientific projects is our ultimate goal. In contrast to PhD students, each master graduate is expected to become an experienced research assistant with adequate research skills and fundamental knowledge in biomedical science and can support project managers or primary investigators to fulfill the research projects. In the long run, GIMS are looking forward to becoming a prestigious research institute with superb educational atmosphere and provide the first-rate scientists with broad international perspective and enthusiastic social responsibility to research institutes and pharmaceutical industries in Taiwan.

Distinctive Feature of Education

Courses Design

The graduate program is designed for students who intend to specialize in medical sciences. The course covers the chemical, molecular and cellular basis of life, physiology, neurobiology, pharmacology and modern biotechnology. The purpose of this program is to educate the students with modern multidisciplinary knowledge and to become an independent researcher in the related fields.

Facilities

The Institute is fully equipped with major facilities and to ensure the maximum effectiveness of all the facilities in the Institute, resource sharing is main concept to encourage cooperative activities between investigators.

Internationalization

To ensure the global perspectives of the students and to expand the international research cooperation, we have some courses internationalized by infusion some international perspectives into existing courses and incorporating international components in the teaching and learning activities. These include the distinguished lecture series by international scholars, the short-term study abroad of the faculty and the graduate students, international research cooperation and attending the international conferences.

Job Prospects after Graduation

We have an enviable record for producing high-caliber graduates who move quickly into good careers soon after finishing their studies. Most of the graduated students have been employed or undertaken further study in academic or non-academic fields.

Faculty

Faculties are composed of 1.full-time professors, 2. joint appointment of full-time professors including faculties in the department of medicine and medical laboratory and Biotechnology and 3.adjunct professors. As matter the fact, GIMS provides a broad research field with extensive diversities of specific interests including biochemistry, molecular and cellular biology, microbiology, immunology, parasitology, pharmacology, cellular physiology, neuroscience and medical laboratory and biotechnology.

Distinctive Feature of Research and Prospect

The research and teaching interests of the faculty include fundamental, as well as medically relevant, problems in biochemical and molecular biology, microbiology and immunology, pharmacology, and cellular physiology and neuroscience. The research enterprise supports university research activity and explores cooperation to other research units including the National Academia Sinica, National Health Research Institute, Industrial Technology Research Institute of Taiwan etc.