

The Department of Microbiology originated in the Faculty of Agriculture, which itself originated in the Manitoba Agricultural College founded in 1906. The Department became part of the Faculty of Science in 1952 and expanded and formally occupied its present location in Buller Building in 1961. Relocation to Science resulted in the establishment of the first Honours Program in Microbiology. The research interests of the new faculty included Microbiology, Physiology, Biochemistry and Microbial Ecology, which have been extended into the present academic offerings of the Department.

Program Description

Microbiological research is probably one of the most dynamic areas of scientific endeavour at present. Concern over the impact of society's activities on the environment is increasing and there is a strong need for research in environmental microbiology. Biotechnology, especially based on various gene manipulation techniques, shows tremendous promise in many areas of medicine, agriculture, industry and basic microbiological research. These areas, and many of our other technological advances, are continually expanding. They all depend heavily on basic research and a supply of highly trained individuals, such as graduates from microbiology programs. We have seen our graduate students take up positions in industry, universities, and the public sector. The demand for these well-qualified people continues.

The Department offers M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs of study in various areas of modern microbiology. Because the Department is relatively small, the research interests of the faculty and students are concentrated in several main areas. Currently, research programs are offered in the following areas: 1. Microbial ecology and geochemistry; 2. Molecular biology/genetics; 3. Microbial Physiology 4. Biotechnology and biochemistry; 5. Structural biology 6. Microbial Pathogenicity.

Research Facilities

Microbiology program faculty members are engaged in active research projects. We have all the facilities needed to conduct research in our areas of specialization and our inventory of modern equipment is one that would be expected in any active research unit. In addition, our close ties with other departments allow for the use of their facilities.

Affiliations

Through adjunct professors and contacts the Department is affiliated with the Laboratory Centre for Disease Control, Freshwater Institute (Oceans and Fisheries Canada) and other departments within the University and various companies in the surrounding area.

Funding Opportunities

Funding opportunities are available through many local, federal and industrial granting agencies. In addition there are teaching assistantships and fellowships available through research grants held by the faculty in our department.

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About the University of Manitoba

The University of Manitoba (est. 1877) is the largest, most comprehensive and only research-intensive post-secondary educational institution in Manitoba. The University attracts the brightest students and Faculty from around the world. Located in heart of Canada, Winnipeg is one of the most culturally diverse cities in the country with nearly 100 languages represented.

Winnipeg's climate of four contrasting seasons provides a multitude of outdoor activities to be explored. The campus is fully networked, and hosts over 40 Research Centres and Institutes. The 13 branch Research Library Facility ensures all of the information you need for your studies is at your fingertips. Access to reasonably-priced on- and off-campus housing makes the U of M one of the most affordable universities to study at in Canada.

The University of Manitoba (U of M) attracts exceptional scholars to its 18 Faculties and 4 Schools and provides a world-class education in the Social, Medical, Natural and Applied Sciences, as well as Engineering, the Arts and Humanities. Programming in over 80 disciplines at the graduate level lead to 82 Master's degrees and 51 Ph.D.'s including: business

management, engineering, agricultural and nutritional sciences, social sciences and humanities, education, physical and earth sciences, medical and life sciences and exciting interdisciplinary opportunities. International students at the U of M have exclusive graduate funding opportunities available throughout their graduate program including entrance scholarships, bursaries and graduate fellowships.



An aerial view of the Fort Garry campus of the University of Manitoba, situated on a bow of the Red River.

DEPARTMENT
OF

MICROBIOLOGY

