MBio Graduate School
Encompasses ~ 295 students currently enrolled:
- Anatomy and Developmental Biology
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Microbiology
- Pharmacology
- Physiology
- Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences
- Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute (ARMI)
MBio Graduate School Management Committee

A/Prof Martin Stone (Director, MBio Graduate School)
Dr Melanie Pritchard (Senior Project Manager, MBio Graduate School)
Dr Shae-Lee Cox (Senior Project Manager, MBio Graduate School)
Ms Sara Conduit (Student rep – Biochemistry and Molecular Biology)
Ms Bliss Cunningham (Student rep – Microbiology)

Departmental Representatives
Anatomy and Developmental Biology: A/Prof Jane Black, Dr Tracy Heng
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: Prof Mibel Aguilar, Dr Peter Boag
Microbiology: A/Prof Hans Netter, A/Prof Anna Roujeinikova
Pharmacology: Dr Chrishan Samuel, Prof Rob Widdop
Physiology: Prof Helena Parkington
Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences: Dr Michal Schneider
ARMI: A/Prof James Bourne, Ms Jane McCausland

Ex-Officio
School of Clinical Sciences, MHTP: Prof Kate Loveland
Prof Nellie Georgiou-Karistianis (Associate Dean, Research Degrees)

MBio Graduate School Student Committee

Sarah Conduit - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (Chair)
Bliss Cunningham - Microbiology
Mariana Benitez - Microbiology
Sandy Lee - Pharmacology
Shalini Krishnan - Pharmacology
Mitra Amiri - Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute Biology
Vacant – Physiology
Vacant – Anatomy and Developmental Biology
Vacant - Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Volunteers welcome!!
Stages of a Higher Degree

Doctoral
- 1st Year (Probation) – Milestone Review Panel, Confirmation
- 2nd Year
- 3rd Year
- Submission

Masters
- 1st 6 months Probation/Confirmation
- Submission
Milestone Review Panel

- Student required to establish panel within three months of enrolment.

- Composition:
  - The Chair.
  - At least 2 senior academic staff from the university (one conversant with the research area).
  - Any other persons nominated by the Chair (including persons external to the university), if deemed appropriate.

- No panel member should be (or have been) directly involved with the student’s research (including the Chair, or as a current or former supervisor)

- Meets with student at annual milestones & tracks with student throughout PhD

- Available for advice as needed

- Potential writers of recommendations

Candidature Milestones

- MBio 6-month Review
  - Aims
  - Achievements & plan
  - Training required
  - Progress on literature review
  - MBio requirement (form available on MBio website)

- Confirmation of Candidature (12 months)
  - Research description (4,000 – 6,000 words; includes literature review, research proposal and progress report)
  - Oral presentation (20 mins)
Candidature Milestones

- **Progress Review (24 months)**
  - Written paper/s or thesis chapters
  - Progress report and time line to finish
  - Oral presentation (20 mins)

- **Final Review (36 months)**
  - Thesis summary, a chapter outline & a timeline for completion of each chapter and thesis submission
  - Public seminar (>20 mins)

Motivations for Doing a PhD?

- Science means ‘to know’
- Dedication to the search for knowledge
- Starting a career in research
- Preparation for other career paths
Postgraduate Student Competencies

- Knowledge of subject area
- Technical expertise
- Critical thinking
- Communication skills
- Professionalism

- Knowledge of subject area
  - Supervisors
  - Co-workers
  - Colleagues
  - Scientific literature
  - Demonstrating/tutoring

- Technical expertise
  - Experimental methods
  - Data analysis
  - Bioinformatics
Postgraduate Student Competencies

• Critical thinking
  – Analysis of complex problems
  – Identifying important issues
  – Making judgements and evaluations
  – Distinguishing between fact and opinion
  – Synthesising information and ideas
  – Making comparisons
  – Making testable predictions
  – Questioning what you read and hear
  – Comparing predictions and observations
  – Maintaining objectivity

• Communication skills
  – Listening carefully
  – Speaking clearly
  – Writing clearly
  – Being accurate and precise
  – Willingness to ask questions
  – Seeking advice
  – Being aware of what you know and don’t know
  – Tailoring communication to the audience
Postgraduate Student Competencies

- **Professionalism and self-respect**
  - Take yourself seriously – show self-respect
  - Set goals, stay motivated
  - Prioritize your activities, work towards goals
  - Stay organised, manage your time
  - Maintain a strong work ethic
  - Maintain a healthy work-life balance

- **Professionalism within an organisation**
  - Be a team player
  - Treat coworkers with respect
  - Contribute to the working environment (research group, department, MBio)
  - Help teach and train others
  - Take initiative
  - Take on leadership roles
  - Fulfil your commitments
MBio Contacts

- A/Prof Martin Stone
- Dr Melanie Pritchard
- Dr Shae-Lee Cox
- [Graduateschool.mbio@monash.edu](mailto:Graduateschool.mbio@monash.edu)
- Departmental HDR co-ordinator
- Student representative

Further information in the Induction booklet on the MBio Website