



Osher Center Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in Integrative Medicine

A well recognized limitation of conventional medicine is its longstanding specialization, which often results in a view of the body as a collection of separate body parts or systems. Integrative medicine research seeks to understand connections across physiological systems (e.g. Does breathing influence the digestive system? Do body movements influence the immune system?). In addition, integrative medicine research emphasizes integration of research approaches “from cells to animal models to patients.” For example, we know that mechanical forces have profound effects on cells in a culture dish, but how does this translate to physiological processes in a whole animal or human?

The Osher Center for Integrative Medicine, established in 2002, is a joint program of Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital, and is supported by a gift from The Bernard Osher Foundation. The Osher Center aims to combine research, education and clinical care to move medicine toward a new model of wellness and healing.

Eligibility: The Osher Center funds pre-doctoral fellowships in integrative medicine research. The fellowship program is open to Harvard Integrated Life Sciences (HILS) graduate students¹ and provides **\$10,000/year to cover part of the student's costs (to include stipend and/or supplies), as well as a \$2,000 travel stipend**; the fellowship is **renewable for three years**. Students should submit a proposal during the second or third year of their pre-doctoral education (once they have chosen their mentors and are established in a lab).

Projects are required to:

1. Include relevance to cross-system and translational integration;
2. Add a new collaboration (new to the lab) between the student's parent lab and another lab or research group, with preference for adding a translational component into an animal model or human model (if relevant).

Note: The annual \$10,000 will be awarded to the lab that is covering the student's stipend and tuition. The principal investigator (PI) of the collaborating lab will not be required to be a co-mentor or be part of the student's thesis committee. However, the collaborating PIs will be required to meet quarterly, with the student, and the student will submit a report of these meetings, as well as a yearly progress report to the Osher Center. Annual renewal of the fellowship will be contingent upon satisfactory completion of these requirements.

The Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Program is led by Drs. Helene Langevin, Osher Center Director, and Peter Wayne, Osher Center Research Director. Along with other faculty and staff, they comprise the Pre-Doctoral Fellowship Steering Committee. The Steering Committee members work closely in the areas of student selection and evaluation of research projects. The Steering Committee meets at least twice annually to review student recruitment, select applicants, and review and evaluate the research mentorship and progress of the trainees. Management and staff of the Osher Center provide financial and operational management and support to the Program.

Application Cycles: Two fellowships can be awarded each academic year, with one applicant selected after each cycle:

1st Cycle Application Deadline: January 16, 2018. Awardees will be notified by March 1, 2018.

2nd Cycle Application Deadline: June 12, 2018. Awardees will be notified by August 1, 2018.

To Apply: If eligible¹, send the following items to our Program Manager, Aterah Nusrat, at anusrat1@bwh.harvard.edu:

- Proposal (download application form at www.oshercenter.org/fellowships);
- Curriculum vitae;
- Three letters of recommendation.

Learn more about integrative medicine, the Osher Center and our programs at www.oshercenter.org or call 617.525.8737.

¹ This program is open to all HILS graduate students, with the exception of those students in the Dental Medicine Program in Biological Sciences.