Graduate Education in Pathology:
The University of Pittsburgh Experience

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Program Structure:
1. One of 11 degree granting programs in the SOM
2. Part of a consortium of 6 programs (IBGP)
3. All 11 programs are affiliated with the MSTP
4. All programs are departmentally sponsored but function under the auspices of the SOM

University specifics:
Research funding:
- Consistently ranks in the top 10 SOM
- 6th in NIH funding FY2009

Student body:
- 1/3 SOM in PhD programs
- Over 300 faculty members in SOM
- SOM Ranked 14th
- Research Excellence
- University Ranked 5th
- Top American Research Universities
IBGP consortium:

1. Began as a consortium in 2000
2. Currently consists of 6 programs (IBGP)
3. First year shared curriculum
   - Foundations of Biomedical Science
   - 3 lab rotations
   - Ethics
   - Biostatistics
4. Second year specific curriculum

CMP specifics:

Academic Requirements:

Core:
- Molecular Mechanisms of Tissue Growth & Differentiation
- Cancer Biology & Therapeutics OR Molecular Pathobiology
- Grant Writing Course
- Research Seminar - 5 semesters

Electives:
- Intro to Tissue Engineering
- Topics in Exp. Neuropathology
- Angiogenesis
- Regenerative Medicine Seminar
- Cell Therapy
- Systems Approach to Inflammation

Statistically speaking (IBGP):

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Facts about IBGP students

1. About 1/3 of the students are foreign
2. Average GPA=3.5 (US students only)
4. We currently have low minority numbers

Facts about IBGP benefits

1. Current stipend is $24,600/annum
2. Educational Enrichment Fund of 2K
3. Tuition Remission
4. Health Insurance (~2.5K)

Statistically speaking: MSTP

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Statistically speaking: CMP

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What is our secret?

1. Strong recruitment into IBGP and MSTP
   Collaborative efforts within SOM
   Admissions/Recruitment committees
   SURP programs
2. Linear effort to know the students
   SURP director = CMP director
   Attendance at recruitment dinners
3. Interaction with IBGP during year 1
   CMP director = preceptor coordinator

Other Assets

1. Faculty from other departments
   Consistently adding new faculty
   66 presently (~50% Pathology)
2. Multiple sites with specialties
   BST
   Hillman Cancer Center
   McGowan Institute
   New Childrens Hospital
More Assets
1. Educational themes
   - organ specific: lung, brain, liver
   - cancer
   - matrix turnover/fibrosis
   - stem cells
   - bioengineering
2. MSTP funding growing
3. CATER program funded
4. ATP submitted for funding

Weaknesses
1. Minority recruitment weak in recent years
2.Interaction with MSTP recruiting not strong
3. Funding at risk in general

Thank You!