

Research Focus

The research and educational focus of this Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program is the ecology of infectious diseases (EID). This topic was chosen based on the interests and expertise of The University of Montana faculty and affiliates and because it is an emerging field of global importance with significant national and local consequences. Moreover, it provides an excellent forum for training graduate students in a developing interdisciplinary research field. Trainees will become skilled scientific researchers and develop strong collaborative and communication skills.

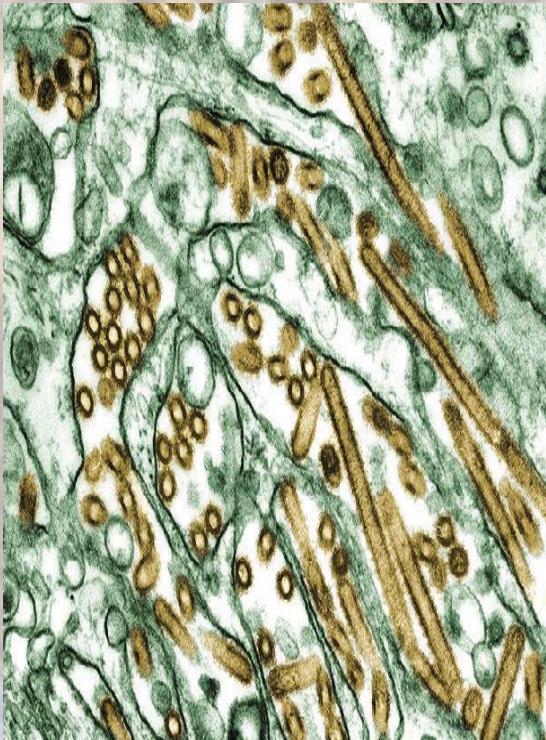


Image: Avian Flu Virus CDC

IGERT

The Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program seeks to train PhD scientists and engineers with the interdisciplinary background and the technical, professional and personal skills needed to address the global questions of the future. Through the use of innovative curricula and internships, and by focusing on problem-centered training, these programs give their graduates the edge needed to become leaders in their chosen fields. To learn more please visit <http://www.igert.org/>

M–EID Applicants

Prospective Trainees in the M–EID IGERT Program should apply both to the M–EID Traineeship and to the appropriate graduate program or professional school at The University of Montana. For Deadlines and detailed application instructions please visit the M–EID website at the URL address below.

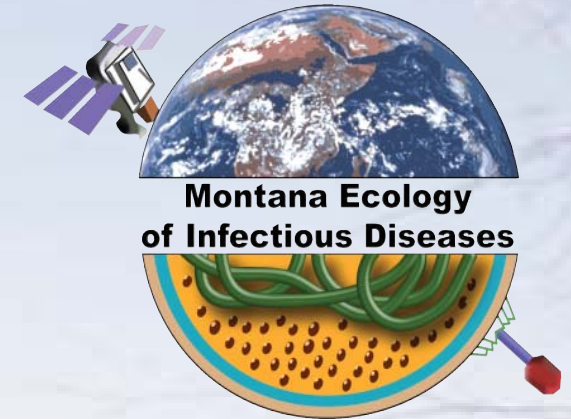
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Cover Image: M.J. Harner



The University of
Montana



**Montana Ecology
of Infectious Diseases**

**Montana – Ecology
of Infectious Diseases
Graduate Traineeship Program**
(A NSF-IGERT Program)

The ecology of endemic, epidemic and emergent infectious diseases is a topic of local and global importance with considerable scientific, societal, ethical and policy aspects. The Montana–Ecology of Infectious Diseases Program unites faculty researchers from multiple disciplines in an integrative enterprise to train Ph.D. students to lead the collaborative, cross-disciplinary efforts needed to address complex real-world problems as exemplified by the ecology of infectious diseases.

IGERT
Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship
NATIONAL RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

Funding provided by:
National
Science
Foundation

M–EID Program

The Montana–Ecology of Infectious Diseases (M–EID) education and research program is built on the understanding that scientists with different disciplinary skills will take varied approaches and bring unique expertise to EID questions, which collectively provides a better understanding of the whole system. Many critical aspects of EID systems reside in understanding the structure, dynamics, genetics, and behavior of host organisms and pathogens and the complex interplay between host, pathogen, and environment at multiple spatial and temporal scales.

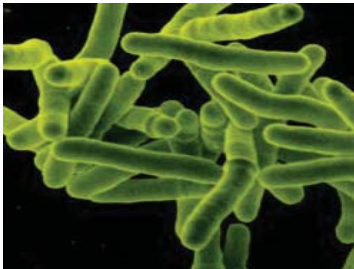


Image: NIH, Clifton, Barry

To accomplish this objective, the M–EID program will provide:

- Interdisciplinary, team-based training in mathematics, computation, and biology relevant to disease systems.
- Specific training in establishing productive collaborations, team building, and effective communication between disciplines (and to other societal sectors).
- Professional development and career enhancement.

Graduate Traineeship

Our focus on the ecology of infectious diseases and the natural laboratory that Montana represents provide an excellent venue to train graduate students in a new and exciting interdisciplinary research field with commensurate requirements for scientific excellence and strong collaborative and communication skills. All M–EID Trainees will obtain requisite skills to form productive collaborations, which will generate insights and accomplishments that exceed the cumulative contributions of each individual and prepare them for scientific careers addressing complex problems in biology and ecology.

Traineeships are available to qualified students as stipends of \$30,000 per year plus tuition and fees.



Image: M-EID Trainees 2006

Participating Departments

The M–EID Program unites faculty researchers and educators from multiple disciplines in a novel and integrative enterprise to produce graduate students trained to lead the collaborative, cross-disciplinary efforts in education and research that are needed to address complex real-world problems as exemplified by the ecology of endemic, epidemic and emergent infectious diseases. The following departments are M–EID participants:

- Computer Science
- Integrative Microbiology and Biochemistry
 - Microbial Ecology
- Mathematics
- Organismal Biology and Ecology
- Wildlife Biology
- IIP (Individualized Interdisciplinary Studies Program)