THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY

Graduate Program in Bioscience

40% of faculty are members of the National Academy of Sciences

$1 B investment in facilities and scientific equipment

$248 M annual research budget

$0 tuition, plus a generous stipend for students

16-acre campus

26 Nobel Prizes

72 faculty members

1,377 research and support staff

533,367 SF
of lab space

265 graduate students

216 postdocs

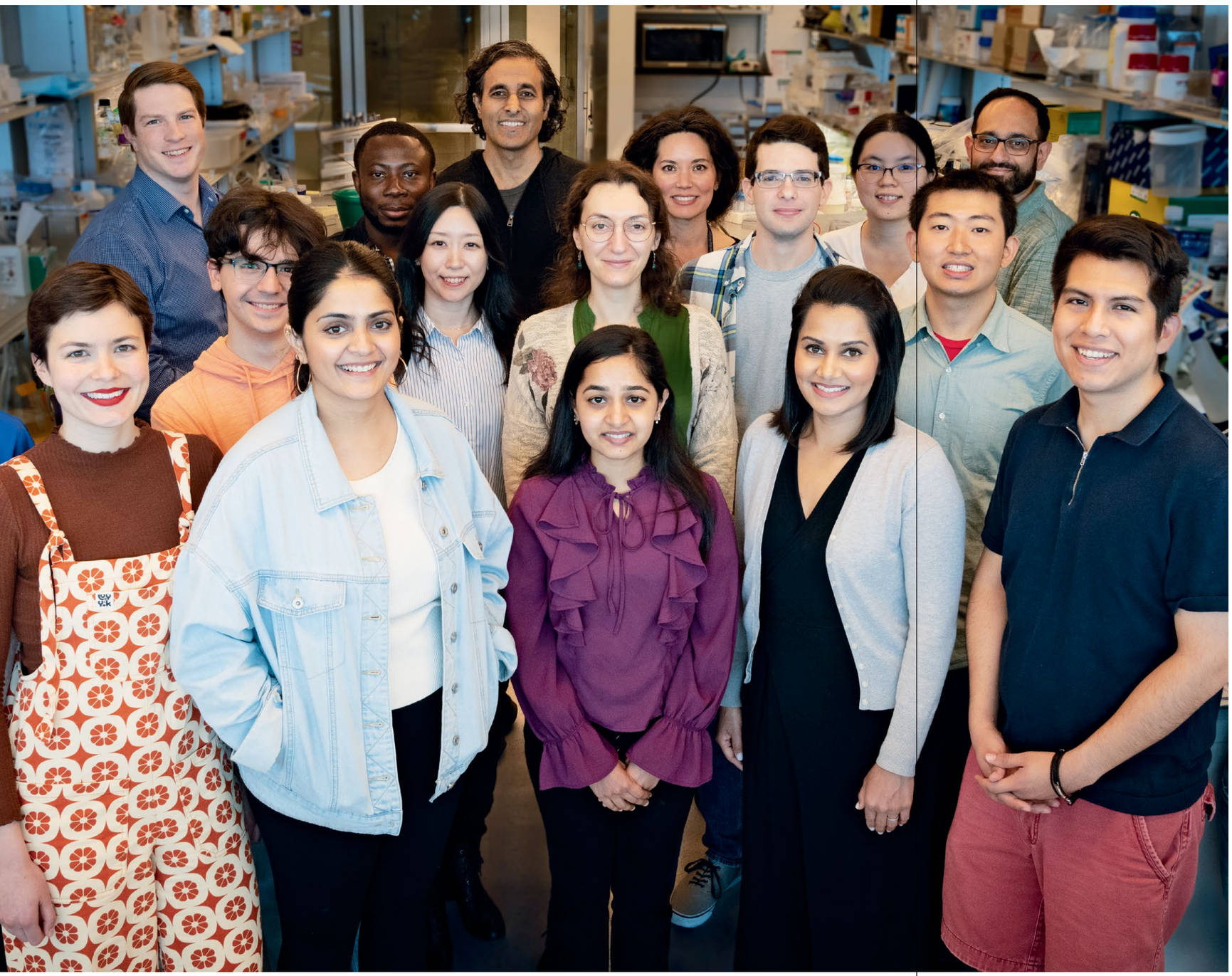
Welcome to The Rockefeller University!

Rockefeller is one of the world's premier research institutions, and a very special place to be a graduate student. With a remarkable history of achievements in support of our mission of "Science for the Benefit of Humanity," we are continuing our legacy by recruiting the very best students from around the world to become tomorrow's scientific pioneers.

Our Ph.D. program offers a unique environment in which students are free to pursue groundbreaking research, working alongside esteemed faculty while being part of a tight-knit and diverse community. We provide ample support with housing, finances, and family care so that each student can make the most of the scientific opportunities available here.

This is an incredibly exciting time in bioscience—and at Rockefeller, you will have the opportunity to contribute to advances that will shape the future of science and medicine.

Tim Stearns, Ph.D.
Dean of Graduate and Postgraduate Studies;
Vice President for Educational Affairs



Join a world-class research team

We believe that a good science education is one that trains you to be a leader, ready to deal with the unexpected and pursue every problem with an open mind. This is why graduate training is closely integrated with the transformative research taking place at Rockefeller.

Once you've chosen a faculty mentor and project, you become part of a close-knit lab that cares about your success. You will be designing and executing experiments to solve real scientific problems—with the possibility of discovering something that nobody has seen before about the nature of life or a disease.

The lab of Sohail Tavazoie, Rockefeller's Leon Hess Professor, is shedding new light on the processes by which tumors metastasize to new organs. Graduate students are an integral part of the internationally acclaimed research team.

Photo by: Claire Holt

“Here, science is community.”

–Jeannie Carreiro

Graduate student in the laboratory of Sanford M. Simon

Second-year graduate student Jeannie Carreiro is studying fibrolamellar carcinoma, a rare form of liver cancer that disproportionally affects children and young adults. She and her colleagues are exploring the basic processes that turn healthy liver cells abnormal, with the goal of discovering new therapies for the disease.

“Fibrolamellar carcinomas are teeming with differences compared to normal liver cells,” Jeannie explains. “We need to weed out the ones that are essential to disease from those that aren’t.” Progress wouldn’t be possible without close collaboration between scientists and students with different expertise, and the commitment of patients and their families who contribute to the lab’s work.

“We’re lucky to have access to primary patient samples, labs with incredible expertise, and the world-class resource centers here at Rockefeller,” Jeannie says. “The way everyone pulls together to make discovery happen is also what’s truly special about being a student here.”

Photos by: (left to right) Matthew Septimus and John Abbott

“Science is as much about exploration as about results.”

–Leslie B. Vosshall

Robin Chemers Neustein Professor at Rockefeller; Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer at Howard Hughes Medical Institute

Leslie Vosshall, who heads the Laboratory of Neurogenetics and Behavior, believes students should be safe to take risks. “At Rockefeller, they get to try things that have never been tried before,” she says.

She was a Rockefeller graduate student herself in the 1990s, mentored by Michael W. Young, who went on to win a 2017 Nobel Prize. Today, Vosshall’s lab studies the processes by which *Aedes aegypti*, the mosquito that spreads yellow fever, dengue, and Zika, seeks out human hosts.

“Mentoring isn’t a one-size-fits-all interaction,” Vosshall says. “It requires an understanding of how each student got to where they are today.”

Photos by: John Abbott (opposite page) and Will Ragozzino

The deans are here to listen, guide, and support

Graduate fellows Roberto J. Rodríguez Cartagena and Betty Ortiz-Gonzalez with Tim Stearns, Andrea Morris, and Emily Harms

Photo by: Claire Holt

In addition to mentorship from faculty advisors, students receive continuous guidance from graduate program leaders.

Dean Tim Stearns and Senior Associate Dean Emily Harms get to know every student one-on-one to help plan and execute their individualized course of study. Assistant Dean Andrea Morris, who directs career and professional development, helps students explore and get ready for a variety of career options, from traditional academic appointments to jobs in biotech, pharma, business, and policy.

People come from everywhere, and everyone belongs

Students join our program from all over the world and become part of an inclusive community. At Rockefeller, we celebrate and nurture diversity in all its forms, whether based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, life experiences, or cultural perspective.

"We organize a range of programs and activities to foster a community where everyone can learn more about one another, seek out different points of view, and build the authentic connections that result in creative thinking and new ideas," says Ashton Murray, the university's chief diversity officer and vice president of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). For example, Rockefeller's Biogrow program teaches first-year students how to create diverse and inclusive spaces in the biosciences, and a microgrants program supports community-building initiated by students and employees.

Learn more about our DEI efforts at
go.rockefeller.edu/dei_programs

Left to right: Graduate fellows Sanraj Mittal and Xinyue Deng, Chief Diversity Officer Ashton Murray, and biomedical fellow Rohan Roy.

Photo by: Chris Taggart

Learn shoulder to shoulder with world-renowned trailblazers

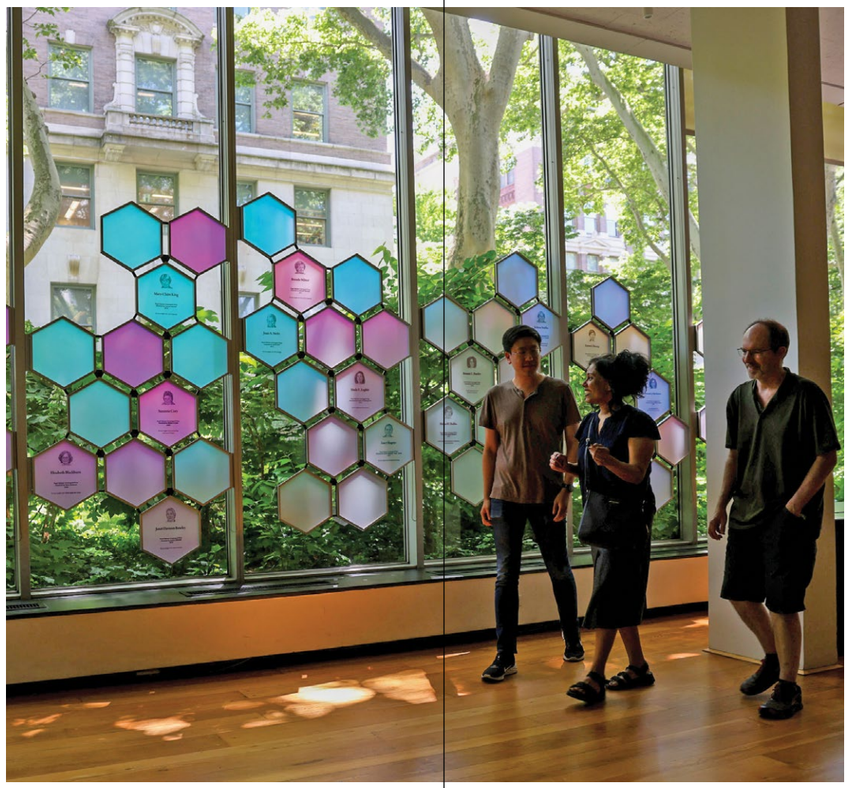
Rockefeller students learn science alongside the best professors in the world. Five of our current faculty have won the Nobel Prize, and a total of 26 Nobel laureates have worked here since the institution was founded in 1901. The student–mentor relationship is characterized by one-on-one interactions and impromptu meetings.

Caitlin Gilbert '21 with her mentor Erich D. Jarvis, an HHMI Investigator and recipient of the 2019 NIH Director's Transformative Research Award, among other prestigious honors.

Photo by: Frank Veronsky

It's a tight-knit community—supportive, inclusive, and fun!

Since most students, postdocs, and faculty live on or near campus, there are plenty of opportunities to make new friends both during and after work hours. In any given week, there are exciting lectures and discussions led by renowned experts from within and outside of the university, along with a variety of non-academic events —from informal gatherings outdoors or at the Faculty and Students Club to pickup games, film screenings, concerts, and parties.



Photos by: (clockwise from top, left) John Abbott, Claire Holt, Mario Morgado, and Claire Holt

New York City

Don't just make it here, make it the most inspiring time of your life! Rockefeller's beautiful and serene campus sits at the heart of a burgeoning research and biotech hub and near several partner institutions in the life sciences. It is also home to the new Ford Center Incubator, an 8,000-square-foot space hosting promising biotech start-ups. The neighborhood outside is packed with additional scientific expertise, state-of-the-art facilities, and training programs, and it's surrounded by the kind of art and culture found only in New York City.

Biomedical Institutions

1 Cornell Tech
2 Ford Center Incubator
3 Hospital for Special Surgery
4 Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
5 Mount Sinai Health System
6 Tri-Institutional Therapeutics Discovery Institute
7 Weill Cornell Medicine

Museums and Culture

1 American Museum of Natural History
2 Asia Society
3 Carnegie Hall
4 Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum
5 El Museo del Barrio
6 Guggenheim Museum
7 Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts
8 Museum of the City of New York
9 Park Avenue Armory
10 The Jewish Museum
11 The Metropolitan Museum of Art
12 The Museum of Modern Art
13 92nd Street Y

Opposite page: The Rockefeller University campus overlooks the East River, on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. (Photo by: Halkin Mason Photography)

Below photos by: iStock, Halkin Mason Photography, iStock

Attractive and affordable apartments—in the middle of Manhattan

Scout and his owner, graduate fellow Tyler Lewy (left), going home from work.
Photos by: Chris Taggart (above) and Mario Morgado

Our students have the best deal in town: All are guaranteed Rockefeller-subsidized housing from day one through graduation. Bring your own furniture or use ours—either way, our apartments are clean, comfortable, and secure.

An environment designed for the next generation

For more than 120 years, we've been moving bioscience forward by pushing the boundaries of research technology, facilities, and expertise. Today, our students operate cutting-edge tools backed up by the best core facilities that 21st-century science has to offer—and some even develop the perfect tool for their own experiment.

The university's 17 scientific resource centers provide advanced support for precision instrumentation, bioimaging, drug discovery, and many other areas, while more than a dozen interdisciplinary centers facilitate collaborations between labs with common goals. Rockefeller also partners with other life-science institutions in New York City to provide resources and training in specific areas, including translational research and entrepreneurship.

Photo by: Kholood Eid

"Our resource centers are quick, efficient, and incredibly helpful. I work with them every day of the week."

–Jeannie Carreiro

Graduate student

Scientific Resource Centers

Bronk Laboratory
- Antibody and Bioresource Core Facility
- Frits and Rita Markus Bio-Imaging Resource Center
- CRISPR and Genome Editing Center
- Fisher Drug Discovery Resource Center
- Flow Cytometry Resource Center

Collaborative Research Center
- Bioinformatics Resource Center
- Cryo-Electron Microscopy Resource Center
- Glasswashing Services

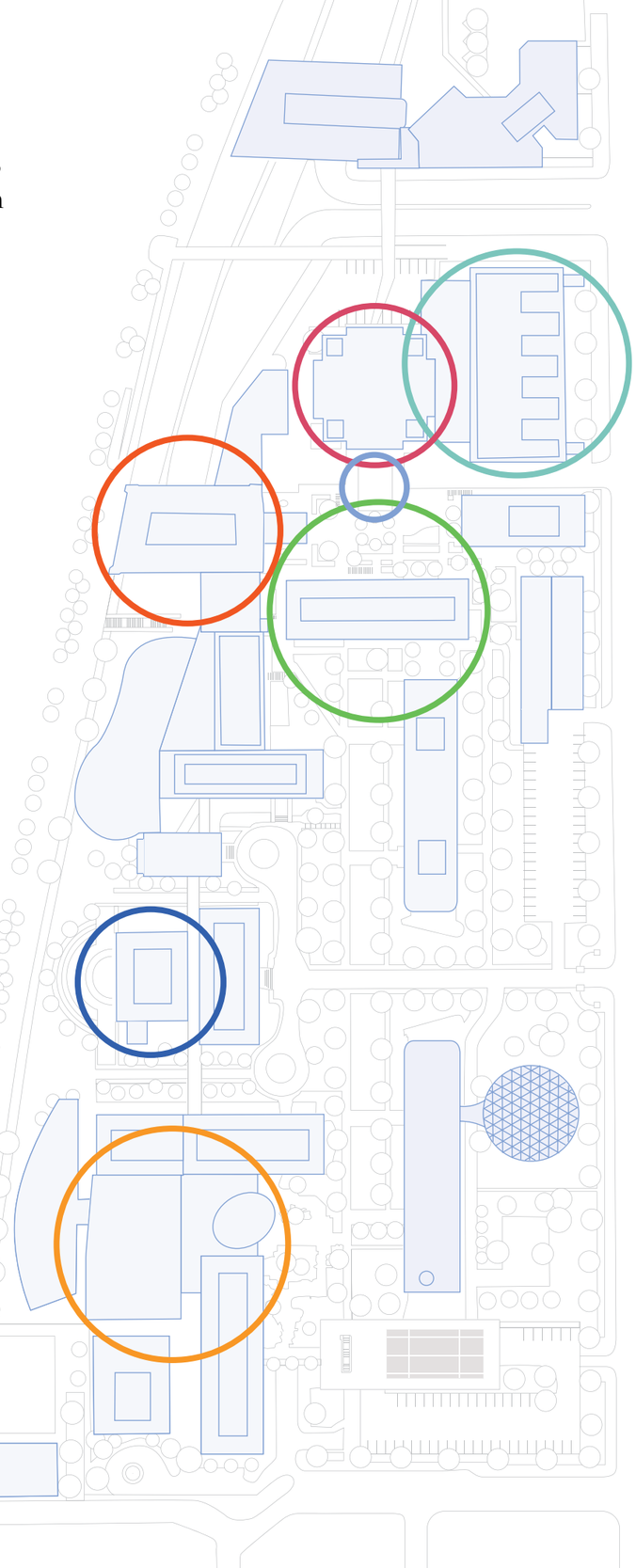
Comparative Bioscience Center
- Transgenic and Reproductive Technology Center

Plaza Building
- Gruss Lipper Precision Instrumentation Technologies

Rockefeller Research Building
- Electron Microscopy Resource Center
- DNA Sequencing
- Proteomics Resource Center

Weiss Research Building
- Genomics Resource Center
- High Energy Physics Instrument Shop
- Reference Genome Resource Center

Welch Hall
- The Rita & Frits Markus Library



We focus on the finances so that you can focus on the science

With a generous support package, our students have financial peace of mind and can dedicate themselves fully to their training. We offer a competitive stipend, health insurance, and an annual research budget that students may use toward expenses such as a computer, research-related supplies and reading materials, or trips to scientific meetings.

Additionally, our on-campus Child and Family Center provides affordable childcare for students and their families.

Find the current stipend rates at
go.rockefeller.edu/stipends

Photo by: Mario Morgado

Student groups and activities

Photos by: (clockwise from top, left) Jonathan Heisler, John Abbott, Mary Dang, and Matthew Septimus

Learn a new skill, volunteer for our science outreach programs, or join our Pride celebration. These are just a few of the many activities that Rockefeller students get involved in to build their resume, form relationships outside of the lab, and serve the community.

A spectrum of career choices

A Rockefeller education opens many doors. The skills you'll gain in analytical problem solving, experimental rigor, and independent thinking will last a lifetime, as will the friendships and connections you will have formed by graduation.

Today about half of our graduates have academic jobs in which they continue to explore the mysteries of life and disease; others are pursuing successful careers in biotech and other areas.

Learn more about the career trajectories of our alumni at
go.rockefeller.edu/alumni-outcomes

Career outcomes, 2014–2023 snapshot

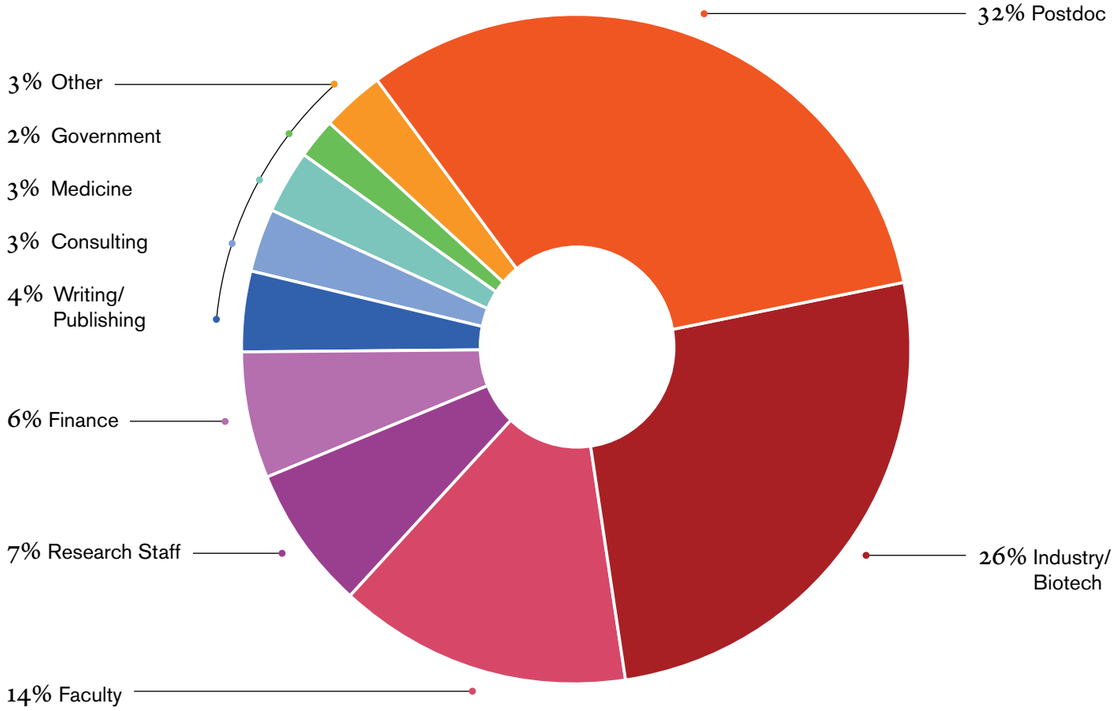


Photo by: Zachary Veilleux

Alumni career outcomes

"I have enormous appreciation for the role Rockefeller played in my career."

–Josefina del Mármol

As a Rockefeller graduate student, **Josefina del Mármol '16** focused on the molecular mechanisms underlying the sense of touch—setting her off on a quest to understand how animals perceive and respond to sensory stimuli more broadly. Now, as an assistant professor running her own lab at Harvard Medical School, she is investigating the processes that allow animals to detect and respond to odors and chemical cues.

Photo by: Anna Olivella

Photos on opposite page by: Howard Korn (top, right) and the_queen_photography (bottom, left).

When **Daniel Gilmer '14** was completing his graduate work, he co-invented a novel phage therapy for treating multidrug-resistant bacteria, a discovery that led to a Phase 3 clinical trial and a patent. The experience piqued his interest in biotech and pharma. After graduating, Daniel spent five years at the consulting firm McKinsey, then joined Pfizer, where he has held roles in R&D operations, commercial development, and sales effectiveness.

During his graduate training, **Wenyan Jiang '16** pioneered the use of CRISPR-Cas9 technology for editing genomes and modulating gene expression in bacteria. Today, as an assistant professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, he uses diverse systems biology and engineering approaches to discover new ways to control antimicrobial resistance in pathogens, and to engineer beneficial bacteria with therapeutic properties.

"Rockefeller gave me the freedom to truly follow my curiosity, and the resources to do so."

–Maryam Zaringhalam

Maryam Zaringhalam '17 developed an interest in science communication and policy during her graduate training. Currently, on detail from the National Library of Medicine, she works at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, as part of a project aimed to increase equitable public access to research findings and data from federally funded research. Zaringhalam is also a producer for *The Story Collider* podcast and has written about science for outlets including *Slate*, *Scientific American*, and *Quartz*.

Join us!

As part of our commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive community, the David Rockefeller Graduate Program in Bioscience encourages applications from all aspiring scientists, including people from underrepresented groups or disadvantaged backgrounds, and individuals with disabilities.

We offer hands-on training in the laboratory as well as a roster of required and elective courses on general research topics and scientific specialties. The program is individualized according to each student's particular needs. In consultation with the Dean's Office, students choose a flexible combination of courses totaling seven academic units taken in the first and second years.

You can also become a Rockefeller graduate student by joining one of the programs we offer in partnership with our neighboring institutions, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Weill Cornell Medicine. These include one of the nation's top M.D.-Ph.D. programs, and leading Ph.D. programs in chemical biology and computational biology.

Visit our website to learn more about the eligibility criteria for the David Rockefeller Graduate Program, and how to apply: **go.rockefeller.edu/graduate**

Learn more about our different doctoral programs:

David Rockefeller Graduate Program
go.rockefeller.edu/graduate
phd@rockefeller.edu
212-327-8086

Tri-Institutional M.D.-Ph.D. Program
mdphd.weill.cornell.edu
212-746-6023

Tri-Institutional Training Program in Chemical Biology
chembio.triiprograms.org
212-746-5267

Tri-Institutional Program in Computational Biology & Medicine
compbio.triiprograms.org
212-746-5267

Science for the Benefit of Humanity

The Rockefeller University is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (formerly the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc.). Inquiries regarding the accreditation status by the Commission should be directed to the administrative staff of the institution. Individuals may also contact:

New England Commission of Higher Education
3 Burlington Woods Drive, Suite 100,
Burlington, MA 01803-4514
781-425-7785
E-Mail: info@neche.org

Program title: Biological Sciences
Program codes: 22043 (MS), 09328 (PhD)
HEGIS code: 0401

Program title: Physics
Program codes: 22044 (MS), 09332 (PhD)
HEGIS code: 1902

The Advisory Committee on Campus Security will provide upon request all campus crime statistics. For copies of these statistics, please contact James K. Rogers, Director of Security, at 212-327-7339 or jrogers@rockefeller.edu. These statistics also are posted on the University website at https://www.rockefeller.edu/security/.

Creative Direction & Design: Odgis + Company, NY

Photos above and on the cover by: Mario Morgado

The Rockefeller University

SCIENCE FOR THE BENEFIT OF HUMANITY