

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Host Institution Description

1.1.1. A brief history

Taipei Medical College was established in 1959 by the Board of Trustees, with Dr. Hu Shui-Wang as the chairman and Dr. Hsu Chien-Tien as the first dean. It opened its doors in August 1976 and later changed its name to Taipei Medical University (TMU) in 2000. Over the years, TMU has received numerous awards and recognitions from the government, including accreditation by the Foundation for International Cooperation in Higher Education of Taiwan (FICHET) in 2013 and re-designation by the WHO as a member of its International Safe School Network. Recently, TMU opened its College of Interdisciplinary Studies in April 2018 and its Shuang Ho Campus in June 2023 (*Taipei Medical University, n.d.*).

1.1.2. Vision and mission

Taipei Medical University (TMU) has a vision “to use medical education as a basis for developing biomedicine for clinical application and becoming an innovative university with social impact. TMU prioritizes problem-solving capabilities in education and research, pursues innovative R&D achievements, and fosters strong entrepreneurial spirits. The university is committed to adapting quickly to changes and obtaining external resources to become a driving force behind societal and economic developments in Taiwan.” The mission of TMU is “to educate biomedical talents with humanity, innovation, and a global vision. The university aims to develop a comprehensive education system that integrates teaching, research, industrial collaboration, and medical care” (*Taipei Medical University, n.d.*).

1.1.3. The main activity

TMU's "TMU 2030 White Paper" outlines six key strategies to fulfill its mission and social responsibility, including "developing biomedical talents, conducting research, expanding international influence, creating an innovative ecosystem, improving efficiency, and strengthening the medical industry". The university and its affiliated hospitals aim to make global contributions through teamwork, planning, and consistent efforts (*Taipei Medical University, n.d.*).

1.1.4. Core values

This department values advanced training in biological science and integrating basic and clinical research. The program also aims to develop skills in translating research into practical applications, analyzing global trends in the biomedical industry and medical needs, gaining legal knowledge related to biomedicine, and developing managerial expertise (*Taipei Medical University, n.d.*).

1.1.5. Organizational structure

The director of the Translational Science department is Professor Ming-Heng Wu.

1.2 Department Description

The Ph.D. and Master Program for Translational Science at Taipei Medical University provides comprehensive training in clinical and translational research. The supervisor for the project is Professor Hao-Ching Wang and Ivy is the lab supervisor. The other lab supervisor for the project is Charles, a Ph.D. student in Translational Science. The research expertise of Professor Hao-Ching Wang includes DNA mimic protein, protein-DNA interaction, virus-host interaction, and structural biology. In relation to the project, the internee is assigned to protein purification. The work cycle for the project is five days a week. However, the schedule can be flexible depending on the project requirement (*Taipei Medical University, n.d.*).