

About Harvard Medical School



We are excited you've chosen to join Harvard Medical School (HMS) and look forward to the contribution your efforts will bring to our very special and dedicated community of faculty, staff and students. This section of the portal will provide you with an understanding of the School's history, mission and core commitments.

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL IN MOTION

HMS is an amazing place made up of students, faculty and staff who collaborate by bringing fresh and exciting perspectives to the challenges and concerns within the field of medicine today. Harvard Medical School In Motion captures a snapshot of the teamwork, and as a result, the innovation that occurs within the HMS community.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=4L9JRY8n9UA

HISTORY OF HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

Established in 1782, Harvard Medical School began with a handful of students and a faculty of three. The faculty members consisted of Benjamin Waterhouse, professor of anatomy and surgery, John Warren, professor of the theory and practice of physic, and Aaron Dexter, professor of chemistry and *materia medica* (pharmacology). In 1810, the Medical School moved from Cambridge to Boston. The following year, Dr. Warren's son, John Collins Warren, and James Jackson led efforts to start Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston. MGH, like most hospitals founded in the 19th century, started out caring for the poor; patients who could afford medical care received it at home. From 1816 to 1846 the Medical School was located on Mason Street. With a gift from a private bequest through the Great and General Court of Massachusetts, the School became known as the Massachusetts Medical College of Harvard University. In 1847 the School moved to North Grove Street, next door to the Bulfinch Building of MGH. In 1883 the School relocated to Boylston Street in Copley Square on the site where the new wing of the Boston Public Library now stands. Within a few years of becoming president of Harvard in 1860, Charles Eliot established a novel curriculum at the Medical School.

Admissions standards were raised, written exams and passing grades were required, new departments of basic and clinical sciences were established, a three-year degree program was introduced, and the apprenticeship system was eliminated. Harvard Medical School became a professional school of Harvard University, setting the United States standard for the organization of medical education within a university.

In 1906, the Medical School moved to Longwood Avenue in Boston where the five original marble-faced buildings of the quadrangle are still used for classrooms, research laboratories and administrative offices. At the time of the move, the Fenway was open farm and marshland. The combination of a new medical school and empty land drew hospitals to the neighborhood now known as the Longwood Medical Area.

NOBEL LAUREATES

Below are individuals recognized as Nobel Laureates during their tenure at HMS. Most were recognized for their medical advances, however, the four highlighted individuals were recognized for their work with their soviet counterparts advocating for peace during the cold war.

- **George Minot and William P. Murphy**, 1934, Physiology or Medicine: Research on liver treatment of the anemias
- **Fritz A. Lipmann**, 1953, Physiology or Medicine: Identified coenzyme A and discovered basic principles of how cells generate energy
- **John F. Enders, Frederick C. Robbins and Thomas H. Weller**, 1954, Physiology or Medicine: Application of tissue-culture methods to the study of viral diseases, such as polio
- **Baruj Benacerraf**, 1980, Physiology or Medicine: Discovered genetically-determined structures on the surface of immune system cells that regulate immunological reactions
- **David Hubel and Torsten Wiesel**, 1981, Physiology or Medicine: Research on information-processing in the visual system
- **Bernard Lown, Herbert Abrams, Eric Chivian, and James Muller**, 1985, *Peace Cofounders*, with Evgueni Chazov, Leonid Ilyin and Mikhail Kuzin from the Soviet Union, of the *International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War*
- **Joseph E. Murray**, 1990, Physiology or Medicine: Developed procedures for organ and cell transplantation in humans (with E. Donnall Thomas, formerly of the University of Washington)
- **Linda Buck**, 2004, Physiology or Medicine: Discovered odorant receptors and the organization of the olfactory system, explaining the sense of smell (with Richard Axel, Columbia University)
- **Jack Szostak**, 2009, Physiology or Medicine: The discovery of how chromosomes are protected by telomeres and the enzyme telomerase (with Elizabeth Blackburn and Carol Greider)

For more information about the history of Harvard Medical School, as well as Facts and Figures, please visit <http://hms.harvard.edu/about-hms/history-hms> or <http://hms.harvard.edu/about-hms/facts-figures>

WHO IS A PART OF THE HMS COMMUNITY?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=F16Fre6ICn8

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=ED_zqIJRIPU



I AM HARVARD MEDICINE CAMPAIGN

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How has your experience with Harvard Medical School impacted you? HMS makes us feel part of a community of people working together to reduce the burden of human illness, strengthen the practice of scientific research, and make interventional discovery possible. HMS brings together people of varying backgrounds, education levels, professional disciplines, and personal experiences and fosters a culture that every staff member, regardless of job title, impacts and helps to deliver the mission of HMS.

How will HMS influence the future of health and medicine? Harvard Medical School is constantly adapting and changing because of the commitment the staff makes to learning, enhancing skill sets, and pushing people to achieve important milestones. Adaptation, questioning assumptions, and improving processes allows important discoveries to happen more quickly—discoveries that can be shared with the global research community.

To see more videos and I AM HARVARD MEDICINE stories and to follow HMS on social media channels visit <http://hms.harvard.edu/multimedia/social-media>

HMS MISSION AND CORE COMMITMENTS

Harvard Medical School has been synonymous with excellence in education, research and clinical care for generations. The School's mission is to create and nurture a diverse community of the best people committed to leadership in alleviating human suffering caused by disease. Since HMS was established in 1782, faculty members have improved human health by innovating in their roles as physicians, mentors and scholars. They've piloted educational models, developed new curricula to address emerging needs in health care and produced thousands of leaders and compassionate caregivers who are shaping the fields of science and medicine throughout the world with their expertise and passion.

Innovation in education

Since 1782, Harvard Medical School has prepared generations of physicians for leadership roles in education, research and policy and to care for patients with integrity, skill and compassion. For over 200 years, the School has influenced and shaped the design of medical school education throughout the world. From Harvard University President Charles Elliot—who in the 19th century developed the concept of a medical school as we know it today—to the groundbreaking New Pathway curriculum of the 1980s, HMS has led a continual process of growth and innovation in education. Today, the School continues to enhance its curriculum to meet the needs of 21st century medicine by integrating clinical and basic science across the curriculum, developing new models for clinical education and engaging students in an in-depth scholarly experience.

Scientific discovery and integrity

Creativity fuels the engine of discovery at Harvard Medical School, where more than 11,000 faculty members direct research to advance the boundaries of knowledge. This work takes place on the School's Boston campus and across the metropolitan area at 17 affiliated hospitals and research institutes. The integrity of the HMS faculty as they pursue their clinical, research and teaching missions is of paramount importance, and the challenge posed by potential conflicts of interest is one the School takes extremely seriously. Faculty members seeking guidance on the HMS policy on Conflicts of Interest and Commitment should contact the Office for Professional Standards and Integrity.

Diversity and professional development

Harvard Medical School is committed to supporting the academic careers of all 11,000 plus faculty members and to advancing professional development of its staff. To that end, the Office of Faculty Affairs helps faculty navigate promotions and appointments systems, identify career resources, and understand the governance of the HMS community. The Office for Academic and Clinical Affairs provides information and resources for faculty members working in labs, classrooms and clinics. The Office for Diversity Inclusion and Community Partnership promotes inclusive recruitment, retention and advancement of HMS faculty and supports a diverse community of HMS faculty, trainees, students and staff. The Office of Human Resources provides a vital resource for the schools professional and administrative staff.

Service to humanity

The HMS mission to alleviate human suffering caused by disease extends to all members of society and to all corners of the globe. HMS students acquire an education where the fundamental importance of compassion is continually reinforced through an extraordinary variety of community service experiences in community health centers, multiservice nonprofit agencies, schools and public health sites in Boston and around the world.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=11vjnp-kug8

For more information about the HMS Mission and Core Commitments, please visit

<http://hms.harvard.edu/about-hms/our-core-commitments>

HMS COMMUNITY VALUES

The community values initiative is designed to engage the HMS community in the development of shared values that embody how our community works together in pursuit of our institutional mission. The HMS community values statement will articulate how we work and interact with each other, and what it means to be a member of the HMS community. What we do here at HMS matters, and this initiative is an opportunity for us as a community to reflect not just on what we do, but on how we do it. We are on the cusp of life-changing breakthroughs that can improve the health of people everywhere. Helping people live longer, healthier lives is more than a goal; it's our responsibility. We operate like no other institution. We are the very heart of medicine, with more research benches and bedsides within a 5-mile radius than anywhere else in the world. We are constantly driving vital resources, diverse thinking, and leadership into the whole body of science and medicine. We not only work toward our goals but do so with certain core values and principles.

For more information about HMS Community Values, please visit <http://hms.harvard.edu/departments/hms-community-values>

HMS HR VIRTUAL FRONT DESK

The HR Front Desk provides information and resources typically found by calling or visiting the HR Office. It is available to answer your questions and direct you to the appropriate office or web site as needed.

For more information about the HMS Virtual Front Desk, please visit

<http://hms.harvard.edu/humanresources/your-hr-office-new>

WORK/LIFE INTEGRATION AT HARVARD

Harvard provides faculty, staff and post docs with comprehensive support for work/life needs. The work/life program manager on Harvard's Longwood Campus provides you with customized resources and support for personal or professional needs to make life's transitions a bit more manageable. You may request resources for yourself or for those you work with or manage. Below, please find a list of some of the resources available:

Childcare

Employee Assistance Program

Adult care

Wellness and self-care

Discounts and services for employees

Work/Life seminars

For more information about the HLC Work/Life Program, please visit <http://hlc.harvard.edu/home/worklife/>

AFFINITY GROUPS

Harvard University has many affinity groups. Please explore some of the Harvard affinity groups listed below or search online for other groups and additional information. Please visit <http://diversity.harvard.edu/> which provides information about Links, Groups and Centers.

***African-American**

The Association of Black Faculty, Administrators and Fellows is open to all staff at Harvard. The group's mission is advocacy on behalf of the black community at Harvard University, and it also provides a means of communication, interaction and counseling. Note: This website is currently under construction; please visit <http://diversity.harvard.edu/pages/links-groups-and-centers> for contact information. Scroll down to Employee Resource Groups.

***Asian Culture**

The Harvard Association of Asian and Asian American Faculty and Administrators (HAAFA) is one of the newest affinity groups, established for the purpose of providing opportunities for networking, career development, awareness and support of Asian and Asian American faculty and administrators, as well as serving as resources for the needs and concerns of Asian and Asian Americans at Harvard.

***Harvard Neighbors**

Harvard Neighbors <http://www.neighbors.harvard.edu/> helps both newcomers and more established members become acquainted with one another through a wide variety of activities including knitting circles, book groups, non-English language discussion groups and outings to museums and recreational sites. This volunteer group supports a number of **special interest groups** that employees can take part in. For more information, please go to <http://www.neighbors.harvard.edu/interest-groups>.

***Latino**

The Association of Harvard Latino Faculty and Staff (<http://harvardlatinos.org/>) is dedicated to articulating, supporting, and promoting the needs and goals of the Latino community at Harvard University.

***Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT)**

All Harvard faculty and staff are welcome to join the **Harvard Gender & Sexuality Caucus** <http://www.hgsc.org/index.html> which is also open to students. Benefits of membership include access to the online membership database and participation in Harvard's large LGBT community. Several networking and support groups focus on organizing LGBT faculty and staff and helping them feel comfortable in the workplace.

***Native American**

The **Harvard University Native American Program** (<http://hunap.harvard.edu/>) brings together Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian students and interested individuals from the Harvard community for the purpose of advancing the well-being of indigenous peoples through self-determination, academic achievement and community service.

***Parents & Families**

Harvard's **Office for Work/Life Balance** (<http://hr.harvard.edu/worklife>) helps Harvard's diverse population find solutions to the daily challenges of personal, work and family life. The office provides information and referrals to assist with all kinds of life events and to help employees manage unexpected disruptions of work or study. Are you looking for day care options? Harvard has a wide variety of child care centers, including one right on the HBS campus (<http://hr.harvard.edu/childcare/>). If you're looking for a playgroup for your child, both **Harvard Students' Spouses & Partners Association (HSSPA)** (<http://hsspa.harvard.edu/>) and **Harvard Neighbors** sponsor weekly playgroups. Parents of children with special needs will find community, support and a variety of information through the **Helping Children with Special Needs Together** network (<http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/hcsnt/>), which also sponsors presentations by community experts.

***Religion/Spirituality**

The **Harvard Chaplains** (<http://chaplains.harvard.edu/>) nurture the spiritual and ethical lives of students, faculty and staff, and help them learn to listen to those who believe differently.

***Spouses & Partners**

Harvard Students' Spouses and Partners Association (HSSPA) (<http://hsspa.harvard.edu/>) is open to the spouses and partners of all Harvard students, post-docs, faculty and staff. Since 1896, HSSPA has provided a way to make friends and enjoy a sense of belonging within the Harvard community. HSSPA sponsors outings, social events and playgroups.

***Women**

The Committee on the Concerns of Women at Harvard (<http://ccw.hhr.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do>) is a university-wide group open to all female staff, administrators, faculty, students and affiliates. The group serves as a network for women throughout the University and as a forum for women's issues and concerns. CCW generally sponsors bimonthly luncheon programs during the academic year, with the goal of reflecting the interests of women at Harvard.