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The Division of Biomedical Sciences emerges as a natural evolution of the excellence in basic biomedical sciences of the University of Puerto Rico's School of Medicine. Since 1960-61 the Puerto Rico Council for Higher Education authorized the Master's of Sciences and Doctors in Philosophy graduate programs in Anatomy, Biochemistry, Microbiology and Medical Zoology, Pharmacology, Toxicology, and Physiology. In addition, the Division provides support to combined degrees MD/PhD programs, and a medical students' research track. Recent revisions and updates have also led to the establishment of interdepartmental, multidisciplinary doctoral degree tracks in

Neuroscience, Virology, Molecular Genetics, and additional areas of research education and training strength. The Division and its excellent body of faculty mentors also participate in the Intercampus Doctoral Biology Program with the UPR Biology Department, Río Piedras Campus since 1982. In the near future the

templates have been located for the integration of the basic and clinical sciences, along the translational research avenue. The Biomedical Sciences programs under our School of Medicine are indeed in a unique position to engage in this fundamental avenue of clinical research.

The program is a growing and effervescent one, endowed with faculty performing research of excellence, and a unique student population with an ever growing impact and leadership in the research arena and the general well being of the Medical Sciences Campus student body. These human resources merge in an environment with state-of-the-art infrastructure sponsored by institutional commitment and NIH-supported programs. Program participants have access to unique resources which are of world-wide recognition, i.e. Institute of Neurobiology and Caribbean Primate Research Center. Additional research resources, primarily developed and sustained by medical school faculty, includes: the Clinical Research Center, the Hispanic Center for Excellence, MBRS RISE and SCORE, NINDS-SNRP programs, and a series of RCMI-supported research Core Facilities for imaging analysis, molecular biology, electron microscopy, among others.

The intense search for knowledge and passion for discovery typify our faculty and students efforts in the biomedical sciences graduate programs. Specific faculty research scientists and research focus groups are world-wide recognized experts in their fields that have given prestige and a reputation of excellence to our institution. Even more, graduates from our programs have achieved positions of excellence in academia, industry and government.

We sincerely hope that the information provided in this publication is found most valuable in your assessment of the opportunities for graduate studies and research in the Division of Biomedical Sciences.

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