MAJOR FUNCTIONS

Office of the Dean

Directs activities, curricula and personnel in the School of Medicine and affiliated county hospitals and health centers. Responsible for the direct liaison with other Schools of the College of Health Sciences and Social Welfare, the Graduate Division, community colleges and community agencies for collaborative instruction, research and community service. Establishes policies with the School’s Executive Committee to develop and implement the academic programs and coordinate continuing medical education. Also responsible for general program development in accord with Legislative mandate and University policies.

Office of Student Affairs

This major academic support program is directed by an Associate Dean with special responsibility for minority recruitment and counseling.

Student advising, registration, etc.
Financial Aid - in close collaboration with UH Manoa Financial Aid Office.
Staff support of admissions processing. An Admissions Committee makes the decisions, but the processing of over 1,400 applicants is undertaken by the Student Affairs staff.
Past and current student records.
Staff support to Student Standing and Promotion Committee (faculty and student composition).
Minority recruitment and liaison with UH Hilo, Community Colleges, University of Hawaii, etc.

Office of Administrative Services

The School of Medicine Office of Administrative Services provides surveillance for all of the School’s business affairs. The office prepares budgets, develops long-range and short-range plans, approves and controls expenditures, supervises all personnel transactions, assumes responsibility for all equipment and property assigned to the School, oversees the procurement of and payment for all supplies and equipment, assists in the initiation and administration of research and training contracts and grants, and the accounting systems analysis and development for the School.

Instructional Resources

This support unit provides support services as follows: animation, chart and graph production, consultation, reprography, studio photography, studio and interactive video production, video tape duplication, freehand and mechanical illustration, and cine and video editing.

Geriatrics Section

Provides the instruction, research and community service activities in geriatric medicine for medical students, residents, fellows and other health care workers. Also participates in continuing medical education programs for practicing physicians.

Imi Ho’ola Program

Provides an intensive remedial year in basic premedical science instruction and intensive counselling designed to upgrade disadvantaged students who for reasons beyond their control may not be sufficiently qualified academically but who show great potential for medicine in other respects.

Office of Medical Education

Responsible for the coordination and administration of the educational programs leading to the M.D. degree, the conduct of faculty development programs and the quantity and quality of faculty participation in our problem-based learning curriculum.
Department of Anatomy and Reproductive Biology

Provides medical students with a basic understanding of the structure of the human body at all levels of organization from the subcellular level through tissues, organs, and gross relationships of organ systems. Also provides undergraduate level instruction in anatomy for paramedical and biological science programs.

Maintains a strong group of teacher-researchers in the area of reproductive biology, both for the instruction of medical students and for the contribution of basic research to problems of population control.

Provides consultation and expertise in the areas of anatomy and reproductive biology to clinicians in the instruction of advanced medical students and in the practice of medicine.

Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics

The basic program objective of the department is that of excellence in training. The department provides training in Biochemistry-Biophysics for a large number of undergraduate, graduate, postdoctorate and continuing education students. Besides the various A.B., B.S., Ph.D. and M.D. candidates, this department provides advanced training for Medical Technologists already working in the field or recent graduates of the medical technology program.

Our faculty is on the forefront of investigative programs dealing with the care, treatment and cure of cancer, cardiovascular abnormalities, nutritional and metabolic disturbances, energy metabolism, and enzymatic mechanisms.

Department of Genetics and Molecular Biology

Provides quality graduate education in genetics for all qualified students and provides undergraduate instruction in genetics as a service to the University at large.

Certain major areas of research concentration can be identified as follows: human genetics, evolutionary genetics, cell and developmental genetics.

Interactions with community groups occurs in several areas: the Medical Genetic Services Program, Hawaii Heart Association Research Committee, Board of Directors of The Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, the Nature Conservancy, as well as other organizations concerned with environmental and conservation biology.

Department of Medicine

The ultimate goal of the Department of Medicine is to improve health care through service, education and research in the clinical sciences, more specifically in the field of internal medicine and its recognized subspecialties which are directly and primarily concerned with patients. Target groups involved are medical students, allied health students and professionals, house officers in affiliated hospitals, and practicing physicians.

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Training of medical students and paramedical personnel in the various aspects of Obstetrics and Gynecology, including: human female reproductive biology and endocrinology, basic pelvic examination, performing a routine delivery, disorders of the female reproductive system, family planning and human sexuality, correlation between various disease processes and the pathology of the reproductive organs, problems of the family practitioner. Also developed are seminars and training programs for the practicing physician.

Department of Pathology

Provides instruction for medical students in basic, systematic and clinical pathology. Pathology bridges the basic sciences with clinical medicine. Makes available specialized topics in pathology to third- and fourth-year medical students, graduate students and residents in pathology.

Provides pathology services and manages anatomic pathology laboratory of Leahi Hospital.

Integration of instruction in pathology at community hospitals. The University's involvement in community hospitals will allow this department to improve the postdoctoral residency program for training of specialists in pathology.
The department is committed to providing a comprehensive program of training, service, and research in the field of pediatrics. Departmental responsibilities for pediatric teaching involve multiple levels from first year medical students to post-residency trainees, both physician and allied health personnel.

Pediatric training must encompass all aspects of child life and health. The basic philosophy of the pediatric teaching program is that every person in the medical and paramedical professions should have an understanding of the dynamic nature of growth and development from conception to maturity.

Teaching of medical students at all four levels must cover a number of subspecialty areas in order to provide a basic and comprehensive training in pediatrics. The department provides post-medical specialty training through the University of Hawaii Children's Hospital integrated residency program. Fellowship training in neonatology and adolescent medicine is offered to physicians having completed their basic pediatric graduate training.

Additionally this department is responsible for the Pediatric Pulmonary Center and Child Protective Services, supported by DSHE, both located at Kuakini Children's Hospital, an out-reach clinic at Waimanalo, and provides secretarial services to maintain departmental operations.

The major teaching effort of the department is directed toward second-year medical students. With the expansion of the medical school to include the third and fourth years of medicine, the department responsibilities increased to include clinical teaching. Also included are specialized courses in pharmacology taught to graduate students, dental hygienists, nursing students, medical interns and residents.

Along with teaching, the department regards research as an indispensable activity. Research is intimately intertwined with teaching since research training constitutes a substantial portion of the education of graduate students.

Departmental faculty members have and continue to participate in community service activities by serving on organizations and agencies such as: Comprehensive Health Planning--Air Pollution Advisory Board, Water Quality Commission of the Conservation Council of Hawaii, Methadone Treatment Project, Waikiki Youth Drug Clinic, Task Force on Police and Public Protection.

Provides instructional services to undergraduate, graduate and medical students. Trains graduate students toward M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in physiology.

Engages in both basic and applied research in physiology.

Provides services as needed by the local, national and international communities.

Provides psychiatric teaching and training to medical students, residents in General Psychiatry, Fellows in Child Psychiatry, foreign psychiatrists, medical residents; background in psychiatry to students in nursing, social work, and psychology.

Provides inpatient psychiatric service and consultation at the following hospitals: Leahi, St. Francis, Queen's, Kuakini Children's, psychiatric patient care at the State Hospital mental health clinics largely through residents based at these facilities.

Conducts research in various aspects of psychiatry: divorce and custody of children, culture and mental health of different ethnic groups, mental health of children on Molokai.

Members of the department contribute service to the community on both the State and national levels. They include such activities as chairman of the American Board of Child Psychiatry, member of NIH Review Committees, president of the Hawaii Psychiatric Society, president of the Hawaii Council of Child Psychiatry, and psychiatric consultation for American Samoa. Members of the department also provide consultations to Schools and the Salvation Army youth homes, and speakers for PTA groups and other organizations.
Department of Surgery

Provides teaching and training in surgery, the surgical specialties, radiology and radiation therapy for medical students and residents. Also it provides surgical representation on medical school committees, facilitates research in surgery by the clinical faculty, and assists hospitals and others in programs of continuing medical and paramedical education.

Department of Tropical Medicine and Medical Microbiology

Work toward increasing comprehension and the ability to apply techniques of medical microbiology, infectious diseases, tropical medicine and public health laboratory in the target populations: medical students, public health students, medical technology students, graduate students in tropical medicine, biology and public health.

Division of Medical Technology

It is the goal of this program to adequately develop appropriate numbers of medical technologists who will be able to provide the best possible health care to the State of Hawaii and areas in the Pacific Basin.

Specific objectives of the program are: to graduate students with a B.S. degree in Medical Technology who are prepared to enter an ADA approved School of Medical Technology for the additional professional education for national certification; develop and implement mechanisms to expand enrollment in the medical technology program; to provide special programs on education for the academic and clinical faculty; to implement special retraining programs for persons reentering the field; to develop a Master's level degree program for medical technologists.

Division of Speech Pathology and Audiology

Objectives of the program are: to provide training for undergraduates (B.S. candidates) and graduate (M.S. candidates) students which will enable them to meet national certification standards and to work as fully qualified professionals; to provide a reservoir of trained personnel to meet the needs of the State in the area of habilitation and rehabilitation of those with speech and/or hearing disorders; to help meet the utmost requirements in this field in other areas of the United States and the entire Pacific area.

Department of Family Practice and Community Health

Provides health care characterized by the combination of delivery of first contact health services, the assumption of continuing responsibility for patients regardless of the presence or absence of illness, and the integration of care for their physical, psychological and social health.

Long range objectives are: to increase access to primary care in Hawaii and American Samoa; to train all medical students to a maximum level of competence as primary care physicians; to provide postgraduate training for students in any of the medical specialties; to provide a realistic view of primary care medicine as a career.