Oral Ecology Research Group (GREB)

“Your mouth is a mirror of your overall health.”

GREB is the sole research group in Canada in the field of oral/dental microbiology and immunology.

Research activities aim to enhance understanding of oral pathologies in order to improve people’s oral/dental health and quality of life. Students from different backgrounds work at GREB to advance knowledge in this area.

CENTRE DESCRIPTION

The Oral Ecology Research Group (GREB) is a multi-faculty centre recognized by Université Laval since 1989. Primary areas of research include oral microbiology and immunology, molecular ecology, infection control and bone and tissue regeneration.

GREB brings together researchers from the Faculty of Dentistry and the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Bioinformatics of the Faculty of Science and Engineering.

Members conduct a wide variety of research projects—some in collaboration with provincial and national networks and are supported by the main granting agencies in Québec and Canada.

9 researchers

7 research professionals

35 students

MISSION

The primary mission of GREB is to advance knowledge in various complementary fields, including infectiology, immunology, oral pathologies and their systemic effects and tissue and bone regeneration. Research activities are conducted in conjunction with undergraduate and graduate students. GREB students receive scholarships to work on projects under the supervision of faculty researchers.
GREB member Sylvain Moineau was awarded the Canada Research Chair in Bacteriophages in 2011. The new chair allowed GREB to recruit a new regular member whose work will lead to the development of a new research area on viruses.

GREB researchers continued to make their presence felt in 2009–2011 through their active involvement in major provincial and national research networks and various scientific committees. Over the same period, centre members published 147 articles in international peer-reviewed scientific journals, were invited to give 35 talks and 75 scientific papers at provincial, national, and international conferences, and helped guide 23 master’s students and seven Ph.D. students through to completion of their degrees.

Training new scientists is within the main objectives of GREB’s mission. Students from different levels play a central and active role in the centre’s activities. Training is provided to postdoctoral fellows as well as students from the Faculty of Science and Engineering and from specialty training programs of the Faculty of Dentistry. GREB welcomes an average of four to five postdoctoral fellows a year from Canada and abroad. Training focuses in part on the application of scientific data in clinical practice and on training students for careers in science or dental practice. Students elect representatives to GREB’s general assembly and scientific committee. These positions give students the opportunity to organize a variety of related scientific activities and broaden their learning experience. GREB students are also encouraged to present the results of their work at local, national, and international conferences. Several student members have won prizes in competitions held at international scientific conferences.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

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ADVANTAGES

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