



Harvard Medical School

Harvard Medical School (HMS) is the graduate medical school of Harvard University (see website: <http://hms.harvard.edu>). It is located in the **Longwood Medical Area** in Boston, Massachusetts and has 17 affiliated institutions, resulting in a very complex organization. Longwood is a medical campus area in the Mission Hill neighborhood of Boston, containing a number of prominent medical research and educational institutions. Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Children's Hospital Boston, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and finally Joslin Diabetes Center are all located in the Longwood Medical Area, and all of them are affiliated with HMS in teaching, research or both.

Key numbers: HMS was founded in 1782, and was originally located in Cambridge, moved several times during the 19th century, ending up at its present location in 1906. In FY 2010 HMS had an academic staff of 10,884; 1,345 students (627 MD, 141 MD-PhD and 577 PhD students) and an endowment of c. \$ 3.0 billion.

NIH funding: HMS and its affiliated institutions/hospitals (the above mentioned in Longwood and 12 more) together receive more NIH grants than any other organization, the total sum probably getting close to \$ 1 billion (difficult to estimate; the Longwood institutions alone received upward of \$ 850 million in FY2010). (Source: website of the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research: http://www.brimr.org/NIH_Awards/2010/NIH_Awards_2010.htm)

Research at HMS: Six academic basic science departments are housed in and around the 1906 quadrangle at Longwood ("the Quad") that is the nucleus of Harvard Medical School. Many of the faculty appointed to these departments is based at 17 affiliated institutions, including teaching hospitals. Here, 50 clinical departments conduct vast amounts of basic and clinical research. The Quad area also houses two social science departments and the Department of Ambulatory Care and Prevention, a joint venture with Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, a major HMO (HMO = Health Maintenance Organization, a type of managed health care organizations/health insurance providers common in the USA).

Research Administration at HMS is divided into four departments, according to their website: Office of Research Compliance, Office of Technology Development, Office of Research Subject Protection, and Sponsored Programs Administration, the latter most closely corresponds to a European/Danish RSO. The website of the Harvard Longwood Campus Research Administration (<http://hlcra.harvard.edu/>) is recently reconstructed and is a good example of a user-friendly, service-oriented website.

Fundraising: HMS has a visible fundraising scheme, that can be accessed via the link "Make A Gift", discretely displayed at the bottom left corner of HMS's first web page, leading to this page: <http://give.hms.harvard.edu/>. Check out, for example, the "Naming opportunities" page.

Trivia: Among HMS's "Notable alumni" are listed several authors (Michael Crichton is one), politicians (among them John F. Fitzgerald, grandfather of JFK), and a murder suspect (Kathleen Hagen, who killed her parents, and was put in a mental institution). Among notable fictional alumni (and there are plenty of those), are Eleanor Abernathy, the Crazy Cat Lady in The Simpsons, and Dr. Frasier Crane of the TV series "Cheers", that later got his own spin-off TV series, "Frasier".