

Imagine That!

Medical School

Graeme D. M. Bell, M.Sc.
MD Candidate, VFMP Class of 2016
University of British Columbia





FACULTY OF MEDICINE

My journey as a premed..

- High school
 - BIG FISH IN A SMALL POND
 - ECs
 - Foundation to expand from in University
 - In most cases, Admissions Committees do not care unless it was extremely significant to you
- BSc 2007 (Cell Biol. and Genetics Option)
 - Not a fantastic first year GPA-wise
 - A few activities I tried briefly but didn't stick with
 - No real volunteer experience until after 3rd year Undergrad
 - I found activities I was passionate about and pursued them further
- MSc 2010



FACULTY OF MEDICINE

My journey as a premed..

- MCAT summer of 2006
- 1st application for 2007/2008 cycle
 - Applied to most Canadian Schools
- 2nd application
 - Applied to many Canadian Schools
- MSc (UBC Department of Botany)
- 3rd application – Interview at UBC
- 4th application – Interview at UBC
- MCAT REWRITE summer of 2011
- MOVED TO ALBERTA!!!
- 5th application
 - Applied to 4 schools -THREE INTERVIEWS → TWO ACCEPTANCES

The statistics are clear

GENDER DISTRIBUTION

ENTERING CLASS BY GENDER				ALL APPLICANTS BY GENDER				B.C. APPLICANTS BY GENDER			
	2010	2011	2012		2010	2011	2012		2010	2011	2012
WOMEN	122	139	147	♀	927	952	887	♀	668	603	629
%	47.6%	48.3%	51.0%		51.7%	50.3%	51.1%		50.8%	48.4%	49.7%
MEN	134	149	141	♂	866	939	849	♂	647	643	636
%	52.4%	51.7%	49.0%		48.3%	49.7%	48.9%		49.2%	51.6%	50.3%
TOTAL	256	288	288		1793	1891	1736		1315	1246	1265

1736 applicants for 288 Seats:

192 - VFMP

32 - SMP

32 - IMP

32 - NMP



FACULTY OF MEDICINE

The statistics are clear

AGE DISTRIBUTION

Age / year	18-20	21-23	24-26	27-29	30-32	33-35	36-38	39+	Mean Age
2010	9 (4%)	142 (55%)	64 (25%)	20 (8%)	8 (3%)	7 (3%)	2 (1%)	4 (2%)	24.17
2011	11 (3%)	193 (67%)	61 (21%)	13 (5%)	7 (2%)	2 (1%)	0	1 (1%)	23.11
2012	10 (3%)	166 (58%)	78 (27%)	22 (8%)	10 (3%)	2 (1%)	0	0	23.54

AVERAGES OF THE MARKS OF THE ENTERING CLASS*

Prerequisite

OGPA or AGPA**

Overall

2010	2011	2012
83.20%	83.58%	84.64%
86.87%	87.17%	87.31%
84.98%	85.40%	86.45%

The statistics are clear

OVERALL AVERAGES OF THE ENTERING CLASS*

CATEGORY		2010	2011	2012
90.00 - 100%	(A+)	28 (11.5%)	36 (13%)	56 (19%)
85.00 - 89.99%	(A)	102 (39.8%)	122 (42%)	131 (46%)
80.00 - 84.99%	(A-)	103 (40.2%)	107 (37%)	93 (32%)
75.00 - 79.99%	(B+)	21 (8.2%)	19 (7%)	5 (2%)
70.00 - 74.99%	(B)	2 (1%)	4 (1%)	3 (1%)

OVERALL AVERAGES OF REFUSED APPLICANTS**

2012	
19	3:1
118	1:1
355	1:4
242	1:48
49	1:16

Improve your odds with good grades...

MCAT scores at UBC

**MEAN MCAT SCORES OF
THE ENTERING CLASS**

SUBJECT

Verbal Reasoning
Physical Sciences
Writing Skills
Biological Sciences
Average MCAT

2010	2011	2012
9.78	9.75	9.76
10.79	11.2	10.99
Q	Q	Q
11.27	11.55	11.46
10.61Q	10.83Q	10.74Q

**MEAN MCAT SCORES OF
REFUSED APPLICANTS**

2010	2011	2012
8.71	9.31	9.30
9.90	10.16	10.28
P	P	P
10.45	10.75	10.75
9.69P	10.07P	10.11P



FACULTY OF MEDICINE

The statistics are clear

TRAINING COMPLETED (MOST RECENT DEGREE) PRIOR TO ENTERING MEDICAL SCHOOL

No Degree or 3 Years Undergraduate

BA/BA(Honours)
BA & BSc
BASc/BEng
BA & BASc
BCom/BBA
BEcon
BEd (Education)
BHK (Kinetics)
BHS (Health Science)
BMSc(Honours) - Medical Sciences
BMLSc - Medical Laboratory Sciences
BMus - Music
BSc Pharmacy
BSc (Physical therapy)
BScN (Nursing)
BSc/BSc(Honours)
BSW (Social Work)
Bachelors Degree

2010	2011	2012
35	56	54
14	5	5
0	0	1
5	1	4
0	1	0
1	1	1
4	0	0
1	1	0
4	7	9
0	0	8
0	1	0
5	5	1
0	0	0
1	6	6
1	0	0
0	1	6
155	175	157
0	0	0
191	204	198

2010	2011	2012	
1	2	4	MA
0	2	1	MASc
0	0	1	MBA
0	0	0	M (Chiropractic)
0	1	0	MEd
1	0	0	MEng
0	0	0	M (Forestry)
1	3	4	MHA (Hlth Adm)/MPH (Pub. Hlth)
0	0	3	MRSc (Rehabilitation Science)*
22	18	22	MSc
25	26	35	Masters Degree
5	2	1	PhD
5	2	1	Doctorate Degree
0	0	0	Other
256	288	288	TOTAL

*MRM (Resource Management) in 2010 & 2011



FACULTY OF MEDICINE

General Advice

- Applicant know thyself
 - There is no ideal applicant profile
- Know what interests you and pursue it more seriously
 - Approach a professor whose research interests you
 - Advance in your favorite ECs (music, sports, volunteer, research..)
- **Depth and longevity of experiences > number of experiences**
 - Don't bean count
- Start Early
 - MCAT
 - The application itself
 - Extracurricular/Volunteering
- CMG vs IMG
 - There are options but they are expensive and it is an uphill battle to come back
- Variation among Canadian Med Schools
 - Do your homework
 - MCAT requirement?, significance?
 - Hard vs Soft cut-offs
 - Holistic assessment but only after surviving academic cut-offs
- **Need the grades AND significant ECs to meet initial cut-off**



FACULTY OF MEDICINE

General Advice

- Geographic Residency Status is important.
 - How serious are you?
- Try not to obsess over premed101, sdnetwork forums
 - Watch out for trolls
 - Best to ask Ad Com for actual, up to date advice
- Wording on applications is VERY IMPORTANT.
 - The same list of ECs can get different scores year to year!!
 - Don't simply list what you did, but manage to comment on how each item was significant to you/your development as future HCP
- The Interview
 - Practice!
 - Small group practice sessions
 - Glance over Doing Right and be in tune with current affairs of consequence



FACULTY OF MEDICINE

General Advice

- The average successful applicant to Canadian medical schools in 2011 applied 2.7 times.
- PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES AROUND UBC TO GET INVOLVED
- Don't forget to enjoy the journey



RNA-Seq Analysis of Allele-Specific Expression, Hybrid Effects, and Regulatory Divergence in Hybrids Compared with Their Parents from Natural Populations

Graeme D.M. Bell, Nolan C. Kane, Loren H. Rieseberg, and Keith L. Adams*

Department of Botany, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

*Corresponding author: E-mail: keitha@mail.ubc.ca.

Accepted: May 3, 2013

Abstract

Hybridization is a prominent process among natural plant populations that can result in phenotypic novelty, heterosis, and changes in

