

UTokyo Amgen Scholars Program 2026
Host Laboratory and Research Topic

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| Name of Faculty Member (Title) | MOI MENG LING (Professor) |
| Name of Graduate School/ Faculty/ Institute | Graduate School of Medicine |
| Research Topic & Description | <p>Development of next-generation vaccines and diagnostics for neglected tropical viral diseases through basic virology and immunology research</p> <p>Our laboratory investigates the fundamental virology and immunology of neglected tropical diseases, such as Dengue and Zika, with the goal of translating basic science discoveries into next-generation vaccines and diagnostics. Research projects will involve the use of cutting-edge molecular and immunological techniques to elucidate viral replication mechanisms and host immune responses. Selected candidates will gain hands-on experience in areas such as recombinant technology, immunological assays (e.g., novel ELISA, neutralization assays), and molecular cloning within a Biosafety Level 2 (BSL2) facility, contributing to the identification of novel targets for therapeutic intervention and vaccine development.</p> |
| Academic Requirements & Expectations | 1) Field(s) of Study |
| | (1) Microbiology (2) Virology (3) Molecular Biology (4) Immunology (5) Vaccine and Therapeutics |
| | 2) Knowledge/ Skill/ Proficiency |
| | (1) Fundamental knowledge of microbiology, immunology, and vaccinology, with a strong curiosity and eagerness to learn. (2) Proficiency in English for both scientific communication and documentation. (3) Experience working in a team setting, a positive attitude towards collaboration and a high degree of coachability. (4) Ability to articulate research interests and thought processes clearly. (5) A diligent work ethic and a proactive willingness to engage with challenging and demanding research tasks. |
| Academic Requirements & Expectations | 3) Academic Background and Research Experience |
| | (1) Strong foundational knowledge of laboratory principles (e.g., from coursework) and a demonstrable aptitude for learning hands-on techniques with precision and care. (2) High diligence and meticulous attention to detail, especially in the context of repetitive or long-term data collection and management tasks. (3) A clear understanding of and commitment to working safely and responsibly in a BSL2 laboratory environment. (4) Demonstrated motivation for a career in science or medicine. Preference will be given to candidates who can articulate, using specific examples from their personal experience (e.g., specific coursework, volunteer activities, or a personal connection to the diseases we study), why this specific research experience is a critical and logical next step toward their long-term professional goals. |
| Website & Relevant Information | https://www.development.m.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/ |
| Campus / Location | Hongo / Yayoi |
| Area of Research | Microbiology Immunology Molecular Medicine |