

**“Students become an integral, contributing member of our research team. They work within Van Andel Research Institute laboratories to help find answers to important questions about the molecular diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease.”**

**DR. JEFFREY TRENT**

Van Andel Research Institute  
President and Director

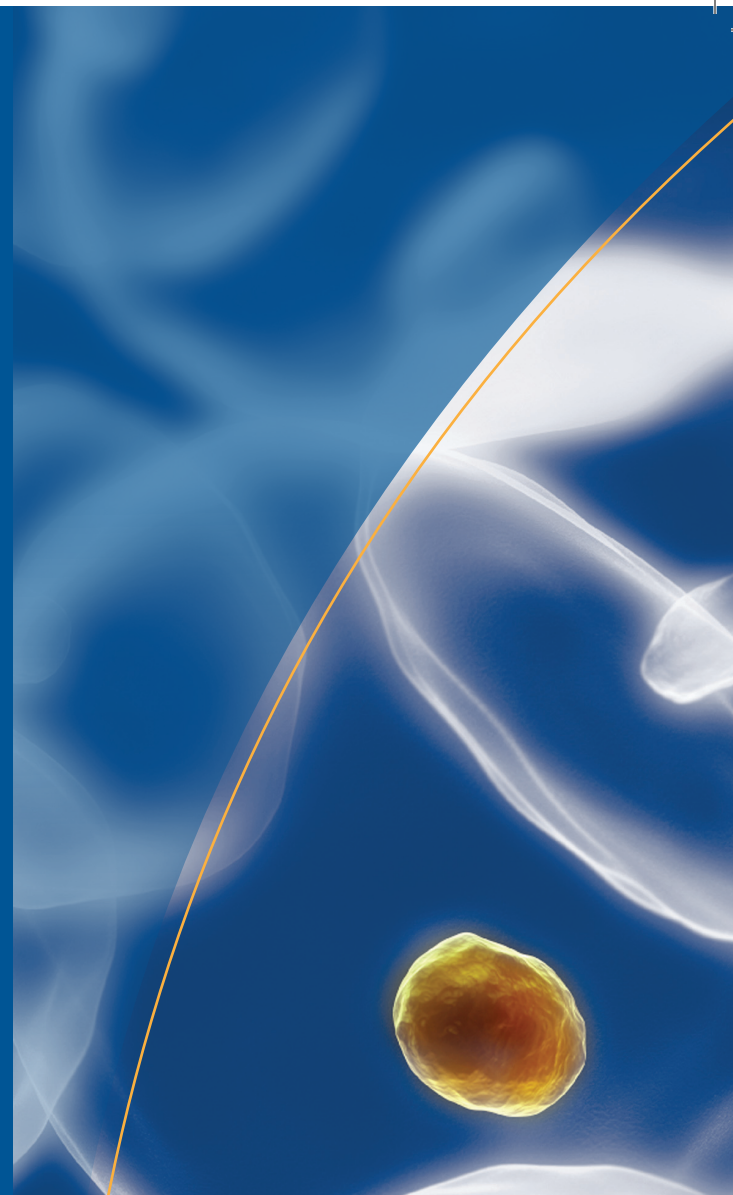


**OUR GRADUATE SCHOOL** is specifically designed to help you develop the tools needed to advance your career goals and to improve human health and well-being.

We seek bright, inquisitive, creative, and independent learners with a passion for biomedical research. If you are looking for

- a curriculum that will lead you to develop your skills in designing innovative approaches to current research questions;
- faculty that will challenge you with a rich mix of theoretical and practical perspectives;
- a small class size which ensures each student a productive path of study;
- thesis research (the heart of the Ph.D. degree) that will take shape in a highly interactive and collaborative setting;

then our graduate school at the Van Andel Institute may be the right place for you.



333 Bostwick Ave. N.E.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

P (616) 234-5708 | F (616) 234-5709

E [gradschool@vai.org](mailto:gradschool@vai.org) | [www.vai.org](http://www.vai.org)



Doctoral Program in  
**Cellular, Molecular,  
and Genetic Biology  
of Human Disease**



## FROM STUDENTS TO SCIENTISTS...

### A Distinct & Distinctive Graduate Program

Van Andel Institute (VAI) Graduate School is a unique Ph.D. program in cellular, molecular, and genetic biology of human disease. The innovative problem-based curriculum leads students to a strong foundation in core concepts and experimental design by simulating how scientists approach new research questions. Rotations in several laboratories will expose you to different areas of research in preparation for choosing your own dissertation project. Seminars and workshops provide professional development on topics such as scientific writing, grant proposals, oral presentations, financial and personal management, conflict resolution, leadership, and team-building. Teaching experience and time at local hospitals on clinical Grand Rounds or Tumor Board meetings can also enrich your experience.

At VAI Graduate School, you become part of a team dedicated to improving human health and well-being. Visit [www.vai.org](http://www.vai.org) for application details or call (616) 234-5708.

- > Distinguished faculty educated at premier institutions around the world
- > Innovative problem-based curriculum
- > Cutting-edge health-related projects
- > Training in translational research: bench to bedside and back
- > Extensive professional development
- > Award-winning open-laboratory architecture
- > State-of-the-art core technology
- > Highly collaborative environment
- > Located in an affordable and culturally rich city
- > Generous stipend and excellent benefits

## VAN ANDEL INSTITUTE

Van Andel Institute (VAI) is committed to improving the health and enhancing the lives of current and future generations through disease research and science education. Cancer research is VAI's primary focus, but studies branch out into other diseases such as osteoporosis, Parkinson's, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease. VAI's facilities offer abundant natural light, an open laboratory layout to encourage collaboration, a library and cafeteria, and a neighboring park.

VAI is on Grand Rapids' "Medical Mile," surrounded by hospitals, universities, and other life science organizations:

- Spectrum Health
- Helen DeVos Children's Hospital
- Saint Mary's Health Care
- Lemmen-Holton Cancer Pavilion
- Michigan State University College of Human Medicine
- Grand Valley State University

## GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

VAI Graduate School is located in downtown Grand Rapids, MI. Situated on the banks of the Grand River, Grand Rapids offers residents a myriad of recreational and cultural options – a symphony orchestra, several theatres, museums, eclectic restaurants, a convention center, and an arena/entertainment venue. Michigan's west coast is less than an hour away.

Affordable housing, award-winning schools and dynamic employment opportunities have helped attract an international workforce. Greater Grand Rapids is the western anchor of a life science research and resource corridor that stretches south to Kalamazoo and east to Detroit.

