

## Health through Knowledge

Over the past decade, advances in genomic medicine and genetic technology have been dramatic. Genetic counsellors have an integral role to play in helping patients and other healthcare professionals understand the options, benefits and limitations of this rapidly changing landscape. The University of British Columbia's Genetic Counselling Program — the largest in Canada — is dedicated to equipping the next generation of genetic counsellors with the skills, knowledge and mindset to flourish as part of an inter-disciplinary team and work across a broad range of health care settings and specialties.



## Genetic Counselling Facts

<http://medgen.med.ubc.ca/genetic-counselling/>

- ▶ The Department of Medical Genetics at the University of British Columbia (UBC) offers a **unique two-year Master of Science in Genetic Counselling Program**.
- ▶ Based in the heart of Vancouver at Children's and Women's Health Centre of British Columbia, the tertiary care provider for clinical medical genetics services, UBC's Genetic Counselling program is **one of only four programs in Canada, and the largest**.
- ▶ The program balances **strong academic grounding** and **direct clinical experiences** with **independent research**, preparing graduates for the dynamic field of genetic counselling.
- ▶ With only six students accepted into the program every year, students receive **close mentorship** and **one-on-one support** from **award-winning faculty** in the Department of Medical Genetics.
- ▶ **Program curriculum and learning opportunities are constantly evolving** to equip students with the tools and knowledge they need to succeed and adapt to advances in the field of genomic medicine.
- ▶ Students have the opportunity to **gain a specialized skillset** and work toward a genetic counselling degree with diverse clinical placements including prenatal, pediatrics, oncology, cardiology, neurology and psychiatric genetics.
- ▶ Starting in the first week, students learn through a combination of direct classroom and **hands-on experience** working with genetic counsellors, medical geneticists and other health care professionals.

## Career Opportunities

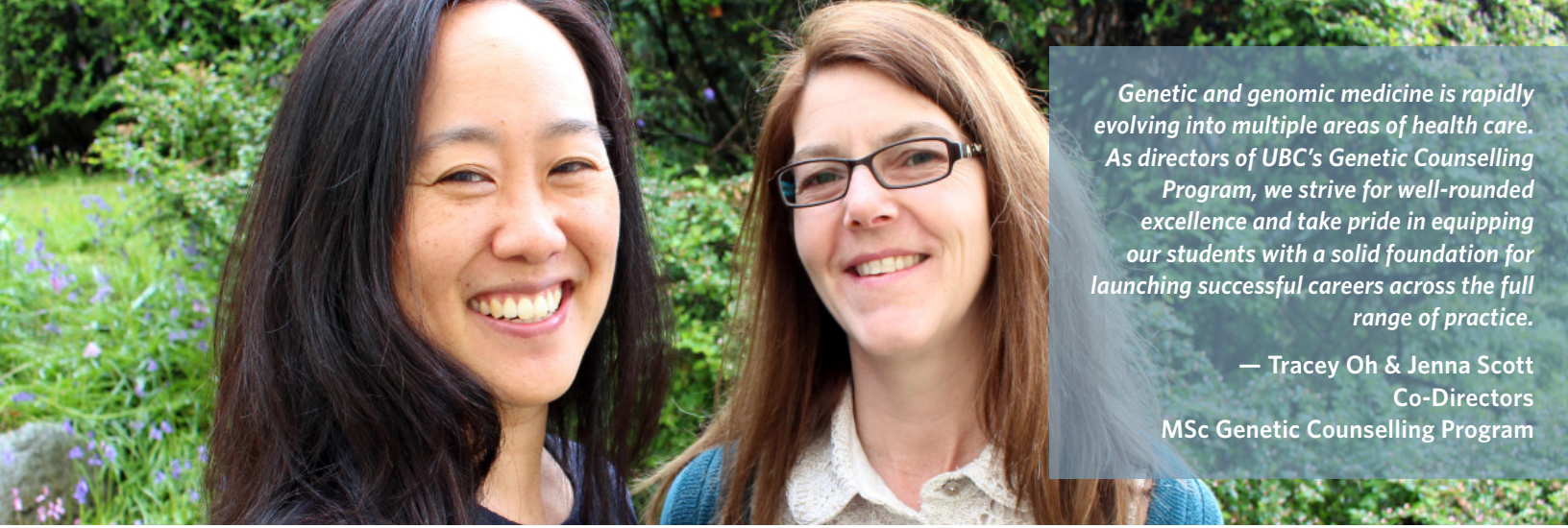
Our graduates have gone on to pursue stimulating careers in genomic research, private industry, public and private clinical services, as well as policy development.

Many of our alumni and faculty have become international leaders in the field, including President of the Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors (CAGC) and the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC), as well as board members on the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling (ACGC), American Board of Genetic Counseling (ABGC), CAGC, and NSGC.



a place of mind  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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*Genetic and genomic medicine is rapidly evolving into multiple areas of health care. As directors of UBC's Genetic Counselling Program, we strive for well-rounded excellence and take pride in equipping our students with a solid foundation for launching successful careers across the full range of practice.*

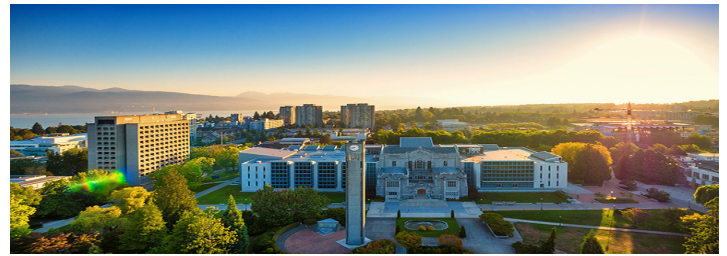
— Tracey Oh & Jenna Scott  
Co-Directors  
MSc Genetic Counselling Program

## Research Strengths and Facilities

While the MSc in Genetic Counselling is not a thesis program, all students conduct an independent research project. Students receive close mentorship and are encouraged to work towards publication. Past students have successfully obtained grant funding to support their directed studies research projects.

Through collaboration with the College of Health Disciplines, UBC's Genetic Counselling program also offers students a number of inter-professional health education experiences, including:

- ▶ **The Health Mentorship Program:** A unique educational experience in which teams of students from different disciplines learn together, from and with a patient.
- ▶ **The Interprofessional Education (IPE) Passport:** An online tool that enables students to register and keep track of their interprofessional learning, and sign up for a variety of activities.
- ▶ **Rounds and educational seminars** held by the Department of Medical Genetics, Hereditary Cancer Program, Child and Family Research Institute, BC Clinical Genomics Network and other departments within the hospital and university network.



## Admissions

Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies establishes common minimum admission requirements.

For additional requirements required by the MSc Genetic Counselling Program, please refer to the program website for details.

Applications open at the end of October each year and close in January of the following year. Check the website for current dates.

<http://medgen.med.ubc.ca/genetic-counselling/admissions/>

## Contact

[ubcgctp@cw.bc.ca](mailto:ubcgctp@cw.bc.ca)  
<http://medgen.med.ubc.ca/genetic-counselling/>

## Financial Support

Students are eligible for select scholarships and internal awards. Please visit the Genetic Counselling Program website for more information.

<http://medgen.med.ubc.ca/genetic-counselling/tuition-and-aid/>



## Grad School @ UBC

UBC offers over 130 master's and doctoral degree programs in nearly every academic field imaginable.

Discover more. [www.grad.ubc.ca](http://www.grad.ubc.ca)

## The University of British Columbia

The University of British Columbia is a global centre for research and teaching, consistently ranked among the 40 best universities of the world. Surrounded by the beauty of the Canadian West, UBC embraces bold new ways of thinking that attract exceptional students and faculty. It is a place where innovative ideas are nurtured in a globally connected research community, providing unparalleled opportunities to learn, discover and contribute.