Biochemical research has led the way to uncovering the molecular basis of disease and continues to provide the best opportunities to improve our understanding, diagnosis and treatment of human disease.

Novel approaches to drug design, molecular diagnosis of disease, and the potential for gene therapy rely almost exclusively on biochemical and molecular research.

**Training the Next Generation of Leading Scientists**

Further advances in research and health care will require the training of tomorrow’s outstanding scientists. The faculty members in the Department of Biochemistry at Western’s Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry take great pride in training the next generation of outstanding scientists.

In 2006, the Department created an endowment fund to ensure that this training will continue and to provide support to graduate students in perpetuity.

In 2015, the fund was renamed to honour the many contributions in research and teaching of two long-standing department chairs, Dr. Bishnu Sanwal and Dr. Theodore Lo. Both played a major role in establishing the vibrant and collegial academic community that remains the hallmark of the Department of Biochemistry to this day.

The objectives of the Bishnu Sanwal and Theodore Lo Graduate Endowment Fund are to:

- Enhance recruitment of talented young researchers into graduate programs;
- Provide training opportunities in biochemistry & molecular biology by directing research funds into graduate programs;
- Advance the establishment of new research initiatives with seed-funds for graduate student training;
- Promote communication of research findings by supporting participation at international conferences.
Bishnu Sanwal and Theodore Lo
Graduate Endowment Fund

Increasing the Endowment Fund
We are committed to growing this fund to ensure we can continue to make a significant impact for our graduate students for years to come.

At Western, graduate students in biochemistry have access to an exceptional research and teaching environment that inspires them to achieve at the highest level and prepares them to assume leadership positions in science, research and education.

We turn to our alumni, friends and private sector partners to help us grow this fund and support future leaders in biochemistry who have the potential to advance our understanding and treatment of human disease.

Fast Facts
- The Department of Biochemistry was established in 1924.
- The Department is a vibrant community with approximately 50 faculty members, 80 graduate students, 25 staff members or post-doctoral scholars, and over 2,000 undergraduate students enrolled in biochemistry courses.
- One-third of our graduate students hold major provincial or national awards.
- Ninety per cent of our graduate students have academic averages of A or A+.
- Since 2005, six biochemistry graduate students have been awarded the Collip Medal for the most outstanding PhD thesis in Medical Sciences at Western.
- Students have access to state-of-the-art facilities in proteomics, structural biology, genomics, imaging and cell signaling.

Thank you for reviewing this information.