

# A Message from the Program Director

Welcome to Rocky Vista University's Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences program. I am pleased that you have chosen to pursue your next academic and professional steps with us. At RVU, the well-being of our students, faculty, and staff has always been a top priority. Especially now during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, the MSBS program has made the health of the student body central to our educational program design, while implementing novel and cutting-edge educational modalities. Please know that nothing will compromise our commitment to deliver a challenging and innovative MSBS program that will thoroughly prepare you for the next steps in your health care career. The following pages describe our curriculum and the policies that will guide you on your path to receiving your MSBS degree.

The curriculum we have designed will give you a broad and deep exposure to scientific principles and precepts. It will require you to think critically about how science is applied in the real world. It will make you reflect deeply about how science affects real people's lives. This includes learning about diversity, equity, and inclusion and preparing you for successfully working in diverse workplace settings with people from many backgrounds. Our dedicated, highly educated, award-winning faculty will challenge your ideas, inspire your curiosity, and develop your drive, to enhance your learning.

All of these aspects culminate in a MSBS program that will enrich your academic background and improve the strength of your application to your future career, doctoral, or other professional program of your choice.

We are committed to your education and aim to set a positive example for you, the student, by conducting ourselves with the utmost level of professionalism, compassion, and integrity. And we will expect you to do the same, as these are the most respected characteristics of healthcare professionals, researchers, and people.

The path toward success is not always an easy one; however, those with dedication see obstacles as challenges and opportunities rather than hindrances and difficulties. I applaud you for embarking on this educational journey and joining the legacy of talented students who have come before you. I look forward to seeing what you will accomplish as part of RVU's next MSBS class.

Sincerely,  
Francina D. Towne, PhD  
Program Director of Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences  
Rocky Vista University