The Cardiac Research Facility is an interdisciplinary research project between Dr. Fitts' lab at MU and four MCW colleagues (Drs. Danny Riley, Dept. of Cell Biology & Anatomy, John Baker, Dept. of Surgery; Wai-Meng Kwok, Dept. of Anesthesiology; and Rohit Rao, Department of Medicine). The clinical aspects of the collaboration are to understand the cellular mechanisms by which pre-conditioning (via global ischemia) and programs of exercise-training protect against ischemic heart disease. A translational aspect is to investigate in the future how drug therapy plus exercise programs work synergistically to reduce the incidence of heart and respiratory muscle failure, and facilitate recovery from heart disease.

Location
Department of Biological Sciences

Technology & Resources
- Langendorf perfusion apparatus (Fitts and Baker labs)
- Electrophysiological myocyte station with microscope (Dr. Kwok)
- Imaging center (Confocal microscope MU Biological Sciences Dept.)
- EM facility (Dr. Riley and MCW)
- Human Exercise testing center (Dr. Rao’s lab)
- MU Exercise Science Dept. (in collaboration with Dr. Ng)

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