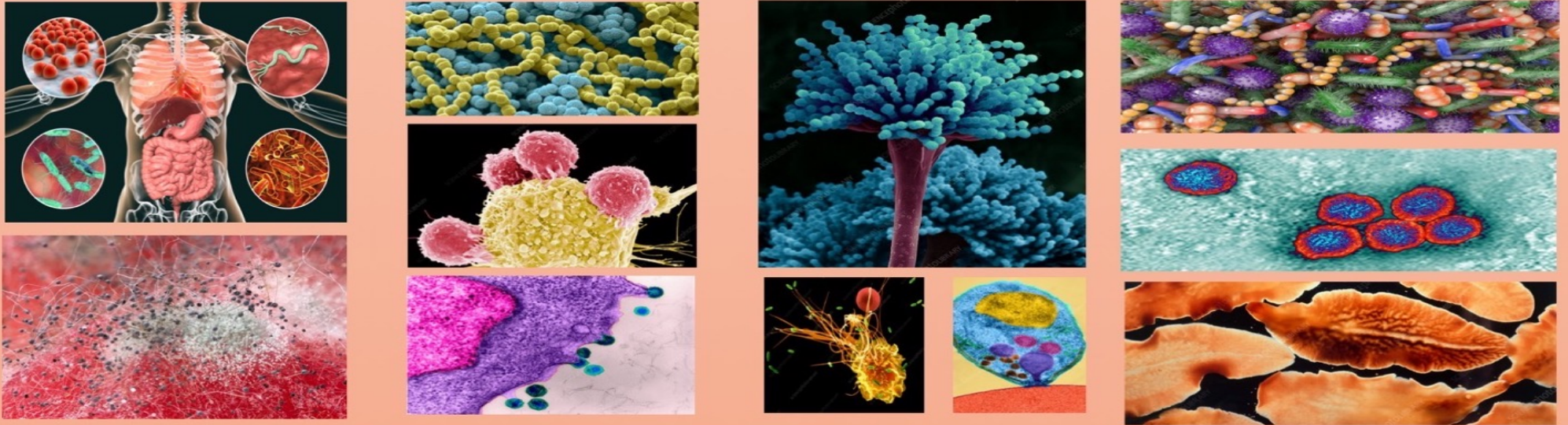




<https://md.rcm.upr.edu/micro>



Microbiology and Medical Zoology
School of Medicine - Medical Science Campus

HONORS REPORT

AUG-DEC 2021

MINI SYMPOSIUM

MICROBIOMES: FROM THE ENVIRONMENT TO HUMAN DISEASES



November 5, 2021



Session 5: Roundtable Discussion - "Tips for a Successful Graduate and Postdoc Career"

Mini Symposium - Microbiomes: from the Environment to Human Diseases



LIVE

21



This is my "Groupfie" with 20 other likeminded people!

05.11.2021



Session 4 (Speaker: Dr. Caporaso) – Toward Microbiome Multi-omics with QIIME 2

LIVE

Share

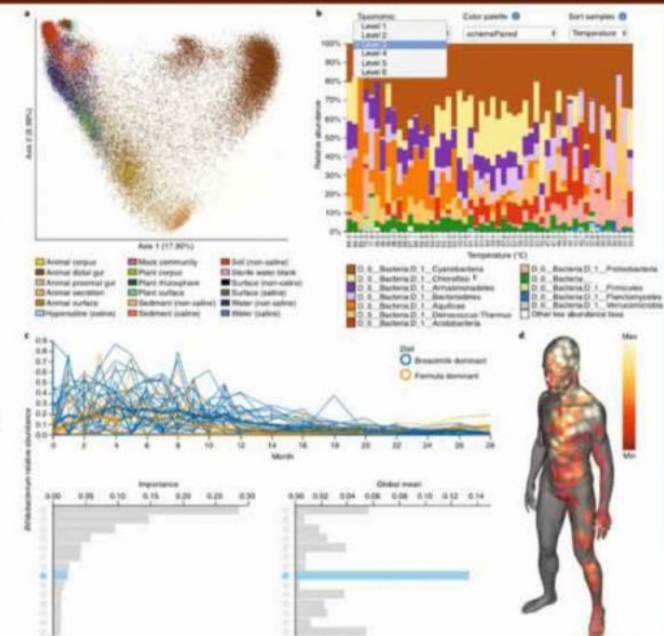


Toward microbiome multi-omics bioinformatics with



Greg Caporaso, Ph.D.
Center for Applied Microbiome Science
Pathogen and Microbiome Institute
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, Arizona, USA
<http://caporasolab.us>

These slides: <https://bit.ly/3nVygO9>



GRACIAS A ESTUDIANTES, FACULTAD Y VISTAZO A LA CIENCIA!

Microbiology and Medical Zoology

School of Medicine - Medical Science Campus

15 published Peer Reviewed Publications in journals Aug to December

(alphabetical order)

Ana Espino, Ph.	4
Carlos Sariol	5
Filipa Godoy, Ph.D	3
Loyda Meléndez , Ph.D	2
Stephanie Dorta, Ph.D.	1

Adelfa E. Serrano, Ph.D



Conferenciante I Congreso Internacional en Ciencias
Biomédicas: epidemias, endemias y pandemias persistentes y
emergentes

Loyda Meléndez, Ph.D



Conferenciante I Congreso
Internacional en Ciencias
Biomédicas: epidemias,
endemias y pandemias
persistentes y emergentes



Vivir Con Salud. COVID-19 Delta variant.
Interview with Luz Nereida Velez Noti Uno.
August 9, 2021.
<https://www.revistavida.net/a-mantener-la-guardia-contra-la-variante-delta/>

Radio Interview on COVID-19 Variants. **Las mañanas con Joel**: August 9, 2021.

TV Panelist in **Jugando Pelota Dura**: COVID-19 vaccine and the Pandemia.

APPÚNTALO
El Programa de la Asociación
Puertorriqueña de Profesores Universitarios
Jueves, 21 de octubre de 2021
6:30 a 7:00 p.m.

"Hongos, liberación de esporas en Puerto Rico y la salud respiratoria"

Invitado:
Benjamín Bolaños Rosero, Ph.D.

Moderadora:
Dra. Lida Orta Anés

Profesor de Microbiología e
Inmunología en la Escuela de
Medicina del Recinto de
Ciencias Médicas de la UPR

APPÚNTALO: todos los jueves a las 6:30 p.m. por WRTU, 89.7 FM

Benjamín Bolaños, Ph.D



Conferencia magistral de la Convención de la AAAS.



Ana Espino, Ph.D

FILIPA GODOY, Ph.D

- Meeting Soc Iberoamericana de Microbiota, probióticos y prebióticos
- XXV Congreso Latinoamericano de Microbiología ALAM 2021 – Asunción, Paraguay
- Second ISME-Latin American Congress
- Microseminar (Biggest Live web event)



Microbiology and Medical Zoology

School of Medicine - Medical Science Campus

HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Caribbean Division honors de life work of Dr Bolaños with the 2021 meeting dedication



Dr. Filipa Godoy-Vitorino, Ph.D. discusses the importance of a healthy microbiome

The American Society for Microbiology highlighted Dr Godoy's Microbiome research



Editorial Boards/ Study Sections

Godoy-Vitorino (ISME Communications)

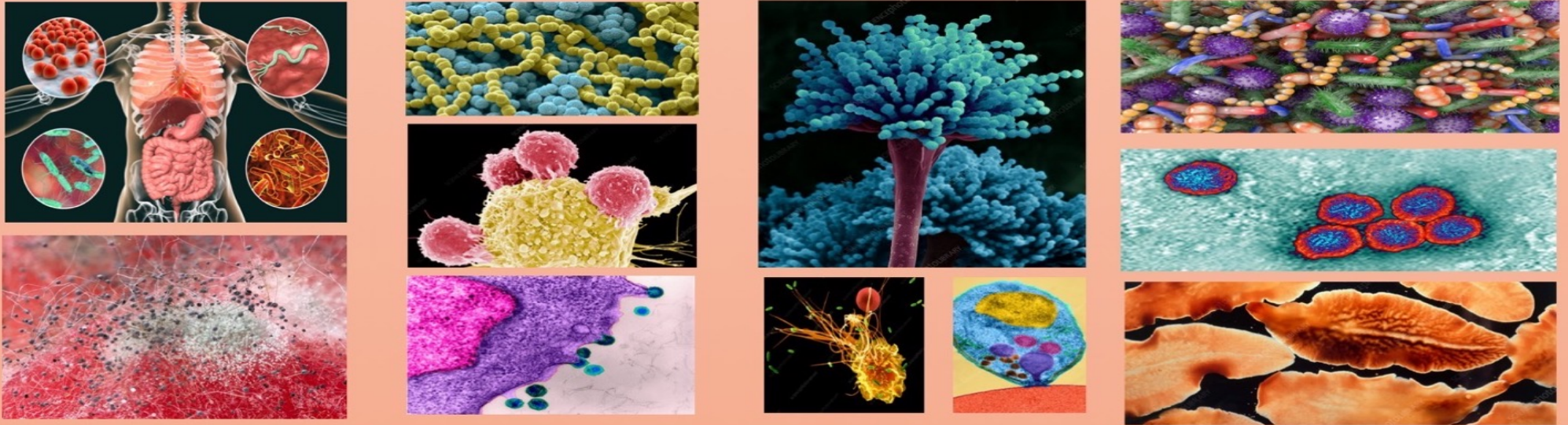
Loyda-Melendez (Puerto Rico Health Sciences Journal and Journal of Health Sciences)

Rev Panel: Godoy-Vitorino NIDCR Study Section:

Oral, Dental and Craniofacial Sciences Study Section microbiome



<https://md.rcm.upr.edu/micro>



Microbiology and Medical Zoology
School of Medicine - Medical Science Campus

HONORS REPORT

January-May 2022



Mariano Garcia-Blanco, MD, PhD

Professor and Chair, Mildred Hajek Vacek and John Roman Vacek
Distinguished Chair in Honor of President Truman G. Blocker, Jr.

Adjunct Professor of Emerging Infectious Diseases,
Duke-NUS Medical School, Singapore

Professor, *Ad-honorem*, UPR School of Medicine, Dept Microbiology

**Garcia-Blanco nombrado miembro de la Academia
de Artes y Ciencias de Estados Unidos Mayo 2022**



Joel Vega-Rodriguez, Ph.D.

Stadtman Investigator

Molecular Parasitology and Entomology Unit,
Lab of Malaria & Vector Research

NIAID/DIR

Assistant Professor, *Ad-honorem*, UPR School of Medicine, Dept
Microbiology



Profesores Ad-Honorem 2022



Microbiology and Medical Zoology

School of Medicine - Medical Science Campus

Microbiology and Medical Zoology

School of Medicine - Medical Science Campus

- **17 published Peer Reviewed Publications**
in PUBMED JAN –MAY 2022 (only)

Mariano Gracia-Blanco	7
Loyda Melendez	4
Filipa Godoy, Ph.D	2
Carlos Sariol, MD	1
Stephanie Dorta, Ph.D.	1
Benjamin Bolaños, PhD	1
Joel Vega	1

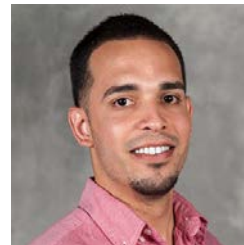
- **6 submitted Grants:**
Godoy (NSF/NIH/PR-TRUST) / Dorta (NIH)/Melendez (NIH)
- **8 International and National Conferences**
Adelfa Serrano/ Filipa Godoy /Stephanie Dorta/Benjamin Bolaños
-3 Published AACR Abstracts
-17 posters (online and in-person)
- **MEDIA APPERIANCES N=5**
- **NIH Study section Special Emphasis Panel PAR21-326 (Godoy)**



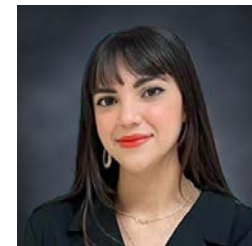
Kimil T. Acosta Pagán, MS
Godoy Lab class of 2022



Luis Acevedo-Marquez, MS
Godoy Lab class of 2022



Lester Rozario Rodriguez, PhD
Melendez Lab class of 2022
NOA K00 (May 2022)



Nicole Marzan Rivera, PhD
Sariol Lab class of 2022

Microbiology and Medical Zoology

School of Medicine - Medical Science Campus

Otros Logros

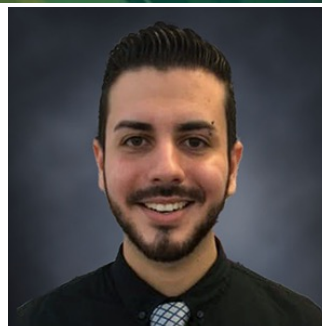


Adelfa Serrano, Ph.D.



MLS y Pred – Machine Learning Synergy Predictor - A tool to create ML Based models to predict synergistic interactions for drug combinatorial therapies

Abiel Roche-Lima, Adelfa E. Serrano,
Angélica M. Rosado-Quñones, María Del Mar Figueroa-Gispert,
Jennifer Díaz-Rivera, Roberto G. Díaz-González, Kelvin
Carrasquillo-Carrion, Roberto A. Feliu-Maldonado, Pedro
Fernández-Gochez, Brenda G. Nieves-Rodríguez,
Emilee E. Colón-Lorenzo



Gabriel Borges Vélez
**Accepted to the
SMBP Biotech
Scholarship in San Diego**



Natalie Melendez
**Accepted to the Summer
Program MDACC**



Lorraine Velez and Albersy Armina
ASM Future Leaders Mentoring Fellowship 2022



**AMERICAN
SOCIETY FOR
MICROBIOLOGY**

Gracias a todos los estudiantes que nos van a representar!



Dra. Edna E. Aquino Piñero

Profesora Distinguida

Elegida por los estudiantes

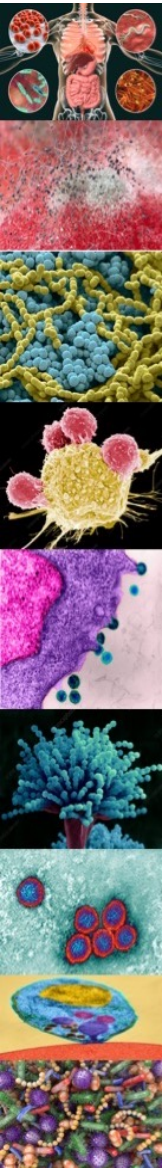
"Microbiomes in the anthropocene"

16/MARZO 22



RUTGERS School of Environmental and Biological Sciences

Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology





LOGROS DE ESTUDIANTES

INFORME CIENCIAS
BIOMEDICAS
2022

ALBERSY ARMINA RODRIGUEZ



Excelencia Académica - 4.00

Excelencia Investigación

- Sariol, Carlos A., Petraleigh Pantoja, Crisanta Serrano-Collazo, Tiffany Rosa-Arocho, **Albersy Armina-Rodríguez**, Lorna Cruz, E. T. Stone, Teresa Arana, Consuelo Climent, Gerardo Latoni, Dianne Atehortua, Christina Pabon-Carrero, Amelia K. Pinto, James D. Brien, and Ana M. Espino. 2021. **"Function Is More Reliable than Quantity to Follow Up the Humoral Response to the Receptor-Binding Domain of SARS-CoV-2-Spike Protein after Natural Infection or COVID-19 Vaccination"** *Viruses* 13, no. 10: 1972. <https://doi.org/10.3390/v13101972>
- Rosado-Franco, J. J., **Armina-Rodríguez, A.**, Marzan-Rivera, N., Burgos, A. G., Spiliopoulos, N., Dorta-Estremera, S. M., Mendez, L. B., & Espino, A. M. (2021). **Recombinant *Fasciola hepatica* Fatty Acid Binding Protein as a Novel Anti-Inflammatory Biotherapeutic Drug in an Acute Gram-Negative Nonhuman Primate Sepsis Model.** *Microbiology spectrum*, 9(3), e0191021. <https://doi.org/10.1128/Spectrum.01910-21>

ALBERSY ARMINA RODRIGUEZ



Mención Honorífica

- Award: Robert I. Larus Award, AAAS Caribbean Division, 2021 **Third Place Poster Presentation**

OUTREACH

- o **AEG Outreach** in University of Puerto Rico in Rio Piedras, “Ciencia e Investigación Biomédica en PR”
- o **Biomedical Sciences Open House**
- o **Invited Speaker**, Garcia Rinaldi Foundation, The importance of Science Communication
- o **GWIS Outreach** in Inter American University, Our Pathways to Graduate school
- o **Invited Speaker**, Simposio el Poder de la mujer en las Ciencias, Talk about GWIS-PR
- o **Invited speaker**, UAGM-Active Transformation Pathway (ATP) webinar “Latinxs in STEM”
- o **Invited Judge**, Scientific Art Competition in honor to Dr. Jennifer A Doudna, event by Puerto Rico Outstanding Undergraduate Diversified (PROUD) and Instituto Médico de Howard Hughes (HHMI). Organized by STEM 100x35.

LIDERSHIP

- o **Mentor**, Programa Semillas de Triunfo 2021-2022, CienciaPR
- o **Mentor**, Fundación Gracia Rinaldi 2021 Summer Program
- o **Biomedical Student representative**, “Comité Ambiente de Aprendizaje” MSC- School of Medicine
- o Graduate Women in Science- Puerto Rico Chapter. **Active Member, Co-Founder and President**

GABRIEL BORGES VELEZ



Excelencia en Investigación

Borges-Vélez, G., Rosado-Philippi, J., Cantres-Rosario, Y.M. Carrasquillo-Carrion K, Roche-Lima A., Perez-Vargas J., Gonzalez-Martinez A., Correa-Rivas, MS. Zika virus infection of the placenta alters extracellular matrix proteome. Journal of Molecular Histology (2021). Published online July 15, 2021 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10735-021-09994-w>

LORNA CRUZ ROLDAN



Excelencia Académica - 3.81

JENNIFER DIAZ RIVERA



Excelencia Académica - 3.83

Mención Honorífica

OUTREACH

- UPR-Medical Sciences Campus Summer Seminar (June 2021)
- School of Medicine Graduate Programs (30-Sept-2021 & 6-Dec-2021)

MARIA DEL MAR FIGUEROA GISPERT



Excelencia Académica - 3.78

Mención Honorífica

OUTREACH:

- o **January 2022** = Guest Speaker at the Microbiology Students Chapter's School of Medicine Graduate Programs Orientation Seminar at UPR-Rio Piedras Campus.
- o **December 2021** = Guest Speaker at the Microbiology Students Chapter's School of Medicine Graduate Programs Orientation Seminar at UPR- Humacao Campus.
- o **November 2021** = Guest Moderator at the Mini Symposium: Microbiomes from the environment to human diseases.
- o **October 2021** = Guest Speaker at the UPR-RCM Open House 2021
- o **September 2021** = Guest Speaker at the Graduate Programs in Biomedical Science Orientation Seminar at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico.
- o **June 2021** = Mentor of Dr. Garcia Rinaldi Foundation 2021 Virtual Summer Program
- o **June 2021** = Guest speaker at the RCM Summer Seminar 2021

XAYMARA HERNANDEZ GONZALEZ



Mención Honorífica

AWARD

- Awarded with Abarca Better Health Community Program Grant (\$15,000.00) for my thesis project “Association of Seasonality of Outdoor Allergens with Susceptibility and Morbidity to COVID-19 among residents of San Juan and Caguas, P.R.”

OUTREACH

- o Organized the event “Salva una Vida, Dona Sangre”. May 2021. We volunteer with the Blood Bank of the Medical Center in a blood donation event.
- o Participated in an educational outreach, giving a presentation of Biomedical Sciences to High School Students (Fine Arts School-Humacao). March 2021.
- o Participated moderating the activity “GWIS-PR Chapter: How to Communicate Science with Art”. March 2021.
- o Participated in the Biomedical Sciences Open House of the Medical Sciences Campus. October 2021.
- o Participated giving a Thanksgiving meal to women that suffered abuse through the Foundation “Alas a la Mujer”. November 2021.

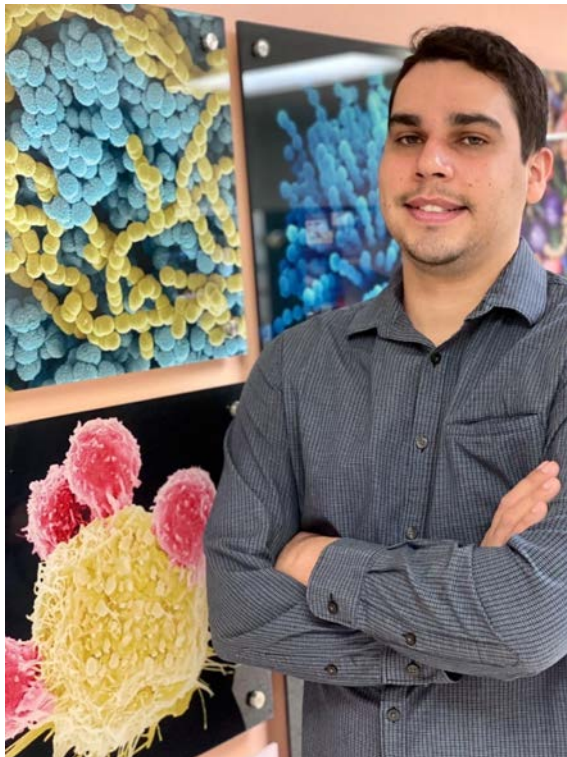
NICOLE MARZAN RIVERA



Excelencia en Investigación

- Rosado-Franco, J. J., Armina-Rodriguez, A., **Marzan-Rivera, N.**, Burgos, A. G., Spiliopoulos, N., Dorta-Estremera, S. M., Mendez, L. B., & Espino, A. M. (2021). **Recombinant *Fasciola hepatica* Fatty Acid Binding Protein as a Novel Anti-Inflammatory Biotherapeutic Drug in an Acute Gram-Negative Nonhuman Primate Sepsis Model.** Microbiology spectrum, 9(3), e0191021. <https://doi.org/10.1128/Spectrum.01910-21>

ANGEL E. MIRANDA SANTIAGO



Excelencia Académica - 3.71

NATALIE MELENDEZ VAZQUEZ



Excelencia Académica – 3.81

Excelencia Investigación

- Candelaria Gomez-Manzano, **Natalie M. Melendez-Vazquez**, Teresa Nguyen, Ashley Ossimetha, Hong Jiang, Juan Fueyo, Filipa Godoy-Vitorino. Gut microbiome changes are associated with the efficacy of Delta-24-RGDOX viroimmunotherapy against malignant glioma [abstract]. In: Proceedings of the American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting 2021; 2021 Apr 10-15 and May 17-21. Philadelphia (PA): AACR; Cancer Res 2021;81(13_Suppl):Abstract nr 927. <https://doi.org/10.1158/1538-7445.AM2021-927>
- Ashley Ossimetha, Teresa Nguyen, **Natalie Melendez**, Xuejun Fan, Marta Alonso, Juan Fueyo, Filipa Godoy-Vitorino, Candelaria Gomez-Manzano. Armed oncolytic adenovirus expressing the positive immune checkpoint OX40L for gastric cancer therapy [abstract]. In: Proceedings of the American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting 2021; 2021 Apr 10-15 and May 17-21. Philadelphia (PA): AACR; Cancer Res 2021;81(13_Suppl):Abstract nr 1748. <https://doi.org/10.1158/1538-7445.AM2021-1748>

NATALIE MELENDEZ VAZQUEZ



Mención Honorífica

- **Aceptada in el internado de Verano:** “U54 2021 Partnership Summer Research Program at UT MD Anderson Cancer Center”.

OUTREACH

- Co-host en la charla “**Juntas Podemos: Conoce a Wanda Díaz-Merced, astrofísica**” dirigida por CienciaPR- Semillas de Triunfo.
- Panelista en el conversatorio “**The many faces of science: Microconversatory**” llevado a cabo por la organización estudiantil de microbiología de la Inter-Metro.
- Charla dada al “**IGEM-RUM Synbio 101 Summer Camp**” sobre la búsqueda de literatura en las ciencias.
- Mentora para estudiantes pertenecientes al programa de verano de la Fundación Dr. García Rinaldi.
- Participó en el Seminario de Verano de UPR-RCM 2021.
- Presentó, junto al capítulo de microbiología, una charla sobre el Programa Graduado de Ciencias Biomédicas de UPR-RCM a estudiantes subgraduadas de diferentes universidades.
- Moderadora en el mini-simposio “Microbiomes: from the Environment to Human Diseases”.

JOSE J. ROSADO FRANCO



Excelencia en Investigación

- **Rosado-Franco, J. J.**, Armina-Rodriguez, A., Marzan-Rivera, N., Burgos, A. G., Spiliopoulos, N., Dorta-Estremera, S. M., Mendez, L. B., & Espino, A. M. (2021). Recombinant *Fasciola hepatica* Fatty Acid Binding Protein as a Novel Anti-Inflammatory Biotherapeutic Drug in an Acute Gram-Negative Nonhuman Primate Sepsis Model. *Microbiology spectrum*, 9(3), e0191021. <https://doi.org/10.1128/Spectrum.01910-21>

LESTER ROSARIO RODRIGUEZ



Excelencia en Investigación

- F99 supplement (PA-20-272) due to COVID-19 pandemic (Submitted in June 2021): Awarded (For 3 months: September 1, 2021-November 30, 2021)
- K00 Proposal Submitted in September 2021: Needed Revision.
K00 Proposal Resubmitted on February 8, 2022: Administratively Approved.

EDUARDO TOSADO RODRIGUEZ



Excelencia Investigación

- Rodríguez-Barreras R, **Tosado-Rodríguez EL**, Godoy-Vitorino F. Trophic niches reflect compositional differences in microbiota among Caribbean sea urchins. PeerJ. 2021 Aug 31;9:e12084. doi: 10.7717/peerj.12084. PMID: 34540373; PMCID: PMC8415288.
- **Tosado, E.**, Romaguera, J., Dominicci-Maura, A. Reymundi, G., Sanchez-Vazquez, F., Chorna, N. and Godoy-Vitorino, F., HPV Infections and BMI Are Associated to Changes in the Cervicovaginal Microbiota, 2021 ASCCP Oral Presentation, 2021 Apr 1;25(2S):1-8. https://journals.lww.com/jlgtd/Fulltext/2021/04001/2021ASCCP_Oral_Presentations.1.aspx, PMID: 33743522 DOI: 10.1097/LGT.0000000000000603

EDUARDO TOSADO RODRIGUEZ



Mención Honorífica

- Awardee of Puerto Rico Science Technology and Research Trust: COVID-19 Science Communication and Living Expenses Grants.
- Recipient Conference Registration Grant for 34th International Papillomavirus Conference - IPVC 2021
- Second Place Award for Graduate Oral Presentation at 63rd PRSM Annual Conference 2021. (June 3, 2021)

LORRAINE VELEZ TORRES



Mención Honorífica

- Robert I. Laurus Award, AAAS Caribbean Division Annual Meeting, 2021. **First Place Poster Presentation.**
- **Travel Award** ISIAQ Student Conference Support Award for the Healthy Buildings 2021 America conference. December 2021.

OUTREACH

- **Invited Judge:** Scientific Art Competition in honor to Dr. Jennifer A. Doudna. Event organized by Puerto Rico Outstanding Undergraduate Diversified (PROUD) and STEM 100x35. January 2021.
- **Invited Panelist:** Passport to Science, Biomedical Sciences. Event organized by Science and Heels. February 2021.
- **Invited Speaker:** Micro Week - Path to the PhD. Event organized by Sociedad Estudiantil de Microbiología Industrial (SEMI) UPR-Mayagüez. April 2021.
- **Invited Speaker:** Simposio de la Mujer en las Ciencias. Presentation about Vistazo A La Ciencia. Event organized by UPR-Río Piedras. April 2021.
- **Invited Speaker:** Programa de Verano Fundación García Rinaldi - Tips on how to give a great oral presentation. Event organized by Fundación García Rinaldi. June 2021.
- **Invited Panelist:** Science Communication Panel for TriBeta UPR-Mayagüez Campus. November 2021.

LEADERSHIP

- **Communications Manager:** Organizing Committee ComSciCon-ATLANTA 2022. July 2021 - February 2022
- **Mentor:** Programa Semillas de Triunfo de CienciaPR - Edición "If/Then". September 2021 - Present
- **Moderator:** 3rd speaker (Dr. Kinney) - Mini-Symposium Microbiome: From the Environment to Human Disease. November 2021.
- **Moderator:** Distinguished Reactor Panel - AAAS Caribbean Division Annual Meeting. November 2021.
- **Co-Founder & Vice-President:** Graduate Women in Science (GWIS) Puerto Rico Chapter. September 2020 - Present
- **Co-Founder & Mentoring Director:** Vistazo A La Ciencia LLC. May 2020 - Present

Este reconocimiento
reconoce aquellos estudiantes
con promedio de **3.75 o más** y
que tengan **una publicación**
como primer autor(a).



DEPARTAMENTO DE MICROBIOLOGIA & ZOOLOGIA MEDICA



José J Rosado Franco
GPA = 3.84
Artículo como 1er autor = 1



Eduardo Tosado Rodríguez
GPA = 3.87
Artículo como 2nd autor = 1

DEPARTMENT OF Microbiology and Medical Zoology

Faculty



Dr. Adelfa E. Serrano
Professor



Dr. Ana M. Espino
Professor



Dr. Benjamin Bolaños
Associate Professor



Dr. Carlos Sariol
Adjunct Professor



Dr. Edna E. Aquino
Associate Professor



Dr. Filipa Godoy Vitorino
Chair



Dr. Guillermo J. Vazquez
Professor



Dr. Humberto M. Guiot
Joint Associate Professor



Dr. Idali Martinez
Associate Professor



Dr. Loyda M. Meléndez
Professor



Dr. Raúl Rivera
Assistant Professor



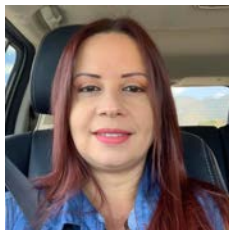
Dr. Stephanie M. Dorta
Assistant Professor



Pedro Rivera, MT, ASCP



Angel Torres, BS



Brenda Carrucini, BS

