



# Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Cohort V Bridge to the Doctorate Fellows



*"Through the Bridge-to-the-Doctorate Program, PR-LSAMP has awarded a total of 58 fellowships to former PR-LSAMP undergraduate STEM students for their first two years of graduate studies. The BD Program has indeed proved to be very successful in helping students achieve academic excellence while pursuing their doctoral studies"*

Dr. Manuel Gomez, PI

## Bridge-to-the-Doctorate Coordinator

Prof. Javier Figueroa is the Assistant Coordinator of the PR-LSAMP Program and the BDP Coordinator. His field of specialization is Biology and Ecology. He has conducted research in Population Biology, biogeographical distribution and systematics of the Order Odonata in neotropical environments with emphasis in the Greater Antilles.

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The University of Puerto Rico at Río Piedras (UPR-Río Piedras) is the flagship institution of the Island's public higher education system. Located in the San Juan metropolitan area, UPR-Río Piedras enrolls almost 18,000 undergraduate students and over 3,000 graduate students. The institution grants bachelors' degrees in 69 areas of specialization, 10 master's degrees in 43 areas of specialization and 4 doctoral degrees (Ph.D., J.D. and Ed.D.) in 14 areas of specialization. Ten percent of the Hispanics who earned a Ph.D. degree in a natural science field from 1998 to 2003 attained their BS degree from UPR-Río Piedras.



The University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez, the second largest campus of the University of Puerto Rico System. Located in the western part of the Island, UPR-Mayaguez enrolled a total of 11,079 undergraduate students and 1,069 graduate students in the Fall of 2003. Forty percent of its undergraduate students are enrolled in the School of Engineering, the main and largest school of engineering in Puerto Rico. UPR-Mayaguez awards bachelor's degrees in agriculture, arts, sciences, business administration and engineering with 56 areas of specialization; master's degrees in 45 areas of specialization and doctoral degrees in 4 areas of specialization.

Thirteen percent of the Hispanics nationwide who obtained a PhD in an Engineering field received their BS at UPR-Mayaguez.

### Moraima Morales



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Río Piedras  
BS Degree in Chemistry (2007)  
Graduate Major: Bio-Chemistry  
Career Goal: Obtain my Ph.D. in Biochemistry and become a college professor and a researcher in the field of health.



### Heabett Echevarría

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Río Piedras  
BS Degree in Chemistry (2007)  
Graduate Major: Bio-Chemistry  
Career Goal: Obtain a Ph.D. in Biochemistry; pursue research in protein characterization. Continue post-doctoral studies with emphasis in neurodegenerative diseases.

### Manuel Delgado

Undergraduate Institution: UIA-Arecibo  
BS Degree in Biology (2003)  
Graduate Major: Neurobiology  
Career Goal: Obtain a Ph.D. in this area focused on neuromuscular diseases and continue a post-doc training in neural stem cell biology.



### Ida Pantoja

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Río Piedras  
BS Degree in Biology (2007)  
Graduate Major: Microbiology  
Career Goal: Obtain my Ph.D. and continue a post-doc in this area. Also, become a college professor and conduct research in my area of study.



### Ana R. Cameron



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Río Piedras  
BS Degree in Chemistry (2007)  
Graduate Major: Organic Chemistry  
Career Goal: Obtain my Ph.D. and Post-doc in this area. Also, become a college professor and researcher to synthesize novel bioactive compounds.



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Mayaguez  
BS Degree in Chemical Engineering (2007)  
Graduate Major: Chemical Engineering  
Career Goal: Obtain my Ph.D. and become a researcher focused on developing novel nanomaterials.

### Ruth Hidalgo

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Mayaguez  
BS Degree in Mechanical Engineering (2007)  
Graduate Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Career Goal: Obtain my Ph.D. in Materials Engineering, work as a researcher in a high tech company and become a professor.



### Denisse Soto

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Mayaguez  
BS Degree in Chemical Engineering (2007)  
Graduate Major: Chemical Engineering  
Career Goal: Obtain a Ph.D. and work as a researcher in nanomaterials. Also, I would like to become a professor in my field of study.



### Damian Reyes



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Mayaguez  
BS Degree in Chemical Engineering (2007)  
Graduate Major: Chemical Engineering  
Career Goal: Complete my Ph.D., work in the industry and become a professor in my field of study.



### Haydee Guzman

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Río Piedras  
BS Degree in Mathematics (2007)  
Graduate Major: Mathematics  
Career Goal: Become a professional mathematician and work as a professor.

### Rosalyn Gonzalez

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Cayey  
BS Degree in Biology (2007)  
Graduate Major: Molecular Biology  
Career Goal: Obtain a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and become a researcher.



### Juan Burgos

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Río Piedras  
BS Degree in Physics (2007)  
Graduate Major: Physics  
Career Goal: Obtain my MS degree in Physics and continue my Ph.D. in Theoretical High-Energy Physics. I would like to seek a postdoctoral position that will enable me to attain a position as a faculty member.

