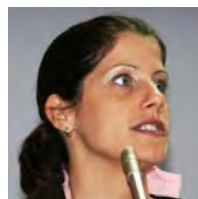




Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Cohort VIII Bridge to the Doctorate Fellows



"The Bridge to the Doctorate Program has made significant contributions to the preparation of the next generation of STEM professionals in Puerto Rico and US Mainland. This program provides a multidisciplinary education with emphasis in nano and environmental sciences, thus increasing the nation's pool of well prepared scientists with diverse views. Cohort VIII contributes twelve additional fellows to the community of 82 that have already received the PR-BD Fellowship."



Dr. Manuel Gomez, PI and Dr. Ana Rita Mayol, Co-PI



The University of Puerto Rico is the flagship institution of higher education in the island; the major producer of Hispanic STEM baccalaureate degrees in the U.S., and the main source of Hispanic PhD's in science and Engineering. The College of Natural Sciences at UPR Rio Piedras offers Bachelor's degrees in Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Sciences, General Sciences, Mathematics, and Physics; Master's degrees in Biology, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry and PhD degrees in Biology, Chemical Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science and Mathematics. UPR School of Engineering is the main and largest school of engineering in Puerto Rico, and ranks 13th in undergraduate enrollment among universities in the U.S.; 18th in the number of undergraduate degrees awarded, and 3rd in the number of degrees awarded to women. Thirty five percent of the Engineering majors are women.

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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Wilfredo Falcon



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Humacao
BS Degree in Biology/Wild Life (2010)
Graduate Major: Ecology & Systematics
Career Goal: Obtain a PhD in Conservation Genetics, pursue a career as a researcher and in the academia focusing in my area but promoting interdisciplinary approaches.

Camille Garcia



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Humacao
BS Degree in Physics (2010)
Graduate Major: Chemical-Physics
Career Goal: Obtain a Ph.D. in Chemical-Physics and pursue a research career in a prestigious institution.

Jose A. Rivera

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Bayamon
BS Degree in Biology (2007)
Graduate Major: Ecology
Career Goal: Complete a Ph.D. in Urban Ecology working either in terrestrial or stream environments. I would like to work in the academia but also doing research.



Jaime Calzada

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Rio Piedras
BS Degree in Physics (2010)
Graduate Major: Physics
Career Goal: Work in the research & development industry as well as in the academia focusing in the area of fundamental field theories and technology development.



Shakira Quiñones



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Rio Piedras
BS Degree in General Science (2010)
Graduate Major: Biology
Career Goal: Obtain my Ph.D. and become a professor/researcher studying the interactions between marine mammals population and coastal tourism development.

Angelica Erazo



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Rio Piedras
BS Degree in Environmental Science (2010)
Graduate Major: Environmental Science
Career Goal: Obtain my Ph.D. and work in research focusing in rural water systems and the use of slow sand filters to improve water quality.

Edgardo M. Colon

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Aguadilla
BS Degree in Biology (2010)
Graduate Major: Molecular Biology
Career Goal: Obtain my Ph.D and possibly a Post Doc in Europe; become a college professor able to offer courses in diverse science fields; create my business related to



Christian Morales

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Rio Piedras
BS Degree in Chemistry (2010)
Graduate Major: Biochemistry
Career Goal: Obtain a Ph.D. to become a professor and a researcher in the area of bio-organic chemistry and nanotechnology.



Marietta Marciano



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Mayaguez
BS Degree in Mechanical Engineering (2010)
Graduate Major: Environmental Engineering
Career Goal: Obtain PhD in the area of Environmental Eng and pursue a career in research focusing in the study and

development of titanium silicates nanoporous sorbents

Vivianette Alicea



Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Arecibo
BS Degree in Chemistry (2010)
Graduate Major: Biochemistry
Career Goal: Obtain a PhD in Biochemistry with the objective of becoming a professor and a researcher in this field.

Jose I. Lopez

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Rio Piedras
BS Degree in Physics (2010)
Graduate Major: Chemical-Physics
Career Goal: Obtain a Ph.D. and become a researcher in the area of Photovoltaics and Ligh Harvesting. Be able to create/design educational materials to promote an effective learning process to better understand the use of nanomaterial concepts, principles and methods.



Roberto Martinez

Undergraduate Institution: UPR-Cayey
BS Degree in Chemistry (2009)
Graduate Major: Analytical Chemistry
Career Goal: Obtain my Ph.D. and become a researcher in the industry focusing in developing technology that contributes to the environment and obtaining ways to maximize the efficiency of this technology.

