

Conversations with Scientists 2017: Careers in Industry ^[1]

Submitted by [Mónica Ivelisse Feliú-Mójer](#) ^[2] on 31 October 2017 - 6:46pm



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Careers in Industry

During this conversation, scientists in industry careers will talk about their experiences and paths to industry careers and advice to graduate students interested in pursuing industry careers. They also share resources that could help students make transition into industry careers.

Panelists

Dr. Fernando Cruz-Guilloty is a Senior Scientist, R&D Team Lead at Immucor, Inc. While completing his college degree in Industrial Biotechnology from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, Fernando was able to participate in several summer research programs aimed at increasing minority participation in the STEM fields, including the Leadership Alliance at Harvard Medical School (HMS). These experiences exposed him to the field of immunology, and he credits

several great mentors that helped his academic growth. In 2008, Fernando obtained a Ph.D. from HMS in the lab of Dr. Anjana Rao, where his research focused on basic studies of the immune system. After postdoctoral studies in the lab of Dr. Victor Perez at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, Fernando transitioned to a career in industry, working as a Research Scientist at Immucor, a leading medical devices company in the area of blood transfusion. Currently, Fernando leads a new R&D group to develop a next-generation microarray-based platform for blood typing and screening. Now as an industry mentor, he is still active in STEM outreach and education programs, such as the Scientist Mentoring and Diversity Program (SMDP) of the International Center for Professional Development (ICPD).

Dr. Jorge Ferrer is Senior Vice President of Research & Development for Lumicell. Jorge leads the company's research and development efforts including planning and overseeing the work with Lumicell's academic collaborators, managing pre-clinical and clinical studies, and communicating and reporting to the FDA. During his post-doctoral with Dr. Mounji Bawendi at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he developed the prototype of the Lumicell imaging system and conducted the proof-of-concept experiments in mice and dogs. He holds a Ph.D.

from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Biological Engineering, an M.S. and a B.S. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Mechanical Engineering. Prior to his post-graduate studies, Jorge worked as a Mechanical Design Engineer in the sensors and controls industry at Texas Instruments.

Dr. Nancy Guillén is a biological engineer working at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals as a Process Development Engineer in the PreClinical Manufacturing & Process Development group. Recently, she completed an appointment as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Boehringer Ingelheim in Fremont, CA in the Process Science - Cell Culture Department. Her work is focused on cell line development, process development and process characterization. Nancy graduated with a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, working in the laboratory of Prof. Douglas Lauffenburger. For her thesis project, she studied the role of microRNA expression in cytokine mediated cell death. She produced predictive models of cell death based on multivariate analysis of temporal expression of microRNAs.

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