

ERIC MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ- LOPEZ, B.S.

IMMUNOLOGY PhD STUDENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

4219 Filbert Street, Apartment C. Philadelphia, PA, 19104 | 787-677-2726 | roderic@pennmedicine.upenn.edu

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA – Philadelphia, PA.

2019 - PRESENT

PhD in Immunology

Advisors: David A. Hill, MD, PhD; Laurence C. Eisenlohr, VMD, PhD

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO – PONCE CAMPUS, Ponce, PR

2014 - 2019

Bachelor's Degree in Natural Sciences

Major: Biology

Concentration: Biomedical Sciences

COLEGIO SAGRADO CORAZON DE JESUS, Ponce, PR

2002-2014

High School Diploma

Academic Distinction: Honor Student

HONORS & AWARDS

**FIRST PLACE-JOHN C. JOHNSON AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
IN STUDENT RESEARCH**

2019

Caribbean Regional Tribeta Convention 2019

Humacao, PR

First place in scientific poster presentation

ABRCMS ORAL PRESENTATION AWARDEE

2017

Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students

Phoenix, AZ

Scientific discipline: Microbiology

HONOR ROLL (DEAN'S LIST)

2016- 2019

University of Puerto Rico- Ponce Campus

Ponce, PR

Special recognition awarded based on a student's GPA and academic excellence during the previous academic year.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD**2014****Colegio Sagrado Corazón de Jesús**

Ponce, PR

Special recognition awarded by the school director based on the student's academic and social contributions to the school community. The award considers a student's GPA, leadership, and commitment to school values.

HONOR ROLL**2014****Colegio Sagrado Corazón de Jesús**

Ponce, PR

Special recognition awarded based on a student's GPA for the last four years of high school education.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, PA****2020-PRESENT**

Research PhD student

PIs: David A. Hill, MD, PhD; Laurence C. Eisenlohr, VMD, PhD

As part of the Division of Allergy and Immunology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and the Institute for Immunology at the University of Pennsylvania, my research project focuses on the immunological mechanisms underlying a chronic allergic disorder called Eosinophilic Esophagitis (EoE).

PONCE HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, Ponce, PR**2018-2019**

Research Assistant

PI: Richard Noel, Jr., Ph.D.

Research rotation at Dr. Noel's laboratory, where research is focused on HIV neuropathology.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, PA**2018****SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

Research Intern

PI: Igor Brodsky, Ph.D.

Mentor: Elisabet Bjanés, Ph.D. candidate

Under the Department of Pathobiology, my research project was focused on innate immune system mechanisms and regulation of cell death.

PONCE HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, Ponce, PR**2017-2018**

Research Assistant

PI: Edu Suárez, Ph.D.

Research rotation at Dr. Suárez's laboratory, where research is focused on genetic factors and how they influence asthma symptoms in Puerto Rican populations.

**UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, Charlottesville, VA
SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM****2017**

Research Intern

PI: Hervé Agaisse, Ph.D.

Mentor: Volkan Koseoglu, Ph.D.

Under the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Cancer Biology, I was assigned a research project concerning the microbial pathogenesis of the bacterium, *Shigella flexneri*.

PONCE HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, Ponce, PR**2016**

Volunteer Research Assistant

PI: Idhaliz Flores, Ph.D.

Mentor: Inevy Seguinot Tarafa, Ph.D student at the Dr. Flores Endometriosis Research Lab

Aid the graduate student by completing simple tasks and help complete certain procedures in the Endometriosis Research lab.

**ROCHE OPERATIONS LTD. Ponce, PR
SUMMER INTERNSHIP 2015****2015**

Compounding Laboratory Assistant

Supervisor: Javier Montero

Support yield improvement initiatives for compounding mass as well as general support for laboratory activities to enable manufacturing processes.

**PERSONAL TUTOR, Ponce, PR
GENERAL & ORGANIC CHEMISTRY****2013- 2019**

Independent Job

Teaching and coaching of high school and university students on general chemistry concepts.

LANGUAGES**SPANISH** – native language**ENGLISH**– speaks fluently and reads/writes with high proficiency**ITALIAN**- basic-to-intermediate level**PROFESSIONAL & CAREER DEVELOPMENT****DEVELOPING FUTURE BIOLOGISTS (DFB)****2016****University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, Ponce PR**

Week-long educational and career development experience where graduate students and professors from the University of Michigan teach concepts of Developmental Biology to undergraduate students from the UPR-Ponce campus. Other than hands-on lab experience in the developmental biology field, they also offer different career building workshops (How to apply to graduate school, how to prepare a poster, etc.).

WORKSHOPS OFFERED**LET'S TALK ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINE****2021****University of Puerto Rico at Ponce, Ponce, PR (virtual visit)**

Workshop offered to the members of the MedLife Student Association, UPR Ponce Chapter, that focused on orienting students about the immunology underlying the vaccines against SARS-CoV-2. In addition, the importance of vaccination to counteract the current pandemic.

PREPARING STATEMENTS FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL**2020****University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA**

Workshop offered as part of the Immunology Graduate Group (IGG) Virtual Open House 2020. The goal was to offer tips and advice on how to prepare personal and research statements for graduate school applications.

ROAD TO PhD**2020****University of Puerto Rico at Ponce, Ponce, PR (virtual visit)**

Workshop offered to the members of the MedLife Student Association, UPR Ponce Chapter, that focused on the process of preparing and applying for a PhD in the biomedical sciences.

GAP YEAR VS NO GAP YEAR**2020****University of Puerto Rico at Ponce, Ponce, PR (virtual visit)**

The National Biological Honor Society, Zeta Kappa Chapter, from the University of Puerto Rico at Ponce hosted an event to have two current PhD students talk about the advantages of taking gap years or not before applying to graduate school. I was the invited speaker for the “No Gap Year” portion.

**EXPERTISE IN APPLICATIONS, INTERVIEWS AND ADMISSIONS
TO GRADUATE SCHOOL****2020****University of Puerto Rico at Ponce, Ponce, PR (virtual visit)**

The National Biological Honor Society, Zeta Kappa Chapter, from the University of Puerto Rico at Ponce hosted a panel to have students at different stages in their career (e.g. postbaccalaureate, Master's, PhD, MD) talk about the process of applying, accepting and attending graduate school.

COMMUNICATING YOUR RESEARCH**2017****University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, Ponce PR**

Workshop offered to newly accepted UPR-PRISE program students on how to effectively communicate science to different audiences.

PUBLICATIONS**“Peripheral markers of allergen-specific immune activation predict clinical allergy in eosinophilic esophagitis”**

Julianna Dilollo, **Eric M. Rodríguez-López**, Leah Wilkey, Elizabeth K. Martin, Jonathan M. Spergel, David A. Hill

Allergy. 2021 Apr 11. DOI: 10.1111/all.14854. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33840099.

“Targeting of protease activated receptor-2 (PAR-2) antagonist FSLLRY-NH2 as an asthma adjuvant therapy.”

Marinel Ocasio-Rivera, Frances Marín-Maldonado, Geraline Trossi-Torres, Angely Ortiz-Rosado, Valerie Rodríguez-Irizarry, **Eric Rodríguez-López**, Sahayra Martínez, Sharilyn Almodóvar, Edu Suárez-Martínez *Medicine* (Baltimore). 2020 Oct 23; 99(43): e22351.

“The Autotransporter IcsA Promotes *Shigella flexneri* Biofilm Formation in the Presence of Bile Salts”

Volkan K. Köseoğlu, Chelsea P. Hall, **Eric M. Rodríguez-López**, Hervé Agaisse *Infection and Immunity* Jun 2019, 87 (7) e00861-18; DOI: 10.1128/IAI.00861-18

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Understanding the Role of CARD19 in Regulated Cell Death

2018

University of Pennsylvania

Department of Pathobiology

Mentors: Igor Brodsky, Ph.D; Elisabet Bjånes.

Characterization of *s1289* in Biofilm Formation and Infection in *S. flexneri*

2017

University of Virginia

Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Cancer Biology

Mentors: Hervé Agaisse, Ph.D; Volkan Koseoglu, Ph.D.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

ABRCMS 2018

2018

Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students

Indianapolis, IN

November 14-17, 2018

LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

2018

Hartford, CT

July 27-29, 2018

EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY 2018

2018

San Diego, CA

April 21-25, 2018

ABRCMS 2017

2017

Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students

Phoenix, AZ

November 1-4, 2017

PRESENTATIONS

NATIONAL BIOLOGY HONOR SOCIETY BBB DISTRICT CONVENTION 2019**Humacao, PR****May 3-5, 2019**

Research project presented: "Understanding the Role of CARD19 in Regulated Cell Death."

Category: Poster presentation

ABRCMS 2018**2018****Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students****Indianapolis, IN****November 14-17, 2018**

Research project presented: "Understanding the Role of CARD19 in Regulated Cell Death."

Category: Poster presentation

Scientific Discipline: Immunology

6th ANNUAL PRISE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**2018****University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus****Ponce, PR****August 25, 2018**

Research project presented: "Understanding the Role of CARD19 in Regulated Cell Death."

25th ANNUAL PENN SUIP RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**2018****Philadelphia, PA****August 9, 2018**

Research project presented: "Understanding the Role of CARD19 in Regulated Cell Death"

Category: Poster presentation

LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**2018****Hartford, CT****July 27-29, 2018**

Research project presented: "Understanding the Role of CARD19 in Regulated Cell Death"

Category: Oral presentation

JR. TECHNICAL/PR-LSAMP PRISM MEETING**2018****University of El Turabo****Gurabo, PR****April 28, 2018**Research project presented: "Characterization of *s1289* in Biofilm Formation and Infection in *S. flexneri*."

Category: Oral presentation

EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY 2018**2018****San Diego, CA****April 21-25, 2018**Research project presented: "Characterization of *s*/289 in Biofilm Formation and Infection in *S. flexneri*."

Category: Poster presentation

Scientific Discipline: Pathogenesis of Infectious Diseases

NATIONAL BIOLOGY HONOR SOCIETY BBB DISTRICT SYMPOSIUM**2018****San Juan, PR****March 24, 2018**Research project presented: "Characterization of *s*/289 in Biofilm Formation and Infection in *S. flexneri*."

Category: Oral presentation

ABRCMS 2017**2017****Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students****Phoenix, AZ****November 1-4, 2017**Research project presented: "Characterization of *s*/289 in Biofilm Formation and Infection in *S. flexneri*."

Category: Oral presentation

Scientific Discipline: Microbiology

5th ANNUAL PRISE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**2017****University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus****Ponce, PR****August 25, 2017**Research project presented: "Characterization of *s*/289 in Biofilm Formation and Infection in *S. flexneri*."**UVA SRIP ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM****2017****University of Virginia****Charlottesville, VA****August 2-3, 2017**Research project presented: "Characterization of *s*/289 in Biofilm Formation and Infection in *S. flexneri*."**MEMBERSHIPS & ORGANIZATIONS****PENN COLLEGIUM MUSICUM (Choir)****2020-PRESENT****University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA**

Active Member

IMMUNOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (IGA)**2019-2020****University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA**

Member of the Executive Board

Position: Academic/Diversity Chair

NATIONAL BIOLOGY HONOR SOCIETY BBB 2018-2019
University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, Ponce, PR
Regular Member

PONCE RESEARCH INITIATIVE FOR SCIENTIFIC ENHANCEMENT 2017-2019
(UPR-PRISE)
University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, Ponce, PR
Official Member

PONCE RESEARCH INITIATIVE FOR SCIENTIFIC ENHANCEMENT 2016
(UPR-PRISE)
University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, Ponce, PR
Adjunct Member

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO, PONCE CONCERT CHOIR 2015-2019
University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, Ponce, PR
Active Member and Member of the Executive Board
Voice: Baritone
Position: Historian (2016-2017)
Position: Vice-president (2017-2018)

HONOR STUDIES PROGRAM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION 2014-2019
University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, Ponce, PR
Active Member and Member of the Executive Board
Position: Representative of 2nd Year Students (2015-2016)
Position: Secretary (2016-2017)
Position: Vice-president (2017-2018)

HONOR STUDIES PROGRAM 2014-2019
University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, Ponce, PR
Active Member

CHEMISTRY AND PHYSICS STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (AEQF) 2014-2015
University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus, Ponce, PR
Active Member

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND OUTREACH

IGG VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE 2020 2020
Contact Hours: 2 hours
Place: University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA
Description: As co-host of this event, we offered a virtual open house that briefly spoke about the Immunology Graduate Group at the University of Pennsylvania and the benefits of doing a PhD in

Immunology in our institution. Additionally, we offered application materials workshops to offer tips and advice to prospective applicants.

IGG VIRTUAL RECRUITMENT PANEL**2020**

Contact Hours: 2 hours

Place: University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

Description: Serving as the host of this recruitment event, our goal was to encourage students from various backgrounds to consider applying to PhD programs at the University of Pennsylvania, specifically for Immunology.

WELCOMING FUTURE SCIENTISTS**2017**

Contact Hours: 8 hours

Place: University of Puerto Rico- Ponce Campus
Ponce, PR

Description: Outreach program, hosted by the PRISE program students and administrators, where high school students are invited to the University of Puerto Rico at Ponce facilities, where they are able to attend scientific workshops and professional development conferences.

GRADUATE SCHOOLS FAIR**2015**

Contact Hours: 8 hours

Place: University of Puerto Rico- Ponce Campus
Ponce, PR

Description: General Support and coordination of Graduate Schools Fair. Provide required resources and ensure student participation.

MENTORSHIP PROJECT-UPRP**2015**

Contact Hours: 18 hours

Place: University of Puerto Rico, Ponce Campus
Ponce, PR

Description: University students voluntarily join this project to serve as guides for college freshmen during orientation week. We help them get acquainted with their campus and department and give them a pleasant welcome.

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP**2014, 2015, 2016, 2017**

Contact Hours: 16 hours

Place: La Guancha Boardwalk Beach in Ponce
Ponce, PR

Description: Community collaborative project to promote cleanup of local beaches to help maintain the ecosystems of the coasts of the Island of Puerto Rico while protecting vegetation and wildlife. Hosted once a year.