

Albeliz Santiago-Colón

2887 Losantiville Terrace Apt 8, Cincinnati, OH 45213

787-501-1310 | Albeliz.santiago@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- December 2018 **Ph.D. Epidemiology**
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine, Department of Environmental Health
Dissertation: The Association between Maternal Occupational Exposure to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Selected Birth Defects in the National Birth Defects Prevention Study
- May 2012 **B.S. Biology**
University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, PR
Magna Cum Laude

FELLOWSHIPS

- 2015 – 2017 **Molecular Epidemiology in Children’s Environmental Health T32 Pre-doctoral Fellow**
University of Cincinnati, Department of Environmental Health, Division of Epidemiology
Cincinnati, OH
- 2011 – 2012 **Biomedical Science Flex Option Student**
University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine
Cincinnati, OH

EXPERIENCE

- 2017 – Present **Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) Fellow**
40 hrs/wk Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Division of Surveillance, Hazard Evaluations, and Field Studies - Industrywide Studies Branch
Cincinnati, OH
Supervisor: Carissa Rocheleau, PhD
- Designed, implemented, and interpreted epidemiological studies
 - Performed data management and data analyses
 - Conducted three original epidemiological studies evaluating the association between occupational exposures and birth defects, and exploring automated methods of exposure assessment using data from the National Birth Defects Prevention Study
 - Presented summaries of research projects at division and branch’s monthly meetings
 - Assisted in the translation of over 20 technical pages, research questionnaires, and official communications (e.g. CDC-INFO) into Spanish
 - NIOSH Plain Language Award Finalist (group submission), which recognizes NIOSH fact sheets, brochures or web pages that demonstrate excellence in applying plain language principles. As part of the branch’s reproductive health team, updated NIOSH’s technical pages of reproductive health by translating them into Spanish (<https://www.cdc.gov/spanish/niosh/topics/repro/default.html>).
 - Collaborated in a NIOSH Science Blog about Breastfeeding Accommodations in the Workplace in both English and Spanish

- Volunteered as one of the organizers of Science Day 2017, an annual event where the three branches from a CDC NIOSH division come together to exchange science news and updates, and foster collaboration and comradery

2016
4 hrs/wk

Teaching Assistant: Occupational Epidemiology Spring Course

University of Cincinnati, Department of Environmental Health, Division of Epidemiology
Cincinnati, OH

Supervisor: Tania Carreón-Valencia, PhD

- Duties included coordinating with guest lecturers; keeping track of students' assignments, projects and exams; answering class related questions; and coordinating student presentations
- Created an updated version of an English Wikipedia page about occupational asthma in Spanish (https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asma_ocupacional)

2015 – 2017
40 hrs/wk

Guest Researcher

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Division of Surveillance, Hazard Evaluations, and Field Studies - Industrywide Studies Branch
Cincinnati, OH

Supervisor: Carissa Rocheleau, PhD

- Received training as an occupational exposure screener for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and screened over 10,000 job descriptions to identify those with potential occupational exposure
- Performed data management and quality control analyses of occupational exposure datasets
- Developed study proposals to evaluate the association between occupational exposures and birth defects

2014
2 wks

Graduate Study Abroad: Ghana

- One of eleven students selected from an applicant pool of over one hundred applicants to travel to Ghana for a hands-on education in public and global health.
- Attended lectures at the University of Cincinnati during the 2014 spring semester to learn about a variety of health and cultural topics before travelling for two weeks to several areas in southern Ghana.
- In Ghana, met with governmental and non-governmental organizations to learn about several campaigns to tackle HIV, malaria, overall health, and the stigma associated with some of the most prevalent diseases.

2009 – 2011
10-20 hrs/wk

Sloan Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) Fellow

University of Puerto Rico, Department of Biology, Laboratory of Genomic Diversity
Mayagüez, PR

Supervisors: Taras Oleksyk, PhD and Juan Carlos Martinez-Cruzado, PhD

- Participated in the recruitment of study participants and collection/extraction of DNA from saliva samples for participants in two municipalities of Puerto Rico
- Assisted in the extraction of DNA from blood samples of participants with renal diseases to investigate the role of Puerto Rican ancestral population in renal disease risk using admixture mapping

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

2010

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Cincinnati, OH

Mentor: Stephanie Ware, MD, PhD

- Project: Genetic Screening of Cardiomyopathy Patients using Massively Genetic Screening

2009

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

University of Cincinnati, College of Medicine and Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Cincinnati, OH

Mentor: Punam Malik, PhD

- Project: Correlation between Fetal Hemoglobin Levels in Reticulocytes of Normal and Sickle Cell Patients upon Butyrate Induction

PUBLICATIONS

Published

- **Santiago-Colón A**, Karns R, Mastana S, Deka R. (2016). Distribution of ApoE Variants in Four Northeast Indian Populations. *Coll. Antropol (Zagreb: School Of Biological Anthropology)*. 2016; 40(4):285-289.
- Leung W, ... **Santiago-Colón A**, et al. Drosophila muller f elements maintain a distinct set of genomic properties over 40 million years of evolution. *G3 (Bethesda)*. 2015;5(5):719-740.

In clearance

- **Santiago-Colón A**, Rocheleau CM, Chen IC, Sanderson W, Waters MA, Lawson CC, Langlois PH, Cragan J, Reefhuis J. Maternal Occupational Exposure to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Risk of Rare Birth Defects of the Face and Central Nervous System in the National Birth Defects Prevention Study.

In preparation

- **Santiago-Colón A**, Rocheleau CM, Christianson A, Lawson CC, Langlois PH, Lupo PJ, Sanderson W, Waters MA, Cragan J, Reefhuis J. Maternal Occupational Exposure to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Risk of Neural Tube Defects in the National Birth Defects Prevention Study.
- **Santiago-Colón A**, Rocheleau CM, Bertke S, Christianson A, Collins D, Trester-Wilson E, Sanderson W, Waters MA, Reefhuis J. Testing and Validating Semi-Automated Approaches to the Exposure Assessment of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons.

OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

Rocheleau CM, **Santiago-Colón A**, Hudson H. "Promoting Worker Well-Being through Maternal and Child Health: Breastfeeding Accommodations in the Workplace." *NIOSH Science Blog*. Published: February 11, 2019. <http://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2019/02/11/breastfeeding-work/>

Rocheleau CM, **Santiago-Colón A**, Hudson H. "Promoción del bienestar de las trabajadoras a través de la salud maternal e infantil: Adaptaciones para facilitar la lactancia materna en el lugar de trabajo." *Blog de ciencia de NIOSH*. Published: March 15, 2019. <http://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2019/03/15/breastfeeding-work-spanish/>

Translation of NIOSH Workplace Safety and Health Topics Webpages for Reproductive Health in the Workplace into Spanish: **Santiago-Colón A**; Rocheleau CM; Johnson CY; Lawson CC; La salud reproductiva en el trabajo [22 webpages in Spanish]. NIOSH Workplace Safety and Health Topics (translated and updated, 2018-2019). www.cdc.gov/spanish/niosh/topics/reprod/default.html

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Abstract accepted:

Santiago-Colón A, Rocheleau CM, Chen IC, Lawson CC, Langlois PH, Sanderson W, Waters MA, Cragan J, Reefhuis J, and the National Birth Defects Prevention Study. Association between Maternal Occupational Exposure to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Rare Birth Defects of the Face and Central Nervous System. *Teratology Society*; 2019; San Diego, CA.

Santiago-Colón A, Rocheleau CM, Christianson A, Lawson CC, Langlois PH, Lupo PJ, Sanderson W, Waters MA, Cragan J, Reefhuis J. Maternal Occupational Exposure to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Risk of Neural Tube Defects in the National Birth Defects Prevention Study. American College of Epidemiology; 2018; Cincinnati, OH.

Santiago-Colón A, Rocheleau CM, Christianson A, Lawson CC, Langlois PH, Lupo PJ, Sanderson W, Waters MA, Cragan J, Reefhuis J. Maternal Occupational Exposure to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Risk of Neural Tube Defects in the National Birth Defects Prevention Study. National Birth Defects Prevention Network; 2018; Atlanta, GA.

Santiago-Colón A, Tariq M, Kindel S, Ware S. Genetic Screening of Cardiomyopathy Patients using Massively Genetic Screening. Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students; 2010; Charlotte, NC.

Santiago-Colón A, Arumugam P, Malik P. Correlation between Fetal Hemoglobin Levels in Reticulocytes of Normal and Sickle Cell Patients upon Butyrate Induction. Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students; 2009; Phoenix, AZ.

TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS

Statistics

- SAS software: proficient
- R software: beginner

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2018 Data Visualization Workshop, Cincinnati, OH
 Scientific Writing Workshop, Cincinnati, OH

2017 The Medium is the Message: Crafting your results to impact policy and the public, New Orleans, LA
 Communicating Research Findings to the Media and Public, New Orleans, LA

2016 Emory Exposome Summer Course, Atlanta, GA

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Society of Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research (SPER)
- Society for Advancing Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)
- National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN)

LANGUAGES

Spanish Native language: proficient in reading, writing, and speech

English Proficient in reading, writing, and speech