

Luz Milbeth Cumba García
Email: cumba-garcia.luz@mayo.edu
Website: luzcumbagarcia.com
Twitter: [@lmilbeth](https://twitter.com/lmilbeth)

EDUCATION

June 2016 - Present: Ph.D. Candidate, Immunology Track - Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (MCGSBS), Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN.

August 2014 - May 2016: PREP- Post - Baccalaureate Research Education Program, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN.

October 2012 - July 2013: MS - Investigation and Advances in Cellular and Molecular Immunology, Universidad de Granada, Granada, Spain.

January 2008 - May 2012: BS - Cell and Molecular Biology, School of Science and Technology Universidad Metropolitana, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

March 2017-Present: **“Isolation and analysis of plasma-derived extracellular vesicles in patients with glioma”**. Dr. Ian F. Parney, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

April 2015 - May 2016: **“Superior isolation of antigen-specific brain infiltrating T cells using manual homogenization technique”**. Dr. Aaron Johnson, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

August 2014 - April 2015: **“Purification and characterization of an amyloidogenic immunoglobulin light chain protein”**. Dr. Marina Ramirez-Alvarado, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

October 2012 - October 2013: **“Pristane –induced lupus and monocyte migration”**. Dr. Jaime Sancho-López, Instituto de Parasitología y Biomedicina López Neyra, Granada, Spain

Summer 2012 (June 22 - August 16): **“Reliability of skeletal muscle protein α – actin as a marker for skeletal muscle damage in athletes”**. Luiz Claudio Cameron & Wagner Coelho, Universidade Federal do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Summer 2011 (May 31 - July 31): **“Isolation of Multiple TT Virus Genotypes from Cord Blood: Role in the Pathogenesis of Leukemia and Lymphomas”**. Dr. Harald zur Hausen & Ethel-Michele de Villiers, German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany

Summer 2010 (May 31- July 31): **“Antigen-specific T cell response in the collagen induced arthritis (CIA) mouse model”**. Dr. Jaime Sancho-López, Instituto de Parasitología y Biomedicina López Neyra, Granada, Spain

August 2009 - May 2012: **“HRP cDNA expression: a label for modern electron microscopy”**. Dr. Thomas Schikorski, Universidad Central del Caribe, Bayamón, Puerto Rico

August 2008 - May 2012: “**Prevalence of Drug Resistance and Associated Mutations in HIV-Positive Puerto Ricans: Sex Variations**”. Dr. Luis Cubano, Universidad Central del Caribe, Bayamón, Puerto Rico

October 2009-December 2009: “**Characterization of pollen in plants from Tortuguero Natural Reserve by palynological studies**”. Dr. Eva Dávila, Universidad Metropolitana, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Summer 2009 (May 31 - July 31): “**Oxidative enzyme activity in the root system of sunflower (*Helianthus annuus L.*)**”. Dr. Lawrence Davis, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

August 2008 – May 2009: “**Sexual Reproduction and Pollination Agents of *Chamaecrista glandulosa* Var. *Mirabilis* (Leguminosae: *Cesalpinoidea*)**”. Dr. Eva Dávila, Universidad Metropolitana, San Juan, Puerto Rico

PUBLICATIONS

Ross C. Puffer, **Luz M. Cumba Garcia**, Benjamin T. Himes, Mi-Yeon Jung, Frederic B. Meyer, David O. Okonkwo, and Ian F. Parney. Plasma extracellular vesicles as a source of biomarkers in traumatic brain injury. 2020. Journal of Neuro-Surgery. PMID: pending

Benjamin T. Himes, Timothy E. Peterson, Tristan de Mooij, **Luz M. Cumba Garcia**, Mi-Yeon Jung, Sarah Uhm, David Yan, Jasmine Tyson, Helen J. L. Li, Daniel Parney, Mina Abukhadra, Michael P. Gustafson, Allan B. Dietz, Aaron J. Johnson, Haidong Dong, Rachel L. Maus, Svetomir Markovic, Fabrice Lucien, Ian F. Parney. The Role of Extracellular Vesicles and PD-L1 in Glioblastoma-Mediated Immunosuppressive Monocyte Induction. 2020. Neuro-Oncology. PMID: 32080744

Luz M. Cumba Garcia, Timothy E. Peterson, Mario A. Cepeda, Aaron J. Johnson, Ian F. Parney. Isolation and analysis of plasma-derived exosomes in patients with glioma. 2019. Frontiers in Oncology. PMID: 31380286

Sonia García-Rodríguez, Antonio Rosal-Vela, Davide Botta, **Luz M. Cumba Garcia**, Esther Zumaquero, Verónica Prados-Maniviesa, Daniela Cerezo-Wallis, Nicola Lo Buono, José-Ángel Robles-Guirado, Salvador Guerrero, Elena González-Paredes, Eduardo Andrés-León, Ángel Corbí, Matthias Mack, Friedrich Koch-Nolte, Ramón Merino, Mercedes Zubiaur, Frances E. Lund, and Jaime Sancho. CD38 promotes pristane-induced chronic inflammation and increases susceptibility to experimental lupus by an apoptosis-driven TRPM2-dependent mechanism. 2018. Scientific Reports-Nature. PMID: 29463868

April M. Huseby Kelcher, Pascal A. Atanga, Jeffrey D. Gamez, **Luz M. Cumba Garcia**, Stephanie J. Teclaw, Kevin D. Pavelko, Slobodan I. Macura, Aaron J. Johnson. Brain atrophy in picornavirus-infected FVB mice is dependent on the H-2D^b class I molecule. 2017. FASEB Journal. PMID: 28188174

Luz M. Cumba Garcia, April M. Huseby Kelcher, Courtney S. Malo, Aaron J. Johnson. Superior isolation of antigen-specific brain infiltrating T cells using manual homogenization technique. 2016. Journal of Immunological Methods. PMID: 27623324

Sepúlveda-Torres L Del C, De La Rosa A, **Cumba L**, Boukli N, Ríos-Olivares E, Cubano LA. Prevalence of drug resistance and associated mutations in a population of HIV-1(+) Puerto Ricans: 2006-2010. *AIDS Res Treat.* 2012;934041. Epub 2012 Apr 24. [PMID: 22593823](#)

Cubano LA, **Cumba L**, del Sepúlveda-Torres LC, Boukli N, Ríos-Olivares E. Prevalence of drug resistance and associated mutations in a population of HIV-1+ Puerto Ricans in 2005. *Bol Asoc Med P R.* 2010. 102(3):13-7. [PMID: 23875516](#)

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2020: “Honorable Mention” at the 2020 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Student E-Poster Competition, held at the AAAS Conference in Seattle, WA
- 2020: American Association of Immunologists (AAI) Minority Scientist Travel Award to attend the 2020 AAI Annual Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii (*Conference canceled*)
- 2020: AAI Trainee Poster Award to attend the 2020 AAI Annual Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii (*Conference canceled*)
- 2020: Joshua E. Neimark Memorial Travel Assistance Award to attend the 2020 AAAS Conference in Seattle, WA
- 2019: National Science Policy Network (NSPN) Professional Development Award to attend the 2020 AAAS Conference in Seattle, WA
- 2019: Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (MCGSBS) Career Development Internship (CDI) Travel Award to attend the 2020 AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy for Science & Engineering (CASE) Workshop in Washington, DC
- 2019: Minority Travel Award to attend the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) Public Policy Institute in Washington, DC
- 2019: Awarded the NIH Ph.D. Training Grant in Basic Immunology (T32 AI07425-23) - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
- 2019: “International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) US-Canada Regional Committee (USRC) Fellowship for Neuroscience Scholars Program (NSP) Scholars” to attend the 2019 International Society of Extracellular Vesicles (ISEV) Meeting in Kyoto, Japan
- 2019: “Young Investigator Award” and Scholarship to attend the 2019 ISEV Meeting in Kyoto, Japan
- 2018: “Top Poster Award” at the 2018 Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO) Conference. Project: “miRNA signature derived from GBM plasma exosomes as a diagnostic biomarker”
- 2018: Travel Award to attend the 3rd International Conference of Women in Science without Borders (WISWB) - Cairo, Egypt 2019
- 2018: Travel award for the 2018 NSPN Annual Symposium - Rockefeller University, NY
- 2018: Awarded a full scholarship to participate in the 2018 Women’s Leadership Program: Mujeres de “HACE” (Hispanic Alliance for Career Enhancement) - Minneapolis, MN
- 2018: Awarded the NIH Ph.D. Training Grant in Basic Immunology (T32 AI07425-23) - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
- 2018: Early Career Investigator Scholarship Award sponsored by the Brandt Family Scholars Fund - Mayo Clinic Center for Individualized Medicine (CIM) Conference-Rochester, MN
- 2018: Selected by the Yale-Mayo Clinic Center of Excellence in Regulatory Science and Innovation (CERSI) for the 2018-2019 Scholars Award Program
- 2018: AAI Trainee Abstract Award to attend the 2018 AAI Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas
- 2017: Selected to participate in the Purdue online course “Big Data for Translational Omics Research”. Travel award to on-site workshop included (March 30-31, 2018 - West Lafayette, Indiana)
- 2017: Minorities Affairs Committee (MAC) Travel Award to attend the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB) meeting in Philadelphia, PA

- 2017: "Runner-up" 3-minute thesis (3MT) competition, MCGSBS Symposium
- 2017: Travel Award for the 2017 James W. Freston Single Topic Conference-Extracellular Vesicles: Biology, Translation and Clinical Applications in GI disorders at Saint Paul, MN
- 2017: Neuroscience Scholars Program (NSP) Fellowship (Awarded for 2 years) - Society for Neuroscience (SfN)
- 2017: Travel Scholarship to the 2017 StratCan Interactive Summer School on Cancer Genomics at Karolinska Institutet, and the High Throughput Biology meeting at the Nobel Forum in Stockholm (Stockholm, Sweden)
- 2016: "Best Immunology Poster Presentation" at the MCGSBS Symposium. Project: "Type 2 immune responses in mouse lung cells are differently induced by the full-length and processed isoforms of IL-33" (Ph.D. rotation)
- 2016: Travel scholarship to the Society for Advance of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) Conference in Long Beach, California
- 2016: "Dean's Fellowship"- Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD), MCGSBS - Rochester, MN
- 2015: 1 of the 10 outstanding young people of Puerto Rico - Junior Chamber International of Puerto Rico (JCI) and The Outstanding Young Persons of the World (TOYP) Award
- 2015: Travel scholarship to the SACNAS Conference in Washington, DC
- 2014: Travel scholarship to the SACNAS Conference in Los Angeles, California
- 2012: "Best Graduate Oral Presentation" at the SUAGM (Ana G. Méndez University System) Symposium, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Project: "Reliability of skeletal muscle protein α - actin as a marker for skeletal muscle damage in athletes"
- 2012: Travel scholarship to the SACNAS Conference in Seattle, Washington
- 2012: "Ana G. Méndez Honor Medal" - Graduation Ceremony Universidad Metropolitana
- 2012: Excellence Award – "Success Stories" (Universidad Metropolitana)
- 2012: Honoric Mention in Literature Contest (Essay Category) at Universidad Metropolitana
- 2012: "Second place in Poster Presentation" at the 2012 Tenth Annual MGE@MSA Student Research Conference at Tempe, Arizona. Project: "Prevalence of Drug Resistance and Associated Mutations in HIV- Positive Puerto Ricans: Sex Variations"
- 2012: Travel Scholarship to the MGE@MSA Conference at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona
- 2011: Travel scholarship to the SACNAS Conference in San José, California
- 2011: "Third place in Poster Presentation" at the 2011 Ninth Annual MGE@MSA Student Research Conference at Tempe, Arizona. Project: "Antigen-specific T cell response in the collagen-induced arthritis (CIA) mouse model"
- 2011: "Best Oral Presentation" at the 68th Joint Annual Meeting of Beta Kappa Chi (BKX) and the National Institute of Science (NIS) at Atlanta, Georgia. Project: "Antigen-specific T cell response in the collagen-induced arthritis (CIA) mouse model"
- 2011: Travel scholarship to the 68th Joint Annual NIS/BKX meeting at Atlanta, Georgia
- 2011: Travel Scholarship to the MGE@MSA Conference at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona
- 2010: SMART Scholarship
- 2010: FASEB Travel Award to attend the SACNAS Conference at Anaheim, California
- 2010: Travel scholarship to attend the 67th Joint Annual NIS/BKX meeting at New Orleans
- 2009: Travel scholarship to attend the SACNAS Conference in Dallas, Texas
- 2008: Science Honor Scholarship, Universidad Metropolitana
- 2008: Travel scholarship to attend the SACNAS Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah

LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2020: AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering (CASE) Workshop Fellow

A three-and-a-half-day program in Washington, DC where participants learn about the structure and organization of Congress, the federal budget and appropriations processes, and tools for effective science communication and civic engagement. In addition, students participate in interactive seminars about policy-making and communication. On the last day of the program, students have the option to form teams and conduct meetings with their elected Members of Congress and congressional staff.

2019: American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) Advocacy Training Program (ATP) Fellow

A six-month externship that provides hands-on science policy and advocacy training and experience. ATP delegates spend the first two months learning about science policy and advocacy and about how federal laws and budgets are passed. With support from ASBMB public affairs staff, delegates then develop advocacy activities focused on policies affecting their local communities.

2018: Mayo Clinic Office of Entrepreneurship & Mayo Clinic Office of Research Diversity and Inclusion Women's Leadership Program

A unique 21-day women's leadership program to refine and strengthen leadership skills needed for scientific excellence and innovation.

2018: Mujeres de "HACE" (Hispanic Alliance for Career Enhancement) Women's Leadership Program (Minneapolis, MN)

Women's leadership program geared to empower high-potential Latina professionals, at manager level or above (OR those with potential seeking to obtain a manager-level role or above), to succeed professionally and thrive personally by providing insight, access, and professional development in an effective manner: individualized, culturally relevant curricula and via collaboration, mentoring and relationships.

2018: AAAS Science Diplomacy & Leadership Workshop Fellow (Washington, DC)

A 1-week immersion experience in the science diplomacy ecosystem combining academic lectures, field visits, professional development workshops, networking opportunities, and leadership training.

2016-2017: Yale Ciencia Academy Fellow

A year-long program career development program for doctoral students, featuring professional development workshops, virtual conversations with scientists, career planning, science outreach, networking opportunities, and community building.

SELECTED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS AND PARTICIPATIONS

May 2020: **"Immunological responses through miRNA signatures in GBM plasma extracellular vesicles from patients receiving experimental immunotherapy"**, at the 2020 American Association of Immunologists (AAI) Conference - Honolulu, Hawaii (*Conference canceled*)

- March 2020: **“Plasma extracellular vesicle miRNA signatures in GBM patients receiving an experimental immunotherapy”**, at the 2020 Young Investigator Research Symposium (YIRS) - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN **(Oral Presentation)** *(Conference canceled)*
- February 2020: **“Plasma extracellular vesicle miRNA signatures in GBM patients receiving an experimental immunotherapy”**, at the 2020 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS Meeting) - Seattle, WA **(E-Poster)**
- November 2019: **“Plasma extracellular vesicle miRNA signatures in GBM patients receiving an experimental immunotherapy”** at the 2019 Society for Neuro-Oncology (SNO) Conference - Phoenix, AZ
- November 2019: Attended the National Science Policy Network (NSPN) Symposium - Madison, WI
- October 2019: Attended the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) Public Policy Institute - Washington, DC
- October 2019: **“Plasma extracellular vesicle miRNA signatures in GBM patients receiving an experimental immunotherapy”** at the CFI-Mayo Join Retreat - Chaska, MN
- October 2019: **“Plasma extracellular vesicle miRNA signatures in GBM patients receiving an experimental immunotherapy”** at the 2019 Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (MCGSBS) Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
- September 2019: **“Plasma extracellular vesicle miRNA signatures in GBM patients receiving an experimental immunotherapy”** at the 9th Annual Neurosurgery Research Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN **(Oral Presentation)**
- July 2019: Attended the Neuroscience Scholars Program (NSP) Summer Conference: “Preparing the Next Generation of Neuroscience Leaders”- Washington, D.C. (Society for Neuroscience- SfN)
- April 2019: **“miRNA signature derived from GBM plasma exosomes as a diagnostic biomarker”**, at the 2019 International Society of Extracellular Vesicles (ISEV) Meeting - Kyoto, Japan **(Oral Presentation)**
- March 2019: **“miRNA signature derived from GBM plasma exosomes as a diagnostic biomarker”**, at the 3rd International Conference of Women in Science without Borders (WISWB) - Cairo, Egypt **(Oral Presentation)**
- February 2019: **“miRNA and proteomic signatures as diagnostic biomarkers in GBM plasma exosomes”**, at the 2019 AAAS Meeting - Washington, D.C. **(E-Poster)**
- November 2018: **“miRNA signature derived from GBM plasma exosomes as a diagnostic biomarker”**, at the 2018 SNO Conference - New Orleans, Louisiana
- November 2018: Attended the NSPN Symposium – New York, NY
- November 2018: **“miRNA signature derived from GBM plasma exosomes as a diagnostic biomarker”**, at the 2018 Society for Neuroscience (SfN) Conference - San Diego, California

- September 2018: **“miRNA signature derived from GBM plasma exosomes as a diagnostic biomarker”**, at the 8th Annual Neurosurgery Research Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN **(Oral Presentation)**
- September 2018: **“miRNA signature derived from GBM plasma exosomes as a diagnostic biomarker”**, at the 2018 MCGSBS Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
- September 2018: **“miRNA signature derived from GBM plasma exosomes as a diagnostic biomarker”**, at the Mayo Clinic Center for Individualized Medicine (CIM) Conference - Rochester, MN **(Poster and Oral Presentation)**
- September 2018: **“miRNA signature derived from GBM plasma exosomes as a diagnostic biomarker”**, at the 24th Annual Mayo Clinic-Karolinska Institutet Scientific Research Meeting - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN **(Poster and Oral Presentation)**
- May 2018: **“Optimized isolation of plasma extracellular vesicles for use as potential biomarkers in patients with glioblastoma”**, at the 2018 Scientific Innovation through Diverse Perspectives (SITDP) Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
- May 2018: **“Optimized isolation of plasma extracellular vesicles for use as potential biomarkers in patients with glioblastoma”**, at the 2018 AAI Conference - Austin, TX **(Poster and Oral Presentation)**
- March 2018: **“Optimized isolation of plasma extracellular vesicles for use as potential biomarkers in patients with glioblastoma”**, at the YIRS Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
- November 2017: **“Optimized isolation of plasma extracellular vesicles for use as potential biomarkers in patients with glioblastoma”**, at the 2017 SNO Conference - San Francisco, CA
- November 2017: **“Optimized isolation of plasma extracellular vesicles for use as potential biomarkers in patients with glioblastoma”**, at the 2017 SfN Conference - Washington, DC
- October 2017: **“Optimized isolation of plasma extracellular vesicles for use as potential biomarkers in patients with glioblastoma”**, at the 2017 Celebration of Women’s Health Research Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
- September 2017: **“Optimized isolation of plasma extracellular vesicles for use as potential biomarkers in patients with glioblastoma”**, at the 2017 MCGSBS Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN
- September 2017: **“Optimized isolation of plasma extracellular vesicles for use as potential biomarkers in patients with glioblastoma”**, at the 2017 James W. Freston Single Topic Conference - Extracellular Vesicles: Biology, Translation and Clinical Applications in GI disorders - Saint Paul, MN
- July 2017: Attended the AAI Advanced Immunology Course, at the Seaport World Trade Center in Boston, MA

March 2017: Attended the 2017 Writing for Biomedical Publication, CCaTS Annual Workshop- Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

February 2017: Attended the 2017 AAAS Meeting - Boston, Massachusetts (**Travel Scholarship sponsored by Yale Ciencia Academy to participate in career development workshops**)

December 2016: **“Type 2 immune responses in mouse lung cells are differently induced by the full-length and processed isoforms of IL-33”**, at the Mayo Research Fellow’s Association (MRFA) and Mayo Fellow’s Association (MFA) Annual Research Day - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

November 2016: **“Type 2 immune responses in mouse lung cells are differently induced by the full-length and processed isoforms of IL-33”**, at the 45th Annual Autumn Immunology Conference (AIC) 2016 - Chicago, IL. (**Poster and oral presentation**)

August 2016: **“Type 2 immune responses in mouse lung cells are differently induced by the full-length and processed isoforms of IL-33”**, at the MCGSBS Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

May 2016: **“Superior isolation of activated brain infiltrating T cells using manual homogenization technique”**, at the 2016 AAI Conference - Seattle, WA

March 2016: **“Superior isolation of activated brain infiltrating T cells using manual homogenization technique”**, at the YIRS Symposium - Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

November 2015: **“Superior isolation of activated brain infiltrating T cells using manual homogenization technique”**, at the 44th AIC 2015 - Chicago, IL. (**Poster and Oral Presentation**)

COMMUNICATION, OUTREACH, AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Articles

May 2020: [“Entender la respuesta inmunológica al SARS-CoV-2 es clave para el desarrollo de tratamientos”](#) - Column about COVID-19 for the Puerto Rican newspaper “El Nuevo Día”

March 2020: [“Investigadores alrededor del mundo identifican posibles rutas para una vacuna contra el COVID-19”](#)- Column about COVID-19 for the Puerto Rican newspaper “El Nuevo Día”

November 2019: The Power of Advocacy as a Force to Generate Changes in Science ([English version](#)) ([Spanish version](#)) - Column for the Puerto Rico Science Policy Action Network (PR-SPAN) blog (Ciencia Puerto Rico)

July 2019: [Science Diplomats Bring a Gender Perspective to Science Diplomacy](#) - Op-Ed for Impakter Magazine (contributor)

June 2019: H.R. 1709-Scientific Integrity Act ([English version](#)) ([Spanish version](#)) - Policy Alert for PR-SPAN blog (Ciencia Puerto Rico)

April 2019: Establishing Bridges through Science Diplomacy: The Experience of a Puerto Rican Scientist in Egypt ([English version](#)) ([Spanish version](#)) - Column for PR-SPAN blog (Ciencia Puerto Rico)

November 2017: Challenges of Being a Latina Scientist: Embracing your Culture ([English version](#)) ([Spanish version](#)) - Column for Ciencia Puerto Rico as part of the Yale Ciencia Academy

September 2015: [Exploring the World through Research](#) - Column for the Mayo Clinic Diversity in Education Blog

January 2014: Research and Mentoring: The International Experience of a Borinqueña ([English version](#)) ([Spanish version](#)) - Column for the “Borinqueña” blog (Ciencia Puerto Rico)

2011: [“Una experiencia transformadora \(Ana G. Méndez Alumni Magazine Vol. 2\)”](#) - Column about my career trajectory

Panels

October 2016: Stories from the other side of the blurry tunnel: it gets better after all - Panel held at the Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) Conference - Long Beach, California (invited panelist)

October 2014: Stories from the other side of the blurry tunnel: it gets better after all - Panel held at the SACNAS Conference - Los Angeles, California (invited panelist)

October 2014: Advancing your career through international research experiences - Panel held at the SACNAS Conference - Los Angeles, California (invited panelist)

Selected media appearances

Written

June 2020: [1 Million Women In STEM \(1MWIS\) Campaign](#)- The mission of this initiative is to spotlight 1 million women in science to provide visible role models and inspire the next generation of girls to get interested in science

May 2020: [AAI Trainee Poster Award 2020 Recipients](#) and [AAI Minority Scientist Travel Award 2020 Recipients](#) - AAI Annual Meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii (canceled)

April 2020: [“Científicas boricuas aportan a la educación en el hogar”](#)- Review in the digital newspaper “Voces del Sur” of my “Scientists Online at Service” talk as part of the Ciencia Puerto Rico “Seeds of Success” Program

March 2020: [2020 AAAS Student E-poster Competition Winners \(Science Magazine Volume 367 Issue 6485\)](#) - AAAS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA

March 2020: [2020 AAAS Student E-poster Competition Winners and Honorable Mentions](#) - AAAS Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA

February 2020: [Chatting with AAAS Travel Award Winners About Research, Goals and Advice](#)

- October 2019: [Advancing the science at Mayo Clinic: Giving women the tools to take off](#)
- October 2019: [Giving women the tools to take off \(Mayo Alumni Magazine Issue 3\)](#)
- March 2019: [How PREP Can Prep You For Graduate School](#)
- March 2019: [“El trabuco de ciencia que representó a Borinquen en Washington D.C.”](#) - Review of my participation at the 2019 AAAS Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.
- August 2018: [Young investigators get their feet wet \(Mayo Alumni Magazine Issue 2\)](#)
- June 2016: [“De la ciudad de la Alhambra a codearse con un premio Nobel”](#) - Interview with the Spanish newspaper “IDEAL” about my career trajectory
- October 2015: [“Joven boricua recorre el mundo con investigaciones científicas”](#) - Interview with the Puerto Rican newspaper “El Nuevo Día” about my career trajectory
- September 2011: [“SUAGM: Más allá del salón de clases”](#) - Interview with the Puerto Rican newspaper “El Vocero” about my career trajectory

Radio, podcast, Facebook Live, and YouTube

- May 2020: [“Interferones y tormenta de citoquinas: Respuesta inmunológica a la COVID-19”](#); [“Tratamientos actuales contra infecciones severas por COVID-19”](#) - Video series about COVID-19 in collaboration with the science blog “Nibö”
- April 2020: [“Recorriendo el mundo como científica boricua a través de la ciencia”](#) - “Scientists Online at Service” talk. Seminar about my career trajectory to Puerto Rican girls enrolled in the “Seeds of Success” Program from Ciencia Puerto Rico
- April 2020: [“Mitos y realidades sobre el COVID-19”](#) – Interview with “Comunidades Latinas Unidas en Servicio (CLUES)” organization about COVID-19
- March 2020: [“El Desahogo del Mediodía” Radio Show](#) - Interview about COVID-19. Transmitted through ACTIVA 1520 am and WQBS 870 am
- March 2020: [“Se Rascó Así: ¡El Happy Hour! Episodio #74”](#)- Interview about COVID-19
- November 2019: [In a Perfect Policy Podcast - Episode 2: Ideas Across the National Science Policy Network](#) - Interview with the Catalysts for Science Policy Organization (University of Wisconsin - Madison)
- November 2019: [National Science Policy Symposium \(NSPN\) Promo Video 2019](#)
- July 2019: Luz Cumba Garcia for the Neuroscience Scholars Program (NSP) - [Why NSP: Opportunities and Mentors](#); [Why NSP: Comradery and Relationships](#); [Why NSP: Empowerment](#) - Video series to promote the Society for Neuroscience (SfN) NSP Program
- November 2018: [NSPN Annual Promo Video 2018](#)

May 2018: [Luz Cumba Garcia at the American Association of Immunologists \(AAI\) StoryBooth 2018](#)

Webinars

July 2020: Educational webinar for “COVID-19 Youth Ambassadors” from Centro Tyrone Guzman, a non-profit in Minneapolis, MN serving the Latino Community

June 2020: [“Aprendamos más sobre el COVID-19”](#)- Webinar about COVID-19 for science major students from the “Medicine, Education & Development for Low-Income Families Everywhere (MEDLIFE)” Movement - Universidad Ana G. Méndez Recinto de Cupey in San Juan, PR

May 2020: “Recorriendo el mundo como científica boricua a través de la ciencia” - Webinar about my career trajectory to cadets from the SER-PR-161 unit (Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force Auxiliary)

May 2020: [“Hablemos del COVID-19 con los niños”](#) - Webinar about COVID-19 for third graders from the XXI Century School Abelardo Díaz Morales in Caguas, PR

April 2020 - “La respuesta inmunológica a COVID-19: qué sabemos y cómo podría contribuir a la creación de vacunas” - Webinar about COVID-19 for science major students from Universidad Ana G. Méndez Recinto de Cupey in San Juan, PR

January 2017: Is a Post-Bac right for you? - Organized by The New York Academy of Sciences (invited panelist)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

July 2018 - Present: Teaching Assistant for the MCGSBS graduate-level course “Introduction to Regulatory Science- Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

August - September 2019: Medical Spanish Tutor- Student Services, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science- Rochester, MN

April - August 2014: Professor/Research Assistant at Qiannan Normal College for Nationalities- Duyun, China

October - December 2013: Research Assistant at Universidad Central del Caribe- Bayamon, PR

Summer 2013: Mentor for Gabrielle Richardson (summer student at Instituto de Parasitología y Biomedicina López Neyra- Granada, Spain)

August 2008 - May 2012: Spanish tutor and Professor Assistant (Learning Zone Título V Campus) Universidad Metropolitana- San Juan, PR

OTHER EXPERIENCES AND LEADERSHIP APPOINTMENTS

February 2019 - Present: Puerto Rico Science Policy Action Network (PR-SPAN) Member

June 2018 - Present: Member of the PREP/IMSD Advisory Committee- Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

January 2018 - Present: Member of the “Somos Latinos” Mayo Employee Resource Group (MERG) Advisory Board- Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

October 2017- Present: Member of the Office of Research Diversity and Inclusion (ORDI) Advisory Committee- Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

October 2017- Present: Member of the Student Services Advisory Board- MCGSBS

September 2018 - October 2019: Mayo Research Fellow Association (MRFA) Representative for the MCGSBS Graduate Student Association

April 2017 - March 2019: SACNAS Chapter Representative for Somos Latinos MERG- Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

September 2017- September 2018: IMSD liaison for the MCGSBS Graduate Student Association

September 2015 - May 2016: Committee member for the organization of the first Scientific Innovation through Diverse Perspectives (SITDP) symposium for Post-Bac students. It was held at Mayo Clinic (Rochester, MN) on May 20th-21st, 2016

December 2011: “Shadowing Program”. Rotations at “Hospital Universitario de Puerto Rico” with medical students doing their residency

2010: Honor’s Student Association Vice President (Universidad Metropolitana- San Juan, PR)

2010: SACNAS Chapter Vice President (Universidad Metropolitana- San Juan, PR)

2010: Student Council Vice President (Universidad Metropolitana- San Juan, PR)

COMMUNITY SERVICE/VOLUNTEERING

Volunteer at Saint Mary’s Hospital, Pediatric unit- Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Shelter “Santa María de los Ángeles”: Science workshops for pregnant adolescents

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Fluent in English and Spanish. Knowledge in French and Portuguese