



# RCMI-CCRHD 29<sup>th</sup> Collaborative Training Award Summer 2022-2023

Professional Development Program

# Faculty Awards



# Jonathan Hernández Agosto

Associate Professor

School of Pharmacy

Place: Harvard Medical School, Blavatnik Institute

*"Attendance at this training allowed me to gain an in-depth understanding of relevant aspects of AI/ML modern techniques and technologies to get deeper into my research activities. This experience matched my position responsibilities and my goals as a faculty and researcher. The experience acquired from this activity helped me broaden my practices using research-based evidence and technologies on health-related issues, and demonstrate those skills when teaching and supporting my Ph.D. and PharmD students."*





## Magaly Martínez Ferrer, PhD

Associate Professor

School of Pharmacy

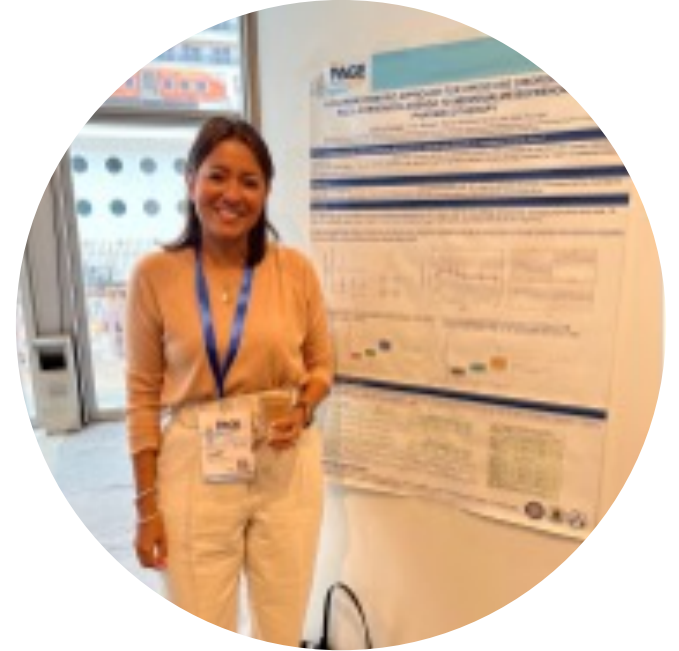
Place: Vanderbilt University, Nashville

*"I visited the lab of Dr. Viquez at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN from May 22nd to May 29, 2023. Dr. Viquez uses the mouse model of aristolochic acid-induced nephrotoxicity on a routine basis in her research. This mouse injury model is an in vivo experiment that induces renal injury of kidneys. It is characterized by tubular atrophy and interstitial fibrosis, mimicking advanced kidney disease. Thank you for the opportunity to have this visit using the funds from the RCMI travel award."*



Darlene Santiago, PhD  
Associate Professor  
School of Pharmacy  
Place: Conference Population Approach Group  
Europe (PAGE) 2023 meeting, Coruña, Spain.

*"The main objective of this travel was to present my research poster at the PAGE conference, meet with current collaborators, and network with researchers within my research field. During the travel, I shared with other researchers my population modeling approach for opioid use disorder in Puerto Rico. I met with Dr. Victor Mangas (School of Pharmacy Universidad de Valencia, Spain) and discussed our current research projects, next studies, and grant writing plan. I also analyzed data from a current study for which I will prepare a manuscript."*





# Students Awards



## Elif Kardas

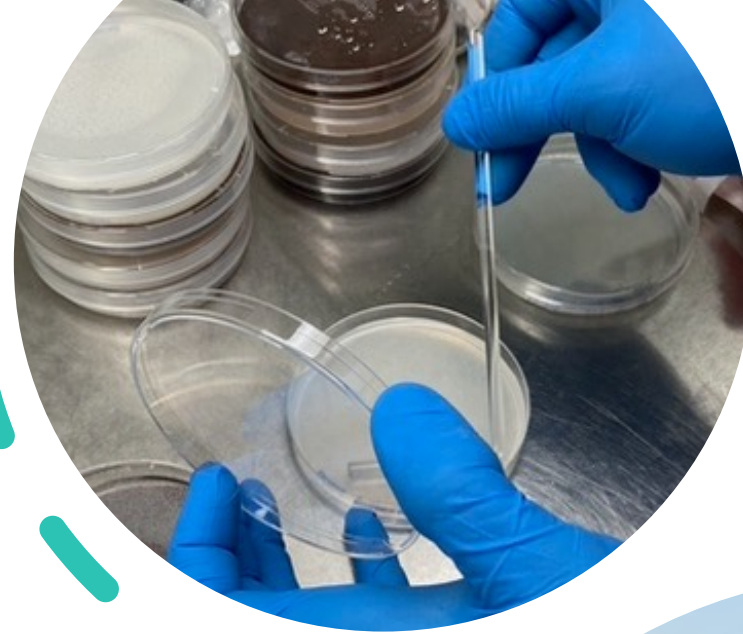
Graduate Student

School of Medicine

Department of Microbiology

Place: University of Costa Rica

*"I was trained in cell culture using selective media for antibiotic-producing bacteria isolation with Dr. Adrián Pinto Tomás at the University of Costa Rica (Center for Research in Microscopic Structures and Biochemistry Department). In the future, I hope to teach this newly learned technique to my pairs at the Department of Microbiology, UPR-RCM, share it with interested people, and apply it to other biological systems, such as humans or sea urchins. I expect this internship's results to be published, giving more insight into the antibiotic properties of the solitary bee gut Actinobacteria. The novel Streptomyces and its antibiotic-related genes will also be described and made available to the scientific community."*





# Stephanie Cameron-Maldonado

Graduate Student

School of Public Health

Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology

Place: Emory University, Rollins School of Public Health

*"As part of the summer internship with Dr. Andrea A. López-Cepero, I used the Puerto Rico Observational Study of Psychosocial, Environmental, and Chronic Disease Trends (PROSPECT) baseline data to examine associations between dysfunctional eating behaviors (DEBs, specifically emotional and uncontrolled eating) and allostatic load (AL). I became part of the Latinx Stress and Health Research Group, which focuses on evaluating stress-related eating behaviors with cardiometabolic markers in US Latinx adults and Puerto Rico. As a trainee, I participated in meetings with team members and had one-on-one weekly meetings with Dr. López-Cepero to discuss project progress and difficulties encountered. These meetings have continued virtually upon my return to Puerto Rico."*





# Marie Matos Hernández

Graduate Student

School of Pharmacy

Place: The Wistar Institute, PA

*"This summer, while at The Wistar Institute in Philadelphia, in Montaner's Laboratory, I learned several techniques we use in collaboration for cell and virus culture. I learned how to properly perform different steps of cell culture, such as splitting cells, preparing media, counting cells, and other important basic steps for each cell assay. I was able to get training and shadow different assays for both HIV and SARS-CoV-2 virus. I also participated and shadowed in a Synergy studies assay where we can combine different drugs and evaluate the activity against cells infected with HIV live virus. In addition to the training process, I was able to attend the BEAT-HIV Annual Meeting at Wistar Institute, where more than 80 top HIV researchers from academia, industry, government, and the nonprofit sector are working together toward an HIV cure with the BEAT-HIV Delaney Collaboratory. Also, I present my research project to the lab members from the Montaner's Laboratory in a lab meeting"*

9/3/20XX



# Contact Information



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