

RCMI PROGRAM

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ADMINISTRATION

Emma Fernández, Ph.D.
Principal Investigator

KEY ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

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KEY ACTIVITY LEADERS

Marcia Carlyn, Ph.D.
Idali Martínez, Ph.D.
Luis J. Montaner, D.V.M.

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Voluntary national research cohort of volunteers, targeted by the Precision Medicine Initiative, to propel our understanding of health and disease and set the foundation for a new way of doing research through engaged participants and open, responsible data sharing.



@rcmienews

VISIT TO NIH



Spearheaded by RCMI Translational Research Network (RTRN) Principal Investigator, Dr. Elizabeth Ofili; Steering Committee Chair, Dr. Emma Fernandez-Repollet, and the Administrative Coordinating Core (ACC), representatives of RCMI programs visited the National Institutes of Health to discuss the value of the programs and their contribution to science. In addition to the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, meetings were held with the National Center for Advancing Translational Science (NCATS), National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), National Institute of Diabetes & Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), and National Cancer Institute (NCI). A report detailing RCMI's impact by showcasing publications, new funding sources, as well as community partnerships was presented to institute directors.

BIOINFORMATICS



On December 11, Dr. Patricia Ordoñez presented the abstract "Supervised Learning Methods based on Finite-State Transducers to Classify Physiological Data" at the NIPS 2015 Workshop on Machine Learning Healthcare held in Montreal, Canada. The abstract described work conducted in collaboration with RCMI Bioinformatician and Assistant Professor Dr. Abiel Roche-Lima.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Dr. Luis Montaner, RCMI Key Activity Leader, visited the RCMI Program on December 9, 2015. Dr. Montaner met with junior faculty participating in the Pilot Project Program to review their progress. Special emphasis was given to expected outcomes for 2015-2016. He also met with program leadership to discuss new approaches to enhance faculty mentoring experiences.

FAREWELL



The RCMI Program acknowledges the support provided by Ms. Myrna Agostini in the area of information technology for over 15 years. Ms. Agostini's contributions were recognized in a special farewell activity held on December 15, 2014. We wish Myrna success on her new endeavors.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS



Dr. Luis A. Aviles Vera
The Visual Rhetoric of Statistics and the Visual Communication of Public Health Data
December 8, 2015



Dr. Sergei Guma
Combination Therapy with Aerosol IL-2 and NK Cell for the Treatment of Osteosarcoma Lung Metastasis
December 22, 2015



Dr. Lorne Mendell
Using Neurotrophins to Engineer Recovery of the Damaged Spinal Cord
December 11, 2015



Dr. Julia Gouffon
Integrating gene expression, copy number and somatic mutation data into clinical genomic studies
December 10, 2015



Mr. Jacob Crowley
Affymetrix Expression Arrays and Transcription Analysis Console (TAC) Software
December 9, 2015



24th Annual Puerto Rico Neuroscience Conference
Dr. Jennifer Barreto, President and RCMI Pilot Project Recipient
December 5, 2015

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER



Dr. David Gulley, Director of Technology Transfer at the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust visited the RCMI Program and met with Principal Investigator, Dr. Emma Fernández on December 19, 2015. The RCMI Program is interested in sponsoring activities and collaborating in this important area.

CONGRATULATIONS



Dr. Cristina Palacios is the recipient of an RTRN Small Grants Program Pilot Project award for the 2015-2016 cycle. The study "Multi-Site Trial Using Short Mobile Messages (SMS) to Improve Infant Weight in Low-Income Minorities" will be conducted in collaboration with Dr. Jinan Banna at the University of Hawaii.