

### RCMI PROGRAM

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### ADMINISTRATION

Emma Fernández, Ph.D.  
Principal Investigator

### KEY ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

Carmen Cadilla, Ph.D.  
Gregory Quirk, Ph.D.  
Loyda Meléndez, Ph.D.  
Mark Miller, Ph.D.  
José Rodríguez-Medina, Ph.D.  
Adelfa Serrano, Ph.D.  
José G. Conde, M.D., M.P.H.

### KEY ACTIVITY LEADERS

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

# 4.7

Return on Investment (ROI) of the seven Pilot Projects supported by the RCMI Program during 2011-2014 relative to the amount of funds invested.



@rcmienews

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Members of the Advisory Committee of the RCMI Pilot Project, *Risk Communication and Community Engagement Strategies to Enhance Behavior Change for Zika Virus Prevention and Control*, had a meeting at the Manuel A. Pérez community on January 12, 2017. The community is actively collaborating to identify and implement strategies that will help communicate the risks associated with the Zika virus infection. Special attention has been given to communication strategies that are culturally sensitive and could be accepted and adopted by community members. Participants of the meeting included Angel Morales, Gregorio Gonzalez, Papo Christian, Juana Rebollo, Dashey Rodríguez, Ines Hernández, and investigators Drs. Deborah Juarbe and Mildred Vera.



### COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS



Dr. Emma Fernandez-Repollet met with Drs. Emily Wang from Yale University and Dr. Uriyoán Colón from Georgetown University to discuss strategies to incorporate community based participatory research (CBPR) methodology in health disparities research studies. Topics discussed included community engagement experiences with Hispanic populations, challenges and opportunities when promoting CBPR, effective networking and empowerment evaluation.

### IN MEMORY



1931-2017

The RCMI Program at the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus is saddened by the death of **Dr. Walmor De Mello** Professor and Chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the School of Medicine.

His impressive and numerous contributions to the field of cardiac cell communication will continue to inspire many generations of scientists.

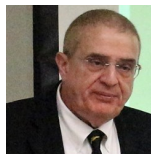
### SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS



**Dr. Igor K. Lednev**  
*Variety of vibrational spectroscopy for probing amyloid fibrils: from UV Raman to VCD and TERS*  
January 20, 2017



**Dr. Demetrio Sierra**  
What is a Doctoral Dissertation Grant NIH R36 versus NRSA (F31)  
January 24, 2017



**Dr. Federico Goodsaid**  
*The Paths to Approvals of Therapeutics and Diagnostics at the FDA in the Era of Personalized Medicine and the 21st Century Cures Legislation*  
January 31, 2017



**Dr. Daniel Colón** "Actuating memory: how *C. elegans* remembers a learned behavioral preference" January 10, 2017

### RESEARCH ADVANCEMENTS

Hernandez-Suarez DF, Claudio-Campos K, Mirabal-Arroyo JE, Torres-Hernández BA, López-Candales A, Melin K, **Duconge J.** "Potential of a Pharmacogenetic-Guided Algorithm to Predict Optimal Warfarin Dosing in a High-Risk Hispanic Patient: Role of a Novel NQO1\*2 Polymorphism." *J Investig Med High Impact Case Rep.* 2016 Dec 1;4(4):2324709616682049. doi: 10.1177/2324709616682049. PubMed PMID: 28210634; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5298566.

Duprey-Díaz MV, **Blagburn JM, Blanco RE.** Optic nerve injury upregulates retinoic acid signaling in the adult frog visual system. *J Chem Neuroanat.* 2016 Nov;77:80-92. doi: 10.1016/j.jchemneu.2016.05.008. PubMed PMID: 27242163; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC5048580

### NIMHD WEBINAR

Technical Assistance Webinar for RFA-MD-17-003, "Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) (U54)"

**Nathan Stinson, Jr**  
Division of Scientific Programs  
**Maryline Laude-Sharp**  
Scientific Review Branch

January 10, 2017  
Webinar starts at 3:00 PM EST

