

RCMI PROGRAM

PO Box 365067
San Juan PR 00936-5067
Tel: (787) 763-9401
Fax: (787) 758-5206
E-mail: rcmi.rcm@upr.edu
URL: <http://rcmi.rcm.upr.edu>

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.
Idalí Martínez, Ph.D.
Luis J. Montaner, D.V.M.

201

Cases of Zika confirmed in Puerto Rico since December, 2015 (PR Department of Health, ArboV, March 10, 2016).



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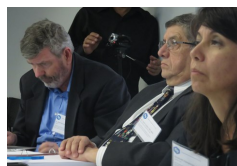
NIMHD DIRECTOR VISITS UPR-MSC



Dr. Eliseo Perez-Stable visited the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus on February 17-18, 2016. During his visit he lectured scholars participating in the *New Frontiers in Clinical and Translational Research Course* coordinated by the Endowed Health Services Research Center. Dr. Perez-Stable also met with Principal Investigators, Program Directors and investigators of NIMHD programs in Puerto Rico, including the G-12 Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI), the Puerto Rico Clinical and Translational Research Consortium (PRCTRC), and the Post Doctoral Master in Clinical and Translational Research. Meetings were also held with Dr. Noel Aymat, UPR-MSC Chancellor, and Dr. Uroyoán Ramos-Walker, President of the UPR. Dr. Perez-Stable's visit was organized by Dr. Margarita Irizarry, PRCTRC Collaborations and Partnerships Core Leader.

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ADDRESSING TROPICAL DISEASES



An outstanding group of epidemiologists specialized in tropical diseases met in Puerto Rico to discuss solutions to expedite diagnoses and identify mechanisms and treatments for illnesses such as Zika, dengue and chikungunya. Puerto Rico, is an endemic area for these tropical diseases. The meeting was organized by the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust (PRSTRT) and the University of Georgia. Guest speakers included Dr. Stephen Waterman, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Dengue Branch; Renee Galloway, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infections at CDC, and Dr. Frank Mandy, International Centre for Infectious Diseases Inc. of Canada. Local attendees included Dr. Ignacio Pino, CDI Laboratories; Dr. Emma Fernández Repollet, Center for Collaborative Research in Health Disparities; Mr. Iván Lugo, Center of Research for Industry and University (INDUNIV); Mr. Jorge L. Muñoz Jordan, Laboratory of Diagnostic and Molecular Research, and Dr. Abe Schwartz, Center for Quantitative Cytometry.

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RTRN EXTERNAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



The External Advisory Committee of the RCMI Translational Research Network met on February 25-26 at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA. The group met to review current RTRN goals and objectives and the status of each core in accomplishing proposed goals and aims; identify challenges to accomplishing goals and aims, and develop solutions to address these challenges, as well as to provide direction for improving and enhancing the research and network infrastructure of RTRN. Dr. Emma Fernández-Repollet represented the RTRN Steering Committee.

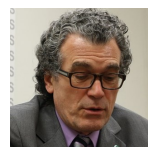
SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS



Dr. Jeremy M. Boss
Epigenetic Regulation of Immune Responses in Health and Disease
February 4, 2016



Dr. Charles Steenbergen, Jr.
Mitochondrial MicroRNA and Oxidative Stress
February 12, 2016



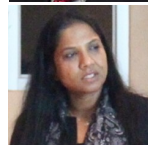
Dr. Eliseo Perez-Stable
The Latino Health Paradox and NIMHD Vision and Agenda
February 17, 2016



Dr. Evan Gallagher
Unraveling the biochemical mechanisms of chemical olfactory injury in fish
February 18, 2016



Dr. Federic Kenneth Ramos
On the intersection of Molecular genetics, toxicology and precision medicine: A story of LINEs
February 19, 2016



Dr. Santhi Gorantla
Of Mice and Men: Creation of Rodent Models for HIV Research
February 23, 2016

COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS



The International Congress of the Spanish Language, CILE 2016, was held on March 11-20, 2016 in Puerto Rico. Through a historical collaboration CienciaPR, the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust and CILE celebrated that, for the first time, science had a prominent role in this Congress, the largest and most important celebration of the Spanish-language. Participants of the "Coloquio Internacional: Hablemos de Ciencia" included Eng. Lucy Crespo and Dr. Greetchen Díaz, Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust; Dr. Daniel Colón Ramos, CienciaPR; Dr. Daniel Altschuler, Arecibo Observatory; Dr. Emma Fernández Repollet, UPR School of Medicine, and Dr. Gary Toranzos, UPR Rio Piedras Campus.

