

Franklyn Rocha-Cabrero

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Work:
Donna Korol PhD, Associate
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Education

H.S. Diploma Immaculate Conception Academy *Valedictorian* Mayaguez, PR
May 2004

B.S. University of Puerto Rico
Industrial Microbiology –*Summa Cum Laude*, 2009.
Biology- *Magna Cum Laude*, 2009

MD-PhD University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Medical Scholars Program
Medicine/Neuroscience-Aging 2010-2018

Professional & Research Experience

Medical Scholars Program-Neuroscience, University of Illinois Urbana-
Champaign

Graduate research assistant, Dr. Donna Korol, 01/2011-Present

Title: [Using a Bilateral 6-OHDA Long Evans Rat Model to Study Cognitive and Learning and Memory Strategies in Parkinson's disease.](#)

SPI-Summer Pre-doctoral Institute, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Research Fellow, Dr. Ave Alvarado, 06/2010-08/2010

Title: [The Effects of Pesticide-induced Parkinson's Disease across Multiple Learning and Memory Systems in Rats \(Research Proposal\)](#)

National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke

NIH Academy Postbaccalaureate Fellow, Dr. Richard Youle, Preceptor 08/2009-06/2010.

Title: [Strategies to Examine Bax and Bcl-xL on Individual Mitochondria.](#)

MARC/ASURF scholar (Minority Access to Research Career/Alfred Sloan Undergraduate Research Fellowship) UPR-Mayaguez 09/ 2007- 05/2009 & Bio-MINDS scholar (Amgen Foundation) UPR –Mayaguez

Undergraduate Research Assistant, Dr. Nannette Diffoot, 01/2008-05/ 2009.

Title: [Study of Replication Ratio of Parvovirus LuIII minigenomes in Hela cells](#)

Leadership Alliance Summer Research EIP-Harvard Medical School; Summer Honor Undergraduate Research Program (SHURP)-Division of Medical Sciences

Visiting Summer Researcher, Dr. Mel Feany MD-PhD, 06-08/ 2008.

Title: [Mechanisms That Mediate Abeta-enhancement of Tau Toxicity in Drosophila](#)

Notre Dame Research Scholars Program, University of Notre Dame Indiana

Visiting Summer Researcher, Dr. Jeffrey Schorey, 06-08/2007.

Title: [The Role Of CaMKII In Upregulating The Signalling Pathways In Macrophages Upon Mycobacterial Infection](#)

Gastroenterologia Avanzada del Caribe

Full-time Staff of the Billing Department, Dr. Francisco Cebollero, 07/2005,
12/2005, 01-02/2006.

Community Service

Volunteer, Science Outreach and Leadership

Summer Research Opportunities Symposium (SROP)

Science Session Moderator- 07/2011

Brain Awareness Day-Orpheum Amphitheater UIUC

Science Booth Presenter 04/2011

Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)/Student National Medical
Association (SNMA) Mentorship Program-UIUC

Medical School Mentor 02/2011-07/11

Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)

Vice-President of Academic Affairs 09/2010-11

Delegate 09/2011-Present

Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans (SACNAS)

Treasurer 09/2010-11

Vice-president 09/2011-Present

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society- UIUC Local Chapter

Student Vicepresident-Chapter Officer 09/2010-Present

INTERLINK- Counseling Center

Mentor, Dr. Meredith Glick Brinegar & Dr. Sean Cheng, 08/2010-05/11

Langley Park Health Fair

Volunteer, Dr. Yolanda Mock Hawkins, 05/2010

AIDS Walk

Volunteer, Dr. Yolanda Mock Hawkins, 10/2009

Black Family Reunion

Volunteer, Dr Yolanda Mock Hawkins, 09/2009

MARC/Sloan Microscopy Summer Workshop.

Senior student mentor, Dr Vivian Navas , 06/2009.

Neuroscience Honor Society-UPRM Board of Directives

Chief of Public Affairs, Dr Amanda Clinton, 05/2009-12/2009

Garcia Rinaldi Foundation Internship at Caribbean Center of Cardiology.

Volunteer Intern student, Dr. Garcia Rinaldi, 08-12/2005

Professional Committees

University Medical Student Council-College of Medicine (UMSC)

Appointed representative with vote 08/2011-12

Medical Scholars Program Advisory Committee (MSPAC)

Elected Student Admissions Representative with vote 08/2011-12

Neuroscience Program Open House Committee-

Co-chair -08/2011-02/2012

Medical Scholars Program Fall Retreat-Sub-Committee 2011

Keynote Speaker Committee 02/2011-08/2011

Black and Latinos in Medicine Celebration Planning Committee 2011

Publicity and Master of Ceremony 12/2010-3/2011

Professional Recruitment- Invited Talks & Panels

Neuroscience Undergraduate Organization University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign-
[Urbana, IL](#) *Lifelong career as a physician scientist...An adventure* 03/2011

Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS)-Research Initiative for Scientific
Enhancement (RISE) Fall Seminar University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez- [Mayaguez,
Puerto Rico](#) *A career in science: training in the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
12/2010

Latino/a Medical Sciences Panelist- LaCasa Cultural Latina [Urbana, IL](#) *"We Need You
Because a Bachelor's Degree Is Not Enough."* 10/2011

Minority Association for Premedical Students [Urbana, IL](#) *You are needed! A passionate
journey towards diversifying medicine."* 10/2011

Career Development: Workshops, Conferences & Programs

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society- Partnering for Success Workshop- [Bloomington, MN](#)
08/11

American Physician Scientist Association (APSA) Annual Meeting [Chicago, IL](#) 04/11

National Institute of Aging-Technical Assistance Grant Workshop [Atlanta, GA](#) 11/2009

Harvard NeuroDiscovery Center Annual Symposium. *"Progress in Molecular Neurology,
A Parkinson's Disease Perspective"*, Harvard University-[Boston, MA](#) 11/2009

Harvard NeuroDiscovery Center Annual Symposium: *"Protein Folding &
Neurodegeneration"*, Harvard University-[Boston, MA](#) 09/2008

STANDOUT Preview Day, Stanford University-[Palo Alto, CA](#) 10/2008.

Scientific Presentations

Research abstracts presented in national and local conferences

Strategies to examine Bax and Bcl-xL on individual mitochondria. Franklyn Rocha¹ and Richard Youle² PhD 2010

NIH Academy-Student & Preceptor Presentation-[Bethesda,MD](#) **Oral** 04/2010

NIH Postbaccalaureate Poster Day. [Bethesda, MD](#) **Poster** 05/2010

SACNAS National Conference 2011, [San Jose, California](#) **Poster** 10/2011

Mechanisms That Mediate Abeta-Enhancement of Tau Toxicity In Drosophila Franklyn Rocha¹ and Mel B. Feany² MD-PhD 2008

Leadership Alliance National Symposium [Hartford, CT](#) **Poster** 07/2008

SHURP Summer Research Symposium- [Boston,MA](#) **Oral** 08/2008

4th Annual MD-PhD Joslin Diabetes Center, Poster Session [Boston, MA](#) **Poster** 08/2008

Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students [Orlando, FL](#) **Poster** 11/2008

32nd American Chemical Society Senior Technical Meeting [Rincon, Puerto Rico](#) **Poster** 11/2008

Brain Awareness Week-[Mayaguez, PR](#) **Poster** 03/2009

3rd Annual Scientific Symposium of UCC School of Medicine-[Bayamon,PR](#) **Poster** 05/2009

Institute of Aging-Technical Assistance Grant Workshop [Atlanta, GA.](#) **Oral** 11/2009

Study of replication ratio of parvovirus LuIII minigenomes in Hela cells Franklyn Rocha¹, Idaris de Jesus-Maldonado¹, Nanette Difffoot² PhD 2007-09

BioMinds Poster Day-Amgen Scholars [Mayaguez, PR](#) **Poster** 03/2009

Tri-Beta (BBB) District Conference-[Mayaguez, PR](#) **Poster** 03/2009

The Role Of CaMKII In Upregulating The Signalling Pathways In Macrophages Upon Mycobacterial Infection Franklyn Rocha¹, Jeff Schorey, PhD-(PI)² 2007

Mc Nair/Notre Dame Research Scholars Summer Symposium [Notre Dame, IN](#) **Oral** 09/2007

Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students [Austin, TX](#) **Poster** 11/2007

Tri-Beta (BBB) District Conference- [Ponce, PR](#) **Poster** 04/2008

The Effects of Pesticide-induced Parkinson's Disease across Multiple Learning and Memory Systems in Rats Franklyn Rocha¹, Donna Korol² (**research proposal**)

Summer Pre-doctoral Institute Research Symposium. [Urbana-Champaign,IL](#) **Oral** 07/2010

Boys and Girls: Where the difference lies? (outreach) Johana Vega and Franklyn Rocha¹
Brain Awareness Day. [Champaign, IL](#) **Poster** 04/2011

Honors, Awards & Fellowships

SACNAS National Conference Travel Award 2011

Outstanding Oral Presentation- Summer Predoctoral Institute
UIUC 2010

UIUC Graduate College Fellowship 2010-12

USA Funds Access to Education Scholarship 2005-09

Benjamin Gilman Scholarship-International Institute of
Education 2006

Alfred Sloan Undergraduate Research Fellowship 2007-09

Santander Bank Scholarship 2006

Nomination for the Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Scholarship,
UPR Mayagüez, 2009.

Nomination for the Charles Darwin Award-Top student of
the department, UPR Mayagüez, 2009.

Past and Current Professional Memberships

2005-Lifetime Tri-beta Honor Society- Zeta Alpha Chapter Staff and
Member

2007-Lifetime Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

2007-2009 UPR Mayaguez-Sloan Undergraduate Research Program

2008-2009 UPR Mayaguez-BIO-Minds Amgen Research Program

2009- Brain Awareness Week UPR Committee-Co-chief Student
Committee

2009-Public Affairs-Neuroscience Honor Society-UPR Mayaguez.

2010-NIH Alumni-National Institute of Health (NIH)

2010-Present Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native
Americans (SACNAS)

2010-Present Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA)

2010-Present American Medical Student Association (AMSA)

2010-Present Society for Neuroscience (SfN)

2010-Present American Physician Scientist Association (APSA)

2010-Present Urban Health Program (UHP)

2011-Present Graduate Organization for Latino Students (GOLS)

Personal/Scientific Skills

Computer Skills: Word 2010, Power Point 2010, Excel 2010, Photoshop 2003.

Languages: Spanish, English, Brazilian Portuguese (learning)

Scientific Skills: PCR, DNA extraction, cell culture, transformation, transfection, ligation-cloning, electrophoresis, gel extraction, Southern Blot, viral infection, immunohistochemistry, fluorescent, light and confocal microscopy, Hematoxylin & Eosin staining, genetic crossing, in vitro electrophysiology recordings, behavioral rat maze training and rat handling, cannulae surgeries, cryostat slicing. Rat behavioral tasks: place learning, response learning and spontaneous alternation tasks. Learning: motor assessments for Parkinson's disease including vibrissae forelimb task, akinesia test, open field test, among others.

Hobbies: Run, lift weights, soccer, travel, meet people from foreign cultures, dance, assist cultural and electronic music festivals, beach, dominoes, and Texas Hold Em, writing poetry and reflections (Spanish and English)

References

Nanette Diffoot Ph.D. Department of Biology-Director
University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez Campus (787) 832-4040 Extension 3900
nanette.diffoot@upr.edu

Dr. Richard J. Youle Ph.D
Surgical Neurology Branch, NINDS Porter Neuroscience Research Center (301) 496-6628
youle@helix.nih.gov

Jeff Schorey, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Biological Sciences University of Notre Dame
(574)-631-3734 schorey.1@nd.edu

Mel B Feany, M.D., Ph.D. Associate Professor of Pathology
Harvard Medical School. (617) 525-4405 mel_feany@hms.harvard.edu

Yolanda Mock Hawkins, Ph.D. Director, NIH Academy. Office of Intramural Training and Education, National Institutes of Health. 301-435-8014 hawkinsy@mail.nih.gov

Ave Alvarado, Ph.D. Director-Educational Equity Programs Graduate College. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
217-333-4860 amalvara@illinois.edu

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525 Psychology Building. (217) 333-3659 University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
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Others available upon request...