

Camilla E. García Rivero

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EDUCATION

2015 to 2022 UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO, Río Piedras, PR
Bachelor's Degree in Interdisciplinary Science

EXPERIENCE

2023 **Mayo Clinic Biomedical Sciences Graduate School: UPR School of Medicine**

Research Award

Post-baccalaureate Zebrafish Researcher

Served as an educator providing InSciEdOut Curriculum during the Summer of Discovery (SOD) Program in Rochester Public Schools, leading to enhanced Mental health literacy and Zebrafish knowledge through guided experiments. Intensively trained in Zebrafish Husbandry, Diseases, and Comprehensive Care. Conducted stress assay experiments on Zebrafish using Light-Chamber and HULK 2.03 strain. Also, studied the effects of commonly ingested substances during pregnancy on FLIGATA strain using Light-sheet Microscopy in Dr. Ekkers Lab. Concluded a 2-month Internship, presenting a poster on Stress Assay, Substance effects on Morphometry, and Summer of Discovery at SEMILLA Workshop for a diverse cohort.

2018 to 2021 UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO – RÍO PIEDRAS, PR

Premedical Association of Puerto Rico

Vice President (2020-2021): Provided aid to the President in day-to-day operations and management of the Association. Coordinate assemblies, seminars, and activities. Serve as Interim President when needed.

Public Relations Agent (2018-2019): Recruited new members and secured renewal of membership of active members. Promoted activities via social platforms. Managed social media accounts. In charge of advertising.

Spokesperson (2018)

Biology Department (2019)

Biology Tutor

2020 to Present

TELODENDRITES

Producer: Created platform based on personal interest in neuroscience. Advocate for mental health issues and provide encouragement to the Puerto Rican community to learn about neuroscience.

2015

Shadowing a Physician Program RCM, Centro Médico

Summer shadowing experience in Internal Medicine under Dr. Renil Rodriguez guidance.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Medical Sciences Campus, Pediatrics Department

Center for Community Outreach for Health Across the Lifespan (COHeAL)

Position: Laboratory Technician (2022-present)

Semilla: Planting the Seeds of Change for Puerto Rico

Maintain Zebrafish Facility: Responsible for the comprehensive care and maintenance of the zebrafish facility, including husbandry practices. Feed and breed Zebrafish: Regularly feed the fish and manage breeding procedures to ensure healthy populations. Expertise in laboratory management procedures: Skilled in implementing and adhering to Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), including protocol renewals and protocol writing, to maintain the highest standards of laboratory practice.

Position: Post-baccalaureate researcher (2021-present)

Semilla: Planting the Seeds of Change for Puerto Rico

Actively performed community interventions at the Boys and Girls Club in Arecibo and Aguas Buenas, supporting the health educator in delivering Socio-Emotional Learning (SEL), Mindfulness, and Whole Body Wellbeing Curricula. Assisted coordinator transporting materials through different clubs. Also served as a health educator delivering SEL in Las Margaritas club. Engaged in an oral presentation at 43rd Annual Research and Education Forum 2023 in University of PR Medical Sciences Campus; presenting Semilla's first year findings.

2018 to 2021

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO, Río Piedras, PR

Medical Sciences Campus, Psychiatry Department

Center for the Study and Treatment of Fear and Anxiety (CETMA) in Partnership with the Medical University of South Carolina

Position: Undergraduate researcher (2020-2021)

TeleHealth and COVID-19

Stress, anxiety, fear, and nervousness research that aims to understand the possible barriers, experiences, and perceptions of mental health care

providers using TeleHealth. Select sample participants and gather data to prepare graphs and statistical reports. Areas of study include Latino mental health, neurobiology of anxiety disorders, pharmaco-genetics, and mental health disparities. The program includes the Fear Research Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Gregory J. Quirk and the Human Psychophysiology Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Karen G. Martínez.

Department of Interdisciplinary Sciences

Position: Undergraduate researcher (2020-2021)

How has the COVID-19 Pandemic Affected the Mental Health of University of Puerto Rico's Students?

Undergraduate thesis project to identify the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on university students' mental health to develop alternatives and find solutions to effectively manage mental health problems during the Pandemic.

Medical Sciences Campus, Pediatrics Department

Position: Undergraduate researcher (2019-2020)

Improve Feeding Practices in Infants to Prevent Obesity Early in Life

Research to test the clinical effectiveness of a multi-faceted, multi-level intervention focusing on physical activity, nutrition, and growth framed in the Health Self-Empowerment Theory and delivered through the WIC Program utilizing a multimedia approach.

Medical Sciences Campus, Physiology Department

Position: Undergraduate researcher (2018-2019)

Central Norepinephrine's (NE) System in Cocaine Addiction and Epilepsy

Analysis of the role of the NE system in the development of cocaine sensitization, a progressive and lasting enhancement in the motor stimulant effect induced by a subsequent drug challenge to determine if a dysfunction of NE's modulatory properties is an important factor in the development of cocaine addiction and to identify possible therapeutic pharmacological interventions.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

2019 to Present

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB – Las Margaritas San Juan, Arecibo, Aguas Buenas, PR

Volunteer: Provide tutoring and educational activities to program participants to help them reach their personal, academic, and professional goals. Participated in supporting the educator leading the InSciEd Out Pilot in Las Margaritas Club (2018-2019).

2020 to 2021

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN – Liberty Mills, IN

Pen Pal Death Row Support Project: Written communication with death row inmates.

2020 to 2021	<p>INICIATIVA COMUNITARIA – San Juan, PR</p> <p>Volunteer: Distribute evening meals and other items to residents of a homeless shelter.</p>
2018 to 2020	<p>MESÓN DE AMOR – Río Piedras, PR</p> <p>Volunteer: Served meals to low-income university students.</p>
2018 to 2019	<p>UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO, Río Piedras, PR</p> <p>American Medical Student Association (AMSA)</p> <p>Volunteer “Doctor Clown”: Dressed as a clown wearing white robes, visited children in hospitals to entertain them and bring smiles to their faces.</p> <p>Medlife</p> <p>Volunteer: Conducted fundraising activities to help underprivileged communities have access to medication, education, and community development. Participant communities included Perú, Ecuador, Tanzania, India, and Nicaragua, among others.</p>
2018 to 2019	<p>MOCHILEANDO FOUNDATION – San Juan, PR</p> <p>Volunteer: Provided aid to victims of Hurricane María.</p>
2017	<p>FEMA – Orlando International Airport, FL</p> <p>Volunteer: Three-month assignment. Provided orientation to people seeking assistance.</p>

HONORS & AWARDS

2018-2019	<p>Deans’ List</p> <p>University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras, PR</p>
2015	<p>Special Recognition - Academic Excellence Award on Psychology</p> <p>CEDIN Laboratory High School Program</p> <p>Interamerican University - (San Juan, PR)</p>

MEMBERSHIPS

2023-present	<p>Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)</p>
2022-present	<p>Zebrafish Husbandry Association (ZHA)</p>
2020	<p>National Neuroscience Student Association (NNSA)</p> <p>University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras, PR</p>

2020	Neuroboricuas University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras, PR
2018-2020	Premedical Association of Puerto Rico University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras, PR
2019	National Society of Collegiate Scholars University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras, PR
2018-2019	NAMI on Campus University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras, PR
2018-2019	UNICEF University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras, PR

CERTIFICATIONS

2023	Infection Prevention and Control & Bloodborne Pathogens RST Safety Orientation Human Subjects Protection Annual Emergency Preparedness Conflict of Interest Introduction to Social Media Employee Orientation IACUC: The Care and Use of Animal in Research RST Building Access to Radioactive Material Area Animal Allergies and Infectious Control Information Security-Phishing HIPAA Privacy Module Commitment to Safety Training Information Security American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS)
2023	Resilience Training by Christopher Pierret Dialogue Training by Christopher Pierret Mayo Clinic Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Rochester MN
2023-present	Desperdicios Biomédicos Regulados OSLI (Regulated Biomedical Waste) Patógenos Transmitidos por Sangre OSLI (Human Bloodborne Pathogens) University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, PR
2022-present	Biosafety/Biosecurity IACUC Basic Working with Zebrafish Animal Care and Use

University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus, PR

2021	Online Resilience Master Class (SMART) by Dr. Sood
2021	Online Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) by Palouse Mindfulness
2021	Online Introduction to Waldorf Pedagogy and Anthroposophical Social Pedagogy - by Carolina Reiris Ithurralde Centro Caliz, Spain
2019	Tutor Certification University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, PR
2019	CPR University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, PR
2018	Stop the Bleed University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, PR
2017	RStudio Statistics Program University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, PR

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Sports:

- Volleyball: Team Captain 2010 to 2015, Setter
- Soccer: Team Captain 2012 to 2015, Goalkeeper
- Basketball: Shooting Guard

SKILLS

Languages: Fully bilingual in English and Spanish.

Technical Skills: Proficient in Microsoft Programs, RStudio, Zfishmeta, Canva, OBS.

Educational Tools: Familiar with educational platforms such as Zoom, Teams, Google Classroom, Quizlet, Connect, Kahoot, etc.

Personal Qualities: Solid leadership, ability to work under pressure, strong responsibility, team player, and a keen ability to identify individual student needs.

Experience with diverse student populations, adaptability to different learning styles, proficiency in creating engaging learning materials, and a strong understanding of the Boys and Girls Club's mission and values.

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.