FRANCHESCA MARIA LYRA

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX
Bachelor of Science and Arts, Biology *expected:* May 2021
Certificate: Secondary Teaching (concentration in biology, chemistry, physics, & geology)

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

University of Georgia Undergraduate Biology Education Research Fellow 2020
funded by National Science Foundation

Ronald E. McNair Scholar 2020

Austin Independent School District Future-Teacher Scholar 2019

Jane Sanford Beasley Scholar 2018

Texas Interdisciplinary Plan Scholar 2017

University Leadership Network Scholar 2017

Hutto Education Foundation Scholar 2017

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Ronald E. McNair Scholars / Learning and Motivational Beliefs Lab Austin, TX
Undergraduate Researcher Aug. 2020 – Present
Advisers: Dr. Katherine Muenks and Dr. Tia Madkins

- Investigating STEM professor culture at R1 universities and how it affects first generation and minoritized students
- Writing an article to be submitted to the University of Texas McNair Journal

University of Georgia Undergraduate Biology Education Research Fellowship Athens, GA
Undergraduate Fellow May 2020 – Aug. 2020
Advisers: Dr. Erin Dolan and Dr. Lisa Limeri

- Assisted in designing an instrument to measure undergraduate mindsets towards STEM success and experience
- Attended seminars and workshops that covered ethics, social justice, pedagogy, and STEM equity topics
- Performed interviews on participants taking survey

Freshman Research Initiative Austin, TX
Student Researcher Jan. 2018 – May 2018

- Synthesized and characterized novel lanthanide imine complexes
- Assisted in structural determination via single x-ray crystallography, 1D ^{1}H-NMR, and fluorimetry

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

McCallum High School Virtual
Anatomy and Physiology Student-Teacher Jan. 2021 – May. 2021

- Created curriculum focusing on the COVID-19 pandemic
- Developed virtual activities and projects for the online classroom format

Manor New Technology High School Virtual
Medical Microbiology Student-Teacher Aug. 2020 – Nov. 2020

- Created curriculum focusing on the COVID-19 pandemic
- Developed virtual activities and projects for the online classroom format

Crockett High School Austin, TX
Aquatic Science Student-Teacher Aug. 2019 – Dec. 2019

- Created and executed lesson plans with topics surrounding aquatic animal biology and environmental science
- Performed administrative tasks and analyzed student work
- Assisted second language learners

Boys and Girls Club Austin Austin, TX

Engineering and Science Educator May 2019 – Sept. 2019

- Facilitated interactive classroom discussions covering topics of computer science, engineering, and natural sciences
- Differentiated instruction for students with identified needs, including ADHD, autism, and language-based learning disabilities
- Planned lessons and activities for over 100 kindergarten-fifth grade students in the Austin area

Murchison Middle School Austin, TX
Honors Biology Student-Teacher Jan. 2019 – May 2019

- Responsible for ensuring student comprehension of biological concepts and provided additional support to students who required additional guidance
- Curated biology curriculum materials for accelerated students

Brentwood Elementary Austin, TX
Mathematics Student-Teacher Aug. 2018 – Dec. 2018

- Produced innovative lesson plans that aligned with TEKS

PRESENTATIONS

Discipline-Based Education Research Conference (X-DBER) – University of Nebraska-Lincoln Virtual
Co- Presenter March 2021

- Presented and facilitated discussions on results from STEM undergraduate mindset belief research
  Lyra, F. M., Limeri, L. B., Mastronardo, H., Patel, J., Carter, N. T., & Dolan, E. L. (2020) The Undergraduate Lay Theories of Abilities (ULTrA) Survey. Undergraduate Biology Education Research Symposium, virtual conference.

McNair Senior Seminar Series Virtual
Presenter October 2020

- Presented on the impacts of imposter syndrome in STEM fields
  Lyra, F. M. (2020) Imposter Syndrome in STEM at the University. McNair Senior Seminar Series, virtual seminar.

Undergraduate Biology Education Research Symposium Virtual
Presenter July 2020

- Presented and facilitated discussions on results from STEM undergraduate mindset belief research
  Lyra, F. M., Limeri, L. B., Mastronardo, H., Patel, J., Carter, N. T., & Dolan, E. L. (2020) The Undergraduate Lay Theories of Abilities (ULTrA) Survey. Undergraduate Biology Education Research Symposium, virtual conference.

Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research (SABER) Virtual
Co-Presenter July 2020

- Presented and facilitated discussions on results from STEM undergraduate mindset belief research
  Lyra, F. M., Limeri, L. B., Mastronardo, H., Patel, J., Carter, N. T., & Dolan, E. L. (2020) The Undergraduate Lay Theories of Abilities (ULTrA) Survey. Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research, virtual conference.

EMPLOYMENT

2400 Nueces Apartments; Jester East Dormitory Austin, TX
Resident Assistant Aug. 2018 – Present

- Conduct monthly floor meetings and frequent room drop-ins to discuss events, developments, and concerns
- Execute emergency response procedures
- Manage in residence life office for 10 to 15 hours per week performing administrative duties

Texas Interdisciplinary Plan Austin, TX
Natural Sciences Mentor Aug. 2018 – May 2020

- Created professional development and academic success initiatives for first year students to participate in
- Intimately mentored a cohort of five students each academic year
- Provided comprehensive emotional and academic support to first-year science students

ORGANIZATIONS

Resident Assistant Association - *Senator* Aug. 2019 – Present
Association for Women in Science - *Member* Aug. 2020 – Present
Math and Science Teachers of Tomorrow - *Member* Aug. 2018 – Present
Texas Interdisciplinary Plan Community Outreach **–** *Member* Aug. 2017 – May 2018

PERSONAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Skills:

- Portuguese: Native speaker, reader, writer
- Spanish: Intermediate speaker, reader, writer
- Proficient in R Studio

Research Interests:

- First-generation experiences
- Equity and Social Justice in STEM Education
- Curriculum Design
- Bilingual Education