

Walter R Nieves-Canabal

wrn9@pitt.edu | 939-226-4301 | Pittsburgh, PA

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Doctor of Pharmacy

Exp: April 2027

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO

Bachelor of Science in Industrial Microbiology

May 2023

LICENSURES AND CERTIFICATIONS

PHARMACIST INTERN LICENSE

University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania State Board of Pharmacy

Aug 2023

IMMUNIZATION DELIVERY

University of Pittsburgh, School of Pharmacy, American Pharmacists Association

Feb 2024

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT

American Heart Association

Jan 2024

INTRODUCTORY PHARMACY PRACTICE EXPERIENCES

HEALTH SYSTEMS SPECIALIZED SERVICES

CarePathRx Home Infusion (Chartwell)

Pittsburgh, PA

Jul – Jul 2025

- Collaborated with pharmacists and leadership to observe workflow and safety processes, explore innovations in patient monitoring, and present an independent project connecting pharmacy practice with emerging technologies.

COMMUNITY PHARMACIST PRACTICE

Rite Aid

Pittsburgh, PA

Jan 24 – Apr 2025

- Conducted comprehensive medication reviews (CMRs), counseling patients on medication use, adherence, and drug interactions.
- Educated patients on disease management, adherence, and lifestyle modifications.

COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Casa San Jose – Nonprofit Latino Community Center

Pittsburgh, PA

Sept 23 – Apr 2024

- Developed a medical orientation program leveraging digital tools to educate Latino communities on healthcare access, aligning technology with patient-centered solutions to bridge care gaps.

WORK EXPERIENCE

CVS PHARMACY

Pharmacy Intern

Pittsburgh, PA

Oct 2025 – Present

- Assisted patients at pickup by verifying information, answering basic questions, and directing clinical concerns to the pharmacist, while gaining familiarity with pharmacy workflow and dispensing systems.

RAREMED SOLUTIONS

Technical Pharmacy Intern

Pittsburgh, PA

June – Aug 2025

- Supported specialty pharmacy operations by bridging clinical knowledge with product development, contributing to user guide refinement, quality assurance processes, and cross-team collaboration.

- Applied technical skills to healthcare projects, including building Power BI data visualizations and designing a Microsoft Azure Speech Services transcription system to enhance communication and decision-making.

U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

FDA Fellow

Silver Spring, MD

June – Aug 2024

- Co-led an initiative aimed at enhancing industry understanding of critical regulatory calculations.

- Developed and presented a scientific presentation, translating complex regulatory data into clear visual insights for broader team discussions

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Rx Ambassador – School of Pharmacy

Pittsburgh, PA

Feb 2024 – Present

- Conducted School of Pharmacy tours for prospective students and families, including high schoolers.
- Hosted virtual info sessions to expand outreach to prospective students nationwide.

CAR AUTO DEALERSHIP

Brand Manager

San Juan, PR
May – Dec 2021

- Managed the Car Auto Dealership brand's presence on Facebook and Instagram.
- Updated listings for new merchandise on Facebook Shop and Clasificados Online.
- Planned Car Auto Dealership's advertising and promotional activities.

SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Tutor

Mayaguez, PR
Aug 18 – Dec 2021

- Tutored undergraduate students in Spanish and English, providing support to an average of 10 students a week with written and oral assignments, such as essays and laboratory reports.
- Offered guidance with brainstorming, translation, writing, and proofreading to help students improve their academic performance.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Pittsburgh, PA
Sep 2024 – Present

Student Researcher – School of Pharmacy

Supervisor: Ashley Yarabinec, PharmD

- Contributed to the development of a student exchange program between the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Puerto Rico pharmacy schools.
- Recognized the importance of fostering professional relationships in pharmacy, leveraging these insights to advance the program's development.

Student Researcher – School of Pharmacy

Jan 2024 – Present

Supervisor: Ashley Yarabinec, PharmD

- Developed a VR case for student pharmacists to improve medication counseling and patient education.
- Tested SimX VR modules for PharmD curriculum, providing feedback to enhance experiential learning.
- Analyzed VR simulations to strengthen competency-based learning, critical thinking, and clinical decision-making.
- Authored an abstract on integrating SimX virtual reality into pharmacy education, analyzing its impact on experiential learning, interprofessional collaboration, and competency-based training.

Student Researcher – School of Pharmacy

Sep – Dec 2023

Supervisor: Christian Fernandez, PhD

- Investigated PEG-ASNase's effects on drug metabolism and transport, generating key scientific insights for medical communications.
- Performed a literature review on asparaginase therapy's impact on drug metabolism, synthesizing findings into scientific reports with figures and tables for medical dissemination.
- Identified 15 key entries from a 27,000-entry dataset on cytochrome P450 and phase II enzymes, supporting evidence-based medical information strategies

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO

Mayaguez, PR
Jan – May 2023

Student Researcher - Instituto Universitario para el Desarrollo de las Comunidades

- Designed and executed a participatory action research initiative in the La Marina community of Isabela, Puerto Rico.
- Engaged with the community by conducting 11 interviews for a total of 20 hours.
- Partnered with the local electricity provider (LUMA Energy), water authority (AAA), and municipal officials to develop and implement service restoration plans in the community.

UNIVERSIDAD CENTRAL DEL CARIBE

Bayamón, PR
Feb 21 – Apr 2022

Student Researcher – Universidad Central del Caribe

- Research: "Hesitancy, Intent, and Determinants of Acceptance for COVID-19 Vaccination in Puerto Rico: A National Assessment."
- Conducted mixed-methods research by initializing an outreach to unvaccinated individuals and administered anonymous questionnaires to gather background information and determine vaccination status (Total: 243).
- Translated questionnaire items from Spanish to English for broader accessibility.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Nieves-Canabal W, Hernandez R, Chaves M, Kobulinsky L, Mulvaney B, Yarabinec, A, Clarkson J. *Abre los Ojos para Escucharnos: Using Virtual Reality to Teach Social Determinants of Health.* Poster presented at the 2024 Health Disparities & Social Justice Poster Competition, University of Pittsburgh, March 28, 2024.

Nieves-Canabal W, Rivera M. *La Marina Community: A Participatory Action Research.* Poster presented at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus, May 12, 2023.

Rodríguez-Ramirez P, Nieves-Jiménez H, Serrano-Boett P, Freytes-Terrada G, Sánchez G, Oller-Payano L, Firpo-Pabón A, Nieves-Canabal W, et al. *Potential Influence of Puerto Rican Political Parties Concerning COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy.* Poster presented at the UCC Interdisciplinary Health & COVID-19 Research Expo, March 31, 2023.

PRESENTATIONS

The Future is Remote: FDA Guidance & Regulatory Strategy for RPM in Drug Research

April 2025

Capstone presentation to faculty and students at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, Pittsburgh, PA

FDA Guidance on AI in Drug Regulatory Decision-Making: Critical Review & Applicability in Drug Development

March 2025

Seminar presentation to faculty and students at the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, Pittsburgh, PA

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

RxAmbassador

Pittsburgh, PA

Co-President, 2025

2025 – Present

Professional Development Administration

2024 – Present

Student Administrator, 2025

Student Advisor, 2024 – 2025

American Pharmacist Association

2024 – Present

International VP, 2025

International VP Elect, 2024 – 2025

Phi Delta Chi Pharmacy Fraternity

2024 – Present

Treasurer, 2025

Treasurer Elect, 2024 – 2025

NON-PHARMACY LEADERSHIP

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Association of Latino Professionals For America

Pittsburgh, PA

Vice-President, 2024

2023 – Present

Secretary, 2023 – 2024

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

American Pharmacist Association

Pittsburgh, PA

Student Industry Organization

2023 – Present

Pittsburgh Pharmacy Investment Portfolio

2023 – Present

Phi Delta Chi Pharmacy Fraternity

2023 – Present

HONORS & AWARDS

- John P. and Constance A. Curran Pharmacy Scholarship (5 semesters)

2023 – Present