

VERONICA REMMERT

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EDUCATION

Dell Medical School, Austin, Texas
Doctor of Medicine (M.D.)

July 2020- Expected class of 2024

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, USA
Bachelor of Science and Arts
Major: Biology; Certificate: Social Inequality, Health and Policy with a Concentration in Public Health

August 2016- May 2020

ACADEMIC AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

President's Award for Global Learning Recipient, University of Texas at Austin, Fall 2018

- Team was selected among five other teams in the Latin American region to implement a project. Project description provided under: Research Experience and Presentations.

Michael John Fink, M.D. Endowed Presidential Scholarship, University of Texas at Austin
College of Natural Sciences, 2019-2020

- Awarded to pre-medical students in the College of Natural Sciences

Ralph A. Steiner, M.D. Scholarship, University of Texas at Austin College of Natural Sciences,
2018-2019

- Awarded to pre-medical students in the College of Natural Sciences

Neal Kocurek Scholarship Recipient, St. David's Foundation, 2016- current

- Awarded to pre-health students for up to eight years of higher education

University Honors, University of Texas at Austin College of Natural Sciences, Fall 2016- Fall 2019

- Based on GPA for each semester

College Scholar, University of Texas at Austin College of Natural Sciences, 2018 and 2019

- Top 20% of class in the College of Natural Sciences

Women in Natural Sciences Scholar, University of Texas at Austin College of Natural Sciences

- Cohort of high achieving women in the College of Natural Sciences

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at Austin President's Award for Global Learning, March 2018- present

Title: Comprehensive Health Needs Assessment of Low-Income Communities in Puebla, Mexico

Supervisors: Ricardo Ainslie, PhD- M.K. Hage Centennial Professor in Education and Director of the Mexico center; Timothy Mercer, MPH, MD- Director of Global Health at Dell Medical School; Peter Ward, PhD- C.B. Smith Sr. Centennial #1 Chair in U.S.-Mexico Relations

Description: Puebla, Mexico faces serious health disparities and this project is a collaboration between the LBJ School of Public Affairs, LLILAS Mexico Center and Dell Medical School to perform a comprehensive assessment of health needs, determinants, and resources in underserved communities in Puebla, Mexico. This project developed the groundwork for solutions to the inequities present in the health system and the built environment. The team was able to collaborate with the Secretaría de Salud, Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, and Fundación Comunitaria Puebla to ensure longevity and cultural sensitivity of the research. During Summer 2019, 248 surveys, 6 focus groups, and 5 intensive case studies were completed by the undergraduate team in four low-income communities in Puebla, Mexico. As a result of the collaboration brought forth from this project and the work of Dr. Tim Mercer, Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla and Dell Medical School are working to create and implement a formal relationship to continue research. This project won in the Latin America region for the UT Austin President's Award for Global Learning, an initiative to develop international collaborations between UT and community partners in seven regions of the world that empower undergraduates in the conceptualization and carrying out of research.

University of Texas at Austin, Genome Engineering Stream in the Freshman Research Initiative, Spring 2017-Spring 2018

Title: Engineering Yeast to Model Human Disease

Supervisor: Christopher Yellman, PhD

Description: In this research lab, there was an investigation of modularity of orthologous proteins, or proteins in different species that are known to have descended from a common ancestor. We expected that human proteins placed into a yeast cell will function similarly, although not exactly, to their yeast orthologs. To exploit yeast as a model for human protein function, we will precisely replace yeast genes with their human orthologs. I was involved in genome editing with CRISPR and Cas9 techniques. The lab was in the process of inserting the human heme biosynthesis pathway into the yeast genome. This was to be used to create a model for human disease.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Genetics Lab Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Biology Instructional Office August 2019- present

Hold weekly office hours for students to ask questions about writing assignments and receive feedback. Grade papers about current genetics research written by undergraduate students

and provide thorough ideas and suggestions for improvement. Also meet with the professor to ensure that grading was done systematically, and students are prepared for assignments.

Community Investments Intern, Community Investments Department at St. David's Foundation
June 2018- August 2018

I worked closely with the Innovation Center Manager to provide support for the front desk, answer phones, greet guests, answer emails, and various administrative tasks. I also worked more broadly with the Community Investments team as I was able to learn about the strategic plans of the Foundation and the grantees. Through this administrative work I gained valuable understanding of the public health and philanthropic sectors in Central Texas and how geography can play a significant role in access to care and health. I have been able to learn about the social determinants of health that are affecting the Central Texas community, and what measures can be taken and are being taken by philanthropic organizations. Through this experience, I cultivated new passions about public health and how social determinants of health can truly impact long term well-being. I have been able to learn from people who are experts in Public Health and social determinants of health topics such as Aging in Place, Supportive Housing, Childhood Adversity, Food Access and are able to perform valuable needs assessments and run one of the country's largest mobile dental clinics. The Foundation has many areas of focus which has allowed me to view community health as a complexity that must be approached from multiple perspectives, statistical analyses, and areas of expertise to truly understand the problem and subsequently understand a community appropriate solution. I personally found that understanding Public Health from Social Work, Geographic, Business, Philanthropic, Cultural, and Medicinal perspectives allowed for a better understanding of the issues that affect health and how-to best approach those issues in a way that is effective and appropriate for the community.

Organic Chemistry Teaching Assistant, University of Texas at Austin, Department of Chemistry
August 2018- May 2019, 10 hours/ week

Held weekly office hours with prepared material, wrote exam questions, graded exams, and provided studying insight for students in Organic Chemistry I and II. Also met with the professor and ensured that students were learning and felt adequately prepared.

Peer Mentor, University of Texas at Austin, Freshman Research Initiative
January 2018- May 2018, 5 hours/ week

Educated freshmen students about wet lab techniques through instruction and demonstration. Explained concepts including CRISPR and Cas9 genome editing to the students. Required communication with the Research Educator about how to improve student engagement and understanding.

VOLUNTEER WORK

Medical Staff Volunteer, Texas Lions Camp

July 2017 and July 2018

Total Hours Volunteered: 218 Hours

Description: Assisted with the daily care of campers with Type 1 diabetes including administering insulin shots, glucose checks, pump site changes, and the maintenance of target blood glucose levels. Worked closely with physicians and nurses to ensure adequate care.

Breast Center and Gift Shop Volunteer, St. David's Medical Center

December 2016- May 2018

Total Hours Volunteered: 90 hours

Helped the hospital run smoothly by helping run the gift shop, answering phones, and interacting with customers. Assisted patients to their rooms, cleaned the changing rooms, and helped with any office tasks.

Assistant to the Director and Retreat Staffer, Longhorn Awakening

April 2017- October 2017

Total Hours Volunteered: 140 hours

Assisted director with planning, collecting dues, choosing staff leaders, and ensuring the retreat ran smoothly. Worked with the director, the church pastoral staff, and the other assistant. Also volunteered prepping for the retreat during Spring 2017, Spring 2018, and Spring 2020.

Student Volunteer, Global Medical Training Mission Trip

March 2018- August 2018

Total Hours Volunteered: 55

In preparation for the trip, we had weekly workshops to practice Spanish and various tasks for 15 hours. During our time in the country we worked with local physicians to take patient histories. We were able to educate patients about safe water practices and important preventative measures.

LEADERSHIP ROLES

Mu Epsilon Theta Catholic Sorority

Vice President (Fall 2019- Spring 2020)

Historian (Fall 2016- Spring 2017)

Merchandise Chair (Fall 2018)

As the elected Vice President, I am responsible for managing chair-holders, planning recruitment, working with the executive board, and running weekly meetings. The position is vital to ensuring that the group upholds a dedicated membership. As the elected merchandise chair, I designed, ordered, and handed out merchandise orders. This position also included speaking with members about what items they wanted and communicating with vendors and the chapter treasurer. As the elected historian for both the pledge class and entire sorority, I attended events and took photographs during the events. At the end of each semester, I constructed a scrapbook or slideshow for a formal event.

GRANTS

University of Texas at Austin, President's Award for Global Learning- Latin American Region 2018-present (\$25,000+ Travel)

The prestigious President's Award for Global learning is a grant initiative to develop international collaborations between the University of Texas at Austin and community partners in seven regions of the world that empower undergraduates in the conceptualization and carrying out of research.

Project title: Health and Housing: A Comprehensive Needs Assessment of Low-Income Communities in Puebla, Mexico. Project description provided under: Research Experience and Presentations.

POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Remmert, V., Stephenson, C., Mercer, T. Housing and Health: Research and Survey Data from Agricultural Pueblos of Puebla State, Mexico, and Peri-Urban Colonias in Texas. Congress of Latin American Studies Association (LASA). Virtual Conference, May 16, 2020. Panel and Paper Accepted.

Remmert, V., Mercer, T. Understanding community health needs and forging an academic global health partnership in Puebla, Mexico: a mixed methods study. Conference Cancelled, April 19, 2020. Oral Presentation (Addressing the Social Determinants of Health) and Abstract Accepted.

Rojas Alvarez, A., **Remmert, V.**, Ciaburri, C., Sandoval Flores, A., Stephenson, C., Mercer, T., Ward, P., Ainslie, R. (2019). A Comprehensive Needs Assessment on the Intersection of Health and Physical Space: The Case of Four Communities in the Valley of Atlixco, Puebla (Mexico). *Latin American and Caribbean HSG Pre-Conferences on Health Systems Research: Sixth Global Symposium (2019) Re-imagining health systems for better health and social justice*. Washington D.C.

Remmert, V., Ciaburri, C., Sandoval Flores, A., Stephenson, C. (2019). *President's Award for Global Learning: A Comprehensive Needs Assessment of Low-Income Communities in Puebla, Mexico*. Global Professional Training: Mexico at the University of Texas at Austin.

PUBLICATIONS

Remmert, V., Ciaburri, C., Sandoval, A., Stephenson, C., Rojas, A., Ward, P., Ainslie, R., Hernandez, E., Hernandez, L., Mercer, T. (2020). Understanding community health needs and forging an academic global health partnership in Puebla, Mexico: a mixed methods study. *The Lancet Global Health*, 8, S13. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(20\)30154-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30154-6)