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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy Candidate in Kinesiology

University of Illinois at Chicago
Fall 2013 to Present

Master in Public Health, Community Health Sciences

University of Illinois at Chicago
May 2013

Bachelor of Arts in Literature

University of California, San Diego
February 2011

EXPERIENCE

Training in CVD Epidemiology & Related Chronic Diseases in Minority Populations

T-32 Pre-Doctoral Fellow at the Institute for Minority Health Research. *Fall 2015-present*

- Development of skills in Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- Research in Latino populations and cardiovascular diseases

LUCID Study: Latinos Unique scenario, Cognitive Impairment addressed via Dance

Data Collector. *Summer 2015-Fall 2015*

- Conduct cognition, balance, and walking testing at baseline and mid-intervention among participants with mild cognitive impairments.
- Conduct all data collection in Spanish

BAILA Study: Being Active, Increasing Latinos Healthy Aging

Research Assistant. *Summer 2013-present*

- Recruitment for the multi-site dance study in Chicago
- Conduct cognition, balance, and walking testing at baseline and post-intervention for participants

Mycelia Project

Interviewer. *Summer 2013-Fall 2014*

- Facilitate the completion of a Photovoice project in a community garden
- Conduct interviews of participants perceptions of their community

Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Study

Research Assistant. *Fall 2012-Summer 2013*

- Recruit, enroll, interview participants into screening study
- Collaborate and coordinate with research team and clinical staff for the implementation of the study

Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Latinos (CCSL)

Graduate Assistant. *July 2012-July 2013*

- Utilize Dreamweaver to update, manage, and maintain website
- Manage internal documentation of committee meetings

James A. Ferguson Fellowship- Infectious Diseases Research

Fellow. *May 2012-July 2012*

- A Center for Disease Control and Prevention funded fellowship that allowed for the development and completion of a research project under the mentorship an established researcher and physician
- Focus on a research project in sexually transmitted disease and infection among urban adolescent girls in the Baltimore, Maryland area that participated in a technology-based intervention for the duration of a year

UIC School of Public Health- Health Policy and Administration Department

Research Assistant. *November 2011-May 2012*

- Conduct literature reviews on breast cancer screening practices, culture and health in respect to cancer, Superfund site, and medically underserved areas
- Collect and organize data from online resources including census data, Chicago community area data, EPA data on Superfund, TRI sites as well as Brownfield sites

ORGANIZATIONS

American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM)

Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity Action Student Representative. *Spring 2015-Present*

Student Member. *Spring 2014-present*

Society of Behavioral Medicine (SBM)

Student Member. *Spring 2014-present*

Gerontological Society of America (GSA)

Student Member. *Fall 2013-present*

Midwest American College of Sports Medicine (MWACSM)

Student Member. *Fall 2013-present*

- ACSM Midwest Chapter Leadership and Mentoring Program

American Public Health Association (APHA)

Student Member. *Spring 2012-Spring 2013*

UIC INVOLVEMENT

Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Latinos

Committee Member. *Fall 2014-present*

- Assist in the organizing of the issues and concerns of Latino faculty, staff, students, and workers in order to advise the Chancellor.

Hispanic Serving Institution Taskforce (HSI Taskforce)

Graduate Student Representative. *Spring 2014-present*

- Represent graduate student body in the discussion of attaining HSI designation

Latina/o Graduate Student Association (LGSA)

Board Member. *Summer 2014-present*

- Assisted in the foundation of this organization at UIC. *Fall 2012-present*

Minority Students for the Advancement of Public Health (MSAPH)

Student Body Member and Secretary. *Fall 2011-Spring 2013*

- Maintain communication among board members, document board and general meetings
- Facilitate planning of MSAPH events

Minority Health in the Midwest Conference Board

Communications Co-Chair. *Fall 2011-Spring 2012*

- Publicize Annual UIC SPH Student-led conference to different organizations, schools, professionals, and students through creative marketing and mass emails
- Attend bi-monthly meetings to update and continue preparation for event

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Vasquez, P., Aguiñaga, S., Wilson, R.S., Fogg, L.F., Wilbur, J., Hughes, S., & Marquez, D. X. Influence of Latin Dance on Physical Activity and Mobility among Older Latinos. Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America: Pre-Conference on Cognitive Health Disparities Research and National Policy, Washington, D.C., November 2014.

Vasquez, P., Wilson, R.S., Fogg, L.F., Wilbur, J., Hughes, S., & Marquez, D.X. Increasing Physical Activity among Older Latino Adults. Poster to be presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Washington, D.C., November 2014.

Vasquez, P., Aguiñaga, S., Wilson, R.S., Fogg, L.F., Wilbur, J., Hughes, S., & Marquez, D. X. Increasing Physical Activity among Older Latino Adults. Poster presented at the International Conference on Aging in the Americas, Boulder, Colorado, September 2014.

Vasquez, P., & Trent, M. Feasibility and Preliminary Effectiveness of Text Messaging to Reduce STI Disparities Among Urban Youth. Poster presented at the Pediatric Academic Society. Washington, D.C., May 2013.

Vasquez, P., Benitez, J., Chukwudozie, I., & Kim, S. Superfund & Brownfield Sites: Elevated Cancer Rates in Disadvantaged Communities of Cook County, IL. Poster presented at the American Public Health Association, San Francisco, CA, October 2012.

SYMPOSIUM

Marquez, D.X., Caceres, M., Aguiñaga, S., **Vasquez, P.**, & Janicek, S.J. Lessons learned in conducting health-related randomized controlled trials with older Latinos. Symposium to be presented at the annual meeting of the Gerontological Society of America, Washington, DC, November, 2014.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES

Cook County Hospital- Fantus Clinic

Survey Administrator. *Fall 2012*

- Assisted patients in completely computer-based assessment prior to primary care doctor appointment
- Assessment captured quality of life and symptoms of patients

Health Fair at St. Pius Parish

Translator. *August 2012*

- Explain to patients the definition and importance Body Mass Index (BMI)
- Assist by taking height and weight measurements of adults and children

HIV/AIDS Screenings Event

Translator. *July 2012*

- Filled out forms for those who were seeking HIV/AIDS screening tests
- Translated for Spanish-speakers

Shaping our Health by Influencing Food Trends (SHIFT) Event

Group Facilitator. *May 2012*

- Group discussion with high school students about food, media, and food choices
- Provide a recording of the discussion to the research group

Woodlawn 3rd Annual Summit

Notetaker- Breakout Session: Green Healthy Neighborhoods Land Use Plan. *March 2012*

- Attend the Opening Session and a breakout session discussing the triumphs and challenges that the Woodlawn community area faces
- Provide a detailed summary of the topics discussed during the session

Center of Excellence in the Elimination of Disparities (CEED@Chicago)

Volunteer. *November 2011-Spring 2013*

- Transcribe phone conferences to maintain communication between coalitions
- Provide synopsis of previous literature reviews on the theoretical and practical frameworks of food production, distribution, and consumption

Common Threads Volunteer- Bethune Elementary School

Group Leader. *September 2011-December 2011*

- Teach elementary students (primarily minority and low-income) how to cook and eat nutritiously, and learn about different cultures through food
- Volunteered in special events: Michael Nye's *Hunger & Resilience* exhibit at St. James Cathedral, Kids Run at a Nest West Side community run

American Red Cross

Administrative Support. *February 2011-April 2011*

- Handle high volume of calls from event organizers seeking to form a partnership with the American Red Cross in an effort to fund-raise for the 'Japan and The Pacific Tsunami' Relief Fund
- Collect and organize mandatory forms for the partnerships and answer questions from callers

CERTIFICATION/TRAINING

First Aid/CPR/AED Certification

October 2013

- Attained the up-to-date protocol for First Aid/CPR/AED

Sister to Sister Intervention

Trainee. *June 2012*

- Provide one-on-one counseling in a medical setting to African American women about sexual health
- Aim of intervention is to provide women with tools to reduce their risk of HIV/sexually transmitted diseases

California Department of Public Health: Certified Phlebotomy Technician I

Certification Number: 4411-0616

Date: March 2010

Chula Vista Family Clinic

Lab Technician (Internship). *January 2011-February 2011*

- Perform venipunctures and finger-sticks in a fast-paced lab with all-age patients, in a predominantly Latino community
- Centrifuge blood samples and record the results of the glucose test