

## Biographical Sketch

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**Rocío I. Zorrilla Veloz**

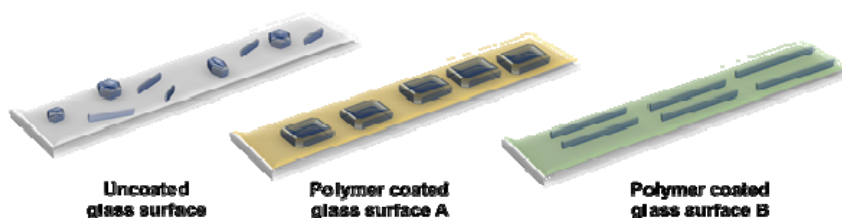
### Current Status

B.S. Student  
Dept. of Biology, UPR-RP

**Email:** rocio.zorrilla1@upr.edu

### Education

2013-present UPR-Río Piedras  
2018 BS Molecular Biology (expected)



### Research Interests:

Most of the cancer and other diseases therapeutic agents have several amounts of side effects in the actuality, polymorphic screening of these therapeutic agents along with other approaches can help reduce or eliminate these sides effects. I want to uncover new polymorphic forms of different active pharmaceutical ingredients that are part of important biomedical treatments in a variety of diseases by employing this approach and eventually develop better drug carrier's systems.

### Research Experience

**University of Puerto Rico- Río Piedras Campus** **2015-present**

**Undergraduate Student Research Assistant** **Advisor: Prof. Vilmalí López-Mejías**

Screening of therapeutic agents' polymorphism through polymer induced heteronucleation.

**University of New York**

**Summer 2016**

**Undergraduate Student Research Assistant** **Advisor: Prof. Vilmalí López-Mejías**

Screening of 5-fluorouracil polymorphic forms through polymer induced heteronucleation in a collaboration with the laboratories of Dr. Barth Khar and Dr. Mike Ward.

### Honors

- Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (PR-SLAMP) 2015-2016
- Dean's Honors List, 2013 – present
- Liga de Oratoria en Español de Puerto Rico, Corp, 2011-2013
- Programa de Servicios Académicos Especiales (PSAE) 2013-present
- Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) 2016-present

### Presentations at Local Meetings

**Student talks presented during the 2015-2016 academic year;**

- Rivera, K.; Zorrilla, R.; Febo, P.; Villalobos, J.; López-Mejías, V. "Biocompatible-Tailored-Nanocrystals-Drug Nanocarriers for Colorectal Cancer Treatment", 51st ACS Junior Technical Meeting and 36th Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Conference (PRISM), Ponce, Puerto Rico, March 5, **2016**.
- Zorrilla, R.; López-Mejías V."Polymer-induced heteronucleation of 5-fluorouracil" , Finals presentations of the MRSEC 2016 summer program, NYU, New York, August 9, **2016**.

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### **Posters presented during the 2015-2016 academic year;**

- Rivera, K.; Zorrilla, R.; Febo, P.; Villalobos, J.; López-Mejías, V. *“Biocompatible-Tailored-Nanocrystals-Drug Nanocarriers for Colorectal Cancer Treatment”*, 24<sup>th</sup> NSF EPSCoR National Conference, Poster, October 31<sup>st</sup> - November 4<sup>th</sup>, **2015**.
- Rivera, K.; Zorrilla, R.; Febo, P.; Villalobos, J.; López-Mejías, V. *“Biocompatible-Tailored-Nanocrystals-Drug Nanocarriers for Colorectal Cancer Treatment”*, Institute of Functional Nanomaterials (IFN)'s Poster Presentation, Poster, March 31, **2016**.
- Febo, P.; Villalobos, J.; Rivera, K.; Zorrilla, R.; López-Mejías, V. *“Enhanced in vitro Cell Proliferation of Vero Cells Tested with Alginate/Chitosan blends”*, 2016 EPSCoR IFN Annual Meeting, Poster, April 22, **2016**.
- Febo, P.; Villalobos, J.; Rivera, K.; Zorrilla, R.; López-Mejías, V. *“Enhanced in vitro Cell Proliferation of Vero Cells Tested with Alginate/Chitosan blends”*, Lilly Academy Technical Forum, Poster, May 6, **2016**.
- Zorrilla, R.; López-Mejías V. *“Polymer-induced heteronucleation of 5-fluorouracil”*, NYU summer research symposium, Poster, August 11<sup>th</sup>, **2016**.