BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: Ernesto G. Cabezas-Bou

eRA COMMONS USER NAME: (ERNESTO.CABEZAS)

POSITION TITLE: Doctoral Student

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE *(if applicable)*	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus	B.S.	05/2015	Cellular Molecular Biology
University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus, Medical Sciences Campus	Ph.D.	05/2020 (Expected)	Biology/ Neuroscience track

A. Personal Statement

I am a Doctoral student currently striving to become a future professional and leader in the field of Neuroscience, capable of improving knowledge and manifest its social usefulness. Life has granted me the opportunity to be heard in order to change current perspectives and drive work onto potentially outstanding results. I have awakened into a reality where work needs to be done towards promoting life with passion and improving knowledge with creativity. As a future professional and leader in the field of scientific research, I believe that I possess the capacity to positively impact the quality of education, science and research within my field of interest, while maintaining an exemplary performance in my personal and social life. Through my hands-on research experience I have work with projects in the field of neuroscience, specifically in spinal cord injury, motor systems and locomotion. Under the mentorship of Dr. Manuel Díaz-Ríos I have been able to learn how to commit to science, spread my knowledge, think critically and analyze results with a promising level of independence. My hard work in the Díaz-Ríos Laboratory has translated into publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals, which has become one of my greatest motivations to keep doing quality science. I have focused my graduate studies on neuroscience by taking courses at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) Medical School and Rio Piedras campus. I have taken Gross Anatomy, Clinical Neuroscience and Physiology courses that have given me a clear perspective on how the nervous system actually works. I decided to combine these courses with a Cellular & Molecular approach along with other graduate courses in Biochemistry, Molecular Genetics and Neuropharmacology at the (UPR) Rio Piedras campus. With this academic scope I have acquired a broader perspective in Neuroscience with the potential to create new knowledge and prove it useful for society.

B. Positions and Honors

Positions

2010-11 Representative of the Student's Council for the General Student Council, General Studies Faculty, Univ. of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus, San Juan PR

2011-12 President of the Student's Council, General Studies Faculty, Univ. of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus, San Juan PR

2011-12 Student Representative on the Committee for the election of the Dean of the General Studies Faculty, Univ. of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus, San Juan PR

2012-present Laboratory Research Assistant, Laboratory of Dr. Manuel Díaz-Rios, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, Univ. of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences campus, San Juan, PR

2014-2016 VicePresident, Puerto Rico Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience, Institute of Neurobiology, Old San Juan, Puerto Rico

2015-2017 Vice-President, Biology Graduate Student Association, Univ. of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus, San Juan, PR

Honors

2010-present Honor Roll Dean's List (Univ. of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus)

2013-15 National Science Foundation Undergraduate Research Mentoring, Research Fellowship

2014-15 Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, Research Fellowship

2015-17 National Institute of Health Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence, Research Fellowship

2017-present Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (Rio Piedras Campus), Research Fellowship

2017 Award to attend "Neural Systems & Behavior Summer Course" – Marine Biological Laboratories

2017 Post Course Research Award – ($5,000) Fellowship from 'Neural Systems & Behavior Course'

Other Experiences and Memberships

2014 Society for Neuroscience, Neurobiology of Disease Workshop Stroke Recovery

2015-Present Outreach Experience, Brain Awareness Week Coordinator for Public & Private Schools

2016 Society for Neuroscience, Poster Main Presenter

2016-Present NeuroBoricuas Outreach, Teaching Neuroscience to Puerto Ricans with Backyard Brains

2017 Society for Neuroscience, Short Course 1: Intersection Between Brain and Immune Systems

C. Contribution to Science

Peer-reviewed Publications

a. **Cabezas-Bou E,** De León-Arbucias J, Matos-Vergara N, Álvarez-Bagnarol Y, Ortega-Guzmán J, Narváez-Pérez K, Cruz-Bermúdez N, Díaz-Ríos M., A Survey of Energy Drink Consumption Patterns Among College Students at a Mostly Hispanic University. (2016), *Journal of Caffeine Research. (Vol. 6, No. 4: 154-162, doi: 10.1089/jcr.2016.0011.)*

b. Acevedo JM, Matos-Vergara N, , Marrero-Cordero L, Santana-Almansa A, **Cabezas-Bou E**, Díaz-Rios M., Caffeine stimulates locomotor behavior in the neonatal mouse spinal cord. (2016*), J of Neuropharmacology*. (101:490-505. doi: 10.1016/j.neuropharm.2015.10.020.)

D. Research Support

Ongoing Research Support

2017-present NIH RISE Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (Río Piedras)

Past Research Support

2013-2015 NSF URM Undergraduate Research Mentoring Fellowship

2014-2015 NSF Puerto Rico Louis Stoke Alliance for Minority Participation (PRLSAMP) Bridge to the Doctorate Program

2015-2017 NIH COBRE Center for Neuroplasticity Graduate Fellowship

Summer 2017 NS&B - NIH Grant & Surdna Foundation Scholarship