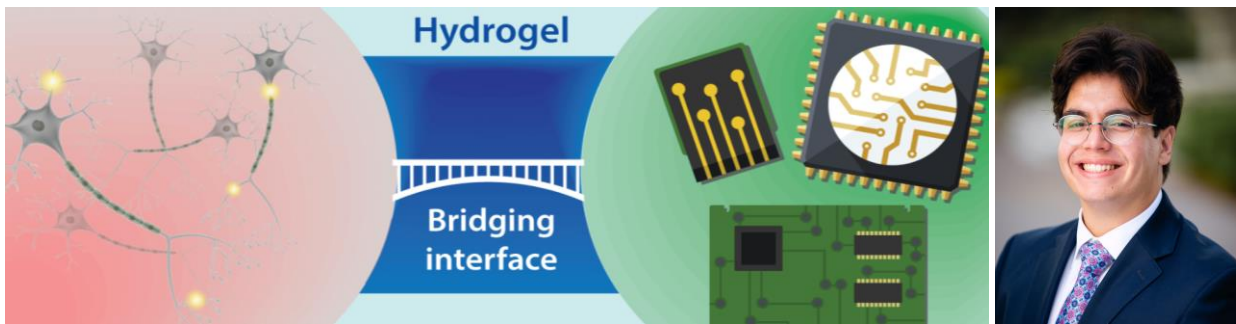


Biographical Sketch



Manuel J. La Torre - Poueymirou

Current Status

Degree - B.S.

Dept. of Cellular and Molecular Biology, University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras

Additional Studies in the Dept. of Electronics Engineering, University of Puerto Rico – Bayamon

Email: manuel.latorre@upr.edu, manuel.latorrep@gmail.com

Education

2016-present University of Puerto Rico - Río Piedras
2021 B.S. Cellular & Molecular Biology

Research Interests:

My research interests are strongly related to the field of medical device development, tissue like materials, and human machine interface. I am committed in pursuing an MD-PhD in hopes of making more physiologically compatible materials in hopes of solving the mechanical and biocompatibility limitations most implantable medical technologies currently face.

Research Experience

- 2016 – 2017 University of Puerto Rico – Bayamon, Aging of the Plumeria Tree Species in Guanica Dry Forests of Puerto Rico, PI: Steven Sloan, PhD.
- 2017 – 2019 University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras, Essential Role of Cholesterol in Ion Channel Functioning and Thermal Stability of The Native Muscle-Type nAChR-Detergent-Complex, PI: Jose Lasalde, Ph.D. – Orestes Quesada, Ph.D.
- Summer 2018 University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine, Mechanical Engineering - E46K Transgenic Rats After Traumatic Brain Injury, PI: Kacy Cullen, Ph.D. – John Duda, M.D.
- 2019 – 2021 University of Puerto Rico//BIDEA LLC, Design and Characterization of Gold-Palladium Electrode Platforms for Cancer Detection, PI: Carlos Cabrera, Ph.D.
- Summer 2019 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mechanical Engineering, Wirelessly Powering Bio – Compatible Circuits, PI: Xuanhe Zhao, Ph.D.

Biographical Sketch

Honors

- 2016 – Member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars
- 2016 – University of Puerto Rico Honor Roll
- 2017 – Dean’s List of the University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras ▪ 2017 – Member of Alpha Sigma Pi Honors Society
- 2017 – Undergraduate Fellow Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation – NSF
- 2018 – Clinical and Translational Sciences Award Fellowship (CTSA) – NIH – University of Pennsylvania ▪ 2019 – Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) Fellow – NIH
- 2019 – Certificate of Completion of the MIT Summer Research Program General <https://oge.mit.edu/graddiversity/msrp/2019-msrp-interns/manuel-la-torre-poueymirou/>
- 2019 – Member of the University of Puerto Rico Biophysics Society
- 2020 – Puerto Rico Rising Scientists Initiative (PRRSI) Student Coordinator
- 2020 – Member of University of Puerto Rico – SACNAS Chapter
- 2020 – NYU Summer Research Program acceptance. Unable to participate, SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic.
- 2020 – MIT Summer Research Program – X, Virtual. Participation and Certificate of Completion. <https://oge.mit.edu/graddiversity/msrp/msrpx-interns-2020/manuel-la-torrepoueymirou/>

Presentations at Local Meetings

- | | |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2018 | Speaker at the Medical Research in Neurotrauma Talk at the University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus |
| 2018 | 2018: Speaker at the Abroad Summer Research Experiences Talk at the University of Puerto Rico – Bayamon Campus. |
| 2018 | Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation – NSF Junior Technical Meeting Research Talk Presentation. |
| 2019 | MIT Summer Research Program Poster Session – Sloan School of Business |
| 2019 | Outreach and interactive lab tours for middle and high school student |
| 2019 | American Chemical Society 42nd Senior Technical Meeting |
| 2019 | Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) |
| 2020 | Lightning Talk - MIT Summer Research Program X |

Other Activities:

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2014-2016 | Puerto Rico Water Polo Pre-Selection Team – Played water polo since 2011. Entered the Pre – selection team in 2014. Retired from the sport officially in 2016 due to academic responsibilities. However, during the early summer and at times during the semester I often play with the Puerto Rico Masters Water Polo Team for fun. |
| 2014-2016 | Interact club - International Relations Leader (Directed by Club Rotary) – Directed several food drives for the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Got most |

Biographical Sketch

members of the club to participate in distributing food and hygiene goods to the local homeless people of the metropolitan area for several weekends during my Senior year at high school. Also helped other designated leaders of the club to execute projects such as: running a dog food drive for the Puerto Rico Humane Society, make a fundraiser for the "Fondita de Jesus" (an organization dedicated to feed and warm the homeless all over Puerto Rico during the Christmas time), and other activities mostly related to community service like helping renovate poor elderly people's home infrastructure and appearance with other Interact club chapters from other schools

- 2016 **Volunteer at the Puerto Rico Marathon** - Assisted competition logistics and athlete's wellbeing during the competition: provided hydration and other supportive provisions during the marathon.
- 2016 **Volunteer at IRON-MAN TRIATHLON** - Assisted competition logistics and athlete's wellbeing during the competition: provided hydration and other supportive provisions during the triathlon.
- 2016 **Volunteer at "Casa Lolita"** (local nursing home) - Assisted with the care of elders including Alzheimer patients. Helped with the nursing home general maintenance needs. Brought entertainment to patients by playing cards with them, playing guitar for them and most of the time hearing their great life stories. Best stories I heard were by U.S. veterans and Cuban exiled elders.
- 2016-2018 2016 – 2018: Dog Walker and Dog Groomer - Dog groomer and dog walker for The Walkers Puerto Rico, providing in home pet care and grooming. Contact: Cristina F. Harrison, Office: +1-787-925-5377

Hobbies:

- Non-competitive swimming: odd workout.
- Running: Daily workout, at least 30 to 35 minutes. (5.3Km)
- Surfing: I have lived in Puerto Rico all my life and surfing has always been a good non-competitive outlet for me.
- Skateboarding: Regularly when we are out surf of season.
- Musical abilities: Guitar, Mandolin, Ukulele.
- Green Thumb: I often find comfort in working with plants as a hobby. I have a small home garden where I plant cherry tomatoes, decorative mosses, onions, ginger, and curcuma. I also love aquatic plants for micro gardening.