## **Biographical Sketch**

# Miguel Betancourt-Ponce

**Undergraduate Student** 

Dept. of Chemistry, UPR-Rio Piedras

Email: miguel.betancourt3@upr.edu

**Education** 

2016-2021 BS Chemistry (expected)

**Current Research Interests:** I have worked with the synthesis and modification of polymers for biomedical applications as well as the design of pH responsive membranes for the remediation of contaminants of emerging concern. We are currently working on the synthesis of novel antibacterial polysulfone (PSU) for biomedical applications.

### **Research Experience**

2017-present UPR-Rio Piedras, Research Assistant, (mentor, Dr. Eduardo Nicolau)

2018 (summer) Center for Sustainable Polymers, Research Assistant, (mentor Dr. Stuart

Rowan)

#### Honors

2017 Dean's List

2017 NASA EPSCoR

2018 Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE)

## **Presentations at Local Meetings**

Betancourt-Ponce, M., Herrera, J., Nicolau, E. Preparation of Cellulose Acetate Porous Membranes as support for block copolymer: A water remediation approach. 52nd ACS Junior Technical Meeting, Universidad del Turabo, PR, April 28, 2018.

#### **Presentations at National Meetings**

Betancourt-Ponce, M., Paul, H., Rowan, S. Synthesis of Polyelectrolytes for the Surface Modification of Cellulose Nanocrystals. Gulf Coast Undergraduate Research Symposium, Rice University, TX, October 6, 2018.

