



# Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program in Biomedical Sciences PREP

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual PREP Symposium

Thursday, June 10, 2021

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Allied Health Classroom A / Zoom Meeting ID: 941 7142 9788

### Keynote Speaker

#### **Rudy Ortiz, PhD, FAPS, FAHA**

Professor of Physiology & Endocrinology  
Department of Molecular and Cell Biology  
University of California  
Merced, California



**“The Study of Insulin Resistance & Metabolism from Different Perspectives”**

### Schedule of Events

- 1:00 PM Welcome – Dr. Dereck Rovaris, Sr., LSU Vice Provost for Diversity  
Dr. Angela Amedee, Associate Dean of the School of Graduate Studies
- 1:10 PM Dr. Rudy Ortiz “The Study of Insulin Resistance & Metabolism from Different Perspectives”
- 2:10 PM Sheldon Davis “Association of Alcohol Consumption on Plasma Viral Load and Provirial Load in People Living with HIV (PLWH): The New Orleans Alcohol Use in HIV (NOAH) Study”
- 2:25 PM Zari McCullers “Sexual Differences in Negative Affect and Neural Activation Following Adolescent Alcohol Exposure”
- 2:40 PM Roshawn Mitchell-Cleveland “Chronic Alcohol Induces Neuroadaptations in the Cingulate Cortex and Facilitates Cortical Immobility-Induced Hyperalgesia in Female Rats”
- 2:55 PM Allison Norman “Investigating the Reactive Oxygen Species Involved in Alcohol-Induced Osteopenia”
- 3:10 PM Diego Torres “Chronic Alcohol and Ovarian Hormone Loss – Mediated Mechanisms of Pancreatic Endocrine Dysfunction in Simian Immunodeficiency Virus Infected Macaques”
- 3:25 PM PREP Accomplishments, PREP Directorship

## PREP Scholars

### **Sheldon Davis, BS**

**Undergraduate University:** Pennsylvania State University

**Major:** Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

**Faculty Research Mentor/Department:**

Dr. Angela Amedee, Microbiology, Immunology & Parasitology

Dr. Tekeda Ferguson, Epidemiology



### **Zari McCullers, BS**

**Undergraduate University:** Towson University

**Major:** Cell and Molecular Biology

**Faculty Research Mentor/Department:**

Dr. Tiffany Wills, Cell Biology & Anatomy



### **Roshaun Mitchell-Cleveland, BS**

**Undergraduate University:** Southern University  
New Orleans

**Major:** Biology & Mathematics

**Faculty Research Mentor/Department:**

Dr. Scott Edwards, Physiology



### **Allison Norman, BS**

**Undergraduate University:** Alcorn State University

**Major:** Biochemistry

**Faculty Research Mentor/Department:**

Dr. Martin Ronis, Pharmacology



### **Diego Torres, BS**

**Undergraduate University:** Texas State University

**Major:** Biology, Biochemistry & Spanish

**Faculty Research Mentor/Department:**

Dr. Liz Simon, Physiology



## PREP Directorship



**Dr. Lisa M. Harrison-Bernard**

Director, LSUHSC-NO PREP  
Professor  
Department of Physiology  
Louisiana State University Health New Orleans  
PREP@lsuhsc.edu



**Dr. Allison C. Augustus-Wallace**

Co-Director, LSUHSC-NO PREP  
Associate Professor  
Office of Diversity and Community Engagement  
Director, Program Development Research  
Pre-Matriculation Program and Undergraduate Pipeline  
Programs for Diversity  
Executive Project and Program Director, LSUHSC-NO, SOM,  
SOD and SoPH-RWJF supported SHPEP  
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**Dr. Maureen Basha**

Program Coordinator, LSUHSC-NO PREP  
Associate Professor  
Department of Physiology  
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## Goals of PREP

The goal of the LSUHSC New Orleans PREP is to prepare individuals from backgrounds underrepresented in the biomedical sciences, who have recently completed their baccalaureate science degrees for successful enrollment, retention, and completion of a PhD training program.

## APPLICATION DATES

Open: December 1<sup>st</sup> Notice: April 30<sup>th</sup>  
Deadline: March 31<sup>st</sup> Start Date: June 1<sup>st</sup>

<http://PREP.lsuhs.edu>

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NIH Funding Grant Number: R25GM121189