

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

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Education

Doctor of Public Health, Epidemiology. Loma Linda University.

June 2015

Dissertation: *Respiratory Illness and Mental Health: An Evaluation of the Nationwide Inpatient Sample*

Certificate in Health Geoinformatics, Loma Linda University.

June 2014

Masters in Public Health, Biostatistics. Loma Linda University.

December 2011

MPH Project: *Estimating Missing Values in Meta-Regression Analysis*

Masters of Science, Plant Science. University of California, Riverside.

August 2009

Thesis: *Regulation of flowering in Citrus: Identification of stress-responsive elements in the promoters of floral identity genes.*

Bachelors of Science, Botany, Magna Cum Laude; Minor, Plant Pathology. California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

June 2006

Current Position

Assistant Professor

School of Allied Health Professions, Loma Linda University

06.2015-Present

- Consult on research and statistics for faculty and students
- Develop and teach courses in the School of Allied Health Professions
 - Fall 2015
 - AHCJ 471 – Statistics and Research for Health Professionals I
 - Undergraduate Communication Sciences and Disorders Program
 - Undergraduate Emergency Medical Care Program
 - HLIN 475 – Research Methods in Health Information Management
 - Undergraduate Health Information Administration Program
 - Summer 2015
 - AHCJ 472 – Statistics and Research for Health Professionals II
 - Graduate entry-level Masters in Orthotics and Prosthetics Program

Research Consultant

Department of Research.

William S. Middleton Veteran Memorial Hospital.

Supervisor: Nasia Safdar, MD, PhD

08.2014-Present

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

- Statistical analyses, Access database creation, and database management for infectious disease control epidemiology among patients with hospital acquired infections and comorbid diseases, nutritional factors, etc. via VINCI computing environment on VA secured remote networks.
- Database creation, maintenance, and statistical analyst for assessing infection control practices at Emergency Department in University of Wisconsin, Madison

Research Interests

Primary

- Health disparities among vulnerable populations with emphasis on racial/ethnic groups and Veterans.
- Health Services Research
- Complementary and Integrative Health

Secondary

- Infectious Disease Epidemiology
- Mental Health

Peer-reviewed publications

2015

1. **Becerra BJ**, Sis-Medina R, Reyes A, Becerra MB (2015). Association between food insecurity and serious psychological distress among Hispanic adults living in poverty. Accepted at *Preventing Chronic Disease*.
2. Becerra MB, **Becerra BJ**, and Safdar N. (2015). A Nationwide Assessment of Asthma Mental Health Nexus among Veterans. Accepted at *Journal of Asthma*.
3. Becerra MB, **Becerra BJ** (2015). Disparities in Age of Diabetes Diagnosis among Asian-Americans: Implications for early preventive measures. *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 12, E146. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5888/>
4. Becerra MB, **Becerra BJ**, Banta JE, and Safdar N (2015). Impact of Clostridium difficile infection among pneumonia and urinary tract infection hospitalizations: an analysis of the Nationwide Inpatient Sample. *BMC Infectious Diseases*, 15, 254. <http://doi.org/10.1186/s12879-015-0925-9>
5. Arias D, **Becerra BJ**, and Becerra MB (2015). Racial and Ethnic Differences in Asthma and Mental Health among US Adults: Results from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. *The Journal of Asthma*, 1–23. <http://doi.org/10.3109/02770903.2015.1005843>
6. Becerra MB, **Becerra BJ**, Daus GP, and Martin LR (2015). Determinants of Low Health Literacy Among Asian-American and Pacific Islanders in California. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, 2(2), 267–273. <http://doi.org/10.1007/s40615-015-0092-0>
7. Sarwar E, Arias D, **Becerra BJ**, and Becerra, MB (2015). Sociodemographic Correlates of Dietary Practices among Asian-Americans: Results from the California Health Interview Survey. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*, 1–7. <http://doi.org/10.1007/s40615-015-0097-8>
8. **Becerra BJ**, Becerra MB, and Safdar N (2015). A Nationwide Assessment of the Burden of Urinary Tract Infection among Renal Transplant Recipients. *Journal of Transplantation*, 2015, 854640. <http://doi.org/10.1155/2015/854640>

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

2014

9. **Becerra BJ** and Becerra MB (2014). Association between asthma and serious psychological distress among male veterans compared to civilian counterparts. *Preventive Medicine*, 71C, 8–11. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.ypmed.2014.11.029>
10. **Becerra BJ**, Scroggins CM, and Becerra MB (2014). Association between asthma and obesity among immigrant Asian Americans, California Health Interview Survey, 2001-2011. *Preventing Chronic Disease*, 11, E209. <http://doi.org/10.5888/pcd11.140333>
11. **Becerra BJ**, Becerra MB, Gerdine MC, and Banta JE (2014). Religion, Acculturation, and Incarceration: Determinants of Substance Use among Hispanic Adults in the United States. *Journal of Environmental and Public Health*, 2014, e459596. <http://doi.org/10.1155/2014/459596>

Presentations

Underline indicates presenter role

1. Becerra BJ, Banta JE, Ghamsary M, Martin LR, and Safdar N. 2015. Burden of Mental Illness on Hospital and Patient Outcomes among Asthma Hospitalizations. *Poster presentation at the National Conference on Health Statistics. North Bethesda, Maryland, USA*
2. Becerra BJ, Becerra MB, Gerdine MC, and Banta JE. 2015. Religion, acculturation, and incarceration: determinants of substance use among Hispanic adults in the United States. *Poster presentation at the Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools (HSHPS) 2015 Data Systems Workshop, National Institutes of Health. Bethesda, Maryland, USA.*
3. Becerra BJ, Arias D, and Becerra MB. 2015. Association of Asthma with Mental Health among U.S. Hispanics. *Oral presentation at the Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools (HSHPS) 2015 Data Systems Workshop, National Institutes of Health. Bethesda, Maryland, USA.*
4. Becerra MB, Sis-Medina R, Reyes A, and Becerra BJ. 2015. Serious Psychological Distress among Low Income Hispanic Adults. *Oral presentation at the Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools (HSHPS) 2015 Data Systems Workshop, National Institutes of Health. Bethesda, Maryland, USA.*
5. McKinley L, Becerra BJ, and Safdar N. 2015. Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus and Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus Co-Colonization Rates in Critically Ill Veterans. *42nd Annual Conference Abstracts, APIC 2015, Nashville, Tennessee, USA. American Journal of Infection Control*, 43(6, Supplement), S18. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2015.04.045>
6. Vigor ML, Pulia MS, Becerra BJ, Ide E, and Safdar N. 2015. Patient Hand Hygiene Perspectives and Behaviors in the Emergency Department. *Poster abstract accepted at 23rd Annual Emergency Medicine Research Forum, Medical College of Wisconsin. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA.*

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

7. Diaz-Roman Y, Martin L, Becerra BJ and Sears DD. 2015. Utilization of Diabetes Classes among Hispanics for Self-management, BRFSS 2012. *Poster presentation at the 2015 Public Health Research Day, University of California, San Diego (UCSD) Institute for Public Health. San Diego, California, USA.*
8. Becerra BJ, Becerra MB, and Gerdine MC. 2013. Social Determinants of Alcohol and Substance Abuse among Hispanic Adults: Results from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). *Poster presentation at the Southern California Public Health Association (SCPHA) 2013 Annual Conference. Los Angeles, California, USA.*
9. Becerra BJ and Becerra MB. 2013. Health Literacy among Asian Americans. *Poster presentation at the Southern California Public Health Association (SCPHA) 2013 Annual Conference. Los Angeles, California, USA.*
10. Becerra BJ and Becerra MB. 2013. Nature versus Nurture: A Case for Renal Cell Carcinoma. *Poster presentation at the American Public Health Association 141th Annual Meeting and Exposition. Boston, Massachusetts, USA.*
11. Montgomery S, Becerra BJ, Becerra MB, Spencer-Hwang R, Sharpe III W, Newman P, and Soret S. 2013. Childhood Obesity and Risk of Asthma: The ENRRICH Project. *Presentation at the American Public Health Association 141th Annual Meeting and Exposition. Boston, Massachusetts, USA.*
12. Montgomery S, Becerra MB, Becerra BJ, Spencer-Hwang R, Newman P, and Soret S. 2013. Perceived Needs and Concerns of Residents in a Rail Yard Community: The ENRRICH Project. *Poster presentation at the American Public Health Association 141th Annual Meeting and Exposition. Boston, Massachusetts, USA.*
13. Montgomery S, Spencer-Hwang R, Becerra MB, Becerra BJ, Newman P, and Soret S. 2013. Using CBPR Results to Advocate Policy Development in an Environmental Justice Community: The ENRRICH Project. *Poster presentation at the American Public Health Association 141th Annual Meeting and Exposition. Boston, Massachusetts, USA.*
14. Becerra MB, Spencer-Hwang R, Soret S, Becerra BJ, Newman P, and Montgomery S. 2012. Childhood Obesity and Asthma: Implications for Public Health Practice. *Poster presentation at the Southern California Public Health Association (SCPHA) 2012 Annual Conference. Los Angeles, California, USA.*
15. Becerra BJ, Humphrey J, Becerra MB, Soret S, Spencer-Hwang R, and Montgomery S. 2012. Voice of Concern from Residents in a San Bernardino Rail Yard Community: The ENRRICH Project. *Poster presentation at the Southern California Public Health Association (SCPHA) 2012 Annual Conference. Los Angeles, California, USA.*
16. Spencer-Hwang R, Montgomery S, Becerra BJ, Amachree O, and Soret S. 2012. Breaking Ground in an Environmental Justice Community to Mitigate Pollution Exposure for Elementary School Children. *Poster presentation at the 2012 Summit on the Science for Eliminating Health Disparities. National Harbor, Maryland, USA.*
17. Soret S, Nguyen C, Ramos Y, Nessly K, Becerra BJ, Spencer-Hwang R, and Montgomery S. 2012. Integration of CBPR and Technology: Addressing Health Disparities in an

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

Environmental Justice Community. *Poster presentation at the 2012 Summit on the Science for Eliminating Health Disparities. National Harbor, Maryland, USA.*

18. Becerra BJ, Soret S, Nguyen C, Shavlik D, Spencer-Hwang R, and Montgomery S. 2012. Determining the association between ambient noise pollution and negative health outcomes in a railyard community: The ENRRICH Project. *Poster presentation at the American Public Health Association 140th Annual Meeting and Exposition. San Francisco, California, USA.*
19. Spencer-Hwang R, Soret S, Becerra BJ, Becerra MB, Youssef C, Valladares J, Rangel S, Dougherty M, Barreno T, Newman P and Montgomery S. 2012. Impact Assessment of Major Railyard Emissions on Children's Respiratory Health: The ENRRICH Project. *Poster presentation at the American Academy of Pediatrics Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.*
20. Becerra BJ, Nguyen C, Spencer-Hwang R, Montgomery S, and Soret S. 2012. Modeling ambient noise patterns in a railyard community: The ENRRICH Project. *Poster presentation at the Healthy Communities by Design Conference. Loma Linda, California, USA.*
21. Ang A, Soret S, Spencer-Hwang R, Ghamsary M, Becerra BJ, Ramos Y, and Montgomery S. 2012. The Effects of Residential Proximity to Railyards on Asthma Emergency Room Visits in Children. *Poster presentation at the Healthy Communities by Design Conference. Loma Linda, California, USA.*
22. Salary C, Spencer-Hwang R, Soret S, Ghamsary M, Becerra BJ, Ramos Y, and Montgomery S. 2012. Impact of Residential Proximity to a San Bernardino Railyard: ENRRICH Project Community Health Assessment. *Poster presentation at the Healthy Communities by Design Conference. Loma Linda, California, USA.*
23. Amachree O, Spencer-Hwang R, Soret S, Montgomery S, Becerra MB, Becerra BJ. 2012. Asthma in School Children Near A Busy Rail Yard in Inland Southern California: Does Gender Matter?. *Poster presentation at the Healthy Communities by Design Conference. Loma Linda, California, USA.*
24. Spencer-Hwang R., Soret S., Becerra BJ, Newman P, and Montgomery S., 2012. Impact of major railyard emissions on children's health: The ENRRICH Project. *Poster presentation at the 24th Annual International Society for Environmental Epidemiology Conference. Columbia, South Carolina, USA.*
25. Becerra BJ and Soret S. 2012. Prevention and policy recommendations for mitigating the potential harmful effects of diesel exhaust particle emissions. *Poster presentation at the Healthy People 2012 Conference. Loma Linda, California, USA.*
26. Becerra BJ, Narváez-Vásquez J, Orozco-Cárdenas M, Lovatt CJ. October 27, 2008. Regulation of Flowering in *Citrus*: Preliminary Results on the Role of Water-deficit Stress and Abscisic Acid. *Oral presentation at the XIth International Citrus Congress. Wuhan, China.*

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

Other manuscripts

1. Becerra BJ. Big Data: A Paradigm Shift For Public Health Research. *News & Views*, American Public Health Association Student Assembly, Spring 2014 edition: page 7.
2. Becerra BJ. A Pinch of Turmeric Keeps the Doctor Away?. *News & Views*, American Public Health Association Student Assembly, Winter 2014 edition: page 5.
3. Becerra BJ. HSHPS/VA Fellowship: An Intern's Perspective. *News & Views*, American Public Health Association Student Assembly, Student Internships Special Edition 2013: page 3.
4. Becerra BJ. Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome and Endometrial Cancer: The Importance of Early Screening and Prevention. *News & Views*, American Public Health Association Student Assembly, Spring 2013 edition: page 4.

Previous research experience

Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools Fellow
Medicine Services, William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital Intern
June 2014 – August 2014

- Creation of Access database for maintaining information regarding over 150 providers under Medicine Services; populating data automatically using Microsoft InfoPath and Outlook
- Physician mapping using DSS (Decision Support System); automation of subtasks including Excel arrays (INDEX, MATCH, VLOOKUP functions), VBA Macros
- Automation of routine tasks in Vista (Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture) by creating keyboard-mapped macros
- Introduced Microsoft Word Mail Merge feature to office to reduce time allocated to creating and sending group emails
- Create, file, and process OPPEs (Ongoing Professional Practice Evaluation) for assessing physician performance, reaccreditation, etc.
- Assist Administrative Officer in Executive Congressional Writing for Office of the Director

Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools Fellow
Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Office, VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System Intern
June 2013 – August 2013

- In order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the EEO Office, a stakeholder's needs assessment was performed. Key informant interviews of 41 employees were conducted, ranging from wage grade (WG) employees up to senior management.
- NVivo 10 software was utilized to conduct a qualitative analysis of key informant interviews to identify recurring themes after transcription of interviews. Word tag clouds, univariate analyses, and other quantitative statistics were generated for reporting results.
- A SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis was performed to discover aspects of the EEO Office that could be improved.
- Semi-quantitative feedback forms were created and implemented for use in regular Diversity events for continuous quality improvement.

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

- Recommendations were formulated based on a combination of stakeholders' needs, current resources of the EEO Office, and performance measures.
- Aided in scheduling meetings, data retrieval from VHA databases including VSSC, writing reports for Office of the Director
- Participated in several outreach activities organized for women and minorities, religious diversity, veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn, etc.

Statistical Consultant January 2013-Present

- Provide statistical data consulting services (paid and in-kind) to doctoral and masters-level students, faculty. Collaborate with various institutions. Topics range from Health Education, Health Psychology, Environmental Epidemiology, Healthcare Utilization, etc.
- Selected projects:
 - Consultant for medical student at University of Wisconsin, Madison relating nutritional factors with hospital-acquired infections using National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)
 - Consultant for doctoral student on dissertation: social determinants of obesity among Asian-American Children
 - Loma Linda University Adventist Health and Smog (AHSMOG) study – Geocoding using ArcGIS and Google API, data cleaning using SAS, utilizing Generalized Additive Models (GAM) to create predicted raster surfaces using R and ArcGIS
 - Consulting statistician in assessing health education resources among Hispanics with diabetes using Behavioral Risk Factor and Surveillance System (BRFSS) data
 - Acted as primary statistician with analysis of CHIS data to explore the determinants of asthma outcomes as it relates to family acculturation among Latino children in California using STATA software

Graduate Research Assistant ENRRICH Project, School of Public Health, Loma Linda University November 2011-April 2013

- Database Management (SAS, SQL, Microsoft Access, ArcGIS) of several databases.
- Create data entry forms using Microsoft Excel and Access with data validation checks to reduce data entry errors.
- Aid in survey design based on validated instruments and creation of novel survey instruments (Likert scales, True/False, etc.).
- Evaluate survey discrepancies between surveys (English and Spanish versions, survey revisions, etc.).
- Evaluate, create report, and provide feedback to data entry staff on data entry error rates; aid principal investigators on decision-making.
- Statistical Analyses using SAS, SPSS.
- GIS mapping and Geostatistical analyses using ArcGIS.
- Qualitative data analysis with MaxQDA software for interview data and open-ended questions on surveys (Convert qualitative data into quantitative data for use in SAS and

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

ArcGIS) Create graphs, tables, maps, presentations, and manuscripts for community meetings, research conferences, and publications.

- Present research findings at local, national, and international conferences.
- Attend and keep minutes for meetings with research staff and community-based organizations.
- Mentored other employees, students, and interns with SAS/SPSS software, data entry, statistical analyses, GIS mapping with ArcGIS, publications, etc. Provided training on Microsoft Excel and Powerpoint for creating charts, graphs, and posters for several local, state, and academic conferences. Aided with study design and evaluation of associated projects. Guided several students with MPH project reports and needed output.

Previous teaching experience

Adjunct Professor

School of Allied Health Professions, Loma Linda University

September 2014 – June 2015

- Develop and teach courses in the School of Allied Health Professions
- Spring 2015
 - AHCJ 471 – Statistics and Research for Health Professionals I
 - Graduate entry-level Masters in Orthotics and Prosthetics Program
 - AHCJ 351 – Statistics for the Health Professions
 - Undergraduate Health Information Administration Program
- Winter 2015
 - AHCJ 472 – Statistics and Research for Health Professionals II (two sections)
 - Undergraduate Communications Sciences and Disorders Program
 - Undergraduate Emergency Medical Care Program
- Fall 2014
 - AHCJ 471 – Statistics and Research for Health Professionals I
 - Undergraduate Communications Sciences and Disorders Program
 - AHCJ 511 – Biostatistics
 - Post-Professional Masters and Doctorate in Physical Therapy Program

Invited Guest Speaker – “Academic Careers”

Student Mentorship Program for Hispanic Health Research (sMPH2r)

Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools, Washington, DC

July 30, 2015

- Discussed various health career tracks within academic and what it takes to succeed as part of sMPH2r, a national mentorship program aimed at recruiting mentees interested in Hispanic health issues and research
- Introduced the three major sections of academia: teaching, research, and service
- Provided feedback to questions from mentees

Invited Seminar Speaker – “Making Sense of Big Data and GIS”

Dept. of Earth and Biological Sciences, Biology & Geology Seminar, Loma Linda University

January 14, 2015

- Discussed introduction to big data, machine learning, and other topics
- Identified key sources of proprietary and public data sources for biology and life sciences
- Demonstrated examples for use of geospatial visual analytics and big data using Google Public Data Explorer, R, ArcGIS, and Tableau Public

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

Invited Seminar Speaker – “Big Data and Your Data: A Spatial Approach”
Health Geoinformatics Monthly Seminar Series, Loma Linda University
May 21, 2014

- Discussed introduction to big data, including data manipulation, cleaning, aggregation
- Identified key sources of proprietary and public data sources for public health
- Demonstrated examples for use of geospatial visual analytics and big data using Google Public Data Explorer, R, and ArcGIS

Invited Guest Lecturer

Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Population Medicine, Loma Linda University.
Fall 2013, 2014

- Advanced Data Analysis course: Invited guest lecturer for Factor Analysis/Principal Components Analysis.
- Epidemiologic Methods III: Invited guest lecturer to create curricula and present two lectures on multiple imputation (2013) and analyses with missing data and complex probability survey design using examples from NHANES and National Survey of Children's Health (2013 and 2014).

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Population Medicine, Loma Linda University.
September 2012-December 2012

- Guest lecturer for two classes on topics of Factor Analysis and Internal validity assessment of survey instruments.
- Grading of student assignments.
- Aided students with understanding class material (Advanced Statistical Analyses).

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Department of Botany and Plant Sciences, University of California, Riverside.
September 2007-December 2007

- Developed laboratory exercises, quizzes, and exams to teach and evaluate students on subjects in basic plant biology.
- Evaluated student assignments, quizzes, and exams and recorded grades.
- Providing advice on course content and on general academic advice during office hour sessions and through e-mail.

Coordinator, Copernicus Project, University of California, Riverside.
July-August 2007, July-August 2008

- Developed a teaching module encompassing aspects of plant biology, forensics, biotechnology, genetics, development, molecular biology, and biomedical sciences.
- Taught basic science to community college interns interested in pursuing a career in academia through lectures and hands-on laboratory experiments as a part of The Copernicus Project outreach program.

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

Service

Secretary-Elect, APHA Integrative, Complementary and Traditional Health Practices: 2015 – Present

- Ensure that minutes of annual business meeting and phone conferences are taken and distributed to all members
- Assist Chair with administrative matters

Development Committee, APHA Latino Caucus for Public Health: 2014 – Present

- Outreach to potential supporters and hosts for funding
- Liaise with funders and hosts to support activities of the Latino Caucus

HSHPs Student Mentorship Program for Hispanic Health Research (sMPH2r): December 2013-August 2015

- Mentor for undergraduate, post-bac, and graduate health professions students committed to research with the Hispanic community in professional development, research methodology, networking, etc.
 - Primary Mentor for 2015 Project: Analyze policies on access to syringe exchange services for persons who inject drugs (PWID) and compare impact on HIV rates
 - Secondary Mentor for 2014 Project: HIV Prevention Services Utilization among PWID in the San Diego U.S.-Mexico border region
- Reviewer: Review applications for sMPH2r program

Journal Article Reviewer

- Epidemiology
- American Journal of Public Health
- Public Health Reports
- Journal of Health Disparities Research and Practice
- California Journal of Health Promotion

Abstract/Application Reviewer

- 2015 National Hispanic Science Network Annual International Conference on Drug Use and Health
- 2014 National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Grantees' Conference Abstracts
- 2014 HSHPS Professional Development and Data Systems Workshop Conference Abstracts
- American Public Health Association Conference Abstracts: 2014 – Present
- 2014 Latina Researchers Conference Abstracts
- 2013 HSHPS Student Mentorship Program for Hispanic Health Research (sMPH2r) Applications

Planning Committee, HSHPS Professional Development and Data Systems Workshop. Held at National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, MD: July 2014.

- Spearheaded development of new poster session for students and early career professionals.

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

- Part of team for developing workshop data systems cheat sheet. Information contains relevant statistical information for utilizing state and national datasets for research for individuals with varying statistical backgrounds.
- Other roles: Contributing to overall workshop planning, developing new programs, activity selection, locating funding sources, etc.
- Currently working with development committee to plan next year's workshop

Session Moderator

- HSHPS Professional Development and Data Systems Workshop; Bethesda, MD: July 2013.
- Botany Graduate Research Conference; Riverside, CA: June 2008.

Chair, Botany Graduate Student Association, University of California, Riverside: 2007-2008

- Liaison between faculty and graduate students.
- Organized and coordinated social events for students, staff and faculty.
- Called meetings to discuss the group's progress and strategic planning for future events.
- Assisted in other duties, such as treasury, event marketing, fundraising, purchasing, etc.
- Secured funds through fundraising activities to provide conference grants to students.
- Coordinated a campus-wide graduate student conference. Secured off-campus keynote guest lecturer.

Professional Memberships

- American Public Health Association (APHA).
- National Hispanic Science Network (NHSN)
- Southern California Public Health Association.
- Latino Caucus for Public Health.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - Hispanic Employee Organization (HHS-HEO)

Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

- Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools (HSHPS)/U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Graduate Fellowship Training Program: 2014.
- American Public Health Association Conference Scholarship, funded by The California Endowment. Latino Caucus for Public Health: 2013 and 2012.
- Hispanic-Serving Health Professions Schools (HSHPS)/U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Graduate Fellowship Training Program: 2013.
- 2013 HSHPS Hispanic Health Services Research Scholars Program.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Services and Research Administration (HRSA)-funded Public Health Traineeship Award. School of Public Health, Loma Linda University, 2013.
- Selma Andrews Scholarship Endowment. School of Public Health, Loma Linda University: 2013 and 2012.
- Travel Grant. Botany Graduate Student Association, University of California, Riverside: 2008.
- Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP): 2008.

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

- Eugene Cota-Robles Award. University of California, Riverside: 2006.
- National Science Foundation-funded Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (NSF-AGEP) Fellowship. University of California, Riverside: 2006.
- Magna Cum Laude. California State Polytechnic University, Pomona: 2006.
- National Science Foundation – Research Experiences for Undergraduates (NSF REU). University of California, Riverside: 2005.
- Dean's Honor List. California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.
- President's Honor List. California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Languages

- English: full native proficiency.
- Spanish: working proficiency.

Computer Skills

- Microsoft Office: Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- Microsoft Access, Sharepoint, InfoPath, Outlook
- Image editing software: Adobe PhotoShop, Corel PaintShop Pro
- Adobe Acrobat Professional
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: ProClarity analytics, DSS (Decision Support System), VSSC (VHA Support Service Center) Data, Vista, VINCI (VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure)
- Bioinformatics software: Vector NTI
- Citation manager software: Zotero, EndNote
- Qualitative data analysis: MAXQDA, NVivo
- Statistical analysis packages: SAS, SPSS, STATA, R, Epi Info
- Database management language: SQL
- Geographic Information Systems: ArcGIS (Desktop and Online), ESRI Community Analyst, ERDAS Imagine
- Basic Computer Diagnostics
- Basic Video and Sound Editing/Publishing
- Social Networking
- Willing and able to learn any computer applications

Laboratory Skills

- Histology
- Molecular cloning
- Gel electrophoresis
- Plant tissue culture
- Bacterial culture and transformation
- Immunohistochemistry and enzymatic assays
- DNA extraction and analysis
- Protein, DNA, and RNA detection
- Polymerase chain reaction (PCR), and quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR)

Benjamin J. Becerra, DrPH, MPH, MS

References

Available upon request.