

## **KALIRIS SALAS-RAMIREZ, PH.D.**

The Sophie Davis School for Biomedical Education - CUNY Medical School, Department of Physiology, Pharmacology, and Neuroscience 160 Convent Ave, New York, NY 10031 | office 212-650-8255, fax 212-650-7726 | [ksalasram@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:ksalasram@ccny.cuny.edu)

### EMPLOYMENT

The Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education – CUNY Medical School  
The City College of New York

**Assistant Medical Professor**

**Aug 2011 - present**

**Research Assistant Professor**

**Feb 2011 – July 2011**

### EDUCATION

The Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education – CUNY Medical School  
The City College of New York

**Post Doctoral Research Assistant**

**2008 - 2011**

Advisor: Dr. Eitan Friedman; Collaborator and Mentor: Dr. Victoria Luine (Hunter College, CUNY)

Research focus: The effects of prenatal and adolescent cocaine on the developing brain and behavior, specifically cognition, addiction and neuronal plasticity.

Michigan State University

**Ph.D. in Neuroscience**

**2001-2007**

Dissertation: Adolescent Anabolic Steroid Exposure: Social Behaviors and Neural Plasticity

Advisor: Dr. Cheryl Sisk

Graduate Guidance Committee: Dr. S. Marc Breedlove, Dr. Antonio Nunez and Dr. David Kreulen

Research focus: Organizational and activational effects of gonadal hormones during adolescence, anabolic steroids, social behavior and neural plasticity

University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras Campus

**Graduate Student, MS level**

**2000-2001**

Advisor: Dr. Carmen Maldonado-Vlaar

Research focus: Neurobiology of drug addiction and behavioral psychopharmacology, interactions between dopamine and glutamate receptors

University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez Campus

**BS in Biology**

**1996-2000**

Equivalent to a minor: Psychology

Honors: Magna Cum Laude

### AWARDS/HONORS

NHSN Early Career Pilot Award

June 2011

Travel award to attend the Society for Neuroscience from CUNY Graduate Center

November 2010

Travel Award for FASEB/MARC Leadership Development And Grant Writing Workshop

August 2009

Fellowship from Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories to attend the Cellular Biology of Addiction Course	August 2009
New Investigator Award – National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse	October 2008
Dissertation Completion Fellowship from MSU Graduate School	Aug 2007 – Dec 2007
Recognition for Young Investigators from the National Institutes of Drug Abuse (NIDA) for conducting research on drug use – American Psychological Association (APA)	August 2007
CARE Imprinting Award and Interdivisional Mentoring Fellowship	August 2007
Special Recognition for Research at the APA Convention presented by the Graduate Student Council	August 2007
NIH Fellowship Award to attend the NIH National Graduate Research Festival – 250 advanced graduate students chosen from 1,000 applicants were invited to visit the NIH campus to recruit them for post-doctoral fellowships at NIH	October 2006
Travel Fellowship from the Michigan AGEP Alliance to attend the meeting for the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology	June 2006
Research Enhancement Award from the MSU Graduate School to attend the meeting for the Society for Neuroscience	November 2005
Lay Summary in the Society for Neuroscience Pressbook for research on anabolic steroid exposure during adolescence	November 2005
Training Fellowship: MSU Graduate School and the Integrative Neurobiology of Social Processes Training Grant	Aug 2005 - May 2006
Poster Award at Behavior, Clinical Neuroscience, Substance Abuse and Culture Meeting	October 2002
Student Scholar Travel Award for the Behavior, Clinical Neuroscience, Substance Abuse and Culture Meeting	October 2002
Pre-doctoral Fellowship from the APA-Diversity Program in Neuroscience	Aug 2002 – July 2005
Travel Fellowship from the MSU Graduate School and ALANA for the Meeting for the Society for Neuroscience	November 2001
Fellowship from the President of the University of Puerto Rico to complete graduate studies	Aug 2001 – May 2004
Pre-doctoral Fellowship from NIH-RISE Program, UPR – Rio Piedras	January 2001 – August 2001

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The Sophie Davis School for Biomedical Education, at The City College of New York – CUNY

**Lecturer in Introduction to Drug Abuse and Addiction, Medical Pharmacology and Medical Neuroscience** **August 2008 – present**

Lecture four classes that introduce and focus on basic concepts of gross neuroanatomy, basic neurochemistry, brain pathways and anabolic steroids for an undergraduate course on drug abuse. Also, a three hour lecture in the Pharmacology course for medical and physician assistant students on steroid hormones as treatment for different disorders and anabolic steroid abuse. In Clinical Neuroscience, teaches nine Human Neuroanatomy laboratories focused on motor pathways, the somatosensory system, the hypothalamus, the limbic system, the cerebellum, the vestibular system and gross human neuroanatomy. In addition, a three-hour lecture on the organization of the limbic system and the hypothalamus.

Coordinators: Dr. Andre Ragnauth (Drug Addiction), Dr. Kho Kashfi (Pharmacology), Dr. John Martin (Clinical Neuroscience)

Department of Psychology, Hunter College, City University of New York

**Adjunct Assistant Professor** **January 2009 – 2011**

Designed and lectured “PSY 309: Sex and Behavior,” an advanced course for juniors and seniors majoring in psychology. The course focuses on describing the interactions between hormones and behavior. Basic concepts in behavioral endocrinology are introduced, as well as how hormones play a role in sexual differentiation, male and female sexual behavior, parental behavior, learning and memory, stress, aggression, homeostasis and biological rhythms.

Design and lecture “PSY 369: Drugs and Behavior,” an advanced course for juniors and seniors in Psychology. This course focuses on the neurochemical substrates of brain functioning and introduction to the historical context and social ramifications of drug use.

Prepare course evaluations and assignments.

Design and lecture “PSY 328: States of Consciousness,” an advance course for juniors and seniors in Psychology. This course focuses on understanding the phenomena, philosophy and neural correlates of consciousness and awareness.

Prepare course evaluations, class activities and assignments.

Yeshiva University, Stern College for Women

**Adjunct Faculty – Physiology Laboratory; Neurobiology; Neuroscience Topics** **August 2008 – 2011**

Lecture and teach a physiology laboratory that compliments the Physiology course.

Topics such as cell transport, human senses, endocrine systems, nervous system, muscle histology, cardiovascular physiology, respiratory system, kidney function, and renal system physiology discussed.

Coordinator: Dr. Jeffrey Weisburg

A 2-credit lecture course on the neurobiology and biological psychology for Biology and Psychology majors. This introductory course in neuroscience is intended for students who have a general interest in how the brain controls behavior. The course covers fundamental concepts of molecular, cellular, and systems physiology to understand 1) how individual nerves work and communicate, 2) how the nervous system controls various aspects of behavior, 3) how experimental approaches are used to unravel the neurobiological basis for animal and human behavior and 4) what the basis of mental disorders are. Examples are taken from various vertebrate groups. At the end of the course the student should have an appreciation for how neural pathways in the brain integrate sensory input and motor output, including topics such as sexual behavior, aggression, biological timing, and learning and memory. Students are introduced to primary literature in the field of neuroscience. Undergraduate juniors and seniors.

Neuroscience Topics Course: Introduction to Behavioral Pharmacology

Michigan State University

**Teaching Assistant for Methods in Neuroscience Course**

**January 2004-May 2004**

Graduate level, preparing lab modules for lab course, teaching module on

Female Sexual Behavior, 10 students

Coordinator: Dr. Cynthia Jordan

University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras

**Instructor for Introduction to Biology Lab Course**

**August 2000 – Dec 2000**

Teach two lab sections of a total of 60 students, perform lab modules, create quizzes, proctor tests, correct lab notebooks, and evaluate student's performance.

Coordinator: Dr. Mayra Cadiz

**RELATED EXPERIENCE/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

New York University Langone Medical Center

**Advances in Addiction Research and Practice**

**November 2009**

The enormous progress made in basic and clinical research on addiction and pain, and on dissemination, implementation and sustainability of new treatments in the community will be the focus of this all-day symposium for basic and clinical neuroscientists and practitioners (physicians, nurse, psychologists, social workers, rehabilitation counselors, etc.) as well as members of the NYU and greater NY City community with personal, clinical, public health, policy interests in addiction (community members, provider agency leadership and staff, City and State agency leadership and staff, public and private schools.) Speakers: Eric Nestler, Mount Sinai; George Koob, Scripps; Christopher Evans, UCLA; Nora Volkow, NIDA; Mary-Jeanne Kreek, Rockefeller; Brigitte Kieffer, IGBMC; Kenneth Carr, NYU; Eric Simon, NYU

FASEB/ Minority Access Research Careers

**August 2009**

**Leadership Development and Grant Writing Seminar Program for Graduate Students and Postdocs**

A two-day workshop that included:

- "Getting Started as a Successful Grant Writer and Academician" presented by Dr. David C. Morrison of Grant Writers' Seminars & Workshops, LLC.

- "Leadership Development" presented by Dr. Howard G. Adams of H.G. Adams & Associates, Inc. This was a combination of lectures, interactive sessions and group discussions.

Workbooks and reading materials were provided at both sessions.

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories

**Cellular Biology of Addiction**

**August 2009**

The primary objective of the workshop is to provide an intense dialogue of the fundamentals, state-of-the-art advances and major gaps in the cell and molecular biology of drug addiction. Targeted to new or experienced investigators, the workshop combines formal presentations and informal discussions to convey the merits and excitement of cellular and molecular approaches to drug addiction research.

Coordinators/Instructors: Christopher Evans, *UCLA* and Mark Von Zastrow, *UCSD*

Faculty: George Augustine, *Duke University Medical Center*; Laura Bierut, *Washington University*; Julie Blendy, *University of Pennsylvania*; Antonello Bonci, *University of California, San Francisco*; Robert Edwards, *University of California, San Francisco*; Ulrike Heberlein, *University of California, San Francisco*; Peter Kalivas, *Medical University of South Carolina*; Brigitte Kieffer, *Institut de Genetique et de Biologie Moleculaire et Cellulaire*; George Koob, *The Scripps Research Institute*; Mary Jeanne Kreek, *Rockefeller University*; Ken Mackie, *Indiana University*; Bertha

Madras, *Harvard University*; Angus Nairn, *Yale University School of Medicine*; Eric Nestler, *UT Southwestern at Dallas*; Charles O'Brien, *University of Pennsylvania*; Marina Picciotto, *Yale University*; David Sulzer, *Columbia University Medical School*; Mark Wightman, *University of North Carolina*; John Williams, *Oregon Health & Science Institute*

Institute for Teaching and Mentoring: the Compact for Faculty Diversity

**Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP),**

**Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)**

**2005-2008**

Each year The Compact for Faculty Diversity sponsors the Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, a four-day conference that has become the largest gathering of minority doctoral scholars in the country. The purpose of the Institute is to provide scholars with the skills necessary to succeed in graduate study and to prepare them for success as faculty members at colleges and universities. In addition, the Institute provides scholars and their faculty mentors with opportunities to share knowledge about research and academia, to meet other scholars and faculty from throughout the country, and to link to a larger community of scholars and faculty in various academic fields. The Institute focuses on mentoring and teaching preparation, community insights and scholar networking. Workshops are scheduled to provide doctoral scholars opportunities to share insights and tips in graduate work. Scholars can network with faculty representatives and other doctoral scholars to share information on teaching, mentoring, research and building a career in higher education. Attended yearly conference.

**Michigan AGEP Conferences**

**2005 - 2006**

Three conferences:

*Wayne State University*: Workshops focused on diversity in the classroom, in mentoring, creating an inclusive learning environment and how faculty member's race, ethnicity and gender influence learning. Offered by: Prof. Anna Maria Santiago (Wayne State University) and Dr. Lorraine Gutierrez (University of Michigan), along with other guest speakers.

*Michigan State University*: Workshop based on effective strategies for setting expectations and resolving conflicts, along with the process and art of communicating. Presented by Dr. Antonio Nunez (Neuroscience), Dr. Julie Brockman (Graduate School) and Dr. Janet Lillie (Department of Communication).

*University of Michigan*: An NSF funded grant that promotes innovative ways to recruit, mentor and retain underrepresented minorities. This was the first conference help for the Michigan AGEP Alliance.

- Keynote Speech: Replenishing and Reforming the Science and Technology Academic Workforce for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Dr. Orlando Taylor
- Panel Discussion: Have you considered an Academic Career?
- Faculty Expectations
- Transitioning from Student to Faculty
- What do we want from AGEPEP?

Howard University

**Preparing Future Faculty Program**

**Summer 2006**

The PFF program address the full scope of faculty roles and responsibilities that include teaching, research, and service, emphasizing how the expectations for these responsibilities often differ in different campus settings. Doctoral students participating in PFF programs have multiple mentors and receive reflective feedback not only for their research activities but also for their teaching and service activities.

Michigan State University

**Responsible Conduct of Research Series**

**August 2002 – January**

**2004**

A parallel effort of the Graduate School and the Office of Regulatory Affairs to organize and make available resources to facilitate communication, education and understanding of topics related to ethics, academics and research. Five different sessions take throughout two years.

- Responsible Decision-Making in Academic Research: Ethical and Moral Perspectives
- Maintaining a Productive and Responsive Environment for Conducting Graduate Research
- Responsibility to Subjects of Research: Animals
- Responsibility to Subjects of Research: Humans
- Objectivity and Conflicting Interests in Academic Research

Marine Biological Laboratories, Woods Hole

**Summer Program in Neuroscience, Ethics and Survival (SPINES)**

**Summer 2002**

Participated in SPINES course directed by Dr. Joe Martinez, Jr (UTSA) and Dr. James Townsel (Meharry Medical College). Topics such as grant writing, mentorship, journal submission, oral and poster presentations, science talks, ethics and personal development.

Conducted research in Dr. Richard LeBaron's and Dr. Joe Martinez lab in Woods Hole learning electrophysiology and cell culture methodology. Experiments were conducted looking at integrins in the hippocampus when LTP is induced. Also, staining for actin and  $\alpha$ -tubulin in disassociated hippocampal neurons after cell stimulation.

University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras

**MGE Teaching Assistant Training**

**Summer 2000**

Workshop created by Minority Graduate Education Program

Communication Skills, Teaching Strategies, Student/Professor Policies, Safety Guidelines in Laboratories, CPR training, Stress Management

Rutgers University, The State University of New Jersey

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**

**Summer 1999**

Part of a Summer Internship and Exchange program between Rutgers University and UPR-Mayagüez funded by the USDA; funded for an additional month by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ).

Conducted research in biotechnology, molecular techniques, mostly restriction enzyme digestions and mapping.

Mentor: Dr. Michael Lawton, Department of Plant Science

University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez

**Undergraduate Research Assistant**

**1999 - 2000**

Participated in research in the Natural Products Organic Chemistry lab on *Morinda citrifolia*, a fruit used to make a commercial juice and medicinal remedy. Mentor: Dr. Fernando Souto, Department of Chemistry

Participated in research interviewing HIV+/AIDS patients to identify their emotional and physical needs. Mentor: Dr. Douglas Santos and Dr. Milagritos Cruz, Department of Psychology

**PUBLICATIONS**

Delorme, KC, Schulz, KM, Salas-Ramirez, KY\*, Sisk, CL. *Pubertal testosterone organizes regional volume and neuronal number within the medial amygdala of adult male Syrian hamsters*. Brain Research, Jun 15;1460:33-40. Epub 2012 Apr 26

Frankfurt, M, Salas-Ramirez, KY\*, Friedman, E and Luine, VN. *Cocaine alters dendritic spine density in cortical and subcortical brain regions of the postpartum and virgin female rat*. Synapse, Sep 2011;65 (9):955-61. Epub 2011 Apr 7.

Salas-Ramirez, KY\*, Frankfurt, M, Alexander, A, Luine, VN and Friedman, E. *Prenatal cocaine exposure increases anxiety, impairs cognitive function and increases dendritic spine density in adult rats*. Neuroscience. 2010 Sep 1;169 (3):1287-95. Epub 2010 May 27

Salas-Ramirez, KY\*, Montalto, PR and Sisk, CL. *Anabolic steroids produce long-lasting effects on social behaviors in male Syrian Hamsters*. Behavioural Brain Research. 2009 Apr 2; 208 (2):328-35. Epub 2009 Dec 30. (press-release in Miller-McCune Online Newsletter: <http://miller-mccune.com/mice/teen-steroid-use-suppresses-submissiveness-1716>)

Schulz, KM, Zehr, JL, Salas-Ramirez, KY\* and Sisk, CL. *Testosterone programs adult social behavior before and during, but not after, adolescence*. Endocrinology. 2009 Aug; 150 (8):3690-8.

Salas-Ramirez, KY\*, Montalto, PR and Sisk, CL. *Anabolic androgenic steroids differentially affect social behaviors in adolescent and adult male Syrian hamsters*. Hormones and Behavior. 2008 Feb; 53 (2):378-85

#### MANUSCRIPTS – IN PREPARATION

*Cocaine exposure during adolescence and adulthood have differential effects on cognitive function in male and female rats*. Salas-Ramirez, KY, Stahl, L, Frankfurt, M, Friedman, E, Luine, VN

*Adolescent anabolic steroid exposure affects medial amygdala cell proliferation and volume in the male Syrian hamster*. Salas-Ramirez, KY, Ahmed, EI, Molenda-Figueira, HA, Sisk, CL.

#### ABSTRACTS/POSTERS PRESENTED

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y.<sup>1</sup>, Stahl, L<sup>2</sup>, Frankfurt, M<sup>1</sup>, Friedman, E<sup>1</sup>, and Luine, V.N.<sup>2</sup>. Cocaine exposure results in transient cognitive deficits in male and female rats. <sup>1</sup>Dept. of Physiology and Pharmacology, CUNY Medical School, <sup>2</sup>Psychology, Hunter College, CUNY, New York, NY. Society for Neuroscience, 2010

Frankfurt, M<sup>1</sup>, Salas-Ramirez, K.Y.<sup>1</sup>, Friedman, E<sup>1</sup>, and Luine, V.N.<sup>2</sup>. Cocaine induces alterations in dendritic spine density in postpartum rat brain. <sup>1</sup>Dept. of Physiology and Pharmacology, CUNY Medical School, <sup>2</sup>Psychology, Hunter College, CUNY, New York, NY. Society for Neuroscience, 2010

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y.<sup>1</sup>, Frankfurt, M<sup>1</sup>, Alexander, A<sup>2</sup>, Luine, V.N.<sup>3</sup> and Friedman, E<sup>1</sup>. Prenatal cocaine exposure in rats results in increased anxiety and sex-specific impairment in cognitive function during adulthood. <sup>1</sup>Dept. of Physiology and Pharmacology, CUNY Medical School, <sup>2</sup>Department of Biology and <sup>3</sup>Psychology, Hunter College, CUNY, New York, NY. Society for Neuroscience, 2009

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y.<sup>1</sup>, Stahl, L<sup>2</sup>, Frankfurt, M<sup>1</sup>, Luine, V.N.<sup>2</sup>, Friedman, E<sup>1</sup>. Adolescent cocaine exposure results in sex-specific effects on cognitive function in adulthood. <sup>1</sup>Dept. of Physiology and Pharmacology, CUNY Medical School, <sup>2</sup>Department of Psychology, Hunter College, CUNY, New York, NY. Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, 2009

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., Ahmed, E.I., Molenda-Figueira, H.A., Sisk, C.L. Adolescent anabolic steroid exposure affects medial amygdala cell proliferation and volume in the male Syrian hamster. Michigan State University. Society for Neuroscience, 2008.

Schulz, K.M., Zehr, J.L., Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., and Sisk, C.L. Is adolescence a second sensitive period for the organizing effects of testosterone on adult male reproductive behavior? Michigan State University. Society for Neuroscience, 2007.

Bell, M.R., Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., and Sisk, C.L. *Cells are added to the medial amygdala during puberty in male Syrian hamsters*. Michigan State University. Society for Neuroscience, 2007.

Molenda-Figueira, H.A., Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., Schulz, K.M., Montalto, P.R., Zehr, J.L., and Sisk, C.L. Michigan State University. *Adolescent Social Experience Restores Adult Ejaculatory Behavior in Male Syrian Hamsters Lacking Pubertal Testosterone*. Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, 2007

Bell, M.R., Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., and Sisk, C.L. *Cells are added during puberty to the medial amygdala of the male Syrian hamster*. Michigan State University. Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, 2007

Zehr, J.L., Schulz, K.M., Ahmed, E., Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., Molenda-Figueira, H.A., Montalto, P.R., Venier, J. and Sisk, C.L. *Adolescent Steroids Program Soma Size in Bitufted but not in Stellate Neurons of the Medial Amygdala in Hamsters*. Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, 2007

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y. and Sisk, C.L. *Anabolic Androgenic Steroids: Social Behaviors and Neural Plasticity*. Presented at the American Psychological Association. Chosen for a 2 poster presentations and an oral presentation during the conference. San Francisco, Aug 2007

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., Montalto, P.R., and Sisk, C.L. *Anabolic Androgenic Steroids (AAS) Differentially Affect Reproductive Behaviors in Adolescent and Adult Male Syrian Hamsters*. Society for Neuroscience, 2006

Salas-Ramirez, K. Y., Rivera-Rivera, A., and Sisk, C.L. *Anabolic Androgenic Steroids (AAS) Differentially Affect Aggressive Behaviors in Adolescent and Adult Male Syrian Hamsters*. Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, 2006.

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y. and Sisk, C.L. *Anabolic Androgenic Steroids Increase Aggression in Adolescent Male Syrian Hamsters*. Society for Neuroscience 2005 (will also be highlighted as a Lay-summary in the **Society for Neuroscience Press book**)

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y. and Sisk C.L. *Centrally administered apomorphine partially reverses detrimental effects on male reproductive behavior resulting from the absence of gonadal hormones during adolescence*. Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, June 2005

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., Schulz, K.M. and Sisk, C.L. *The Affects of 17 $\alpha$ -methyltestosterone, an Anabolic-Androgenic Steroid, on Aggressive Behavior in Pubertal male Syrian Hamsters*. National Hispanic Science Network on Substance Abuse and Society for Neuroscience, Oct 2004

Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., Schulz, K.M., Zehr, J.L., Sisk, C.L. *The Effects of Apomorphine on Reproductive Behaviors of the Male Syrian Hamster*. Society for Neuroscience, 2003

Salas-Ramírez, K., Richardson, H.N., Ahmed, E., Schulz-Wilson, K., Sisk, C. *Centrally administered LHRH increases chemosensory investigatory behavior in the male Syrian hamster.* Society for Neuroscience, 2002

Mahoney, M.M., Salas-Ramirez, K.Y., Smale, L and Nunez, A. *The distribution of tyrosine hydroxylase positive neurons in the hypothalamus of the diurnal murid rodent, Arvicanthis niloticus*. Society for Research on Biological Rhythms at Jacksonville, 2002.



Salas-Ramírez, K and Maldonado-Vlaar, C. *Blockade of mGluR in the Subregions of the Nucleus Accumbens in Learning of Rats.* University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras Campus. Behavior, Clinical Neuroscience, Substance Abuse and Culture Meeting at Los Angeles, CA on October 23-25, 2002. **Received poster award.**

Maldonado-Vlaar, C, Salas-Ramirez, K., Sepulveda, Alvarez, JE, Allende, L, Perez, J, Cortes, J, Borrero, C. *Blockade of mGluR in the Subregions of the Nucleus Accumbens in Learning of Rats.* University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras Campus. Society for Neuroscience, 2001.

Colon, W, Colon, M, Puig, A, Ortiz, X, Rivera, N., Salas, K., Rosa-Molinar, E. *A Teaching Odyssey: EvoDevo 2001* University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras Campus. Society of Developmental Biology on July 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2001

## GRANTS

NHSN Early Career Pilot Award Program - National Hispanic Science Network on Substance Abuse

*"Sex-dependent effects of cocaine on adult neurogenesis: a developmental profile"*

The goals of these studies are to characterize how cocaine affects adult hippocampal neurogenesis after (1) prenatal, (2) adolescent, and (3) adult cocaine exposure in both male and female rodents.

PI: Kaliris Salas-Ramirez

Total of Award: \$10,000 (7/1/11 – 6/30/12)

MSKCC-CCNY Partnership for Cancer Research, Prevention, and Community Outreach Pilot Project (U54CA137788/U54CA132378 )

*Pilot Project: "The Potential of Exercise and Intervention for the Cognitive Effects of Androgen Ablation Therapy in Men with Prostate Cancer: Animal and Human Study"*

Co-PI's: Christian Nelson (MSKCC) and Kaliris Salas-Ramirez (CCNY)

Total of Award:\$220,000 (9/1/11 – 8/31/13)

## *Application Recommended, but not Funded*

R36: Dissertation Completion Grant to NIDA (Anabolic Androgenic Steroid Exposure: Social Behaviors and Neural Plasticity) – 156 priority score

## INVITED SEMINARS

"The effects of prenatal cocaine on adult cognition, spine density and neurogenesis" Sept 2012  
National Hispanic Science Network on Substance Abuse Conference  
New Investigator Panel  
Invited by: Early Career Committee of the NHSN

"The Secrets of the Teen Brain" April 2012  
Horace Mann High School  
Book Day Workshops; Invited by Caroline Bartels

"Sex differences after Cocaine Exposure during Sensitive Periods of Development" March 2012  
Universidad of Puerto Rico – Humacao; Invited by NIH-RISE Program, PI - Ernesto Esteban Avila, PhD  
Universidad de Puerto Rico – Mayaguez; Invited by MARC/Sloan Programs, PI – Mildred Chaparro, PhD  
Universided de Puerto Rico – Bayamón; Invited by Department of Biology Chair, Orlando González- González, PhD  
Queensborough Community College, CUNY; Invited by Naydu Carmona-Marmolejo, PhD

- “Sex differences after Cocaine Exposure during Different Stages of Development: Cognitive Function and Neural Plasticity” May 2011  
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Puerto Rico  
Invited by the President of the University, Jorge Iván Vélez- Arocho
- “Cocaine Exposure during Different Stages of Development: Sex Differences, Cognitive Function and Neuronal Structure” July 2010  
Michigan State University  
Invited by: Brain and Behavior Interest Group within the Neuroscience Program
- “How I got to where I am today?: Summary of Graduate School Experience and Research” July 2010  
Michigan State University  
Invited by AGEP and SROP programs
- “Drugs during development, never a good idea” June 2009  
Michigan State University  
Invited by: AGEP and SROP Programs
- “From a Little Island to a Big City to Understand how Drugs Affect the Developing Brain” April 2009  
The City College of New York  
Invited by: MARC/RISE Programs
- “Anabolic Steroids Affect Social Behaviors Differently in Adolescent and Adult Males” October 2008  
National Hispanic Science Network on Drug Abuse (NHSN) Conference, Bethesda, MD  
**New Investigator Symposium**  
Invited by: Early Career Committee of the NHSN
- “Adolescent Anabolic Steroid Exposure: Effects on Social Behaviors and Neural Plasticity” March 2008  
University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez Campus  
Invited by: Departments of Chemistry and Biology, MARC/Sloan Programs
- “The Immediate Effects of Adolescent Anabolic Steroid Exposure on Social Behavior” August 2007  
**American Psychological Association Convention**  
Invited by: APAGS
- “The Role of Dopamine in Male Sexual Behavior” September 2003  
University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez Campus  
Invited by: MARC/Sloan Undergraduate Research Honor’s Programs

## MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

- Editorial Committee for *Suma Psicológica*, a Journal of Neuroscience and Psychology that highlights research in South America and the Caribbean (2009 – present)
- Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience (FUN) member (2009-present)
- SACNAS member (2009 – present)
- Member of the New York Academy of Science (NYAS) (2009-present)
- Member of the APA-MFP Networking Committee, Mentoring Subcommittee (2009 - 2011)
- Member of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology (2001 – present)
- Member of the Society for Neuroscience (2001 – present)

Member of the National Hispanic Science Network (2003- present)  
Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Member (AGEP) Graduate Student member (2005-2007)  
Capital Area Academy (5-8<sup>th</sup>), Lansing, MI – Mentor/tutor to children suffering from psychosocial and cognitive problems (ei, oppositional defiant disorder, ADHD, etc) (Spring 2007)  
Brain Awareness Week Advocate – teaching K-12 grade classes about the brain and Neuroscience (2004-2007)  
Member of the Boldness by Design Task Force at Michigan State University (2006)  
“NeuroBuddy”/ Peer Mentor for Neuroscience Program (2004-2006)  
Chair of the Neuroscience Program Graduate Student Council (2004 – 2005)  
Member of the Recruiting Task Force for the Biomedical Sciences (2004 – 2005)  
Representative for COGS in the University Graduate Council (UGC) (2002 – 2003)  
Representative for the Neuroscience Program in the Council of Graduate Students (COGS) (2002 – 2003)  
Member of the Neuroscience Program Graduate Student Council (2002 – 2006)  
President of the Pre-Medical Circle – an organization for students that wish to continue in Medicine and professions related to the biomedical fields. (1999-2000)

## REFERENCES

Dr. Eitan Friedman, Professor and Chair of the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, The Sophie Davis School for Biomedical Education – CUNY Medical School, Post Doc Advisor; [friedman@med.cuny.edu](mailto:friedman@med.cuny.edu)  
Dr. Cheryl Sisk, Distinguished Professor and Director of the Neuroscience Program, Ph.D. Advisor; [sisk@msu.edu](mailto:sisk@msu.edu)  
Dr. Antonio Nunez, Professor and Associate Dean of the Graduate School, guidance committee member, [nunez@msu.edu](mailto:nunez@msu.edu)  
Dr. Marc Breedlove, Distinguished and Barnett Rosenberg Professor of Neuroscience, guidance committee member, [breedsm@msu.edu](mailto:breedsm@msu.edu)

## MENTORS:

Dr. Victoria Luine, Distinguished Professor, Department of Psychology, Hunter College, CUNY, [vlumine@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:vlumine@hunter.cuny.edu)  
Dr. Anne Etgen, Professor and Mentor, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, [etgen@aecom.yu.edu](mailto:etgen@aecom.yu.edu)  
Dr. Joe Martinez, Jr., Distinguished Ewing Halsell Professor of Neuroscience and Associate Vice Provost for Research at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), Director of the American Psychological Association Diversity in Neuroscience Program, [jmartinez@utsa.edu](mailto:jmartinez@utsa.edu)