

MARIA VICTORIA TEJADA-SIMON

Associate Professor of Pharmacology

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EDUCATION

- 2005-2007 **Master of Education** in Teaching. University of Houston (UH). Houston, TX.
1994-1998 **Ph.D** - Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI.
1992-1994 **Master of Science** - Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI
1988-1989 **Science, engineering and Technology diploma**. Nat. Sch. Food & Dairy Industries. Madrid (Spain).
1984-1987 **Bachelor of Science** in Biology - U. Complutense de Madrid (Spain)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2014-pres. Associate Professor of Pharmacology (with tenure), UH-COP, Houston, TX
2008-2014 Assistant Professor, Pharmacological & Pharmaceutical Sci., UH-COP, Houston, TX.
2009-pres. Assistant Professor. Dpt. Biology (joint), University of Houston, TX.
2008-pres. Assistant Professor, Dpt. Psychology (joint), University of Houston, TX.
2006 -2007 Research Assistant Professor, Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, Baylor College of Medicine, TX.
2001-2005 Instructor, Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX.
1998-2000 Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Neurology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2014 ----- 3rd International Conference on Neurology and Therapeutics presentation award (Philadelphia, PA)
----- FASEB-MARC Faculty-Student Award
2013 ----- Faculty excellence for Service, College of Pharmacy (UH)
----- Early Faculty Award for Mentoring Undergraduate Research (University of Houston, UH)
2012 ----- Provost Faculty travel award (UH)
----- 13th Inter. Fragile X Conference-National Fragile X Foundation Scholarship
2010 ----- Finalist Sisley-Jerome LeJeune International Award (France)
----- FASEB-MARC Faculty-Student Award
2009 ----- Carl Storm Fellowship. Gordon Research Conference
----- National Fragile X Foundation Scholarship
2008 ----- Judge funding award. Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS).
----- Provost Faculty Travel Award. University of Houston
----- MedAssociates Scholarship
2007 ----- Academy Distinguished Educators-Educ. Scholarship poster award (Baylor College of Medicine, BCM)
----- Biotechnology Institute Fellows Program Award. The Biotechnology Institute.
2006 ----- Academy Distinguish Educators Education-Scholarship Recognition award (BCM)
----- Academy Distinguished Educators-Educ. Scholarship poster award (BCM)
2005 ----- Mentored career award. National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
----- Nomination Career Development Award on Women in Neuroscience (Society for Neuroscience, SfN)
2004 ----- Nat. Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) Suppl. Off. Minority Health and Research.
2001 ----- Federation of Clinical Immunology Society educational Award.
2000 ----- Methodist Hospital Foundation Grant Award. Methodist Hospital.

TEACHING, SUPERVISION, & MENTORING

TEACHING

❖ Courses taught at UH

Undergraduate courses

- 2013-pres. Independent study, BIOL 4398, University of Houston
Special Problems, BIOL 6198, University of Houston
- 2010-11 Advanced Pharmacology, PHPS 4401, University of Houston
- 2009-11 Introduction to Pharmacology Research, PCOL 4131, University of Houston
(developed course; coordinated and lectured for Bachelor in Pharmac. Sci. program).
- 2009-11 Senior Research Project, BIOL 4396, University of Houston
- 2009-11 Honors Thesis, BIOL 4399, University of Houston
- 2009-10 Pharmacology I, PHPS 4400, University of Houston
- 2009-10 Biochemistry Principles, PHPS 3401, University of Houston
- 2010 Immunopharmacology, PHPS 3302, University of Houston
- 2008 Honors Thesis, BIOL 3399, University of Houston
- 2008 Senior Research Project, BIOL 3396, University of Houston

Graduate (PhD Pharmacology) courses

- 2012-pres. Advanced Pharmacology, PCOL 6370, University of Houston
- 2011-pres. Doctoral Dissertation. PCOL 8399, PCOL 8699, University of Houston
- 2010-pres. Neuropharmacology PCOL 7362, University of Houston
- 2008-pres. Special Problems. PCOL 6299, PCOL 6399, PCOL 6499. University of Houston

Professional (PharmD) courses

- 2014-pres. Selected topics , PHAR5397, University of Houston
- 2014-pres. Organ System Life Sciences I, PHAR4320, University of Houston
- 2011-pres. Cellular Life Sciences I, PHAR 4400, University of Houston
- 2009-pres. Pharmacology II, PHAR 5403, University of Houston

❖ Courses taught at Other Institutions

Undergraduate courses

- 1998 Microbiology, FSC 440, Michigan State University.
- 1995 Microbiology laboratory, FSC 441, Michigan State University.

Graduate and Professional courses

- 2007 Course assistant director Postdoctoral training program, Molecular Physiology & Biophysics, Baylor College of Medicine. Establishing a teaching portfolio.

Medical School courses

- 2007 Co-facilitator, Integrated Problem Solving (IPS), 1st year medical students. BCM.
- 2007 Instructor & Developer, Residents as Teachers and Leaders Program (RATL), P4 medical students and P1 medical residents. BCM – University of Houston.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

Tejada-Simon, M.V., PCOL4131 Drug uses and abuses: Introduction to pharmacological Sciences Research. Undergraduate Course for Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (BSPS). University of Houston (2009-2011).

Tejada-Simon, M.V., Dewey, C.M., Ismail, N., Culberson, J., Friedland, J., Turner, T. (2008-2011). Residents as Teachers and Leaders (RATL) program. Baylor College of Medicine – University of Houston, Houston, TX. <http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/medschool/otlm/ratl/index.html>.

Tejada-Simon, M.V. (2007) Kinderlandverschickung: Germany 1940-1943 (movie). In The War Experience: Memories of World War II Website. Houston Public Broadcasting service (PBS) and University of Houston, College of Education.

TEACHING INTERNSHIPS and GRANTS for students

2011 – DAAD-RISE (The German Academic Exchange Service- Research Internship in Science and Engineering) – Summer internship 2011. Intern: Annie Pally. Institutions: University of Houston – University of Frankfurt am Main. PI: Dr. Tejada-Simon (USA); Co-PI: Dr. Eckert (Germany).

- FMRP regulation of the central mevalonate pathway in a Fragile X mouse model. National Fragile X Foundation – Summer grant.

ADVISING/MENTORING TRAINEES

Graduate/Professional students (including awards obtained):

❖ Current

- 2014-pres. *Daemun Park*, U. Houston, Pharmacy major. (PharmD student)
- 2014-pres *Qinglan Ling*, U. Houston, Pharmacology major (PhD student)
- 2011-pres. *Luis A. Martinez*, U. Houston, Pharmacology major. (PhD student)
 - 2014 FASEB-MARC award, Experimental Biology
 - 2013 FASEB-MARC award, Experimental Biology
 - 2012 FASEB-MARC award, SACNAS
 - 2012 FASEB-MARC award, Experimental Biology
 - 2011 Presidential scholarship, UH-College of Pharmacy
 - 2011 FASEB-MARC award, SACNAS

❖ Previous

- 2013-14 *Sucharit Ray*, U. Houston, Biology major. (Master student)
- 2010 *Vaidehi Thanawala* (rotation). U. Houston, Pharmacology major. (PhD student)
- 2010 *Xiaoxiao Ge* (rotation) U. Houston, Pharmacology major. (PhD student)
- 2009-12 *Naomi Inoue*, Psychology major, UH (Master student-graduated 2012)
- 2007-12 *Odelia Y. Ngala Bongmba*. U. Houston, Pharmacology major. (PhD student-graduated 2012)
 - 2012 FASEB-MARC award, Experimental Biology
 - 2011 FASEB-MARC award, SACNAS
 - 2011 FASEB-MARC award, FASEB Summer Research Conferences
 - 2011 St.Jude's invite. National Graduate Student Symposium
 - 2011 FASEB-MARC award, Experimental Biology
 - 2011 Carl Storm Minority Fellowship, Gordon Research Conference meeting.
 - 2010 FASEB-MARC award, SACNAS National meeting.
 - 2010 Featured on "You are the pride" by the University of Houston
 - 2010 Graduate Research award (3rd place) at the TTU-SACNAS conference
 - 2009 Biotechnology Institute Fellowship
- 2005-11 *Laura E. Villasana*, Oregon Health Sci.(OSU), Portland, OR. (PhD student-graduated 2011)

Undergraduate Students (including awards/honors obtained)

❖ Current

- 2014-pres. *Alexander Oderhowho*. U. Houston, Biology
 - 2014 FASEB-MARC award SACNAS
- 2012-13 *Tri Le*. U. Houston. Biology
 - 2013 FASEB-MARC award Experimental Biology.
 - 2013 Spring PURS award
- Stacy Nguy*. U. Houston. Biochemistry – **Tier One Scholar**
 - 2013 FASEB-MARC award Experimental Biology
 - 2013 Outstanding Undergraduate Research Poster award

❖ Previous

- 2013-14 *Tenee Lopez*. U. Houston. Biology
 - 2014 FASEB-MARC award Experimental Biology.
- 2012 *Tina Nguyen*. U. Houston. Biology.
- 2011 *Annie Pally*. U. Houston. Biochemistry. Honor student.

- 2012 Featured Student Research accolades at The Daily Cougar newspaper
 2012 Featured in Honor's College student accolades
 2011 ABRCMS, award for best presentation in Neuroscience.
 2011 PURS fellowship, U. Houston.
 2011 DAAD-RISE internship, Germany.
 2011 Elected American Chemistry Society-International research experience for undergraduates (ACS-IREU) fellowship.
 2011 Summer travel award, U. Houston.
 2011 National Fragile X Foundation summer research fellowship
- 2009-10 *Karlis Butler*. U. Houston. Pharmacological Sciences.
 2010 FASEB-MARC award Experimental Biology.
 2010 UH undergraduate student travel award, TTU-SACNAS.
 2009 FASEB-MARC award ABRCMS.
- 2009-10 *Emmanuel Oni*. U. Houston. Biology and Psychology.
 2010 FASEB-MARC award Experimental Biology.
- 2009 *Kevin Khoa* Nguyen. U. Houston. Honor student. Biology.
 2010 N. Catherine Cominsky Scholarship
- 2008-09 *Mary Elhardt*. U. Houston, Honor student. Biology (2009-10 as laboratory staff)
 2011 Awarded a Medical Internship in Nicaragua. Viva Nicaragua
 2009 Arete award for best Honors Thesis
 2008 Poster competition award Undergraduate Research Day.
 2008 PURS fall award.
 2008 SURF award.
 2008 Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) award.
- 2008-09 *Jermeece Augustine*. U. Houston, Honor student. Biology.
 2008 ABRCMS travel award fellow
- 2008 *Nadeem Tajuddin*. University of Western Ontario, Canada. Pharmacology/Toxicology.
- 2007 *Constance Barnes*, SMART summer undergraduate fellow, Jackson State University, MO.

PharmD students

❖ **Current**

Class of 2017: Tiffany Lam, Cindy Ngo, Paris Wafayee
Class of 2016: Christine Verduzco, Nguyen Nguyen
Class of 2015: Nancy Jonhson, Teenu Elias, Hiva Pourarsalan

❖ **Previous**

Class of 2012: Katherine Chu, Marcelino Medina, Michelle Melon, Leslie Tompkins
Class of 2013: Jessica Thibodeaux Stover, Dawna Emmanuel, Nora Nassri, Linh Pham
Class of 2014: Sarah Jung, Kasey Kellar, Alexandra Whiddon

Postdoctoral Fellows and Junior Faculty

2008-09 Ramana Gutala, Ph.D. Research Associate.

Other Staff

Emmanuel Oni. Research Assistant
 Mary Elhardt. Research Technician I
 Luis A. Martinez. Researcher

PH.D. DISSERTATIONS COMMITTEES

Qinglan Ling Dpt. Pharmacological & Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Houston (2014-2019). Major advisor.
 Luis A. Martinez Dpt. Pharmacological & Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Houston (2011-2016). Major advisor.

Odelia Y. Ngala Bongmba

Dpt. Pharmacological & Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Houston (2007-2012). Major advisor
Presently a postdoctoral fellow at the Children's Nutrition Research Center-Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX.

OTHER MASTERTHESIS/ RESEARCH COMMITTEES

Sucharit Ray	Master research report (Biology). Advisor. UH (2014)
Naomi Inoue	Master Thesis (Psychology). UH. (2012)
Karen Veloso	Honor Thesis. U. Houston. Reader (2010-2011)
Karlis Butler	Senior Res. Project. U. Houston. Pharmacy (2010)
Mary Elhardt	Honor Thesis. U. Houston. Biology. Advisor (2009)
Jermeece Augustine	Senior Res. Project. U. Houston. Biology (2009)

TEACHING RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Tejada-Simon, M.V (2014). Preparing the Future Faculty Workforce by Analyzing the Postdoctoral Experience. The Online J.Qual.Hig.Edu., 1(4):33-39.

Tejada-Simon, M.V. and Bongmba, O.Y.N. (2012). Regulation of neuronal morphology and plasticity by small GTP-binding proteins: Implications for autism and mental retardation disorders. In Horizons in Neuroscience Research. Volume 8. Editors: Andres Costa and Eugenio Villalba, NOVA Science Publishers, Hauppauge, NY. ISBN: 978-1-61942-757-0.

Tejada-Simon, M.V.; Ismail, N.; Culberson, J.W.; Friedland, J.A.; and Dewey, C.M. (2007). Prioritizing Residents' Needs: On the Creation of a Residents as Teachers and Leaders Program. Advances in Teaching and Learning Day Abstracts.
Paper 5. http://digitalcommons.library.tmc.edu/uthshis_atldayabs/5

TEACHING RELATED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Tejada-Simon, M.V (2013). Preparing the Future Faculty Workforce by Analyzing the Postdoctoral Research Training. Procc. IQHE 1:588-593.

TEACHING RELATED PRESENTATIONS (including associated awards)

Tejada-Simon, M.V (2013). Preparing the Future Faculty Workforce by Analyzing the Postdoctoral Research Training. Procc. International Conference in Higher Education, December 12-14, Sakarya, Turkey.

Culberson, J.W., Dewey, C.M., **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**, Ismail, N.J., Patton, C. (2008). A self-taught computer module to improve interdisciplinary team skills in new resident physicians. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Bureau of Health Professions All Grantee Meeting, February 25-27, Washington, DC.

Dewey, C.M., **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**, Culberson, J.W., Ismail, N.J., Turner, T., Patton, C., Friedland, J. (2008). Residents as Teachers and Leaders (RATL): A Web-Based Learning Tool. SGEA Techville Demonstration. Southern Group on Educational Affairs (SGEA) Regional Conference, April 3-5, Nashville, TN.

Tejada-Simon, M.V. (2007). Guidelines to establish a teaching portfolio during your postdoctoral training at Baylor College of Medicine. February 1, Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics, Postdoctoral training program.

Dewey, C.M.; Ismail, N.J.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Turner, T.L.; Culberson, J.W.; Coverdale, J.H.; Thompson, B.M.; Patton, C.S.; and Friedland, J.A. (2007). Residents as Teachers and Leaders: results of a needs assessment. Society of General Internal Medicine, Southern Regional Meeting Full Program. February 8-10, New Orleans, LO.

Tejada-Simon, M.V; Ismail, N.; Culberson, J.W.; Friedland, J.S.; Dewey, C.M. (2007). Prioritizing Residents' Needs: On the Design of a Residents as Teachers and Leaders (RATL) Program. Advances in Teaching and Learning, Eight Annual Regional Conferences. May 17, Houston, TX.

Tejada-Simon, M.V. (2007) Kinderlandverschickung: Germany 1940-1943 (movie). University of Houston, College of Education-Public Broadcasting service (PBS) Website.

- Tejada-Simon, M.V;** Colbert, D. (2007). The evolution of postdoctoral research training: present status and future needs. Annual Showcase of Educational Scholarship, Baylor College of Medicine, October 5, Houston, TX.
- Culberson, J.W., Dewey, C.M., **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**, Ismail, N.J., Patton, C. (2007). A Self-Taught Computer Module to Improve Teaching and Leadership Skills for Incoming Resident Physicians. Annual Showcase of Educational Scholarship, Baylor College of Medicine, October 5, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2007) Building Educational Excellence: Assessing the effects of a self-learning, computer-based Instruction on teaching performance of medical residents. University of Houston, October 29, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2007). Building Educational Excellence: Introduction to a Self-learning, Computer-based Residents as Teachers and Leaders (RATL) program. Baylor College of Medicine, December 10, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V;** Ismail, N.; Culberson, J.W.; Patton, C.S.; Friedland, J.S.; Dewey, C.M. (2006). Unraveling the barriers to excellence in residents' teaching: a needs assessment using the nominal group technique to identify content and format of a RATL program.
Winner of the Education Scholarship Recognition Award from the Academy of Distinguish educators. Second Annual Showcase of Educational Scholarship, Baylor College of Medicine, October 6, Houston, TX.

TEACHING RELATED AWARDS

- 2013 ----- Early Faculty Award for Mentoring Undergraduate Research (University of Houston, UH)
- 2007 ----- Academy Distinguished Educators-Educ. Scholarship poster award (Baylor College of Medicine, BCM)
- 2006 ----- Academy Distinguish Educators Education-Scholarship Recognition award (BCM)
 Academy Distinguished Educators-Educ. Scholarship poster award (BCM)

CONTINUING EDUCATION TO ENHANCE TEACHING ABILITIES

- 2014 Designing Scientific Teaching Tools for Biochem.& Mol. Biol. Education, TSU, San Marcos, TX.
- 2013 Research Mentor training workshop, Gulf Consortia, Houston, TX.
- 2011 Center for Teaching Excellence. Use of Blackboard, University of Houston, Houston, TX.
- 2011 Effective teaching Practice Showcase. University of Houston.
- 2011 Center for Teaching Excellence. Engaging Students in the Classroom, University of Houston.
- 2010 Partnering with Librarians. Faculty development workshop series, University of Houston.
- 2010 Partnering with learning and assessment specialists. Faculty development workshop series, UH.
- 2010 Partnering with writing specialists. Faculty development workshop series, UH.
- 2010 Partnering with Instructional Designers. Faculty development workshop series, UH.
- 2009 Teaching with Technology. University of Houston.
- 2009 Effective teaching with technology in higher education. MD Anderson, Houston, TX
- 2009 Developing Faculty to use Technology: Programs and Strategies to enhance teaching. MD Anderson.
- 2008 Integrating Information literacy into higher education curriculum- UT M.D. Anderson
- 2008 University of Houston Faculty Showcase – UH Central Campus.
- 2008 Professional development workshop for diversity investigators. NIH.
- 2008 Creating learning communities-UT M.D. Anderson.
- 2007 Master of Education (Teaching), University of Houston.
- 2007 Blackboard (BEACON) Course Management Software Workshop, BCM.
- 2007 Copyright and Wrongs for Faculty, BCM.
- 2007 Designing and Assessing Courses and Curriculum-UT M.D. Anderson

RESEARCH

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed:

- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2014). Rac1, a protein possibly implicated in mental retardation disorders. J. Addic.Neuropharmacol, 1 (November):in press.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2014). Searching for new possibilities to target neurodevelopmental disorders associated with cognitive disabilities. J. Neurol. Neurophysiol., 5(5):40.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2014). Small GTP-binding proteins: a future for the treatment of cognitive disorders. Brain Dis.

Ther.,3(1):114;1-4.

- Butler, K.; Martinez, L. A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2013). Impaired cognitive function and reduced anxiety-related behavior in a Promyelocytic Leukemia (PML) tumor suppressor protein-deficient mouse. *Genes, Brain and Behavior*, 12(2):189-202.
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2012). Small GTP-binding proteins as a therapeutic target for cognitive deficiencies. *J. Neurol. Neurophysiol.*, S1:2155-9562.S1.09.
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; Elhardt, M.E.; Butler, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). Corrigendum to Modulation of dendritic spine and synaptic function by Rac1: A possible link to Fragile X syndrome pathology [*Brain Res.*1399 (2011), 79:95. *Brain Research*,1423:114-115.
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). Pharmacological inactivation of the small GTPase Rac1 impairs long-term plasticity in the mouse hippocampus. *Neuropharmacology*, 61:305-312.
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; Elhardt, M.E.; Butler, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). Modulation of dendritic spine and synaptic function by Rac1: A possible link to Fragile X syndrome pathology. *Brain Research*, 1399:79-95.
- Salim, S.; Sarraj, N.; Taneja, M.; Saha, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Chugh, G (2010). Moderate treadmill exercise prevents oxidative stress-induced anxiety-like behaviors in rats. *Behav. Brain Res.*, 208(2):545-552.
- Elhardt, M.E.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2010). Neurochemical, behavioral and architectural changes after chronic inactivation of NMDA receptors in mice. *Neurosci. Letters*, 468(2):166-171.
- Hoeffler, C.A., Tang, W., Wong, H., Santillan, A., Patterson, R.J., Martinez, L.A., **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**, Paylor, R., Hamilton, S.L., and Klann, E. (2008). Removal of FKBP12 enhances mTOR/Raptor interactions, LTP, memory, and perseverative/repetitive behavior. *Neuron*, 60(5):832-845.
- Martinez, L.A.; Klann, E.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2007). Translocation and activation of Rac in the hippocampus during associative contextual fear learning. *Neurobiol. Lear. Mem.*, 88:104-113.
- Villasana, L.E.; Klann, E.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2006). Rapid isolation of synaptoneuroosomes and postsynaptic densities from adult mouse hippocampus. *J. Neurosci. Met.*, 158:30-36.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Villasana, L.E.; Serrano, F.; Klann, E. (2006). NMDA receptor activation induces membrane translocation and activation of Rac in mouse hippocampal area CA1 . *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Comm.*, 343(2):504-512.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Serrano, F.; Villasana, L.E.; Kanterewicz, B.; Wu, G-Y.; Quinn, M.; Klann, E. (2005). Synaptic localization of a functional NADPH oxidase in the mouse hippocampus. *Mol. Cell. Neurosci.*, 59:97-106.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Zang, Y.C.; Hong, J.; Rivera, V.M.; Zhang, J.Z. (2003). Cross-reactivity with myelin basic protein and human herpesvirus-6 in multiple sclerosis. *Ann.Neurol.*, 53(2):189-197.
- Zhang, J.Z.; Rivera, V.M.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Yang, D.Y.; Hong, J.; Li, S.F.; Haykal, H.; Killian, J.; Zang, Y.C.Q. (2002). T cell vaccination in multiple sclerosis: Results of a preliminary study. *J. Neurol.*, 249 (2): 212-218.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Zang, Y.C.; Hong, J.; Rivera, V.M.; Killian, J.M.; Zhang, J.Z. (2002). Detection of viral DNA and Immune responses to the Human Herpesvirus-6 101-Kilodalton virion protein in patients with Multiple Sclerosis and in controls. *J. Virol.*, 76(12):6147-6154.
- Hong, J., **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**, Rivera, V.M., Zang, Y.C. and Zhang, J.Z. (2002) Anti-viral properties of interferon beta treatment in patients with multiple sclerosis. *Mult. Scler.*, 8(3):237-242.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Hong, J.; Rivera, V.M.; Zhang, J.Z. (2002). Skewed autoantibody reactivity to the extracellular domain of Myelin Oligodendrocyte Glycoprotein in MS. *Immunol.*, 107(4): 403-410.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Hong, J.; Rivera, V.M.; Zhang, J. (2001). Reactivity pattern and cytokine profile of T cells primed by myelin peptides in Multiple Sclerosis and healthy individuals. *Eur. J. Immunol.*, 31(3):907-917.
- Godkin, A.J.; Smith, K.J.; Willis, A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Zhang, J.; Elliott, T.; Hill, A.V.S. (2001). Naturally processed HLA class II peptides reveal highly conserved immunogenic flanking region sequence preferences that reflect antigen processing rather than peptide-MHC interactions. *J. Immunol.*, 166:6720-6727.
- Zang, Y.C.Q.; Samanta, A.K.; Halder, J.B.; Hong, J.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Rivera, V.M.; Zhang, J.Z. (2000). Aberrant T cell migration toward RANTES and MIP-1 α in patients with multiple sclerosis: over-expression of chemokine

receptor CCR5. Brain, 123:1874-1882.

- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Zang, Y.C.Q.; Yang, D.; Hong, J.; Li, S.; Singh, R.A.K.; Killian, J.M.; Rivera, V.M.; Zhang, J. (2000). Aberrant T cells responses to myelin antigens during exacerbation in patients with Multiple Sclerosis. Int. Immunol., 12:1629-1639.
- Hong, J.; Zang, Y.C.Q.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Li, S.; Rivera, V.M.; Killian, J.M.; Zhang, J.Z. (2000). Reactivity and regulatory properties of human anti-idiotypic antibodies induced by T cell vaccination. J. Immunol., 165:6858-6864.
- Zang, Y.C.Q.; Hong, J.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Li, S.; Rivera, V.M.; Killian, J.M.; Zhang, J.Z. (2000). Th2 immune regulation induced by T cell vaccination in patients with Multiple Sclerosis. Eur. J. Immunol., 30(3):908-913.
- Zang, Y.C.Q.; Yang, D.; Hong, J.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Rivera, V.M.; Zhang, J.Z. (2000). Immunoregulation and blocking antibodies induced by interferon beta treatment in MS. Neurol., 55:397-404.
- Hong, J.; Zang, Y.C.Q.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Kozovska, M.; Li, S.; Singh, R. A.K.; Yang, D.; Rivera, V.M.; Killian, J.K.; Zhang, J.Z. (1999). A common T cell receptor V-D-J sequence in V β 13.1 T cells recognizing an immunodominant peptide of myelin basic protein in Multiple Sclerosis. J. Immunol., 163(6):3530-3538.
- Singh, R. A.K.; Zang, Y.C.Q.; Shrivastava, A.; Hong, J.; Li, S.; **Tejada-Simon M.V.;** Kozovska, M.; Killian, J.; Rivera, V. and Zhang, J.Z. (1999). Th1 and Th2 deviation of myelin autoreactive T cells by altered peptide ligands is associated with reciprocal regulation of Lck, Fyn and Zap-70. J. Immunol., 163:6393-6402.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Ustunol, Z.; and Pestka, J.J. (1999). *Ex vivo* effects of Lactobacilli, Streptococci and Bifidobacteria ingestion on cytokine and nitric oxide production in a murine model . J. Food Prot., 62(2):162-169.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Ustunol, A.; and Pestka, J.J. (1999). Effects of Lactic Acid Bacteria on basal cytokine mRNA and Immunoglobulin levels in the mouse. J. Food Prot., 62(3):287-291.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Lee, J.H.; Ustunol, Z.; and Pestka, J.J. (1999). Ingestion of yogurt containing *Lactobacillus acidophilus* and *Bifidobacterium* spp. to potentiate immunoglobulin A responses to cholera toxin in mice. J. Dairy Sci., 82:649-660.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** and Pestka, J.J. (1999). Proinflammatory cytokine and nitric oxide induction in murine macrophages by cell wall and cytoplasmic extracts of Lactic Acid Bacteria. J. Food Prot., 62(12):1435-1444.
- Marin, M.L.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Lee, J.H.; Murtha, J.; Ustunol, Z.; and Pestka, J.J. (1998). Stimulation of cytokine production in clonal macrophage and T cell models by *Streptococcus thermophilus*: comparison with *Bifidobacterium* sp. and *Lactobacillus bulgaricus*. J. Food Prot., 61(7):859-864.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Pestka, J.J. (1998). Polyclonal antibody production against ergosterol-hemisuccinate using Freund's and Hunter's TiterMax® adjuvants. J. Food Prot.; 61(8):1060-1063.
- Marin, M.L.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Murtha, J.; Ustunol, Z.; and Pestka, J.J. (1997). Effects of *Lactobacillus* spp. on cytokine production by RAW 264.7 macrophages and EL-4 Thymoma cell lines. J. Food Prot., 60 (11):1364-1370.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Marovatsanga, L.T. and Pestka, J.J. (1995). Comparative detection of fumonisin by HPLC, ELISA and Immunocytochemical localization in *Fusarium* cultures. J. Food Prot., 58 (6): 666-672.

Book Chapters:

- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** and Bongmba, O.Y.N. (2012). Regulation of neuronal morphology and plasticity by small GTP-binding proteins: Implications for autism and mental retardation disorders. In Horizons in Neuroscience Research. Volume 8. Editors: Andres Costa and Eugenio Villalba, NOVA Science Publishers, Hauppauge, NY. ISBN: 978-1-61942-757-0.

Invited commentaries:

- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2007). Bringing together the main players on synaptic potentiation. Cell Science, 4(1):37-42.

Published abstracts:

- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2014). Searching for new possibilities to target neurodevelopmental disorders associated with cognitive disabilities. J. Neurol. Neurophysiol., 5(5):40.

- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2012). Small GTP-binding proteins as a therapeutic target for cognitive deficiencies. *J. Neurol. Neurophysiol.*, 3(2):65.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Butler, K.; Oni, E. (2010). Promyelocytic Leukemia tumor suppressor factor (PML) as a biochemical signal for integration of synaptic plasticity. *FASEB J.*, 24:LB603.
- Salim, S.; Taneja, M.; Chugh, G.; Saha, K.; Sarraj, N.; Vollert, C.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Eikenburg, D.C.; Hovatta, I. (2009). A potential protective role of RGS2 in oxidative-stress mediated anxious behavior in rats. *FASEB J.*, 23:LB359.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**, Gutala, R. (2009). Establishing a link between small GTPases and mental health. *FASEB J.*, 23:938.
- LeBaron, R.G.; Asher, A.M.; Medina, D.A.; Navarro, M.M.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). Extracellular ligands involved in learning and memory. *Matrix Biology*, 27:46.
- Klann, E.; Serrano, F.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Villasana, L.E.; Kishida, K.T. (2003) Normal and aberrant function of Reactive oxygen species: from synaptic plasticity to Alzheimer's disease. *J. Neurochem.*, 87(1):21.
- Klann, E.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Serrano, F.; Villasana, L.E.; Kishida, K.T. (2003) Redox signaling in hippocampal LTP and memory formation. *J. Physiol.*, 551P, SA5.
- Klann, E.; Serrano, F.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Villasana, L.E.; Kishida, K.T. (2003) Reactive oxygen species: cellular signaling molecules critical for hippocampal LTP and memory. *J. Neurochem.*, 87 (Supp. 1):21.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Hong, J.; Zang, Y.C.Q. and Zhang, J.Z. (2001). Association of human herpesvirus-6 and Multiple Sclerosis. *Clin. Immunol.*, 99(1):158.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Hong, J. and Zhang, J.Z. (2001). Autoimmune responses to myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein in Multiple Sclerosis. *Clin. Immunol.*, 99(1):138.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Zang, Y.C.Q.; Hong, J.; Li, S.; and Zhang, J.Z. (2000). Aberrant T cell responses to myelin antigens during exacerbation in patients with Multiple Sclerosis. *FASEB J.*, 14(6):A1106, sup.
- Zhang, J.W.Z.; Rivera, V.M.; Li, S.F.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Zang, Y.C.Q. (2000). Vaccination with myelin-reactive T cells: Results of a clinical trial in patients with multiple sclerosis. *Neurol.*, 54(7) A23.
- Hong, J.; Zang, Y.C.Q; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Li, S.; Rivera, V.; and Zhang, J.Z. (2000). A common T cell receptor V-D-J sequence in V β 13.1 T cells recognizing an immunodominant peptide of myelin basic protein in Multiple Sclerosis. *FASEB J.*, 14(6):A1107, sup. S.
- Zhang, J.Z.; Rivera, V.M.; Killian, J.M.; Hong, J.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Howard, A.; Haykal, H.A.; Zang, Y.C.Q. (1999). Therapeutic vaccination with myelin autoreactive T cells: Results of a clinical trial in patients with Multiple Sclerosis. *J. Autoimmunity* (supplement).

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS (with associated awards)

- Oderhowho, A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2014). Stress and pregnancy: cognitive and behavioral deficits in offspring of stressed female mice. Undergraduate Research Day, October 9, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2014). Searching for new possibilities to target neurodevelopmental disorders associated with cognitive disabilities. 3rd International Conference on Neurology and Therapeutics, Sept 8-10, Philadelphia, PA.
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2014). Improving memory deficits in Fragile X Syndrome through inhibition of the Rac1 GTPase. Pharmacological and Pharmaceutical Science symposium, August 14-15, Houston, Texas.
- Vollert, C.T.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** and Eriksen, J.L. (2014). The effect of progranulin loss on an Alzheimer's mouse model. Pharmacological and Pharmaceutical Science symposium, August 14-15, Houston, Texas.
- Ray, S.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2014). A preliminary assessment of statin therapy in an animal model of Fragile X Syndrome. 14th international Fragile X conference, July 16-20, Orange County, CA.
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2014). Normalizing critical phenotypes in Fragile X syndrome using novel inhibitors of small GTPases. 14th international Fragile X conference, July 16-20, Orange County, CA.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2014). Rac1: Relationship between disordered trees in the brain and cancer. CIEMAT, Oncology

Unit, May 28, Madrid (Spain).

- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2014). Targeting hyperactive Rho GTPase regulatory proteins in autism. BoBI retreat, May 3rd, Houston, TX.
- Ray, S.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2014). Rescuing aberrant phenotypes and cognitive deficits in FMRP-deficient female mice. Experimental Biology, April 26-30, San Diego, CA.
- Lopez, T.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2014). Generation of neurodevelopmental changes in the offspring after maternal stress and prenatal NMDA receptor hypofunction. Experimental Biology, April 26-30, San Diego, CA. **Winner of FASEB-MARC award to TL.**
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2014). Targeting hyperactive Rho GTPase regulatory proteins in autism. Experimental Biology, April 26-30, San Diego, CA. **Winner of FASEB-MARC award to LM**
- Nguy, S.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2014). Characterization of Behavioral Deficiencies in FMR1-KO Female Mice. Tier One Scholar Reception, April 17, University of Houston, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2013). New approaches to target neurodevelopmental disorders associated with cognitive disabilities and autism. Biology of Behavior Institute, seminar series, November 8th, Houston, TX.
- Ray, S.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2013). Effect of the inhibition of isoprenylation in the mouse brain. Biology of Behavior Institute graduate student symposium, September 20th, Houston, TX.
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2013). Use of novel pharmacological agents to assess the role of Rho GTPase regulatory proteins in Fragile X syndrome. Biology of Behavior Institute graduate student symposium, September 20th, Houston, TX.
- Nguy, S.; Martinez, L.A.; Ray, S.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2013). Rac1 inhibition ameliorates observed cognitive deficits in FMRP-deficient female mice. SACNAS Annual meeting, October 3-6, San Antonio, TX.
- Nguy, S.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2013). Characterization of Behavioral Deficiencies in FMR1-KO Female Mice. Undergraduate Research Day, October 10, University of Houston, Houston, TX. **Outstanding Poster award to SN.**
- Le, T.; Nguy, S.; Ray, S.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2013). Effects of the inhibition of isoprenylation in the mouse brain. Undergraduate Research Day, October 10, University of Houston, Houston, TX. **PURS award to TL.**
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2013). Use of novel pharmacological agents to assess the role of Rho GTPase regulatory proteins in Fragile X syndrome. FRAXA Investigators Meeting, September 29-October 2, Southbridge, MA.
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2013). Use of novel pharmacological agents to assess the role of Rho GTPase regulatory proteins in Fragile X syndrome. PPS-Departmental symposium, August 16, Houston, TX.
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2013). Use of novel pharmacological agents to assess the role of Rho GTPase regulatory proteins in cognition. Experimental Biology, April 20-24, Boston, MA. **Winner of FASEB-MARC award to LM.**
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2012). Exploring isoprenoids dysfunction in an animal model of autism. International Isoprenylation Society, October 18, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Pally, A.; Afshordel, S., Eckert, G. (2012). Exploring isoprenoids dysfunction in an animal model of autism. Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference, October 13-17, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2012). Association of Rac1 dysregulation and learning disability. SACNAS Annual meeting, October 11-14, Seattle, WA. **Winner of FASEB-MARC award to LAM.**
- Pally, A.; Afshordel, S., Eckert, G., **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2012). Exploring cholesterol dysfunction in a mouse model of Fragile X syndrome. 13th International Fragile X conference, July 25-29, Miami, FL.
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2012). Small GTP-binding proteins as a therapeutic target for cognitive deficiencies. "Novel Therapies in Neuroscience-International Conference on Neurology & Therapeutics" (Neuro-2012), May 14-16, 2012, Las Vegas, NE.

- Martinez, L.A.; Butler, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2012) *In vivo* ablation of promyelocytic leukemia (PML) tumor suppressor protein leads to behavioral changes in mice. *Experimental Biology*, April 21-25, San Diego, CA. **Winner of FASEB-MARC award to LAM.**
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2012) Rac1 dependent actin remodeling as a molecular mechanism shaping spine density. *Experimental Biology*, April 21-25, San Diego, CA. **Winner of FASEB-MARC award to OYNB.**
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). Searching for a functional link among deficient neuronal morphology, altered plasticity and cognition impairment. Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference, November 12-16, Washington DC.
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). Pharmacological inactivation of the small GTPase Rac1 impairs long-term plasticity in the mouse hippocampus. Society for Neuroscience Annual Conference, November 12-16, Washington DC.
- Pally, A.; Afshordel, S., Eckert, G., **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). Regulation of the central cholesterol pathway in an animal model of autism. Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), November 9-12, St. Louis, MO. **Award for best presentation in Neuroscience.**
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). Spine abnormalities and altered plasticity associated to cognitive impairment involve Rac1 signaling. SACNAS National conference, October 27-30, San Jose CA. **Winner of a FASEB-MARC award to OYNB.**
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). A Critical Role for the small GTPase Rac1 in long-term plasticity. SACNAS National conference, October 27-30, San Jose CA. **Winner of a FASEB-MARC award to LAM.**
- Pally, A.; Afshordel, S., Eckert, G., **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). Regulation of the central cholesterol pathway in an animal model of autism. Undergraduate research day. October 13, University of Houston, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V;** Bongmba, O.Y.N. (2011). Implications for the involvement of small GTP-binding proteins in spine formation and synaptic function. FRAXA Investigators Conference, September 18-21, Southbridge, MA.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011). Aberrant Rac1-GTPase regulation in a mouse model of Fragile X syndrome. Fundacion Instituto Mediterraneo para el Avance de la Biotecnología y la Investigación Sanitaria (IMABIS), August 8th, Malaga (Spain).
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; Butler, K.; Elhardt, M.E.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2011) Role of Rac1-GTPase in dendritic spine and plasticity abnormalities: A possible link to Fragile X syndrome pathology. FASEB Summer Research Conference on Regulation and Function of Small GTPases, June 5-10, Saxtons River, Vermont. **Winner of FASEB-MARC award to OYNB.**
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; Elhardt, M.E.; Butler, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2011) Genetic manipulation of the small GTPase Rac1 influences dendrite development and hippocampus-dependent learning. National Student Research Forum, UTMB, April 21-22, Galveston, TX.
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; Elhardt, M.E.; Butler, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2011) Evidence of impaired neuronal plasticity in response to inactivation of the small GTPase Rac1. *Experimental Biology*, April 9-13, Washington DC. **Winner of FASEB-MARC award to OYNB.**
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; Elhardt, M.E.; Butler, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2011) Genetic manipulation of the small GTPase Rac1 influences dendrite development and hippocampus-dependent learning. Gordon Research Conference: Dendrites: molecules, structure and function, March 12-13, Ventura, CA. **Winner of Carl Storm fellowship to OYNB.**
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; Elhardt, M.E.; Butler, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2010) Evidence of impaired neuronal plasticity in response to inactivation of the small GTPase Rac1. Graduate Student Symposium, December 14, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, University of Houston, TX.
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; Martinez, L.A.; Elhardt, M.E.; Butler, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V** (2010) Evidence of impaired neuronal plasticity in response to inactivation of the small GTPase Rac1. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, November 13-17, San Diego, CA.

- Bongmba, O. Y.N., **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2010) Inactivation of the *rac1* Gene Affects the Formation of Dendritic Spines. SACNAS National conference, September 30-October 3, Anaheim, CA. **Winner of a FASEB-MARC travel award to OYNB. Selected for oral presentation in graduate student symposium .**
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2010). A role for promyelocytic leukemia tumor suppressor protein (PML) in cognition and anxiety. University of Houston, Center for Nuclear Receptor and Cell Signaling, September 2nd, Houston, Texas.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2010). Modifying behavioral responses in Fmr1 mice using pharmacological and genetic strategies. University of Frankfurt. August 13th, Frankfurt, Germany.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2010). Parallels among molecular, behavioral and architectural effects in the schizophrenia mouse model of NMDA receptor hypofunction. Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Summer Program. June 18th, Houston, Texas.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Butler, K.; Oni, E. (2010). Promyelocytic Leukemia Tumor Suppressor Factor (PML) as a Biochemical Signal for Integration of Synaptic Plasticity. Experimental Biology, April 24-28, Anaheim, CA. **Winner of a FASEB-MARC travel award to MVTS, KB and EO.**
- Butler, K.; Oni, E.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2010). Effects of promyelocytic leukemia (PML) protein in rodent brain function. SACNAS Southwest Regional conference, February 26-28, Lubbock, TX.
- Bongmba, O.Y.N.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2010). Inactivation of the *rac1* gene affects the formation of dendritic spines. SACNAS Southwest Regional conference, February 26-28, Lubbock, TX. **Third award as best graduate poster.**
- Elhardt, M.E.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2010). Parallels among molecular, behavioral and architectural effects in the schizophrenia mouse model of NMDA receptor hypofunction. SACNAS Southwest Regional conference, February 26-28, Lubbock, TX.
- Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2010). Inactivation of the small GTPase Rac leads to alterations in synaptic plasticity: a role for Rac in LTP. SACNAS Southwest Regional conference, February 26-28, Lubbock, TX.
- Oni, E.; Chang, K-S; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2009). PML Involvement In Brain Plasticity: Possible Association To Protein Translation And Actin Cytoskeleton Signaling Pathways. ABRCMS, November 4-7th, Phoenix, AZ.
- Butler, K.; Chang, K-S.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2009). Ablation of Promyelocytic leukemia tumor suppressor factor (PML) impairs hippocampal-dependent learning. ABRCMS, November 4-7th, Phoenix, AZ. **Winner of a FASEB-MARC travel award to KB.**
- Bongmba, O. Y. N.; Martinez, L.A.; Gutala, R.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2009). Generation of a conditional disruption of the *rac* gene. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, October 17-21, Chicago, IL.
- Gutala, R.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2009). A possible role for Rac in Fragile X syndrome. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, October 17-21, Chicago, IL.
- Salim, S.; Sarraj, N.; Lokhandwala, M.F.; Taneja, M.; Chugh, G.; Saha, K.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Eikenburg, D.C.; Hovatta, I. (2009). Exercise increases antioxidant homeostasis and decreases oxidative stress-induced anxiety in rats. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, October 17-21, Chicago, IL.
- Oni, E.; Chang, K-S; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2009). Deletion of Promyelocytic leukemia tumor suppressor factor (PML) affects brain plasticity and synapse connections. Undergraduate Research day, University of Houston, October 1th, Houston, TX.
- Butler, K.; Chang, K-S.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2009). Behavioral characterization of a Promyelocytic leukemia tumor suppressor factor (PML)-null mouse: Does PML have a role in cognition? Undergraduate Research day, University of Houston, October 1th, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2009). Studying the role of Rac in synaptic structure and function. Gordon Research Conference in dendrites: Molecules, structure and function, May 17-22, Lucca (Barga), Italy. **Winner of Carl Storm fellowship to MVTS.**
- Elhardt, M.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2009). Disruption of Neuronal Plasticity by NMDA Receptor Hypofunction, an Animal Model of Schizophrenia. Senior Honors Undergraduate Thesis Defense, University of Houston, April 30th, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2009). A potential role for small GTPases in Fragile X syndrome. National Fragile X Foundation Young Investigators Conference, April 19-21, West Palm Beach, FL. **Winner of a young investigator award.**

- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Gutala, R. (2009). Establishing a link between small GTPases and mental health. *Experimental Biology*, April 18-22, New Orleans, LO.
- Salim, S.; Taneja, M.; Ghugh, G.; Saha, K.; Sarraj, N.; Vollett, C.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Eikenburg, D.C.; Hovatta, I. (2009). A potential protective role for RGS2 in oxidative-stress mediated anxious behavior in rats. *Experimental Biology*, April 18-22, New Orleans, LO.
- LeBaron, R.G.; Asher, A.M.; Medina, D.A.; Navarro, M.M.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). Extracellular ligands involved in learning and memory. *American Society for Matrix Biology Biennial Meeting*, December 7-10, San Diego, CA.
- Den, Z.; Liu, M.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Chang, K.S. (2008). A role for PML tumor suppressor in neuron stem cells differentiation. *Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting*, November 15-19, Washington, DC.
- Bongmba, O. N; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). Initial characterization of a site-specific Rac Deficient Mouse. *Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting*, November 15-19, Washington, DC.
- Elhardt, M.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). Disruption of Neuronal Plasticity by NMDA Receptor Hypofunction, an Animal Model of Schizophrenia. *Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS)*, November 6-8, Orlando, FL.
- Augustine, J.; Bongmba, O. N; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). Role of Rac in Mouse Cognitive Function. *Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS)*, November 6-8, Orlando, FL. **Winner of travel award** to JA.
- Augustine, J.; Bongmba, O.N.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). Breeding strategy to obtain a site-specific Rac deficient mouse to study cognitive impairment. *Undergraduate Research day, University of Houston*, October 2th, Houston, TX.
- Elhardt, M.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). The effects of systemic inactivation of NMDA receptor in protein synthesis in the mouse brain. *Undergraduate Research day, University of Houston*, October 2th, Houston, TX. **WINNER Outstanding poster award.**
- Elhardt, M.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). The effects of systemic inactivation of NMDA receptor in protein synthesis in the mouse brain. *Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Rice-Houston*, August 7th, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). Establishing a link between Rac and Mental Health. *Corporate Advisory Board, College of Pharmacy*, April 10, Houston, TX.
- Barnes, C.; Martinez, L.A.; Bongmba, O. N.; Patlolla, A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). On the Development of a Rac Deficient Mouse. *2008 Innovative Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Conference*, April 3-6, Baltimore, MD
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2008). Preliminary Characterization of a Newly Developed Rac Deficient Mouse. *NINDS professional Development Workshop for Diversity Investigators*, March 3-4, Washington, DC.
- Barnes, C.; Martinez, L.A.; Bongmba, O. N.; Patlolla, A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2007). Preliminary Characterization of a Newly Developed Rac Deficient Mouse. *Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS)*, November 7-10, Austin, TX.
- Hoeffler, C.; Tang, W.; Santillan, A.; Patterson, R.; Martinez, L.A.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Hamilton, S.L.; Klann, E. (2007). Removal of FK506 binding protein 12 enhances mTOR-Raptor binding, LTP, and autistic-like memory perseverance behavior. *Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting*, November 3-7, San Diego, CA.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** ; Martinez, L.A.; Klann, E. (2007). The small GTP-binding protein Rac is required for NMDA receptor-mediated synaptic plasticity in the adult mouse hippocampus. *Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting*, November 3-7, San Diego, CA.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2007). Association of Rac and learning in the adult mouse hippocampus. *Invited speaker at University of Texas, School of Nursing*, August 22, Houston, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2007). On the connection between Rac and memory formation in the adult mouse hippocampus. *Invited speaker at University of Houston, College of Pharmacy*, May 22, Houston, TX.

- Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Martinez, L.A.; Klann, E. (2006). Potential role of Rac on the Acquisition of Memories in the Adult Mouse Hippocampus. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, October 14-19, Atlanta, Georgia
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.** (2006). The Small GTP-binding Protein Rac as a Potential Mediator on the Acquisition of Memories in the Adult Mouse Hippocampus. Mol. Physiol. & Biophys. Retreat, May 19, Cleveland, TX.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Klann, E. (2005). The small G protein Rac mediates the acquisition of memories in the adult mouse hippocampus. CIEMAT seminar series, December 14, Madrid (Spain).
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Klann, E. (2005). The small G protein Rac as a potential mediator on the acquisition of memories in the adult mouse hippocampus. "Memory and Related Disorders", December 12-14, Madrid (Spain).
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Klann, E. (2005). NMDA receptor mediated activation of Rac during associative learning in the adult mouse hippocampus. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, November 11-16, Washington, DC.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Klann, E. (2005). NMDA receptor-dependent translocation and activation of Rac is associated with memory formation in the mouse hippocampus. Biochem. Soc., March 21-23, Cirencester, U.K.
- Villasana, L.E.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Serrano, F.; Klann, E. (2004). Phorbol ester-induced activation of NADPH-oxidase and production of superoxide in mouse hippocampus. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, October 23-27, San Diego, CA.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Villasana, L.E.; Klann, E. (2004). Rac translocation and activation is associated with NMDA Receptor activation and memory formation in the mouse hippocampus. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, October 23-27, San Diego, CA.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Klann, E. (2003). NMDA Receptor-dependent translocation and activation of Rac in the mouse hippocampus. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, November 8-12, New Orleans, LO.
- Klann, E.; Serrano, F.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Villasana, L.E.; Kishida, K.T. (2003) Normal and aberrant function of Reactive oxygen species: from synaptic plasticity to Alzheimer's disease. International Society for Neurochemistry. J. Neurochem., 87(1):21.
- Klann, E.; Serrano, F.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Villasana, L.E.; Kishida, K.T. (2003) Reactive oxygen species: cellular signaling molecules critical for hippocampal LTP and memory. International Society for Neurochemistry. J. Neurochem., 87 (Supp. 1):21.
- Serrano, F.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Villasana, L.E.; Klann, E. (2002) Characterization of an active NADPH oxidase in the mouse hippocampus. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, November 2-7, Orlando, FL.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Klann, E. (2002) NMDA Receptor-dependent Membrane Translocation of Rac in Mouse Hippocampus. Society for Neuroscience Annual meeting, November 2-7, Orlando, FL.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Hong, J.; Zang, Y.C.Q. and Zhang, J.Z. (2001). Association of human herpesvirus-6 and Multiple Sclerosis. FOCIS Annual meeting, May 4-7, Boston, MA.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Hong, J. and Zhang, J.Z. (2001). Autoimmune responses to myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein in Multiple Sclerosis. FOCIS Annual meeting, May 4-7, Boston, MA.
- Hong, J.; Zang, Y.C.Q; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Li, S.; Rivera, V.; and Zhang, J.Z. (2000). A common T cell receptor V-D-J sequence in V β 13.1 T cells recognizing an immunodominant peptide of myelin basic protein in Multiple Sclerosis. AAI/CIS joint Annual meeting, Immunology 2000. May 12-16, Seattle, WA.
- Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Zang, Y.C.Q.; Hong, J.; Li, S.; and Zhang, J.Z. (2000). Aberrant T cell responses to myelin antigens during exacerbation in patients with Multiple Sclerosis. AAI/CIS joint Annual meeting, Immunology 2000. May 12-16, Seattle, WA. **Travel award to MVTS.**
- Zhang, J.W.Z.; Rivera, V.M.; Li, S.F.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.;** Zang, Y.C.Q. (2000). Vaccination with myelin-reactive T cells: Results of a clinical trial in patients with multiple sclerosis. American Academy of Neurology, 52nd Annual meeting. April 29-May 6. San Diego, CA.
- Singh, R. A.K.; Zang, Y.C.Q.; **Tejada-Simon M.V.;** Hong, J.; Zhang, J.Z. (1999). Th0 to Th1 and Th0 toTh2 deviation of autoreactive T cells in multiple sclerosis is associated with differential activation of Lck, Fyn and Zap-70. 64th Cold Spring Harbor Symposium on Quantitative Biology, Signaling and gene expression in the Immune System. June 2 - 7. Cold Spring Harbor, NY.

Zhang, J.Z.; Rivera, V.M.; Killian, J.M.; Hong, J.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Howard, A.; Haykal, H.A.; Zang, Y.C.Q. (1999). Therapeutic vaccination with myelin autoreactive T cells: Results of a clinical trial in patients with Multiple Sclerosis. 2nd International Congress on Autoimmunity, March 7-11, Tel Aviv, Israel.

Tejada-Simon, M.V.; Lee, J.H.; Ustunol, Z.; and Pestka, J.J. (1998). Enhanced mucosal and systemic IgA responses to cholera toxin in mice fed yogurt containing *Lactobacillus acidophilus* and *Bifidobacterium* spp. **Travel award to MVTs and winner of the Graduate Paper Competition for the Dairy Division** at the Annual Meeting I. F. T., June 20-24, 1998, Atlanta, GA.

Marin, M.L.; **Tejada-Simon, M.V.**; Ustunol, Z.; and Pestka, J.J. (1996). Effects of *Lactobacillus* sp. on cytokine production by cloned macrophage and T cell cultures. Annual Meeting of A. D. S. A. Oregon State University, Corvallis.

GRANT SUPPORT

Current

University of Houston. Grants to Enhance and Advance Research (GEAR). Therapeutic Role of Statins in Autistic Disorders (I106836). 6/2013-5/2015. \$29,350. (Principal Investigator)

Pathways to schizophrenia: Maternal physiological and environmental disruptions as a risk for psychosis in the offspring, Small Grant Program (UH). February 2014-January 2015. \$3,000. (Principal Investigator)

FRAXA Research Foundation. Small Rho GTPases, a potential therapeutic target for Fragile X syndrome (G103169). August 2011-October 2014. \$266,959. (Principal Investigator)

Completed

Jérôme LeJeune Foundation (France). Therapeutic potential of Rac1 inhibitors in cognitive disorders (G102380). May 2011-Jan 2014. \$62,000. (Principal Investigator)

National Fragile X Foundation. FMRP regulation of the central mevalonate pathway in a Fragile X mouse model. William & Enid Rosen Research Fund-National Fragile X Foundation, summer fellowship 2011. June-December 2011. \$2,500. (Principal Investigator).

University of Houston. Role of small GTPases in the synaptic hypothesis of schizophrenia. Small Grants, January 2009-December 2011. \$9,000. (Principal Investigator)

Jérôme LeJeune Foundation (France). Therapeutic potential of Rac inhibitors in cognitive disorders. November 2008-January 2010. \$66,770.

FRAXA Research Foundation. Rac-dependent regulation of neuronal morphology in Fragile X syndrome. Sep 2008-Aug 2010. \$120,000.

National Institutes of Health (NIH/NINDS). Suppression of Tautopathy by Lysosomal Activation. R21. 2008-2009. \$275,000. (Co-PI).

National Institutes of Health (NIH/NINDS). Role of Rac in LTP and Hippocampus-dependent memory (K01). 2005-2010. \$672,573 (Principal Investigator)

National Institutes of Health (NIH/NINDS). Oxidative activation of PKC during induction of LTP: The specific role of Rac in LTP and in hippocampus-dependent memory (Supplement). 2002-2004. \$195,953. (Principal Investigator)

The Methodist Hospital Foundation. Association of Human Herpesvirus-6 (HHV-6) infection and Multiple Sclerosis. January 2001-December 2001. \$23,600. (Principal Investigator)

RESEARCH RELATED AWARDS

2014 ----- 3rd International Conference on Neurology and Therapeutics presentation award (Philadelphia, PA)
FASEB-MARC Faculty-Student Award (SACNAS 2014)

2013 ----- Early Faculty Award for Mentoring Undergraduate Research (University of Houston, UH)
FASEB-MARC Faculty-Student Award (EB 2013)

- 2012 ----- Provost Faculty travel award (UH)
13th Inter. Fragile X Conference-National Fragile X Foundation Scholarship
- 2010 ----- Finalist Sisley-Jerome LeJeune International Award (France)
FASEB-MARC Faculty-Student Award (ABRCMS 2010)
- 2009 ----- Carl Storm Fellowship. Gordon Research Conference
National Fragile X Foundation Scholarship
- 2008 ----- Judge funding award. Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS).
Provost Faculty Travel Award. University of Houston
MedAssociates Scholarship
- 2007 ----- Biotechnology Institute Fellows Program Award. The Biotechnology Institute.
- 2005 ----- Mentored career award. National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
Nomination Career Development Award on Women in Neuroscience (Society for Neuroscience, SfN)
- 2004 ----- Nat. Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) Suppl. Off. Minority Health and Research.
- 2001 ----- Federation of Clinical Immunology Society educational Award.
- 2000 ----- Methodist Hospital Foundation Grant Award. Methodist Hospital.
- 1998 ----- Institute of Food Technologists, graduate investigator award.
- 1997 ----- Phi Beta Delta award in international education and exchange. Michigan State University.
- 1992 ----- National Institute for Technology-USDA, graduate fellowship.
- 1990 ----- University of Alcalá de Henares (Spain), graduate fellowship.
- 1989 ----- Menéndez Pelayo International University (Spain), graduate fellowship

INVITED PRESENTATIONS (as speaker)

- 2014 3rd International Conference on Neurology and Therapeutics (Philadelphia, PA)
- 2014 CIEMAT Oncology Unit (Madrid, Spain)
- 2013 Biology of Behavior Institute (UH)
- 2012 International Prenylation Society (New Orleans, LO)
- 2012 International Conference on Neurology & Therapeutics (Neuro-2012), Las Vegas, NV.
- 2011 Fundacion IMABIS, Malaga (Spain).
- 2010 Society for the Advancement of Chicanos, Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), Anaheim, CA.
- 2010 Center for Nuclear Receptors and Cell Signaling (CNRCS), UH, Texas.
- 2010 University of Frankfurt. Frankfurt (Germany).
- 2010 Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP) Summer Program. Houston, TX
- 2009 National Fragile X Foundation Young Investigators Conference, West Palm Beach, FL
- 2008 Corporate Advisory Board, College of Pharmacy, Houston, TX.
- 2007 Baylor College of Medicine, Curriculum Office, Houston, TX.
- 2007 University of Houston, College of Education, Houston, TX.
- 2007 University of Texas, School of Nursing, Houston, TX.
- 2007 University of Houston, College of Pharmacy, Houston, TX
- 2007 Postdoc. training-teaching, BCM, Mol. Physiology & Biophysics, Houston, TX
- 2006 BCM, Mol. Physiol. & Biophy. Retreat, Cleveland, TX.
- 2005 CIEMAT seminar series, Madrid (Spain).
- 2001 FOCIS Annual meeting, Boston, MA.
- 1998 Annual Meeting I. F. T., Atlanta, GA.
- 1998 AAI/CIS joint Annual meeting, Immunology. Seattle, WA.

COURSES AND WORKSHOPS TAKEN TO ENHANCE RESEARCH

- 2014 Workshop on European Union programs: Erasmus +, Horizon 2020 and Euraxess Links
- 2010 Partnering with writing specialists. Faculty development workshop series, UH, Houston, TX.
- 2008 Grant Writers Seminar. October 24. University of Houston, TX.
- 2008 Learning and Memory and classical fear conditioning. MEd Associates, St. Albans, VT

- 2008 Intermediate Adobe Photoshop CS3 I, II, III-University of Houston.
- 2008 Professional development workshop for diversity investigators. NIH.
- 2008 Introduction to Adobe Photoshop CS3 I, II, III-University of Houston
- 2008 Pivot tables, charts and macros in Excel 2003-University of Houston.
- 2008 Advanced Excel 2003-University of Houston.
- 2008 Introduction to Excel 2003-University of Houston.
- 2007 Copyright and Wrongs for Faculty, Baylor College of Medicine (BCM).
- 2007 Fundamentals of Clinical Investigation, Baylor College of Medicine (BCM).
- 2006 Grants and contracts, Baylor College of Medicine (BCM).
- 2006 Top 10 compliance Pitfalls in animal research, Baylor College of Medicine (BCM).

COLLABORATIONS

- 2014-pres. Dr. T. Lowder, Health and Human Performance (UH)
- 2014-pres. Drs. G.Roman and JL Leasure (Training underrepresented students, UH)
- 2013-pres. Dr. D. Hynds, Texas Womens University
- 2011-pres. Dr. de Diego-Otero, Fundacion IMABIS, Malaga (Spain)
- 2009-2010 Dr. M. Gambello, University of Texas
- 2010-2011 Dr. K-H. Ruan, University of Houston
- 2009-pres. Dr. G. Eckert, University of Frankfurt am Main (Germany)
- 2009 Dr. J. Das, University of Houston
- 2008-2010 Dr. K. Larin, University of Houston
- 2008-09 Dr. S.Salim, University of Houston
- 2007-2012 Dr. K-S Chan, MD Anderson Cancer Center
- 2007-2009 Dr. R. LeBaron, UT San Antonio

SERVICE

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTIONAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND COMMITTEES AT UH

Department

- 2014 Chair, Subcommittee Graduate Program Self Study; Recruiting and Admissions (PPS)
- 2014 Member, Subcommittee Graduate Program Self Study; Programmatic climate (PPS)
- 2009-pres. Graduate Education Comm., Department of Pharmacol. Pharmaceu. Sci. (PPS)
- 2010-12 Faculty Search committee, PPS department, University of Houston.
- 2008-11 Founder of Young Guns Junior Faculty support group, PPS department.
- 2008 Faculty Search committee, PPS department.

College

- 2014-2015 Board of Ethical and Professional Conduct. UH-COP. University of Houston.
- 2012-pres. College Graduate Education Committee. UH-COP. University of Houston.
- 2011-12 Vision 20/20 – College Accreditation (Accreditation for pharmacy education)
- 2011-13 Hispanic Healthcare Minor, UH-COP, University of Houston.
- 2010 Chair Search committee, Dept. Pharmacol. Pharmaceu. Sci, UH.
- 2008 -11 Assessment Committee. College of Pharmacy

University

- 2014-pres. UHCOP representative for the new UH Global Strategies and Studies Advisory Committee (GSSAC)
- 2014-pres. Advisory Board of the University of Houston's Honors Program in the Health Professions (HP)
- 2014 Tier One Scholars Invitational, Pharmacy representative faculty (Feb. 8, UH)
- 2008 -10 Faculty Senate. Student Study Abroad Scholarship Selection Committee.

INSTITUTIONAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND COMMITTEES AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

- 2006-09 Curriculum Office Program developer, Residents as Teacher and Leaders Program, BCM.
- 2007 Member, Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity (IMSD).BCM.

2006-07 Member Graduate Student Symposium, BCM.
2006-07 Associate Director Postdoctoral training Program, Molecular Physiology and Biophysics (MPB), BCM.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION/ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE

STUDY SECTIONS AND GRANT REVIEWS

Medical Research Council, Neurosciences & Mental Health Board, United Kingdom.
Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan.

EDITORIAL BOARDS

2014-pres. International Journal of Neurology Research (IJNR) – Act Publishing group Co., Sheung Wan, HK.
2014-pres. Annals of Neuroscience and Psychology (ANP) – Vernon Inn. Publishers, Scotland, UK.
2014-pres. Journal of Addiction and Neuropharmacology (JANP) - Herald Scholarly Pub., USA.
2014-pres. Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacology (JPSP) – American Scientific Pub., USA

JOURNAL REVIEWER

Molecular Neurobiology
Genes, Brain and Behavior
Neurology Research International
Journal of Neuroscience
Physiology and Behavior
Biochemical and Biophysics Research Communications
Journal of Neuroscience Methods
Neuropharmacology
Neurobiology of Learning and Memory
Hippocampus
Neuropsychopharmacology
Neurobiology of Disease
Brain Research
The International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology
Life Science
Advance Pharmacological Sciences
Neurochemistry International

OTHER SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Review Committee National Hispanic Science Network (NHSC) – 2013, 13th Annual International Conference.
Student recruitment efforts at National conferences such as AGEF, ABRCMS, EB, SFN, SACNAS – 2009-13
Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEF) Faculty panelist (2011)
Faculty Judge at Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students, ABRCMS (2009-11)
Graduate Women in Science mentoring program – Volunteer (2010-11)
UTMB-National Student Research Forum (NSRF) Faculty Judge (2010-11)
Baylor College of Medicine, graduate student symposium faculty judge for poster/presentations (2007-2008)

AFFILIATION TO PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Member, Sociedad Española de Neurociencia (by nomination, peer reviewed) – 2014-pres.
Member, Faculty Row (Super Professors) – 2013-pres (by invitation only)
Member, Biology of Behavior Institute (BoBI) – 2013-pres.
Founding member, International Prenylation Society (IPS-in progress) – 2012-pres.
Member, National Hispanic Science Network (NHSN, by nomination and reviewed) – 2012-pres.
Member, Molecular and Cellular Cognition Society (MCCS) – 2010-pres.
Member, American Physiology Society (APS, by nomination and reviewed) – 2008-pres.
Member, American Society for Neurochemistry (ASN, by nomination and reviewed) – 2008-pres.
Member, Society Advancement of Chicano & Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) – 2008-pres.

Member, Society for Neuroscience (SFN) – 2005-pres.

Member, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) – 2008-10.

Member, Graduate Women in Science (GWIS) – 2007-10.

Member, Phi Beta Delta Honor Society (International Education and Exchange) – 1993-97.

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY/PUBLIC

2014 Judge - 55th Science Engineering Fair of Houston (Feb 19-20, George R. Brown Conv. C., Houston, TX.)

2010-pres. K-12 professional career day, volunteer.

2010-11 Special Olympics Texas – Volunteer

2009-12 Participant in the American Pharmacy Educators week.

2008-11 College of Pharmacy – team captain for March of Dimes – March for Babies (UH).

2008-11 College of Pharmacy leader for “Operation School Supplies” – UH.