


Tiara G. Pérez Morales

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CONTACT

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 [PerezMoralesLab](#)

EDUCATION

Post-doctoral research
University of Illinois at Chicago
2013- 2017

PhD Microbiology
The University of Iowa
2010-2013

MS Microbiology
The University of Iowa
2007-2010

BS Industrial Microbiology
University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez
Magna Cum Laude
2003-2007

SKILLS

- Analytical & Detail Orientated
- Collaborative Leader
- Research Mentoring
- Pedagogical Developer
- Project Manager

LANGUAGES

English
Proficient

Spanish
Proficient

PROFILE

I am a biological sciences instructor with 9+ years of teaching experience at the undergraduate and graduate level. I have 15+ years of research experience and mentoring in the areas of microbial physiology, genetics, and pathogenesis. I have training and leadership experience in service committees with emphasis in accessibility, diversity, equity, inclusion.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE OVERVIEW

Teaching Excellence

Experience working with undergraduate and graduate students

9 biology courses taught spread over 50+ sections

7 courses developed and established

Courses adapted for diverse teaching platforms

Excellent student evaluations on course learning goals

Scholarship Excellence

Active research with 52+ undergraduate students mentored

7 peer-reviewed articles and 6 genome publications with undergraduate authors

8 grants submitted and 2 received

Active science communicator with over 17 scientific presentations

Service Excellence

Extensive committee work at department, college, and university level

Experience in faculty welfare and hiring committees

Experience in student engagement and retention committees

Notable Training/Professional Development

Pedagogical training through ASMCUE and the LA programs

Completed training for Academic Student Conduct, Mental Health First Aid, and Safe Space

Continuing biology/microbiology training through ASM, Tiny Earth, and SEAPHAGES

Completed Implicit Bias Facilitator Training

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2025- Present; Roosevelt University

Microbiology Lecture BIOL360/460

Instructor for this 15-week course for undergraduate and graduate students. Meets twice a week, 1.25 hour per session. I developed the syllabus and course content. Designed for students interested in research, allied health programs, and biomedical sciences.

- Promotes data analysis and microbiology application.
- Promotes scientific communication through group and individual literature assignments.

Microbiology Laboratory BIOL360/460

Instructor for this 15-week undergraduate and graduate level laboratory course. Meets twice a week, 1.25 hour per session. Instructors use integrated CURE curriculum for bacterial and phage diversity.

- Accessible 11-week individual research project opportunities for students.
- Promotes oral and written development through presentations and laboratory reports.

Virology BIOL325/425

Instructor for this 15-week undergraduate and graduate level course. Meets once a week, 3 hours per session. I developed the syllabus and course content. Designed for students interested in PhD programs, independent research, and biomedical sciences.

- Promotes critical thinking skills through research article discussions
- Promotes oral and written development through literature assignments and group presentations.

2015-2025; Benedictine University

Survey of Immunology BIOL5354

Instructor for this 15-week graduate level course. Meets twice a week, 1.25 hour per session. I developed the syllabus and course content. I taught 10 sections of this course.

Microbiology Lecture BIOL3208

Instructor for this 15-week course upper-level course. Meets twice a week, 1.25 hour per session. I taught 4 sections of this course. I developed the syllabus and course content. Designed for students interested in microbiology, veterinary, and healthcare work.

Microbiology Laboratory BIOL3208

Instructor for this 15-week undergraduate level laboratory course. Meets once a week, 2.75 hour per session. Instructors use adapted curriculum from the CURE Tiny Earth. Developed manual with laboratory manager. I taught 12 sections of this course.

Survey of Infectious Diseases BIOL5385

Instructor for this 15-week graduate level course. Meets twice a week, 1.25 hour per session. I have taught 5 sections of this course. I developed the syllabus and course content.

SEA-PHAGES Phage Discovery BIOL1199 and Bioinformatics BIOL1195

Laboratory Instructor for this 15-week course-based undergraduate research experience. Meets twice a week, 2 hours per session. I developed the syllabus and course content based on the SEA-PHAGES module requirements. I have taught 5 sections of these courses. I oversee the laboratory setup and media preparation. Have created a 3 hour session per week as well.

Learning Assistant Pedagogy NTSC2200

Co-Instructor for this 15-week undergraduate course. Meets once a week, 1 hour per session. I have co-instructed 3 sections of this course. We oversee curriculum for new and returning learning assistants.

Principles of Biology BIOL1198

Instructor for this 15-week undergraduate level course. Meets three times a week, 0.75 hour per session. Instructors can adapt syllabus and course content. I have taught 8 sections of this course.

2016; University of Illinois at Chicago

Microbial Pathogenesis

Co-Instructor for this 10-week graduate level course. Meets once a week, 1.5 hour per session. Instructors can adapt syllabus and course content. Promotes scientific development through research article discussions with emphasis on methodology and data analysis. Promotes science communication through research presentations.

2010-2011; The University of Iowa

Principles of Infectious Diseases Laboratory

Laboratory assistant for this 15-week graduate level course. Meets once a week, 2.75 hour per session. In charge of laboratory setup, hands-on technique demonstrations, course grading. Promotes understanding of clinical microbiology through guided protocols for students in professional schools.

Microbial Genetics Laboratory

Laboratory assistant for this 15-week undergraduate level course. Meets once a week, 2.75 hour per session. In charge of laboratory setup, hands-on technique demonstrations, course grading. Promotes understanding of microbial genetics and physiology through research-based experiments. Opportunities to continue research at different microbiology laboratories after completion of the course

RESEARCH/SCHOLARSHIP EXPERIENCE

2025 – Present; Roosevelt University

Research Laboratory

- (1) Characterization of quorum sensing regulatory pathways in *Lactobacillus* sp.
- (2) Microbiology research pedagogy.
- (3) Lysogenic phage characterization and comparative genomics.

2017-2025; Benedictine University

Research Laboratory

- (1) Use of small molecules to modulate bacterial quorum sensing pathways in *Streptococcus pyogenes*
- (2) Develop science materials for use by general audience during outreach events
- (3) Phage isolation and genomics.

2013-2017; Postdoctoral Research, University of Illinois at Chicago

Advisor: Dr. Michael Federle, Project(s): Quorum sensing and growth modulation of Streptococcal bacteria. Characterization of small molecule modulators of Streptococcal quorum sensing. Isolation of small molecules with antibiotic-synergy potential against antibiotic resistance pathogens.

2007-2013; Graduate Research, The University of Iowa

Advisor: Dr. Craig Ellermeier, Project(s): Studying signal transduction and immunity during cannibalism via SdpABCIR in *Bacillus subtilis*. Genetic and biochemical studies to determine steps involved in production of the toxin SDP. Characterization of residues important for signal transduction and protein-protein interaction of Sdpl and SdpR.

2006; Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU), The University of Iowa

Advisor: Dr. George Stauffer, Project: Isolation and characterization of genes regulated by E. coli GcvB sRNA. Mutational analysis of nucleotides targeted by small RNA regulation

2006; Independent Undergraduate Research, The University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus

Advisor: Dr. Lucy Williams, Project: Isolation and Characterization of parasites in *Mycteroperca tigris*. Identification of parasitic populations in tropical marine grouper fish

2005; Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (SURP), Kansas State University

Advisor: Dr. Michael Herman, Project: Determination of food preference in bacterial-feeding nematodes. Training in field work and molecular biology laboratory techniques to process and identify organisms present in nematodes.

SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS AND AWARDS

2015-2025; Benedictine University

2023	ASMCUE Travel Award (Submitted, Awarded)
2022	NSF S-STEM (Submitted, not awarded), PI for grant St. Procopius Abbey Biology Proposal (Submitted), Co-PI for grant
2021	NSF ADVANCE grant (Submitted, Awarded), Co-PI for grant NSF S STEM grant (Submitted, not awarded), PI for grant St. Procopius Abbey Learning Assistant Proposal (Submitted, not awarded), Co-PI for grant
2020	COS Dean's Teaching Award HHMI Biointeractive Ambassadors (Submitted, not awarded) ASM Peggy Cotter Award for Early Career Researchers (Submitted, Awarded)
2019	HHMI SEA-PHAGES (Submitted, Awarded) HHMI Inclusive Excellence 3 (Submitted, not awarded) NIH R15 undergraduate research grant (Submitted, not awarded)
2018	GWIS National Fellowship (Discussed; not awarded)

2013-2017; Postdoctoral Research, University of Illinois at Chicago

2015	5T32AT007533 Research Training in Natural Product Complementary and Alternative Medicine (awarded)
2014	American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Kadner Institute Participant (awarded) American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Science Teaching Fellowship(awarded)

2007-2013; Graduate Research, The University of Iowa

2012	Sandra H. Barkan Outstanding Graduate Student Mentor Award
2011	The University of Iowa Representative at Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students Travel Award (ABRCMS) Best Poster Presentation at 55 th Wind River Conference on Prokaryotic Biology Arnold Ravin-Muriel Rogers Fellowships 55 th Wind River Conference on Prokaryotic Biology Travel Award Dr. Rachel J. Mason Graduate Travel Award
2009	Dr. Rachel J. Mason Graduate Travel Award

2004-2007; University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez Campus

2006	National Science and Math Scholarship
2004-2007	Honors Scholarship

PRESENTATIONS

2025- Present; Roosevelt University

2025	Perez Morales, T. and Bonilla, C. Critical Science education: Fostering science student empowerment for a better world Faculty Workshop. ASMCUE, San Antonio, TX. Research & Inquiry Orientation (RIO)
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2015-2025; Benedictine University

2025	Perez Morales, T. et al LA interventions enhance conceptual understanding and critical thinking in microbiology lectures. ASM Microbe, Los Angeles, CA Perez Morales, T. Shouldn't You Be Blocking That Phage? Initial Characterization of Cluster AY and AS1 Lysogens in <i>Arthrobacter globiformis</i> B-2979, SEA PHAGES Faculty Meeting, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Chevy Chase, MD
2023	Perez Morales, T. Development of Individual Characterization Assays Within the Phage Discovery Semester, SEA PHAGES Faculty Meeting, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Chevy Chase, MD

- 2022
- Perez Morales, T. Seeing yourself as a scientist in college. Freshman Summer Reading Series. Benedictine University, Lisle, IL.
- Perez Morales, T. *Candida auris* as an emergent pathogen during the COVID-19 pandemic. Biological Sciences Department, Benedictine University, Lisle, IL. Global Health Challenges Presentation for MSIP
- Perez Morales, T. Bacterial Response Systems. CHEM1125/2249 Faculty Research Presentations. Benedictine University, Lisle, IL.
- Sarathy, J. and Perez Morales, T. Gut microbiome relationship to human physiology and the immune system. Biological Sciences Department, Benedictine University, Lisle, IL. Professional Development Seminar for Registered Dietician Nutritionists.
- Harden, L. and Perez Morales, T. Impact of the Learning Assistant (LA) Program on faculty, students, and LAs. Biological Sciences Department, Benedictine University, Lisle, IL. Faculty Colloquium
- 2021
- Castaneda, J., Cuadrado, G., and Perez Morales, T. Colonialism in Latin America. Teach-In Discussion Session. Benedictine University, Lisle, IL.
- Perez Morales, T. Implicit Bias Training Discussion for Faculty and Staff. Benedictine University, Lisle, IL.
- Perez Morales, T. Undergraduate student enrollment, retention, and graduation rates for COS. Biological Sciences Department, Benedictine University, Lisle, IL. Biology DEI Department Initiatives
- Perez Morales, T. COVID-19 and vaccine development. Biological Sciences Department, Benedictine University, Lisle, IL. Global Health Challenges Presentation for MSIP
- 2020
- Adil, A., Mohiuddin, A., Azim, N., and Perez Morales, T.G. Rgg155 promotes biofilm formation in *Lactobacillus acidophilus*. Abstract. ASM Microbe 2020
- 2019
- Pérez Morales, T.G. Immune camouflage by Group A Streptococci. *Interview with Katherine Wu at Smithsonian.com*
- Pérez Morales, T.G. Trabajos en microbiología! Skype a Scientist Spanish Presentation for middle school and high school students
- Pérez Morales, T.G. and Harden, L.A. Science Careers in Search of Women Conference, Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, IL
- Illinois Society for Microbiology Spring Meeting, Des Plaines, IL
- 2018
- Pérez Morales, T.G. Inequalities in STEM. Teach-In Panel at Benedictine University, IL
- Pérez Morales, T.G. Code-switching. BenU Talks Panel at Benedictine University, IL
- Pérez Morales, T.G. Careers at primarily undergraduate institutions, Midwest Microbial Pathogenesis Conference, University of Iowa, IA
- Bacterial quorum sensing, Waubesa Community College, Sugar Grove, IL
- What is bacterial communication and why is it useful, Joliet Junior College, Joliet, IL
- Bacterial communication research updates, Science and Sociability, Benedictine University
- Latinos in STEM, Association for Latin American Students (ALAS), Benedictine University
- 2017
- Pérez Morales, T.G. Small molecule modulators of quorum sensing in *Streptococcus pyogenes*. Associated Colleges of the Chicago Area (ACCA) seminar, Benedictine University

2013-2017; Postdoctoral Research, University of Illinois at Chicago

- 2016 Pérez Morales, T.G., Ratia, K., Wang, D-S., Driver, T., and Federle, M.J. A small molecule agonist of Rgg2/3 quorum sensing in *S. pyogenes*. American Society for Microbiology Streptococcal Genetics Meeting, Washington, DC
Pérez Morales, T.G., Ratia, K., Wang, D-S., Driver, T., and Federle, M.J. A small molecule agonist of Rgg2/3 quorum sensing in *S. pyogenes*. Graduate Women in Science National Meeting, Raleigh, NC
- 2014 Pérez Morales, T.G., and Federle, M.J. Natural competence in Streptococci: what's missing? Center for Biotechnological, University of Illinois at Chicago, IL
Pérez Morales, T.G., Mashburn-Warren, L., and Federle, M.J. Investigating the role of a phage-encoded gene in transformation of *S. pyogenes*. Midwest Microbial Pathogenesis Conference, Chicago, IL

2007-2013; Graduate Research, The University of Iowa

- 2012 Pérez Morales, T.G. Sdpl signaling and immunity towards SDP during cannibalism in *Bacillus subtilis*, REU seminar, The University of Iowa, IA
- 2011 Pérez Morales, T.G., Ellermeier, C.D. Mutational analysis of Sdpl mutants that affect function during cannibalism in *Bacillus subtilis*. Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students Conference (ABRCMS), St. Louis, MO
Pérez Morales, T.G., Liu, W-T., Dorrestein, P.C., Ellermeier, C.D. The antimicrobial peptide SdpC requires SdpA and SdpB for toxic activity in *Bacillus subtilis*. 55th Wind River Conference on Prokaryotic Biology, Estes Park, CO
- 2009 Pérez Morales, T.G., Ellermeier, C.D. Production of the cannibalism toxin SdpC in *Bacillus subtilis*. Molecular Genetics of Bacteria and Phages, Madison, WI

RESEARCH, QUBES, GENOME PUBLICATIONS

** undergraduate student author author*

2025- Present; Roosevelt University

Hussain K., Ali R., Perez T. (2025). Successful Lysogen Formation for Cluster AY Phage, CookieBear. HHMI Science Education Alliance (SEA) Faculty Group, QUBES Educational Resources. [doi:10.25334/N130-MH46](https://doi.org/10.25334/N130-MH46)

2015-2025; Benedictine University

Kamal, Y, Syeda, M, Slakeski, N, Fatima, S, Perez Morales, T, Klyczek, K, Ko C, Russell, DA, Jacobs-Sera, D, and Hatfull, GF. (2024) Arthorbacter Phage Piku. Accession number PQ362670

Diaz, A, et al. (2024). Writing Microbiology Resource Announcements (MRA). HHMI Science Education Alliance (SEA) Faculty Group, (Version 5.1). QUBES Educational Resources. [doi:10.25334/B5BS-F125](https://doi.org/10.25334/B5BS-F125)

Monti et al. (2024). An inclusive research and education community (iREC) model to to facilitate undergraduate science education reform. *Frontiers in Education* 9,

Hanauer, D, et al (2023). Models of classroom assessment for course-based research experiences. *Frontiers in Education*. 8. [10.3389/feduc.2023.1279921](https://doi.org/10.3389/feduc.2023.1279921).

Nepomuceno, V. M., Tylor, K. M., Carlson, S., Federle, M. J., Murphy, B. T., and Perez Morales, T. (2023). A *Streptomyces tendae* Specialized Metabolite Inhibits Quorum Sensing in Group A *Streptococcus*. *Microbiology spectrum*, e0527922.

Demas, J*, Tunkevicius, S*, Hashmi, N*, Carbonara, G*, Amer, M*, Ali, R*, Mohiuddin, A*, Choudry, H*, Siddiq, K*, Atarch, R*, Rahman, S*, Ali-Razvi, N*, Khandaker, H*, Zuniga, N*, Najeeb, S*, Ahmed, Z*, Khan, N*, Rizvi, I*, Taheruddin, A*, Perez Morales, T. Klyczek, K, Ko, C, Russell,D.A., Jacobs-Sera,D. and Hatfull,G.F. (2023) Arthrobacter phage Hirko. Accession number OR553913

Sarathy, J., Donner, F*, Perez Morales, T., Mehmood, D*, Simkeviciute, G*. (2022); Susceptibility, Symptoms, Progression, and Complications of COVID-19, National center for case study teaching in science (NCCSTS).

Hammami, Z*, Araneta, A*, Feustel, M*, Kamal, Y*, Hamid, I*, Arshad, M*, Ghani, A*, Raheem, H*, Ali, D*, Baig, A*, Corona, J*, Zuberi, I*, Shahid, S*, Maqsood, S*, Baig, S*, Perez Morales, T, Caruso, SM, Garlena,R.A., Russell,D.A., Jacobs-Sera,D. and Hatfull,G.F. (2022) Arthrobacter phage Eesa. Accession number OP751152

Adil A*, Sami S*, Perez Morales T. Remote Online Project: Traveling in a Virtual World, Researching Microbes. J Microbiol Biol Educ. (2021) Mar 31;22(1):22.1.36. doi: 10.1128/jmbe.v22i1.2367. PMID: 33884054; PMCID: PMC8011873.

Klimisch,N.*, Appavu,A.*, Pipowski,J.*, Mahairi,R.*, Fatima,S.*, Syeda,M.*, Hussain,A.*, Srouf,S.*, Chen,B.*, Ahmed,H.*, Hashmi,S.*, Khalaf,H.*, Cajas,E.*, Najeeb,S.*, Khan,F.*, Amer,Z.*, Parakkal,K., Mohammed,Y.*, Mohammed,Z.*, Waheed,B.*, Pérez Morales T.G., Washington,J.M., Garlena,R.A., Russell,D.A., Jacobs-Sera,D. and Hatfull,G.F. (2021)Mycobacterium Phage Boiili. Accession number OK310505

Egbuna,A*, Amatullah,M*, Jaber,L*, Ahmed,M*, Khan,E*, Ismah,N*, Rivas,S.M*, Cepolski,R*, Ulery,S*, Lochrie,J*, Edukutharayil,S*,Gurmani,H*, Pérez Morales T.G., Garlena,R.A., Russell,D.A., Jacobs-Sera,D. and Hatfull,G.F. (2021). Mycobacterium Phage Twitch. Accession number MW712722

Pérez Morales, T.G., Darnell, C., Sarathy, J., Arevalo, H*. (2020) Case Studies in Immunology, National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science (NCCSTS)

Pollenz,R.S., Bancroft,C.T., Cornely,K., Smith,L.A., Fackenthal,J.D., Pérez Morales T.G., Gainey,M.D., Carvell,W.N., Spence,R.D., Chahal,J., Beyer,A.R., Garlena,R.A., Russell,D.A.,Pope,W.H., Jacobs-Sera,D. and Hatfull,G.F. (2020). Mycobacterium Phage Ellie. Accession number MT723940

2013-2017; Postdoctoral Research, University of Illinois at Chicago

Pérez Morales, T.G., Ratia, K., Wang, D-S., Gogos, A., Bloem, L., Driver, T., and Federle, M.J. A novel chemical inducer of *Streptococcus* quorum sensing acts by inhibiting the pheromone-degrading endopeptidase PepO. *J Biol Chem* 2018 Jan 19; 293(3):931-940

2007-2013; Graduate Research, The University of Iowa

Pérez Morales T.G., Ho TD, Liu WT, Dorrestein PC, Ellmermeier CD. Production of the cannibalism toxin SDP is a multistep process that requires SdpA and SdpB. *J Bacteriol.* 2013 Jul; 195(14):3244-51.

RESEARCH STUDENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

2015-2025; *Benedictine University*

References

¹Poster presentation at URSA (Undergraduate Research Scholarship and Arts) Symposium, Benedictine University (BU), Lisle, IL. ²Poster presentation at Molecular Genetics of Bacteria and Phages, Madison, WI. ³Poster presentation at LSMRCE (Louis Stokes Midwest Regional Center of Excellence) Conference, Indianapolis, IN. ⁴Oral presentation for PUMA-STEM. ⁵Oral presentation for NSSRP. ⁶Oral presentation BU Board of Trustees. ⁷Poster Presentation at ASM World Microbe Forum, ⁸Poster presentation for SEA-PHAGES Symposium, ⁹Oral presentations for Associated Colleges of the Chicago Area (ACCA) Symposium

2025 Hafeez, A. Muhammad, I, Labib, S, Hussain, K, Ali, R. Khan, M, Choudry, H., Perez Morales, T. Characterization of the Cluster FE lytic bacteriophage Utopia. *URSA poster*

Choudry, H. and Perez Morales, T. Cluster FL *Arthrobacter globiformis* B-2979 phage Hirko can generate stable lysogens. *SEAPHAGES Symposium poster*

Ali, R, Hussain, K., Labib, S, Syed, A, Kamal, Y, and Perez Morales, T. Characterization and genome annotation of *CookieBear*, an *Arthrobacter globiformis* Cluster AY phage. *ASM Microbe Poster*

Hussain, K., Ali, R, Labib, S, Syed, A, Kamal, Y, and Perez Morales, T. *CookieBear* is a temperate phage that infects the soil microorganism *Arthrobacter globiformis* 2979 *SEAPHAGES Symposium poster*

Labib, S, Syed, A, Arshad, M, and Perez Morales, T. Arthrobacter globiformis B-2979 Eesa lysogens are more resistant to infection by lytic phages than by temperate phages *SEAPHAGES Symposium poster*

2024 Kamal, Y, and Perez Morales, T. Using western blot assays to visualize concentrations of the *Streptococcus pyogenes* RopB/SIP Quorum Sensing protease SpeB in the presence or absence of the small molecule modulator JM22. *ACCA Oral presentation*

Slakeski, N, Syeda, M, Kamal, Y, Fatima, S, Khan, B, Olascoaga, E, and Perez Morales, T. Characterization and genome annotation of the *Arthrobacter globiformis* phage Piku. *ACCA Oral presentation*

Elabsi, A. and Perez Morales, T. Phage Ameer, an *A. globiformis* Lytic Phage Isolated from Ondrak Hall at Benedictine University. *URSA poster*

Nawaz, N and Perez Morales, T. Phage Lylo25 is a Potential Lysogenic Phage Isolated from a Jasmine Sambac Plant in Lombard, IL. *URSA poster*

Fatima, S. and Perez Morales, T. Characterization of *Microbacterium foliorum* Phages Isolated from Public and Private Soil Sites. *SEAPHAGES Symposium poster*

Syeda, M and Perez Morales, T. *Arthrobacter sp.* Phage Isolation and Characterization Using a Variety of Soil Samples: A Pilot Study for a Research Classroom at Benedictine University. *SEAPHAGES Symposium poster*

Hashmi, N and Perez Morales, T. Characterization of Amaya: A Potential Lysogenic Phage that Infects the Soil Bacterium *. globiformis*. *URSA poster*

- 2023 Russelburg, M, Perez Morales, T, and Harden, L. Validating the Use of Bacterial Killing Assays to Investigate Immune Health of Spotted Turtles Living in Contaminated Environments. *URSA poster*
- Farooq, Z., Kraka, H., Moosani, A., Poch, M., and Perez Morales, T. Collaborative Characterization of Bacterial Colonies Isolated from Soil Samples at Benedictine University. *URSA poster*
- Kamal, Y., Syeda, M., and Perez Morales, T. Initial Characterization of the Analog JM27 and Its Activity on the Rgg Quorum Sensing Systems Present in *S. pyogenes*. *URSA poster*
- Ghani, A., and Perez Morales, T. Pond to Plate: Characterization of *A. globiformis* Phage Ader. *URSA poster*
- Hammani, Z. and Perez Morales, T. Bioinformatic Analysis of Eesa_37, a Predicted RecE-like Exonuclease Family Gene Present in the Genome of *A. globiformis* Phage Eesa. *URSA poster*
- Zubair, Z. and Perez Morales, T. Method Development to Study Presence of a Cysteine Protease Modulated by the RopB/SIP Quorum Sensing System in *S. pyogenes*. *URSA poster*
- 2022 Amatullah, M. and Perez Morales, T. Castor, a phage that infects the soil bacterium *A. globiformis*. *URSA poster*
- Khalaf, H. and Perez Morales, T. Bioinformatic studies on predicted Cas4 family endonuclease in the genome of mycobacteriophage Boiii. *URSA poster*
- Biango, G., Hammami, Z, Perez Morales, T. Characterization of *Arthrobacter globiformis* phages LilGB and WinniePooh. *URSA poster*
- Mason, M., Poch, M., Perez Morales, T. Isolation of an antibiotic-producing *Pseudomonas* sp. colony from Yorkville, IL. Accepted abstract and oral presentation. *Tiny Earth Symposium oral presentation*
- Pendill, K, Ruiz, M, Zubair, Z, Reyes, S, Syed, S , Sami, S, Adil, A, Figueroa, N, Vivaldo, J, Rubush, D, Perez Morales, T. A Novel Compound Which Inhibits Protease Expression by Targeting the RopB/SIP Quorum Sensing System in *S. pyogenes*. *NSSRP poster*
- Ruiz, M, Pendill, K, Zubair, Z, Reyes, S, Syed, S , Sami, S, Adil, A, Figueroa, N, Vivaldo, J, Rubush, D, Perez Morales, T. *S. pyogenes* RopB-dependent protease expression via a novel compound inducer. *NSSRP poster*
- 2021 Castaneda, J, Cuadrado, G, and Perez Morales, T. Colonialism in Latin America. Benedictine University Teach-In Discussion Session.
- Amatullah, M, Cepolski, R, Rivas-Soriano, M, and Perez Morales, T. Twitch mycobacteriophage genome annotation by BIOL1195 undergraduate students. *SEA PHAGES Symposium poster*
- Vivaldo, J, Sami, S, Figueroa, N, Adil, A, Rubush, D, and Perez Morales, T. Characterization of modulatory quorum sensing molecules in *S. pyogenes*. *ASM World Microbe Forum poster*
- Egbuna, A, Perez Morales, T, Deletion of an *rgg* gene for *L. acidophilus*. PUMA-STEM / *LSMRCE poster* (1st place)
- Sami, S, Memon, N., Adil, A., Poch, M., and Perez Morales, T.G. Building a microbiology agar art bank for science outreach. *ASM World Microbe Forum poster*

- Vivaldo, M, Perez Morales, T, and Rubush, D. Synthesis of compound M567-0446 and analogs for quorum sensing studies in *Lactobacillus acidophilus*. *LSMRCE poster*
- Adil, A., Sami, S., and Perez Morales, T.G. Using microbiology to create online research travel projects during the COVID-19 pandemic. ASM World Microbe Forum poster
- Duffy, C, Omari, N, Mohamed, M, Ratia, K, Federle, M, and Perez Morales, T.G. Small molecule effects on *Lactobacillus acidophilus* adherence and quorum sensing. *LSMRCE poster*
- Adil, A., Mohiuddin, A, and Perez Morales, T.G. Initial characterization of Rgg QS regulators in *Lactobacillus acidophilus*. *LSMRCE poster*
- 2020 Alkawaha, N., Hussain, E., Perez Morales, T. Advanced Agar Templates for STEAM Outreach Generated Using Soil Microorganisms *URSA poster*
- Sami, S., Salik, M., Perez Morales, T. Using Tiny Earth to Create a STEAM Environment in the Classroom. *URSA poster*
- Taylor, K., Koshy, R., Perez Morales, T. Characterization of Antibiotic-Producing Soil Bacteria Obtained from Lake St. Benedict. *URSA poster*
- Dudziak, A., McCusker, C., Perez Morales, T. From Undergraduate Soil Bacteria Research to Science Outreach: A Tale of a Fluorescent Microbe. *URSA poster*
- Ahmed, Z., Nchabcheb, H, Perez Morales, T. Activity and Effects of Small Molecule M-0446 and Its Analogs on *Streptococcus pyogenes* QS Expression. *URSA poster*
- Khan, H, and Perez Morales, T. Identification of two transcriptional regulators and a signal peptide in *Lactobacillus acidophilus* DSM20242. *NSSRP poster*
- Hodo, A, and Perez Morales, T. Characterization of a stand-alone transcriptional regulator, Rgg1765, in *Lactobacillus acidophilus* DSM20242. Biological Sciences Department, Benedictine University, Lisle, IL. *PUMA-STEM poster*
- Figueroa, N, and Perez Morales, T. Identification of the transcriptional regulator Rgg155 and a predicted signal peptide in *Lactobacillus acidophilus* DSM20242. Biological Sciences Department, Benedictine University, Lisle, IL. *PUMA-STEM poster*
- 2019 Omari, N., Mohamed, M., Perez Morales, T. Bacterial Quorum Sensing (QS) using Rgg1765 and SHPs. *URSA poster*
- Duffy, C., Thiel, A., Perez Morales, T. Bile Acid Effects on *Lactobacillus acidophilus* Quorum Sensing and Response. *Molecular Genetics of Bacteria and Phages Meeting poster*
- Adil, A., Soto, D., Perez Morales, T. Characterization of the rgg499 locus in *Lactobacillus acidophilus*. *URSA poster*
- 2018 Azim, N., Khan, I., Perez Morales, T. Initial Quorum Sensing Studies in the Probiotic *Lactobacillus acidophilus*. *URSA poster*

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

2025- Present; Roosevelt University

Department

BIOL301 Curriculum planning

College

Honors Advisory Board

Executive Committee

2015-2025; Benedictine University

Department

Genetics Search Committee, (*completed*)

Biology Scholarship Subcommittee, 2018 (*term completed*)

BMB Operations and Oversight Committee, 2018 (*term completed*)

LSMRCE Faculty Champion, 2019 – Current

Darwin Day Committee, 2019 - Current

BIOL 1195 new lab subcommittee, 2019 (*completed*)

Biological Sciences DEI Initiatives, 2021 – Current

Master of Integrative Physiology committee, 2019 – Current

College

COSH Strategic Goals Committee, 2021 (*completed*)

COS Faculty Handbook Revisions, 2018 – Current

HHMI Diversity and Inclusion Grant Committee, 2019 (*completed*)

Learning Assistants (LA) Program Steering Committee, 2019- Current

CoSH Dean Search Committee, 2022 (*completed*)

University

Association for Latin American Students (ALAS) Advisor, 2017-Current

Belong Scholarship Committee, 2021

Director Multicultural Services Search Committee, 2021 (*completed*)

Academic Conduct Committee, 2021-Current

Academic Admissions Committee, 2021-Current

Inclusion and Equity Taskforce, Implicit Bias Training Facilitator, 2021

Inclusion and Equity Taskforce, Student Engagement Leader, 2020

Tenure-track Faculty Welfare committee representative, 2019 (*term completed*)

Faculty Welfare Handbook Taskforce, 2021 (*completed*)

Faculty Assembly, Secretary, 2021- Current

Academic Service

- 2024- NTSCC manuscript reviewer
- 2021- JMBE manuscript reviewer
ASM World Microbe Forum Poster Judge
Puerto Ricans in STEM Mentorship Program
- 2019 - LSMRCE Poster judge
American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Microbe Abstract Judge
United States Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI) University Representative
- 2017 STEM at Fermi Laboratory, Batavia, IL
- 2015 Expanding your Horizons, Chicago, IL. *Workshop assistant*
- 2014 Chicago Public Schools Student Science Fair, Chicago, IL. *Judge, Microbiology*
- 2012 Spring Undergraduate Research, The University of Iowa. *Judge, Microbiology*
- 2011 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students Conference (ABRCMS), St. Louis, MO. *Judge, Microbiology*

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Teaching and Scholarship

American Society for Microbiology (ASM). Annual training in microbiology pedagogy
ASM Conference for Undergraduate Educators (ASMCUE). Annual training in biology pedagogy
Illinois Society Microbiology. Annual training in clinical microbiology
SEA-PHAGES. Annual training and review in phage biology research
Tiny Earth. Annual review in undergraduate research modules
Learning Assistants (LA). Training in pedagogical research for LA program
FOLC-E project for NSF ADVANCE

Accessibility, Justice, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Service

Benedictine University Safe Space Training
Mental Health First Aid Training
Benedictine University Implicit Bias Facilitator Training
SUNY Student Conduct for Title IX and non-Title IX Cases Training
Making and Unmaking of Structural Racism Workshop
PULSE DEI Workshops

MEMBERSHIPS

- 2018 - Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans (SACNAS)
- 2019- Illinois Society for Microbiology (ISM); an Illinois ASM branch
- 2014- Graduate Women in Science (GWIS), Eta Chapter, Chicago, IL *Chapter Secretary*
- 2014 - 2017 National Postdoctoral Association, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2011 – 2013 Microbiology Graduate Student Senator (GSS), The University of Iowa, Annual James F. Jakobsen Graduate Conference Committee, The University of Iowa *Publicity Chair*
- 2012– 2013 Executive Council for Professional and Graduate Students (ECGPS). *GSS Delegate*, The University of Iowa
- 2008 – Member of American Society for Microbiology (ASM)
- 2005 - 2007 Puerto Rican Society of Mycology, University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez, *Secretary*