

About Ponce Health Sciences University

The Ponce Health Sciences University (formerly called Ponce School of Medicine) has gained extraordinary recognition and prestige in Puerto Rico and abroad for its education, service and research achievements. It holds nationally recognized graduate programs in the disciplines of Medicine, Clinical Psychology, Biomedical Sciences and Public Health. The mission of the Ponce Health Sciences University is to provide a world-class, culturally-competent, health sciences education to the population they serve, through innovative adaptive learning environments focused on the success of its students to become ethical practitioners and scientists.

About Moffitt Cancer Center

The Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa whose mission is to contribute to the prevention and cure of cancer is the only National Cancer Institute (NCI) designated Comprehensive Cancer Center in Florida. Moffitt focuses on the highest level of patient care and the development of early stage translational research aimed at the rapid translation of scientific discoveries. The Center includes a 206-bed cancer hospital, the Southeast's largest Bone and Marrow Transplant program, outpatient treatment programs with more than 350,000 visits a year, the Moffitt Cancer Center Screening and Prevention Center, and the Moffitt Research Institute organized in five scientific programs, all with an emphasis on translation: Cancer Biology & Evolution; Immunology; Chemical Biology & Molecular Medicine; Cancer Epidemiology; and Health Outcomes and Behavior.

The PHSU-MCC Partnership

The Partnership is supported by a grant from the NCI to eliminate cancer-related health disparities affecting Hispanics. The focus of the Partnership is to develop and improve cancer care outcomes for Hispanic cancer patients in Puerto Rico and Florida who are underserved with respect to cancer care, personalized medicine, participation in clinical research and understanding the underlying basic mechanisms of cancer.

What our participants are saying

"The experience at Moffitt was very rewarding and full of learning experiences both academically and personally. I had the opportunity to meet wonderful people and have made some very good friends. I am very grateful to the U54 PHSU-MCC Partnership for allowing me to have this experience that I will never forget." - **1st year PHSU medical student**

"I personally like very much the experience at Moffitt Cancer Center. I really think it was a great match to do the research rotation at Dr. Kanetsky lab because I put my knowledge in epidemiology into practice. Dr. Kanetsky also gave me the opportunity to be an active observer in other projects that he has and to rotate in the clinical part of those projects." - **1st year PHSU medical student**

"This summer was a very useful learning experience. As future physicians. I know it will be nothing but beneficial during our careers. I appreciate the opportunity that I was given and would not change anything about it." - **1st year PHSU medical student**

"After this training experience I gained not only technical and analytical skills, but also I met excellent scientists that now will serve as mentors and collaborators. My thesis project has been improved, and also I ended up being better prepared for my future professional career." - **4th year PHSU PhD student**

"It was a privilege to learn from an exemplary mentor who taught me step-by-step how to approach a scientific problem, design a research plan, order the materials and carry out the experimental phase." - **3rd year PHSU medical student**

"The time spent at Moffitt Cancer Center throughout this past summer was a huge opportunity for many reasons. It gave me the chance to participate in a research laboratory and learn many techniques used in modern lab work." - **1st year PHSU medical student**

Ponce Health Sciences University & Moffitt Cancer Center Partnership



Cancer Research Experiences
and Career Development
Opportunities

Summer 2018



Ponce Health Sciences University & Moffitt Cancer Center Partnership Summer Student Rotations

How it Works

The Ponce Health Sciences University (PHSU) and Moffitt Cancer Center (MCC) Partnership Program is a collaborative effort that promotes education, research, and training opportunities for young scientists and medical students in the area of cancer research in the Puerto Rican population. The main goal of the PHSU-MCC Partnership Research Education Core (REC) is to increase the number, competence and success of these cancer professionals.

The Research Education Core provides graduate and medical students the opportunity and funding to complete rotations in basic and translational research laboratories. Students from Ponce Health Sciences University can elect to undertake their rotation at MCC or at PHSU. Students from MCC and the University of South Florida with an ongoing interest in cancer research are eligible to train at the PHSU campus.

Objectives:

- To increase the numbers and success of basic science investigators and clinical research scientists focused on enhancing cancer research for the PR population.
- To enhance clinical cancer research and treatment of the Puerto Rican population.
- To enhance career development and mentoring of partnership junior investigators.

The PHSU-MCC Partnership is supported by the National Institute of Cancer (NCI) and the National Institute of Health (NIH), 2U54CA163071-06 (PHSU) and 2U54CA163068 (MCC).

Benefits to You

During the rotation period lasting up to 8 weeks, participants will be provided with mentored training in cancer research, emerging technologies, research skills, health disparities education, and career development. After completing the research rotations, students will give an oral presentation to faculty and students at their home institute and submit a written report of their work.

Mentoring

Each graduate or medical student will have an assigned faculty mentor and peer mentor. All students will have access to a Training Coordinator for assistance in the organization of the rotation assignments.

Professional Skills and Career Development

Students are expected to participate in 2-4 workshops per year. Examples of workshops, open to all students, include:

- Health Disparities Training
- Responsible Conduct of Research
- Biostatistics for The Biosciences
- Introduction to Clinical Trials

Trainee specific career development workshops and seminars are also provided, including:

- Making a high impact poster presentation
- How to prepare and interview for Postdoctoral positions
- Navigating the Internship & Fellowship Process
- Strategies to secure your first independent academic position
- Choosing your career path in oncology

How to Apply

Research rotations typically occur in the summer. Applicants must have successfully completed at least the first year of graduate or medical school by the beginning of the research rotation and be in good academic standing. Interested applicants must submit a completed application as follows:

- A completed application form which can be found at:

<http://labpages2.moffitt.org/psmmcc/Training>

- An updated Curriculum Vitae
- An official college transcript
- Transcript of last semester at PHSU
- Two letters of recommendation
- A letter of good standing

All applications materials must be received by February 5th, 2018.

Selected participants will be notified by March 15th. Please mail or email application materials to:

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