

# Research Education Core (REC) Team

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- **REC Leads**

- Karen Burns White, Deputy Associate Director, Initiative to Eliminate Cancer Disparities (DF/HCC)
- Liya Escalera, PhD, Vice Provost for Academic Support Services (UMass Boston)
- Adán Colón-Carmona, PhD, Professor of Biology, Partnership MPI (UMass Boston)
- Joan Becker, EdD, former Vice Provost for Academic Support Services (retired)

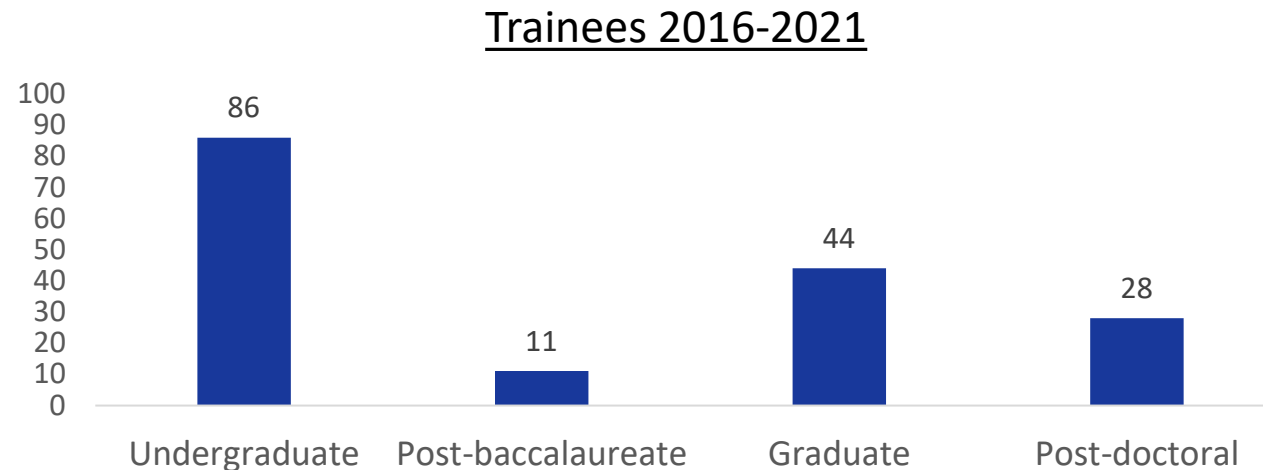
- **REC Manager**

- Kate Loughlin, MEd

# Training within the UMass Boston-DF/HCC Partnership

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- Robust training program for undergraduates to postdocs research trainees
- Since 2016, 168 trainees have been served within the Research Education Core (REC) or in U54-supported research projects



# Trainees within the UMass Boston-DF/HCC Partnership

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**José Zepeda**

Undergraduate Program  
*Current PhD Candidate*



**Udoka Ibeh**

Post-Baccalaureate  
*Current MD/PhD Candidate*



**Vida Karimnia**

Graduate Program  
*PhD Candidate*



**Dr. Ijeoma Julie Eche**

Post Doctoral  
*Research Fellow*

# Training within the UMass Boston-DF/HCC Partnership

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- **Our post-baccalaureate program** was initiated in 2016 after a needs assessment by the REC
  - Support 2-3 post-baccs each year
  - Training in population, nursing or basic sciences
  - Thus far: 3 former trainees are in PhD programs, 2 in MD/PhD programs, 4 are applying this year
- **Graduate Student Career Development**
  - Mentor training
  - Peer mentoring & Near-Peer mentoring
  - Opportunities to present research



# Early-Stage Investigators (ESIs)

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- Overall, the Partnership has supported 42 ESIs as either lead project investigators or within funded project labs
  - 24 female, 18 males; 26% are URM and 62% are of color
- The Partnership initiated a nursing post-doctoral program in 2010 and has supported 7 individuals, working at either UMass Boston and/or DF/HCC
- Each ESI is paired with a mentor/mentors.
  - They meet regularly to ensure ESI career trajectory is on track towards securing a faculty or independent research position, R-type funding, and/or professional promotion.

# Other Professional Development Opportunities for ESIs within the Partnership

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- Connecting ESIs to grant writing workshops
- Mentoring workshops within the REC training program
- Providing networking opportunities via science symposia, conferences and social gatherings
- Connecting them to teaching opportunities at UMass Boston
- Developing skills through outreach and service



# Disseminating Outcomes

## Conferences

- International Cancer Education
- PACHE
- SACNAS
- Understanding Interventions



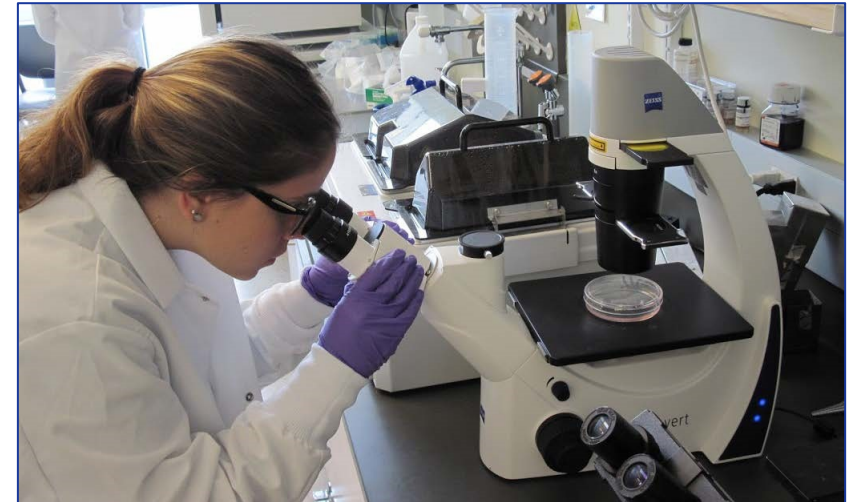
## Publications to disseminate training outcomes

- Wrighting et al. (2021) *“Teaching Undergraduates to Communicate Science, Cultivate Mentoring Relationships, and Navigate Science Culture”*. CBE-Life Science Education
- Michel et al. (2021) *“Best Practice to Support Early-Stage Career URM Students with Virtual Enhancements to In-Person Experiential Learning”*. Journal of STEM Outreach
- Reid Ponte et al. (2015). *“A New Model for Post-Doctoral Training: The Nursing Post-Doctoral Program in Cancer and Health Disparities”*. Nursing Outlook, 63(2), 189-203

# Areas of Opportunity for ESIs

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- Navigating career pathways
- Enhancing mentor training for current & prospective ESIs
- Curriculum Planning - in response to Covid-19 and distance education
- Developing a more comprehensive program
- Increasing the participation of underrepresented ESIs





# Thank you for joining!

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