

CURRICULUM VITAE

Valeria Vanessa González Díaz

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSIDADE DO MINHO

PhD in Basic Psychology (Maximum Distinction) 2016-2020

UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE

Psychologist (Maximum Distinction). 2013- 2014

B.S. in Psychology (Maximum Distinction). 2010- 2014

APPOINTMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, REED COLLEGE (OR, USA)

Assistant professor Dates: August, 2024- Present

- Principal Investigator of the Gonzalez Lab, instructor on behavioral neuroscience related classes, senior thesis advisor.

IZQUIERDO LAB, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES (CA, USA)

Postdoctoral researcher.

Mentor: Alicia Izquierdo Dates: October 2021- August, 2024

- Neural circuits involved in the role of information in choice procedures using *in vivo* chemogenetics and optogenetics, immunohistochemistry, and fluorescent microscopy techniques. Funded by UC Chancellor's postdoctoral fellowship awarded to González.

COMPARATIVE COGNITION LAB, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES

Postdoctoral researcher.

Mentor: Aaron P. Blaisdell Dates: August 2020- December, 2023

- Research on suboptimal behavior, causal reasoning, and associative learning processes in pigeon and rat models. Responsible for design, implementation, data collection, and analysis. Funded by NSF grant (Blaisdell).

RESEARCH AND TRAINING EXPERIENCE

ANIMAL LEARNING AND BEHAVIOR LABORATORY, UNIVERSIDADE DO MINHO

Doctoral student.

Mentor: Armando Machado/Marco Vasconcelos Dates: February 2016- May 2020

- Research in suboptimal choice in pigeons and human participants. Responsible for design, implementation, data collection, and analysis of a multilevel project.

WASSUM LABORATORY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES

Visiting graduate researcher.

Mentor: Kate Wassum Dates: January 2019 - April 2019

- Neural circuits in the formation of habits in mice. Brain surgery for infusion of viruses, histochemistry procedures, Pavlovian and instrumental procedure, and fluorescent microscopy.

COMPARATIVE COGNITION LABORATORY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES

Visiting graduate researcher.

Mentor: Aaron P. Blaisdell

Dates: July 2018- April 2019

- Behavioral research on suboptimal choice, causal reasoning, and associative learning. Rats, pigeons, and hermit crab care. Responsible for execution, data collection, and analysis.

HUMAN COGNITION LABORATORY: HUMAN MEMORY, UNIVERSIDADE DO MINHO

First year lab rotation.

Mentor: Pedro Albuquerque

Dates: March - December 2016

- Exploring the relation between working memory capacity and sensory modality in the production of false memories in humans. Responsible for design, data collection, and analysis.

SLEEP PSYCHOLOGY AND CHRONOBIOLOGY LABORATORY, UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE

Research Assistant.

Mentors: Adrian Ocampo/Ingrid Buller

Dates: March 2014- January 2016

- Role of REM sleep in an animal model of PTSD. Responsible for behavioral experiment, data collection, and analysis. Conducted electrodes and cannula placement surgery, recording and reading of electroencephalogram and histochemistry procedures.

EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY LABORATORY: PROF. RONALD BETANCOURT MAINHARD, UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE

Research Assistant.

Mentors: Mario A. Laborda/Gonzalo Miguez

Dates: March 2012- January 2016

- Research using evaluative conditioning in humans, and associative tolerance to alcohol, appetitive and fear learning in rats. Responsible for rat breeding and care. In charge of execution, data collection, and analysis.

PUBLICATIONS (*Students)

González, V. V., Malvaez, M., Yeghikyan, A. *, Wissing, S. *, Sharpe, M., Wassum, K. & Izquierdo, A. (2025). A common stay-on-goal mechanism in anterior cingulate cortex for information and effort choices. *eNeuro*, ENEURO.0454-24.2025. <https://doi.org/10.1523/ENEURO.0454-24.2025>

González, V. V., Zhang, Y. *, Ashikyan, S. A. *, Rickard, A. *, Yassine, I. *, Romero-Sosa, J.L., Blaisdell, A.P. & Izquierdo, A. (2024). A special role for Anterior Cingulate Cortex, but not Orbitofrontal Cortex or Basolateral Amygdala, in choices involving information. *Cerebral Cortex*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cercor/bhae135>

Macías, A., **González, V.V.**, Machado, A. & Vasconcelos, M. (2024). Time, uncertainty, and suboptimal choice. *Behavioural Processes*, 214, 104982. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2023.104982>

González, V. V., Sadeghi, S. *, Tran, L. *, & Blaisdell, A. (2023). Conjunction fallacy in rats. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-023-02251-z>

González, V. V. & Blaisdell, A. P. (2023). Inhibition and paradoxical choice. *Journal of Learning & Behavior*, 51, 458-467. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13420-023-00584-2>

González, V. V., Izquierdo, A. & Blaisdell, A. (2023). Theoretical mechanisms of paradoxical choices involving information. *Comparative Cognition and Behavior Reviews*, 18, 11-31. <https://doi.org/10.3819/CCBR.2023.180002>

González, V.V., Seitz, B., Formaker, R.*, & Blaisdell, A. P. (2022). Configural associations in the conditioned reinforcement procedure. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Learning and Cognition*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/xan0000296>

González, V.V., & Blaisdell, A. P. (2021). The role of inhibition in the suboptimal choice task. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Learning and Cognition*, 47(4), 429-444. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xan0000300>

Macías, A., **González, V.V.**, Machado, A. & Vasconcelos, M. (2021). The functional equivalence of two variants of the suboptimal choice task: Choice proportion and response latency as measures of value. *Animal Cognition*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10071-020-01418-8>

González, V.V. Macías, A., Machado, A. & Vasconcelos, M. (2020). Testing the Δ - Σ hypothesis in the suboptimal choice task: Same delta with different probabilities of reinforcement. *Journal of Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, 114(2), 233-247. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jeab.621>

González, V.V. Macías, A., Machado, A. & Vasconcelos, M. (2020). The Δ - Σ hypothesis: How contrast and reinforcement rate combine to generate suboptimal choice. *Journal of Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, 113(3), 591-608. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jeab.595>

González, V.V., Mallea, J., Quezada, V., Miguez, G. & Laborda, M.A. (2019). Etiology, treatment, and prevention of ethanol tolerance from a Pavlovian perspective. *Psychology & Neuroscience*, 12(4), 495–509. <https://doi.org/10.1037/pne0000181>

Vasconcelos, M., **González, V. V.**, & Macias, A. (2019). Evolved psychological mechanisms as constraints on optimization. *Comparative Cognition and Behavior Reviews*, 14, 1-4. <https://doi.org/10.3819/CCBR.2019.14000X>

González, V.V., Navarro, V., Miguez, G., Betancourt, R., & Laborda, M.A. (2016). Preventing the recovery of extinguished ethanol tolerance. *Behavioural Processes*, 124, 141-148. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.beproc.2016.01.004>

MANUSCRIPT IN PROGRESS

Ozimak, K., **González, V. V.**, & Blaisdell, A. P. (Submitted). Choice and sex influence the occurrence of the conjunction fallacy in rats.

Buller-Peralta, I., Diaz, J., **González, V. V.**, Bassi, A., Ocampo-Garcés, A., & Valdes, J. L. (Submitted). Disinhibition of the ventral tegmental area after trauma prevents Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. *European Journal of Neuroscience*.

González, V. V., Yeghikyan, A., Wissing, S. & Izquierdo, A. (In progress). Dissociable roles for PFC in risky decision-making with equal but not changing expected value.

Shah, M., Reynolds, W. & **González, V. V.** (In progress). Use of AR technology for a more naturalistic study of decision-making.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Stillman Drake 2024-25, Reed College - \$1,400

2024

Winter Brain- Poster travel award 2024 - \$625	2024
Carol Moss Spivak Scholars Award- Brain Research Institute (BRI)- \$25,000	2023
Life Sciences Excellence in Promotion of Diversity & Inclusion Award-\$500	2023
UC Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellowship UCLA-\$60,712	2022-2024
BRI/Semel Institute Postdoctoral Fellow Travel Award - \$650 Used in SFN 2021 (Virtual) and SFN 2022 (San Diego)	2021, 2022
Best PhD thesis award by the Scientific Society of Psychology of Chile	2021
PhD Scholarship by the Foundation for Science and Technology, Portugal. Reference: PD/BD/114368/2016. - \$190,130	2016-2020
Research Assistant and Thesis preparation student. - \$5,350 FONDECYT Regular #1130117. Principal Investigator: Mario A. Laborda.	2013-2014
CCS-Elsevier travel award. - \$400 Used in Satellite meeting of Comparative Cognition Society in conjunction with the annual meeting of Society for Neuroscience (San Diego, California, USA).	2018
Award for Best Bachelor of Science Degree Average Score.	2014
Travel Funding by the Academic Services. - \$1,000 Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Chile. Used: 17 th Meeting of the International Society for Comparative Psychology (Bogotá, Colombia).	2014
Travel Funding by the Academic Services. - \$1,000 Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Chile. Used in the 7th World Congress of Behavioural and Cognitive Therapy (Lima, Perú).	2013
Travel Funding by the Academic Services. - \$500 Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Chile. Used in the 14th National Meeting and 3rd International Meeting of the Argentinian Society of Behavioral Sciences (Córdoba, Argentina).	2013
Award for Academic Excellence by AES GENER S.A. - \$1,600	2011, 2013
Award for Academic Effort by AES GENER S.A. - \$1,200	2012

SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor.

Course: *Methods in Psychology: Brain and behavior.*

January-May 2025. Department of Psychology. Reed College.

Course: *Behavioral Neuroscience.*

January-May 2025. Department of Psychology. Reed College.

Course: *Neuroscience and Ethics*.

August-December 2024. Department of Psychology. Reed College.

Course: *Fundamentals of Learning*.

August-September 2021-2022. School of Psychology, University of California Los Angeles.

Course: *Colloquium I*, PhD in psychotherapy.

March-July 2021. Department of Psychology, Universidad de Chile- Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Course: *Learning and Behavior*.

August-December 2020-2021. School of Psychology, Universidad Alberto Hurtado.

Course: *Psychology*.

March-July 2013-2015. Undergraduate Program in Psychology, Universidad de Chile.

Teaching Assistant.

Course: *Postgraduate Training in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy*.

Professor: Vanetza E. Quezada, Mario Laborda and Gonzalo Miguez.

March-December 2020. Department of Psychology, Universidad de Chile.

Course: *Learning laboratory*.

Professor: Armando Machado.

March-July 2017. School of Psychology, Universidade do Minho.

Course: *Motivation and emotion laboratory*.

Professor: Joana Arantes.

March-July 2017. School of Psychology, Universidade do Minho.

Course: *Basic Processes of Learning*.

Professors: Mario A. Laborda and Vanetza E. Quezada.

August-December 2011-2015. Department of Psychology, Universidad de Chile.

Course: *New Developments and Applications of Learning Theory*.

Professor: Mario A. Laborda and Vanetza E. Quezada.

March-July 2014. Department of Psychology, Universidad de Chile.

Course: *Laboratory of Basic Psychological Processes I and III*

Professors: Jaime Silva and Tito Elgueta.

August-December 2014. School of Psychology, Universidad de Santiago de Chile.

Course: *Cognitive Neuroscience*.

Professor: Mario A. Laborda.

August-December 2012-2013. Department of Psychology, Universidad de Chile.

Course: *Neurophysiology*.

Professors: Ingrid Buller and Margarita Bórquez.

March-July 2012-2013. Department of Psychology, Universidad de Chile.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

González, V. V. (2024, October). Contribuciones conductuales y neuronales en la preferencia por información: avances en optogenética y quimiogenética. University of Chile, Santiago, Chile.

González, V. V. (2024, January). Sex-Dependent Frontocortical Mediators of Decision Making (Panel: Behavioral, Neural and Neurochemical Differences in Decision Making: Let's Talk About Sex). Winter Brain, Breckenridge, Colorado, USA.

González, V. V. (2023, August). Behavioral and neural contributions of information preference. Keynote talk organized by UCLA-HBCU Neuroscience Pathways program and UC-HSI SOMA program at UCLA, Los Angeles, California, USA.

González, V. V. (2023, June). The role of Anterior Cingulate Cortex in the bias for information. 1st UCLA Women in Neuroscience Symposium. Los Angeles, California, USA.

González, V. V. (2023, May). Non-instrumental information from a neuro-behavioral approach. Lecture for graduate course "Biology of Learning and Memory". Los Angeles, California, USA.

González, V. V. (2022, November). Information Bias: Behavioral and neural contributions. University of California Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara, California, USA.

González, V. V. (2022, October). Information Bias: Suboptimal features explored at the behavior and neural levels. University of California Riverside. Riverside, California, USA.

González, V. V. (2022, August). The role of different types of Information in decision-making. Grupo de trabajo de psicología experimental y comparada de la Sociedad Interamericana de Psicología (SIP). Online.

González, V. V. (2022, May). A journey through science. Integrating equity, diversity and inclusion in science. Symposium organized by UGSP and Ameba at UCLA. Los Angeles, California, USA.

González, V.V. (2021, October). Unravelling the neural substrates behind the preference for an informative yet suboptimal alternative. Colloquium series at Reed College. Portland, Oregon, USA.

González, V.V. & Reynolds, W. (2021, August). El uso de realidad aumentada (AR) en el estudio de la toma de decisiones en humanos. IV Jornada de Psicología Experimental. Virtual meeting.

González, V.V. (2021, June). Elección y conductas 'irracionales'. Coloquio mujeres en ciencia. Catedra de Nuevos desarrollos y aplicaciones de las teorías de aprendizaje, Universidad de Chile. Virtual.

González, V.V., Machado, A. & Vasconcelos, M. (2019, November). Symposium on Suboptimal Choice. Integration and use of information in the suboptimal choice task. VII SINCA. Guadalajara, México.

SELECTED ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

González, V. V., Malvaez, M., Sharpe, M., Wassum, K., & Izquierdo, A. (2024, October). The effects of optical inhibition of Anterior Cingulate Cortex on Information and Effort-based choices. 53st Annual meeting of Society of Neuroscience. Chicago, Illinois, USA.

González, V. V., Yaghekanian, A., Wissing, J. & Izquierdo, A. (2024, January). Decisions involving changing expected value vs. risk and the role of rat anterior cingulate cortex. Winter Brain, Breckenridge, Colorado, USA.

González, V.V., Ashikyan, S., Zhang, Y., Rickard, A., Yassine, I., Romero-Sosa, J.L., Blaisdell, A.P. & Izquierdo, A. (2023, August). A special role for Anterior Cingulate Cortex, but not Orbitofrontal Cortex or Basolateral Amygdala, in choices involving information. 50th Meeting European Brain and Behaviour Society. Amsterdam, Netherlands.

González, V.V., Ashikyan, S., Blaisdell, A.P. & Izquierdo, A. (2022, November). Dissociable roles and sex differences in the contributions of anterior cingulate cortex, but not basolateral amygdala, to information bias. 51st Annual meeting of Society of Neuroscience. San Diego, California, USA.

González, V.V. & Reynolds, W. (2022, September). Capturing the essence of human behavior with data-driven AR. UC Tech 2022. San Diego, CA, USA.

González, V.V., Ashikyan, S., Blaisdell, A.P. & Izquierdo, A. (2022, May). The learning mechanisms and frontocortical contributions of information. The Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior (SQAB). Boston, MA, USA.

González, V. V., Gómez, M. G., Blaisdell, A. P., & Izquierdo, A. (2021, November). Dissociable roles for basolateral amygdala (BLA) and anterior cingulate cortex (ACC) in the bias for information. 50th Annual meeting of Society of Neuroscience. Virtual Meeting.

González, V.V., Ratanjee, R., Sadeghi, S. & Blaisdell, A. (2021, November). A case of conjunction bias in rats. Psychonomic Society. Virtual Meeting.

González, V.V., Shah, M. & Reynolds, W. (2021, August). Forging engaging, actionable paths to understanding human behavior with AR research. UC Tech 2021. Virtual meeting

González, V.V. & Blaisdell, A. (2020, November). The role of inhibition in the suboptimal choice task. Psychonomic Society 61st Annual Meeting. Virtual meeting.

González, V.V. & Blaisdell, A. (2019, November). Symposium of suboptimal choice: The role of inhibition in the suboptimal choice task. VII SINCA. Guadalajara, México.

González, V.V., Machado, A., Blaisdell, A. & Vasconcelos, M. (2019, September). The effect of the different probabilities of reinforcement in suboptimal choice preference. XXXI International Conference of the Spanish Society for Comparative Psychology. Málaga, España.

González, V.V., Vasconcelos, M. & Blaisdell, A. (2019, May). Place versus response learning in the hermit crab. 14 Encontro Nacional da APPE. Évora, Portugal.

González, V.V., Macias, A., Machado, A. & Vasconcelos, M. (2018, October). The effects of the difference in reinforcement probability in suboptimal choice. XIX Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Comparative Psychology. Los Angeles, California, USA.

González, V.V., Macias, A., Vasconcelos, M. & Machado, A. (2017, September). Explaining suboptimal choice: The effects of the difference in reinforcement probability and the overall reinforcement probability. XXIX International Conference of the Spanish Society for Comparative Psychology. Oviedo, España.

González, V. V., Macias, A., Machado, A. & Vasconcelos, M. (2017, May). Can We Use Latencies to Predict Suboptimal Choice? 40th Annual Meeting of the Society for Quantitative Analyses of Behavior. Denver, Colorado, USA.

González, V. V., Machado, A. & Vasconcelos, M. (2017, April). The equivocal role of trial duration in the intertemporal choice task. Associative Learning Symposium 2017. Gregynog, Wales, UK.

González, V., Navarro, V., Laborda, M.A., Cisternas, O., Aravena, S. & Betancourt, R. (2014, September). La recuperación de lo extinguido en la respuesta de tolerancia asociativa al etanol. 17th Meeting of the International Society for Comparative Psychology. Bogotá, Colombia.

González, V., Contreras, M.P., Navarro, V., Bórquez, M., Quezada, V., Laborda, M.A. & Betancourt, R. (2013, July). Tolerancia asociativa al etanol: Aportes del laboratorio experimental para mejorar la terapia de exposición a las claves. 7th World Congress of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies. Lima, Perú.

THESIS SUPERVISION

Cedar Wilson, BS- Reed College	2025
<i>BS Thesis. Title: "Exploring Individual Differences in the Information Preferences of Rats"</i>	
Ashley Schlipp, BS- Reed College	2025
<i>BS Thesis. Title: "The Role of the Dorsomedial Striatum in Stable Information Seeking Behavior"</i>	
Kahaan Parikh, BS- Reed College	2025
<i>BS Thesis. Title: "Chemogenetic Inhibition of the Basolateral Amygdala in a Modified Risky Decision Task: A Model of Gambling Disorder"</i>	
Odena Nieto, BS- Reed College	2025
<i>BS Thesis. Title: "The Effects of Chemogenetic Inhibition of the Medial Amygdala on Alcohol Drinking Mice: A Potential Role for Oxytocin Receptors"</i>	
Sowgol Sadeghi, BS – UCLA	2021
<i>Junior thesis.</i>	
Rakhi Ratanjee, BS – UCLA	2021
<i>Junior thesis.</i>	
Stephanie Seria, BS -Universidad de Chile	2016
<i>BS thesis. Title: "Análisis sobre adopción de menores por parte de parejas homosexuales situándonos en Chile del siglo XXI"</i>	
Ricardo Urzua, BS – Universidad de Chile	2016

BS thesis. Title: “El efecto del transporte público en la calidad de vida de los usuarios de Santiago de Chile”

MENTORSHIP

Whitney Kuma-Perry – Reed College 2025
Christina Davis – Reed College 2024-2025
Prisha Bharadwaj – Reed College 2024-2025
Divine Vasquez – Reed College 2024
Alex Yeghikian – UCLA 2023-2024
Annie Rickard – UCLA 2022-2024
Sydney Wissing- UCLA 2023-2024
Ibrahim Yassine, BS- UCLA 2023 (currently in medical school, Lebanon)
Sonya Ashikyan, MS- UCLA 2022 (currently in grad school, UCLA)
Linh Tran, BS-UCLA 2021 (currently in medical school, UCD)
Sowgol Sadeghi, BS – UCLA 2021 (currently in medical school, CHSU)
Rakhi Ratanjee, BS – UCLA 2021 (currently in medical school, Geisinger Commonwealth)
Rachel Fourmaker, BS-UCLA 2020 (currently in Veterinary School, UCD)
Nicole Sobral Felix, MS- University of Minho 2020

EDITORIAL SERVICE & MEMBERSHIP

Frontiers in Psychology 2023-present
- Review Editor on the Editorial Board of Comparative Psychology

Reviews completed:

- Acción Psicología	2024-present
- Behavioral Neuroscience	2024-present
- Neuropsychopharmacology	2023-present
- Oxford Open Neuroscience	2023-present
- Learning & Behavior	2023-present
- Animal Cognition	2022-present
- Revista de Psicología Universidad de Chile	2018, 2020
- Journal of Comparative Psychology	2019, 2021
- Journal of Experimental Analysis of Behavior	2019
- Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Learning and Cognition	2017, 2019
- Interamerican Journal of Psychology	2021-present
- Psykhe	2021-present

Membership:

- International Brain Research Organization	2023-2024
- European Brain and Behaviour Society	2023-2024
- The Society for the Quantitative Analyses of Behavior	2022
- Society for Neuroscience, member	2021-Present
- Scientific Society of Psychology of Chile, Associate	2021-present
- Psychonomic society, fellow member	2020-2022

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Premed orientation, Reed College 2024-2025
- Mentor to students interested in pursuing a medical degree after graduation.
- Neuroscience major committee, Reed College 2024-2025
- Member from the psychology department, helping to approve and coordinate issues related to the neuroscience major requirements.
- IACUC board, Reed College 2024-2025
- Member of the IACUC, approving animal research and keeping compliance with USDA and other federal regulations.
- BioLaunch: Ask a Postdoc Panel March 2024
- Panelist in the recruitment event organized by the Postdoctoral Affairs in Bioscience that aims to demystify the postdoc process and give prospective postdocs information about UCLA.
- GradSlam UCLA March 2024
- Judge in the semi-final and final competition in Grad Slam where graduate students participate in a public speaking competition showcasing the potential impact of their research.
- UCLA Seminar by Young Neuroscience Community Scholars (SYNCS) 2023-2024
- Leadership at the organizing committee of SYNCs funded by the UCLA Brain Research Institute to showcase the work of extramural postdocs with excellent scientific and community work in neuroscience.
- Task force for the advancement of DEI in the psychology department 2023-2024
- Postdoc representative in the department searching for solutions and actionable plans to improve accountability, increase transparency and trust between different stakeholders.
- Chair of the Postdoctoral Association UCLA 2022-2024
- Head of the executive board. Responsible for planning and hosting events, overseeing, and directing other board members. Liaison with other administrative instances on campus.
- Vice-chair of Operations on the Postdoctoral Association UCLA 2021-2022
- Executive board member. Responsible for managing and keeping records, managing budget, event planning and hosting.
- Member of the organization committee 2018-2021
- Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Comparative Psychology.
- Director's assistant, Department of Psychology, Universidad de Chile 2014-2016
- Coordination of professional practices and degree thesis. Assistance in the process of curricular innovation and coordination of psychology career.

OUTREACH AND ACTIVISM

- Co-founder of FEAST September 2021- December 2023
- Co-founder of Fostering Equity and Accountability in Stem Together (FEAST), which supports and self-advocates for the community of graduate students and postdocs in STEM fields at UCLA from historically minoritized backgrounds.
- Mentor at Project SHORT April 2023- June 2024

- One-on-one mentorship program with the objective of shrinking the socioeconomic gap in medical and graduate school by demystifying grad and med school applications.

PenPal in Letter to a pre-scientist September 2022- June 2024
- Volunteer in the LPS program that connects students with STEM professional through letters in order to inspire students to explore a future in STEM.

Journal Club – Blaisdell Lab (UCLA) September 2020-June 2022
- Founder and coordinator of a program to train undergraduate students on research. Coaching students with interest in following postgraduation studies.

Co-founder of Latin-American Researchers Abroad (LARA-B2) March, 2019- May, 2020
- Provide information about jobs, scholarships, grad school and research for Latinos. Share life experience, struggles and difficulties by highlighting Latino researchers in social media.

Mentor program in ONE and OrgulOSO programs, UCLA September 2020- June, 2022
- Mentor of three undergraduate students.

Proyecto Aplauso Chile. May 2020 -September 2020
- Volunteer in a virtual COVID-19 Psychological First Aid Service.

Homoparentality and adoption research group, Universidad de Chile 2015- 2016
- Researcher reviewing literature to assist legislators in the proposal of a new law to allow same-sex couples to adopt in Chile.

SKILLS

Programming ability in MedPc, Psychopy, Matlab and R.
Proficient knowledge in SPSS, JASP statistical programs.
Proficiency using EndNote and Mendeley bibliographic management software.
Native in Spanish, fluent in Portuguese and English.

CERTIFICATIONS/CONTINUING EDUCATION

CONNECT seminar series by UC Irvine 2024-2025
The CONNECT initiative mission is to foster collaboration and enhance resources in the field of Science Outreach and Education, creating impactful connections between actors.

Raising a Resilient Scientist Series March-April, 2024
Series of four 2-hour session to improve and teach other resilient in science organized by the Office of Intramural Training & Education, NIH

Developing and Funding Your Research February, 2024
Series of four 2-hour sessions to learn to navigate and main relevant aspects of grant applications and how to plan your research while transitioning to faculty.

Academic Laboratory Management & Leadership Symposium March, 2023
Four-day workshop organized by Torrey Pines Training Consortium

Mentoring up (Mentee training) and Leadership training 2022-2023
Workshops attended: Aligning expectations; Maintaining effective communication; Addressing equity and Inclusion; Seeking Professional development.
Organized by Graduate Programs in Bioscience at UCLA

Four Elements Required for Academic Publishing
Organized by Resistant vision

January, 2023

Annual Fall Meeting for President's and Chancellor's fellows
Workshops and discussion groups on topics of publishing, grant writing, academic job market and the tenure process.
Organized by University of California's President's Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

September, 2022-2023

Strengths Finder Workshop

May, 2022

Organized by Graduate Division and the Bioscience postdoctoral affairs office at UCLA

Professional grant development workshop

May, 2021

Organized by Fulbright and Grant Training Center

Making effective slides.

February 2021

Speaker: Idan Blank, PhD. at UCLA

Fall Teaching Forum through the Out of the Box initiative.

September 2020

Workshops: Equitable syllabus, Becoming an Anti-Racist Educator Part I and II.

Organized by CIELS at UCLA

Certification in Psychological First Aid in emergency management.

June 2020

Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OPS)