**CYNTHIA E. ROMERO-ARROYO**

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**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**2012-Present Medical Science Liaison AbbVie Corp San Juan PR**

* Providing scientific and medical support to 75 rheumatologist in Puerto Rico
* Scoring around 300 visits a year supporting the organization with scientific papers, clinical studies and completing medical requests on site and on demand from customers
* Training the Sales and marketing force regionally and from abroad
* Attending major rheumatology congresses in Europe, US and Puerto Rico
* Only MSL currently visiting Rheumatology medical students in attendance to the only Rheum department in the island
* Introducing Six Sigma tools for monthly reporting and meeting minutes

**2010-2012 Staff Scientist- LifeScan LLC*. A Johnson and Johnson Co*. Aguadilla PR**

* Represented J&J at the 1st GMP Caribbean Congress as meeting organizer and session moderator
* Member Pharmaceutical Drug Association (PDA) Microbial and Biofilm Contamination International Task Force (by invitation only)
* Train the Trainer J&J Certification in Change Management, one of eight people in the company, Lean Program Certification
* Successfully established new World Wide Quality compliance practices for company laboratories including reporting, trending and corrections for Quality Control System in alignment with current regulatory agencies practices and guidance documents in US, Scotland and Puerto Rico
* Revamped Product Analysis complaints reports aligned with corporate guidelines with the creation of new format for World Wide Forum presentations
* Designed directed and completed new method validation for testing assays including one for external contractor in China-method currently in use at foreign site

**2009-2010 *Site Quality Control, Incoming, Raw Materials and Stability Manager* Ortho Biologics Inc. Ortho McNeil Pharmaceutical Manati, PR**

* Unified Quality Laboratory Operations for Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical plants including Microbiology, Biochemistry, Raw Material testing and Stability area
* Redesigned testing material flow operations including scheduling, and services improving on time delivery to supported areas

**2001-2008 Ortho Biologics, Inc. *Quality Control Manager* Manati, PR**

* Represented J&J in international forums such as BIO, PDA and PDA Technical Task Forces working in committees fostering peer-to-peer scientific exchanges for the creation of Research Studies and publications.
* Worked with BIO (Biotechnology Industry Organization) representatives influencing public policy and key opinion leaders on the development of initiatives such as the inclusion of Puerto Rico in governmental biotechnology initiatives and creation of programs at the local universities.
* Active member of a Mycoplasma Task Force with PDA, influencing FDA and Biotechnology companies as technical advisor for the development of research protocols for microbial testing. Lead discussion forums for approved/research uses of market testing kits for microbial contamination
* Trainer of an international audience for PDA Office Of Education and Training Course
* Member of the INDUNIV Education Infrastructure Committee and Organizing Team of the Industry-University Colloquium for the development of Future Scientists
* J&J representative on PIA (Pharmaceutical Industry Association) committee for Senate and Legislature training on the Pharma Medical and Health Insurance Service Programs Initiative
* Oversaw Quality Control department comprised of two testing laboratories, responsible for hiring, budget and projects, 30 analysts, three supervisors and two scientists.
* Supported Method Transfers to and from Company Headquarters
* Revamped Aseptic techniques program by providing new focus on hands on experience, current up-to-date information on contaminations and established direct link between program, technical laboratory expertise, manufacture and corrective action system
* Worked in laboratory expansion plans including facility layout and flow
* Participated and supported FDA and European (France, Canada, Brazil) audits and conducted external testing laboratory audits

**2004-2010 Adjunct Professor, InterAmerican University, Arecibo Campus**

* Member Advisory Committees for the creation of Biotechnology Degrees at the University
* Immunology, Molecular Biology and BioGeography, Graduate School-Education Department Professor
* Coordinator undergraduate course in Operational Biotechnology entailing the search and coordination of experts on all different areas of the course and preparing testing materials from all invited lecturers
* Teach courses at graduate level for teachers on their MS program in education with concentration in the Biological Sciences
* Undergraduate Courses for Non-Biology majors-only science course for all university concentrations that do not study a science related field

**1998–2001 Senior Technical Support Scientist Abbott Diagnostics Inc. Barceloneta, PR**

* Represented Company in International Forums supporting Abbott Marketing as scientist advisor and technical expert
* Presented technical seminar for doctors and hospital personnel at the National Cancer Institute in Mexico City
* Actively participated in hospital-clients visits including PEMEX Hospital in support of Mexico Marketing providing scientific expertise
* Delivered key note address in supported marketing efforts for new HIV diagnostic testing platform during Clinical Laboratory Professionals Congress in Dominican Republic
* Support all configurations of Cyclosporine Drug monitoring assays, (Transplant Drug) including manufacturing troubleshooting, incoming material and process improvements
* Worked in Cyclosporine PMA addendum submission to the FDA
* Experience in Regulatory and Quality Affairs including support for product transfers and launches including cardiac and anticonvulsive drugs

**1997–1998 Technical Support Scientist Abbott Diagnostics Inc. Barceloneta, PR**

* Supported Cardiac Anticonvulsive and Transplant Drugs including product improvement research projects with Company Headquarters
* Worked as liaison for Scotland plant during glucose monitoring controls transfer
* Supported three different diagnostic testing platforms
* Named Honorary Engineer by K2 Distribution department due to project that saver over 1 M to ABBOTT

**EDUCATION**

**1992–1997 Ph. D Microbiology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA**

* American Society for Microbiology Pre-Doctoral Fellow-Competitive scholarship
* Patricia Roberts Harris Fellow from the US Education Department Competitive scholarship
* Studies in Molecular Microbiology, Genetic Engineering and Mycoplasmology.

**1989–1992 M.S. Microbiology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA**

* Council Of Southern Graduate Schools Master Thesis of the Year
* Studies in Molecular Biology and Microbial Bioremediation systems
* University Of Georgia Foundation Fellow
* University of Georgia Research Assistantship
* PRIDCO Fellowship for Industrial Development

**1985–1989 B. S. Industrial Microbiology (Magna Cum Laude) University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez, PR**

* Undergraduate Research Assistantship Award from National Science Foundation-Only Hispanic in program
* Undergraduate Research at University of Wisconsin.
* Undergraduate Research Assistant-University of Puerto Rico –Mayagüez

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS**

* PDA Technical Review 50: Mycoplasma Contamination and testing Methods. PDA Association, Aug 2010.
* Mycoplasma Contamination: Challenges and opportunities for the Biotechnology Industry. Cynthia E. Romero-Arroyo *In* Proc. From PDA Workshop on Mycoplasmas Contamination by Plant peptones. PDA. B.J. Potts Ed. Sept. 2007
* *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* Protein P30 is required for Cytadherence and associated with proper cell development. Romero-Arroyo, C. E., J. Jordan, S. J. Peacock, M. Willby. Journal of Bacteriology, vol. 181, no. 4 p. 1079-1087. Feb. 99.
* Genetic Complementation of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*. Abstract. American Society for Microbiology Meeting. May 1995.
* *Cat M Encodes a Lys R-Type Transcriptional Activator Regulating Cathecol Degradation.* Romero-Arroyo C. E., M. A. Schell, G. Gaines, and E. L. Neidle. Journal of Bacteriology, vol. 177, no. 20. P.5889-5898. Oct 1995.

**OTHER AFFAIRS**

* Volunteer Iniciativa Comunitaria or IC de PR. Support to homeless programs fosterin alliances between the academia, the government and the private sector-University of PR, PR Manufacturers Association and IC.
* Certified hairdresser from the Institute of Beauty Careers May 2013-work in homeless shelters, and kids safe houses
* Volunteer member Educational Committee for Banco Popular Echar Pa’Lante initiative. A Private and Public sector initiative for the betterment of public schools
* Volunteer member for the World Computer Exchange
* Member Tour the Cure Organizing committee-fundraiser for Diabetes Association at LifeScan PR 2011
* Past Member of the Board of Education and Training Pharmaceutical Drug Association (PDA)
* Member of the FDA-PDA Mycoplasma Task force
* Past Faculty Member Pharmaceutical Drug Association Washington DC.
* Member of International Organization for Mycoplasmology
* Member of the Committee for the creation of a Biotechnology Program at the University of Puerto Rico- Arecibo Campus and the Inter American University Biotechnology Program-Arecibo Campus
* Member Committee for the Creation of the Endowment for a Distinguish Woman in Natural Sciences Chair at the University of Puerto Rico-with the Puerto Rico Community Foundation and the UPR
* Past Member of the INDUNIV Education Infrastructure Committee a branch of the Puerto Rico Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Clusters-work in the college relations area and curriculum revision for the creation of Biotechnology courses
* Past Member of the Biotechnology Alliance of Puerto Rico as J&J representative
* Member of American Society for Quality-Puerto Rico Chapter
* Member of the American Society for Microbiology-Division G

**SELECTED PRESENTATIONS/GUEST SPEAKER**

* 1st Caribbean GMP Congress –Meeting organizar and Moderator Nov 11
* Artifitial Sweetners, the good the bad and the ugly-Invited Speaker Safety Week LifeScan Aguadilla, Oct 11
* Carreras en Ciencia: Dia del Estudiante. Guest Speaker Isabela and Aguada High Schools. LifeScan Aguadilla. Mar 11
* La Biotechnologia Impactanto la Calidad de Vida. VI Simposio de Investigacion Cientifica Colegio de Ciencias, Pontificia Universidad Catolica de PR-Recinto de Ponce. Apr 08
* Interesting Microbes! University of Puerto Rico-Arecibo Campus. Microbiology Student Association Initiation Ceremonies guest speaker. Feb 08
* Biotechnology from the lab to the patient. U of Puerto Rico-Humacao Campus. Feb 07
* La Biotechnologia. 21st Anniversary Scientific Conference American Association for the Advancement of Science. Caribbean Division Scientific Conference. InterAmerican University-Bayamon Campus. Oct 06
* Chairperson Cell Culture track at the 3rd Latin American and Caribbean Biotechnology Congress. Sept 06
* La Biotecnologia: Impactando La Calidad de Vida. Simposio Biotecnologia Transformando La Calidad de Vida. . InterAmerican University- Arecibo Campus. Sept 06
* Mycoplasma Contaminations: Challenges and opportunities for the Biotechnology Industry. Pharmaceutical Drug Association- FDA joint meeting. Mycoplasma Contaminations from plant peptones workshop. Washington DC. Sept 05
* 16s RNA method for Microbial Identification in the Biotechnology Industry. Puerto Rico’s Society for Microbiology Annual Congress. San Juan PR. Jun 04
* La Biotecnologia en el Siglo XXI. Quinta Conferencia Ambiente Ciencia y Sociedad. U of Puerto Rico- Rio Piedras Campus. May 03, and U of Puerto Rico –Arecibo Campus during Validation Fest 2003 Jun 03
* Biotechnology (From the sewing needle to the inoculating loop). Mentoring Chapter of the Microbiology Student Association. University of Puerto Rico-Arecibo Campus. Mar 03
* Aseptic Techniques and Gowning in the Pharmaceutical Industry. Industrial Microbiology Course guest speaker. University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras Campus. Mar 03
* Careers in Microbiology. Microbiology Student Society. University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez Campus. Dec 01
* Utilidad Clínica del Marcador Tumoral CA 125. 1st International Congress on Tumoral Markers. National Cancer Institute. Mexico City D.F. Jul 00.
* Tacrolimus- A New Drug for the Management of the Transplant Patient. Annual Abbott Open House for Medical Technology Students. Puerto Rico, Jun 00
* Técnicas de Amplificación de Acidos Nucleicos para diagnostico y monitoreo en el Laboratorio Clínico. IX National Congress of the Association of Dominican Republic Clinical Laboratory Professionals. Dominican Republic. July, 98
* The Impact of Molecular Biology in Clinical Microbiology. XV Industrial Microbiology Congress. U of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez. May 98.