Diego Quintana Torres

PhD Student







Brief summary

As a dedicated third-year PhD student in the Genomics, Cancer and Aging group led by Prof. Carlos López Otín, I am deeply interested in harnessing computational approaches and employing omics technologies to extract meaningful insights from biological data. Over the past five years, I have honed a comprehensive skill set encompassing both dry lab (computational) and wet lab (experimental) techniques, with a particular emphasis on the research areas of immunology and aging. My current research endeavors are centered around an in-depth exploration of the immune system in the context of accelerated aging, with a specific focus on Hutchinson Gilford Progeria Syndrome (HGPS), thereby contributing to the broader understanding of aging (both premature and physiological) and age-related diseases.

Education

Ph.D. Biomedicine and Molecular Oncology

2021 -

Thesis: Analysis of immune function and its relevance in mouse models of premature aging

Advisors: Prof. Alicia Rodríguez Folgueras, Prof. Alejandro López Soto.

Prof. Carlos López Otín's Laboratory, University of Oviedo, Spain

M.S. Biomedicine and Molecular Oncology (First-Class Honors)

2020 - 2021

Master's Thesis: Characterization and Functional Analysis of the Immune Response in Accelerated Aging

Prof. Carlos López Otín's Laboratory, University of Oviedo, Spain

B.S. Computer Science (Distance learning)

2020 -

University of Burgos, Spain

B.S. Biology (First-Class Honors)

2016 - 2020

Senior Thesis: Study of Immunomodulatory Mechanisms in Physiological and Accelerated Aging (with Honors)

Prof. Carlos López Otín's Laboratory, University of Oviedo, Spain

Publications

Diego Quintana-Torres*, Alejandra Valle-Cao*, Pablo Bousquets-Muñoz*, Sandra Freitas-Rodríguez, Francisco Rodríguez, Alejandro Lucia, Carlos López-Otín, Alejandro López-Soto, Alicia R. Folgueras. "The secretome atlas of two mouse models of progeria". Aging Cell (2023) [link] (* denotes equal contribution)

Research projects

Functional and therapeutic exploration of the immune system in aging (IMMaging).

2022 -

Principal Investigators: Alicia Rodríguez Folgueras, Alejandro López Soto

Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities

Determination of the specific contribution of organs and tissues to the systemic regulation of aging (ORGANAGING).	2019 - 2022
Principal Investigator: Alicia Rodríguez Folgueras	
Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities	
Internships	
Prof. Mario Fernández Fraga Group. Cancer Epigenetics and Nanomedicine	2019
Instituto Universitario de Oncología del Principado de Asturias (IUOPA)	
Fundación para la Investigación y la Innovación Biosanitaria del Principado de Asturias (FINBA), Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria del Principado de Asturias (ISPA)	
Center for Research in Nanomaterials and Nanotechnology, Spanish National Research Council (CINN - CSIC)	
Biotechnological and Biomedical Assays and Photonic Microscopy and Image Processing Units, Biological Analysis Section	2018
Scientific-Technical Services, University of Oviedo	
University service	
Representative of the group of PhD students in the Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Department Council	2023 -
University of Oviedo, Spain	
Collaborator in the European Researchers' Night	Sept 2022
Oviedo, Spain	
Student Representative of the Quality Commission of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences	2020 - 2021
University of Oviedo, Spain	
Grants, honors & awards	
University Faculty Training Grant / Ayuda para la Formación de Profesorado Universitario (FPU)	2021 - 2025
National Program to Develop, Attract and Retain Talent	
Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities	
Collaboration grant to carry out research tasks in university departments	2020 - 2021
Secretary of State for Education, Spanish Ministry of Education and Vocational Training	
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Department, University of Oviedo	

María Cristina Masaveu Peterson Bachelor's Degree Scholarship for Academic Excellence

2018/2019, 2019/2020

María Cristina Masaveu Peterson Foundation, Spain

Collaboration Scholarship in University Services

2018

Biological Analysis Section, Scientific-Technical Services, University of Oviedo

Teaching experience

Incorporation of a virtual laboratory simulator as a case-based learning tool for Molecular Biology students.

2022 - 2023

Coordinators: Alicia Rodríguez Folgueras, Alejandro López Soto

Teaching innovation project, University of Oviedo

Analysis and Biosanitary Evaluation (GBIOLO01-4-004)

2022 - 2023

Graduate Teaching Assistant, BS in Biology, University of Oviedo

Biochemistry (GBIOLO01-2-001)

2021 - 2022

Graduate Teaching Assistant, BS in Biology, University of Oviedo

Skills & Activities

- **Dry lab**: single-cell (RNA|TCR|BCR)-seq, single-cell immune profiling, aptamer-based proteomics, transcriptomics.
- **Programming languages**: R, Python, Bash, Java, with beginner skill in MATLAB, C, HTML*, CSS* and Javascript. (*Although not programming languages)
- Tools: Git, Jupyter, GitHub.
- Wet lab: Cell culture, broad range of experiments with mouse models (mouse colony handling, surgery, drug administration, carcinogenic protocols, calorimetry, animal care and handling, sample collection, behavioral tests...), *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays, PCR, RT-qPCR, flow cytometry, immunofluorescence, SA-β-gal. assays, metabolic assays (Seahorse).
- Spoken languages:
 - o **Spanish**: Native.
 - o **English**: Professional proficiency (C1 Official Language School of Oviedo, B2 University of Cambridge FCE)
 - o German: Intermediate proficiency (B2 Goethe-Institut)
 - French: Intermediate proficiency (A2 Alliance Française)
- **Certificate of recognition of training for animal experimentation.** Animal Health and Production Service, Regional Ministry of Rural Environment and Agrarian Policy of the Principality of Asturias, Spain.
- Revolutions in Biomedicine Summer School. Presentation of a seminar and a poster, presentation of results of laboratory practices, and attendance at seminars and poster presentations by other summer school attendees. Imperial College London, London, UK. Jul 2019