Institutional Information

1) Institutional Information

The Universidad Central del Caribe (UCC) opened its doors in 1976. UCC was the first private medical school incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Currently, the UCC is a health-sciences university with fully accredited academic programs in Medicine, Medical Images Technology, Biomedical Sciences, and Substance Abuse Counseling. The UCC faculty members carry out extensive studies in basic and clinical biomedical research and provide specialized health care services.

Since 1976, UCC has been committed to providing educational opportunities to students from underrepresented backgrounds, as well as providing services to the communities where they live. Puerto Rico is home to a large number of Hispanic Americans. In fact of the roughly 50.5 million Hispanic Americans, 3.7 million (7%) live in Puerto Rico. The percentage of Puerto Ricans who obtain a college education is high. According to the Educational Attainment 2000 census, 24% of all Puerto Ricans have completed bachelor's degree.

UCC strives to provide underrepresented students with excellent opportunities for advanced education. In 2009, UCC received authorization from the Puerto Rico Council on Higher Education (PRCHE) to confer a PhD in Cellular and Molecular Biology, and in 2011 UCC received authorization to award a PhD in Neuroscience.

Efforts to provide services to the underserved community

University students and faculty are engaged in a variety of events and organizations providing a broad range of activities to the community. Services to and activities or underserved communities are organized into treatment services, health promotion events and career orientation activities.

University students and faculty provide free health clinics where screenings for conditions and orientations promoting prevention of health conditions for the community take place.

UCC students have organized interested groups dedicated to women and men health. These groups have been recognized for inspiring, nurturing and sharing their knowledge with younger men and women who aspire to become health professionals. The also coordinate gender specific health events, for example cardiovascular awareness events for women and prostate/testicular cancer events for men. The Urban Medicine student group has also been recognized for providing treatment to homeless in Puerto Rico and its medical services in isolated communities in other Caribbean and Central American Countries.

UCC students and faculty also provide orientations to underrepresented undergraduate and high school students on how to become the next generation of health care professionals by gaining admission to college, graduate programs in the biomedical sciences and health profession programs. The activities include visits to high school and colleges, UCC campus tours, and a week-long "Introduction to Molecular Biology and Graduate School" hosted in the UCC campus.

Service to underrepresented populations goes from high school to the assistant professor level. UCC hosts underrepresented postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty members providing professional development activities and access to research equipment. These are not only available to UCC faculty but to faculty to other institutions on the island. This ensures increases the number of future underrepresented faculty members and funded researchers.

2) Institutional Data

Demographics of student body in the sciences	**Fall 2019-2020**		**Fall 2020-2021**	
Enrollment Data (last 2 years)	Total No.	UR %	Total No.	UR %
Undergraduate BS/AD	98	100%	123	100%
Graduate MS/PhD/DC**	44	100%	26	100%
MD students	368	100%	324	100%
Total students enrolled	**510**	**100%**	**547**	**100%**
	Awarded Granted 2019-2020		**Awarded Granted 2020-2021**	
Graduation Data (last 2 years)	Total No.	UR %	Total No.	UR %
Undergraduate BS/AD	23	100%	66	100%
Graduate MS/PhD	7	100%	10	100%
MD students	67	100%	77	100%
Total student graduated	**97**	**100%**	**153**	**100%**
Number of underrepresented students graduating from the applicant institution who have completed the Ph.D. in biomedical sciences	Total No.		UR %	
Completed Ph.D. Degrees (last 10 years)	26		98%	
Faculty Data				
Number of faculty members in biomedical and behavioral science disciplines (2020-2021)	Total No.		UR%	
Full-Time	171		96%	
Part-Time	91		100%	
Total Faculty	**262**			
Ad-Honorem	**403**			

*includes MS students from both the Biomedical Sciences Program and the Counseling on Substance Abuse Program.

**Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) Program began Fall 2018 – new program

***UR is defined as members of any of the following groups: Black or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.

3) Total NIH R01 support in the last fiscal year
N/A