

Luz Mireya Román Rivera

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Education

August 2001 – Present University of Illinois at Chicago
Pursuing a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice, Expected graduation 6/2006
Advisor: Prof. Beth Richie, Ph.D.
Department of Criminal Justice
University of Illinois at Chicago
1007 W Harrison St (MC/141) Chicago, IL 60607

August 1998 – May 2001 Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico
M.S. Criminology with a GPA of 3.7.
Thesis: *Comparison of anger levels between inmates and correctional officers.*
Institute for Graduate Studies in Behavioral Sciences and Community
Affairs Ponce Campus, 2250 Las Americas Ave. Suite 655
Ponce Puerto Rico 00717 Tel. 787-841-2000 Ext. 2410

August 1994 – May 1998 University of Puerto Rico
B.A. in Psychology
Graduated Cum Laude with a 3.4 GPA
Colegio Universitario de Cayey
Barceló Ave. Cayey Campus, Cayey Puerto Rico 00736

Work Experience

January, 2002 – Present *Graduate Research Assistant* University of Illinois at Chicago

Center for Research in Law and Justice

Minority Trust and Confidence in the Police in Chicago project (MTC)

Summary of research experience: conducted phone interviews, facilitated and assisted focus groups, conducted adult, youth, and police interviews, conducted and produced a report of community observations, gathered and utilized reverse directory data, entered, cleaned, and analyzed both qualitative and quantitative data from focus groups, adult, youth, and police data, produced writing piece on the qualitative analyzed data to be included in final report for the NIJ.

- Worked the qualitative data using the Non-numerical Unstructured Data Indexing Searching and Theorizing (NUD*IST) for the complete set of youth interviews and the adult Hispanic/Latino interviews.
- Worked the quantitative data using SPSS version 11 for the complete set of adult and youth interviews and for the police interviews I conducted.
- Worked as liaison between interviewers and project investigator. Confirmed schedules and completion of interviews including documentation.
- Conducted and transcribed youth interviews in two Hispanic/Latino communities in Chicago. Translated to Spanish the youth interview schedule, consent forms, and other instruments used for the project. Coordination consisted of contacting community organizations that serve youth in several social, health, academic, and employment agencies. Accomplished the goal of 20 Hispanic youth interviews.

- Accountable for scheduling, conducting, and transcribed adult interviews of Hispanic/Latino community members from one of the two communities studied. The interviews were conducted in both Spanish and English. Translated the informed consent forms, the interview schedule, and other instruments used for the study. Interviews were held at participants' desired location. In addition, responsible for the cash honorarium for each interviewee.
- Conducted several interviews with community leaders serving Hispanic/Latino communities in Chicago, IL.
- Accomplished Census Tracts field observations and submitted field notes for three communities. Trained research assistants in the use of reverse directory and monitored data gathering progress.
- Arranged and recruited participants for focus groups for the second phase of the study. In addition, participated as a note taker for other focus groups in communities beyond my workload. Transcribed and presented findings to the principal investigators.
- Conducted 59 completed phone interviews in six weeks between the months of May and June 2002. Interviews were both in Spanish and English. Interviewees spanned the diverse pre-selected neighborhoods in the city of Chicago. Accomplished 30 per cent of the total completed surveys by June 20, 2002. Managed a total of 196 contact logs resulting in only 12 hard refusals. Along with the research team, accomplished a 45.3 percent response rate.
- The study was a collaborative effort between Northwestern University, the Chicago Police Department, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. The *Examining Minority Trust and Confidence in the Police in Chicago* study was funded by the National Institute of Justice, US Department of Justice and was supervised by Mrs. Sandra Kaminska Costello, Co-Investigator, Associate Director of the Center for Research in Law and Justice, UIC; Tel. 312-355-1393.

Technical Assistance and Research Relating to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) Inmate Reception and Classification study

Summary of research experience: Conducted one on one interviews with IDOC inmates within a correctional facility. Interviewing took an average of 90 minutes followed by an attitudinal survey.

- Performed one-on-one life history interviews with adult male inmates at the Statesville Correctional Facility in Illinois during four site visits during June, 2002. Each life-history interview averaged 90 minutes. Completed an average of three interviews during each site visit accompanied by a team of three other researchers. Interviews were performed in both Spanish and English.
- The study was a collaborative effort between the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA), Loyola University, the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), and IDOC. The project was supervised by Ms. Sharon Shipinski, Principal Investigator and former Assistant Director of the Center for Research in Law and Justice, UIC.
- Attended the Illinois Department of Corrections *Safety Interrogation Interview Training* presented by Mr. Rick Huffman from the Springfield Department of Corrections Training Academy. The training was held at the Administration Building of the Joliet State Penitentiary, in Joliet, IL on February 7, 2002. All researchers and principal investigators were required to attend this security training to work as an interviewer for the *Research and Evaluation with the Illinois Department of Corrections relating Inmate Reception Classification*.

Institute for Public Safety Partnerships (IPSP), a Regional Community Policing Institute, COPS

A Research Assistant (RA) at the Institute for Public Safety Partnerships (IPSP), at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is required to engage in a series of multitasking activities concerning IPSP trainings on Domestic Violence, Diversity, Ethics, Policing, Youth, and others. Particularly, an RA is required to write community profiles, compile literature reviews, debrief with trainers, update training database, transcribe focus groups sessions, and complete site assessments reports. The work environment fosters a teamwork approach.

- Assisting director in the development of curriculum for new technical assistance on racial profiling.
- Assisted with advertising the free services to new sites focusing on Spanish speaking communities. Performed follow-up analysis of ongoing and performed trainings.
- Funded to attend the June 2003 Office of Community Oriented Policing Services Annual Conference as an assisting staff. Facilitated networking between Florida's Regional Community Policing Institute and representatives from various Puerto Rico's law enforcement agencies concerning future partnerships to establish a Regional Community Policing Institute in Puerto Rico.
- Currently, work 27 hours a week, with a stipend of \$1,400 a month on a flexible schedule. Supervisor: Mrs. Sandra Kaminska Costello, Associate Director, Institute for Public Safety Partnerships. 921 West Van Buren Street, Suite 230 Chicago, Illinois 60607 Tel. 312-355-1393 Fax. 312-355-1398 Email: skamin1@uic.edu
- Former supervisor: James R. "Chip" Coldren, Jr., Ph.D. Former Director of the Center for Research in Law and the Institute for Public Safety Partnerships and now president of the John Howard Association.

August – Dec, 2001 *Presidential Management Intern* Social Security Administration (SSA)

- The Chicago Regional Office assignment began on October 9, 2001 at the Center for Security and Integrity. I took the lead on the Anti Fraud awareness campaign in developing a series of posters with information of the free services offered by SSA targeting non-English speaking minority communities. These posters and flyers were distributed at different stores, banks, currency exchanges, and many other sites that non-English speaking SSA customers frequent. All these efforts were part of a pilot awareness initiative to prevent fraud victimization among SSA customers in the Chicago area.
- Volunteered to assist the Hearing and Process Initiative (HPI) evaluation national workgroup of the Offices of Hearing and Appeals during their final stage of data analysis. Performed data input and analysis using SPSS version 10. Reported findings that were used and presented in the HPI final report for the SSA Commissioner.
- Attended the *Growth through Diversity training for SSA managers*. Presented by the Scottsdale National Gender Institute, training division of the National Association of Gender Diversity Training. The training focused on developing cultural sensitivity the workplace. Held on September 20, 2001, in Chicago IL.
- Attended *Generational Differences: From Ricky and Lucy to Beavis and Butthead*. Sponsored by the Chicago Federal Executive Board and presented by Robert Wendover, Managing Director of the Center for Generational Studies. The session focused on management strategies in accordance with generational background of supervised employees. Held on September 14, 2001, Chicago, IL.

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- Attended the SSA Chicago Regional Office Area II Managers Meeting sponsored by the SSA Area Director. Gave a presentation to all area managers on the nature of what is the Presidential Management Internship Program. Area managers informed the SSA Chicago Regional Commissioner concerning the challenges and status in their respective areas and participated in a brief session and exercise on interviewing strategies focusing on recruitment. Held on September 6, 2001, in Madison, WI.
- Supervisor: Shannon Fleming, Section Chief of the Employee, Training and Development Section; Center for Human Resources; Management and Operation Support; Chicago Regional Office; Social Security Administration; Harold Washington Social Security Center, 600 W Madison Street, Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60661. Tel 312.575.6401 Email: Shannon.Fleming@ssa.gov
- Position number 8b242. Series / Grade GS 301-09. Worked 40 hours weekly.

June –August, 2001 *Graduate Student Intern* HHS/SAMHSA/CMHS

- Researched policy impact of the Knowledge Development Application Programs and Community Action Grants on Jail Diversion funded by the Center for Mental Services. This included identifying grants by available sites reports. Performed a content analysis of found reports. Contacted project investigators for each grant in order to conduct phone interviews. Collaborated in the production of a matrix. Gathered data and produced a final document titled *Policy Impact Assessment Report*. Presented report draft with other interns to the DKDSC staff focusing on Jail Diversion policy impact findings. Responsible for producing final document.
- Attended the Annual Conference on Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation: Enhancing Policy and Practice. Sponsored by the National Institute of Justice. The sessions attended were on research practices, inmates soon to be released, sentencing reform, and victimization consequences. Held July 22-25, 2001, in Washington, DC.
- Supervisor: Michael English, J.D., Director of the Division of Knowledge Development and System Change; 5600 Fishers Lane Room 11 C 25, Rockville MD 20857 Tel. 301-443-3606 Email: menglish@samhsa.gov
- Worked 40 hours weekly and earned an stipend of \$510.00 weekly by Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities

August - December, 2000 *Assistant to the Director of the Master's in Social Science Programs*
Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico

- Research assistant in the study of the opinion and expertise of Social Workers regarding Welfare Social Reform in Puerto Rico. Administrated the instrument, gathered and categorized the data. Performed data entry and analysis using SPSSX.
- Coordinated class sessions and needed materials. Administered academic tests, organized student files and created an electronic Rolodex with students' demographic information to examine student backgrounds in relation to graduate academic achievements. Scheduled and participated in interviews of prospective students with the admission committee. Performed screening assessments for admission of new students based on the program requirements for admission followed by recommendations to the admission committee.

- Supervisor: Dr. Hernán A. Vera Rodríguez, Director MSS Program at the Institute for Graduate Studies in Behavioral Sciences and Community Affairs; 2250 Las Americas Ave. Suite 655 Ponce PR 00717 Tel. 787-841-2000 Ext. 1061 Email: hvera@email.PUCPR.edu

June - August, 2000 *Graduate Student Intern* HHS/SAMHSA/CMHS

- Researched criminal justice issues related to mental health in juvenile delinquents and criminal offenders among all ethnic groups. This included gathering and reviewing data from the Parklawn Health Library in DHHS, online services including the WWW, and the Division of Knowledge Development and Systems Change (DKDSC) own library, pertinent for writing an article to be published by the CMHS Director.
- Created the division Newsletter gathering updates from 35 staff members about the accomplishments of the professional staff during the past six months and future activities.
- Attended the *Annual Conference on Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation Change: Past, Present, Future*: July 16-19, 2000, sponsored by the National Institute of Justice. Focus was on criminal offenders, juvenile justice, treatment of substance abuse disorders in Criminal Justice System, prevention youth violence, and co-occurring disorders within the Criminal and Juvenile Justice System
- Supervisor: Michael English, J.D., Director of the Division of Knowledge Development and System Change; 5600 Fishers Lane Room 11 C 25, Rockville MD 20857 Tel. 301-443-3606 Email: menglish@samhsa.gov
- Worked 40 hours weekly and earned an stipend of \$510.00 weekly by Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities

February – May, 2000 *Assistant to the Director of the Master's in Social Science Programs*
Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico

- Worked as an assistant in recruiting qualified students for graduate studies. Assisted graduate students with Fall 2000 enrollment. Evaluated applications and academic achievements of new students applying for graduate studies during Fall 2000. Performed office assistant duties and attended conferences and meetings as the Director's representative. Performed interactive research to update the curriculum used in the master's program. Performed various administrative roles such as filing requests for funding and accreditation of the graduate social science programs.
- Supervisor: Dr. Hernán A. Vera Rodríguez, Director MSS Program at the Institute for Graduate Studies in Behavioral Sciences and Community Affairs; 2250 Las Americas Ave. Suite 655 Ponce PR 00717 Tel. 787-841-2000 Ext. 1061 Email: hvera@email.PUCPR.edu
- Worked 20 hours or more weekly at \$5.15 an hour. Granted by Genesis Fellowship. Recruited and recommended for the position by the Director of MSS Program.

- Wrote the CMHS Report Hispanic Agenda for FY99 by gathering and compiling all CMHS Hispanic significant accomplishments. Assisted in the Planning Committee Meeting: Hispanic Summit on Mental Health, held by Ms. Josie Romero and Dr. Nelba Chavez with the participation of Hispanic/Latino community representatives to present it at the Hispanic Summit to The United States Congress in 2000.
- Volunteered to translate mental health information sheets targeting Spanish speakers.
- Prepared a briefing package, which consisted of the highest-ranking 100 applicants for the Safe Schools/ Healthy Students Initiative as directed by Dr. Nelba Chavez, Administrator of SAMHSA.
- Gathered and analyzed information from grantees programs nationwide and prepared a slide show Power Point presentation for the conference concerning grants and programs from CMHS. Worked with Cultural Competence publications in an effort to identify their current formative stage and to assist in their future development.
- Compiled an annotated bibliography to assist in the development of the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent Suicide 1999.
- Attended grant reviews for the Safe Schools & Healthy Students Initiative and for the CMHS School Action Grant Program in order to understand the process of applying for a Guidance For Applicants (GFA's) and the standard for which the applications were reviewed.
- Attended the conference "Safe and Effective Schools for Students: What Works", to learn about effective programs for violence prevention in schools in high-risk environments. Conference sponsored by SAMHSA, DOJ, and the DOE.
- Attended activities of the Hispanic Heritage Month celebrated by SAMHSA including "Talking Across Cultures: A Non Deficit Approach to Serving Diverse Populations" by Guadalupe G. Lara, M.S.W., C.S.W. Ms. Lara stressed the need for effective cultural diversity education and staff training in health care providers. Attended the "Effective Drug Treatment: Success with Florida Probationers" by Pamela K. Lattimore, Ph.D. Conference sponsored by National Institute of Justice, DOJ. Researchers presented results of their evaluation of two drug treatment programs.
- Attended a Congressional Briefing on "Hate in America: What do we know?" sponsored by the American Sociology Association at the Rayburn House, Capitol Hill, DC, that focused on empirical data on the historical roots and present diverse kinds of hate crimes in The United States.
- Attended the 1999 National Office of Refuge Resettlement (ORR) Conference: "Resettlement Through the Eyes of a Refugee Child".
- Worked 40 hours weekly and earned a stipend of \$510.00 weekly from the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities.
- Supervisor: Anne Mathews-Younes, Ed.D., Branch Chief; Special Program Development Branch, Division of Program Development, Special Populations and Projects; 5600 Fishers Lane Room 17 C 05, Rockville MD 20857 Tel. 301-443-1761
Email: amathews@samhsa.gov

June-August, 1999
Medical One, Inc.

Service Representative &

March-May, 1999

Sales Representative

- Sold health insurance policies to government employees. Assisted new and existing customers in regards to their concerns about the insurance benefits and services. Served as intermediary between insured and general health care providers. Reported and filed complaints from the insured to the Central Office and responded to the insured concerning insurance company policies and relevant procedures. Sold health insurance policies to over 263 new government employees. Conducted telemarketing for the insurance policies.
- Worked 40 or more hours weekly at \$6.30 an hour. Supervisor: Mr. Ivan Ríos, Ponce Regional Office, Santa Maria Shopping Center 2nd Floor Suite 217 Ponce, PR 00731 Tel. 787-758-7252.

Presentations

2001 Presented the MSS thesis key findings; *Comparison of anger levels between inmates and correctional officers*, at the 2001 Annual Conference of the American Society of Criminology, in Atlanta, GA.

Membership

March 2001 – Present The American Correctional Association
April 2000 – Present The American Society of Criminology

Research Certificates and Training

2003
 Obtained the Cook County Bureau of Health Services Certification to use Human Participants in Research.

2002
 Attended the *General Training for Telephone Interviewers* by the Survey Research Laboratory of the University of Illinois at Chicago. The purpose of this training was to coach all research assistants working for the Phone Survey Stage of the *Examining Minority Trust and Confidence in the Police in Chicago* Study.

 Attended and completed the University of Illinois at Chicago Human Subject Protections Program, initial education. Received the initial certification Investigator Education Certification.

Seminars/Training/Conferences

2003
 Attended the Cook County Sheriffs' Office, Department of Women's Justice Services, Gender Responsiveness in the Criminal Justice System Training for Correctional Officers of Cook County, Illinois.

2002
 Attended the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

2000

Attended the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention National Conference, Washington, D.C.

Attended the XXIII International Course of Higher Specialization for Police Services: Policing in Multicultural Societies. Sponsored and held at Sam Houston State University, College of Criminal Justice, Huntsville, TX.

Attended The American Society of Criminology National Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Attended the ALSAC/St. Jude National Convention, for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN.

Attended Internal Violence Seminar by Daisy Mejías, Ph. D. Institute for Graduate Studies in Behavioral Sciences and Community Affairs, Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico.

1999

Completed eight hours of technical training in Word and Power Point at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Rockville MD.

Voluntary Work/Activities

2003 - Present

Serve as a volunteer participant in monitoring correctional facilities and translated public policy papers of the John Howard Association. The John Howard Association monitors adult and juvenile facilities operated by the Illinois Department of Corrections, the Cook County Department of Corrections, and the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center.

2000

Answered phones and processed pledges for the Public Broadcasting System, WETA Virginia.

1999

Mentored at Highland View Elementary School in Montgomery County for Helping Other Latinas Advance (HOLA). MD. Facilitator: Mrs. Edna Mauras-Neslen, MA,OTR/L Tel.301-384-7948

Awards/Scholarships

2002

Received the 2002 ICPSR Summer Program scholarship for Quantitative Analysis of Crime and Criminal Justice. Awarded by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice.

Awarded a McKelvie Scholarship in the amount of 1,000 dollars for the 2002-2003 academic year.

Summer 2001, Summer 2000, and Fall 1999

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities – National Internship Program performed in the Department of Health and Human Services in Rockville MD.

Spring - Fall 2000

Genesis Grant – Student Job Placement Fellowship at the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico.

1997

Awarded the *Student Traveling Experience as recognition of College Academic Excellence* by the Office of Youth Affairs, Governor's Office of Puerto Rico.

Skills

Intermediate-literate with SPPSS, Version 11.0

Bilingual (Spanish/English)

Computer-literate with Windows, Corel Word Perfect 8, Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, Power Point, Group Wise, and MICROS.