

**National Center for  
Research Resources**

# **INBRE-Puerto Rico**

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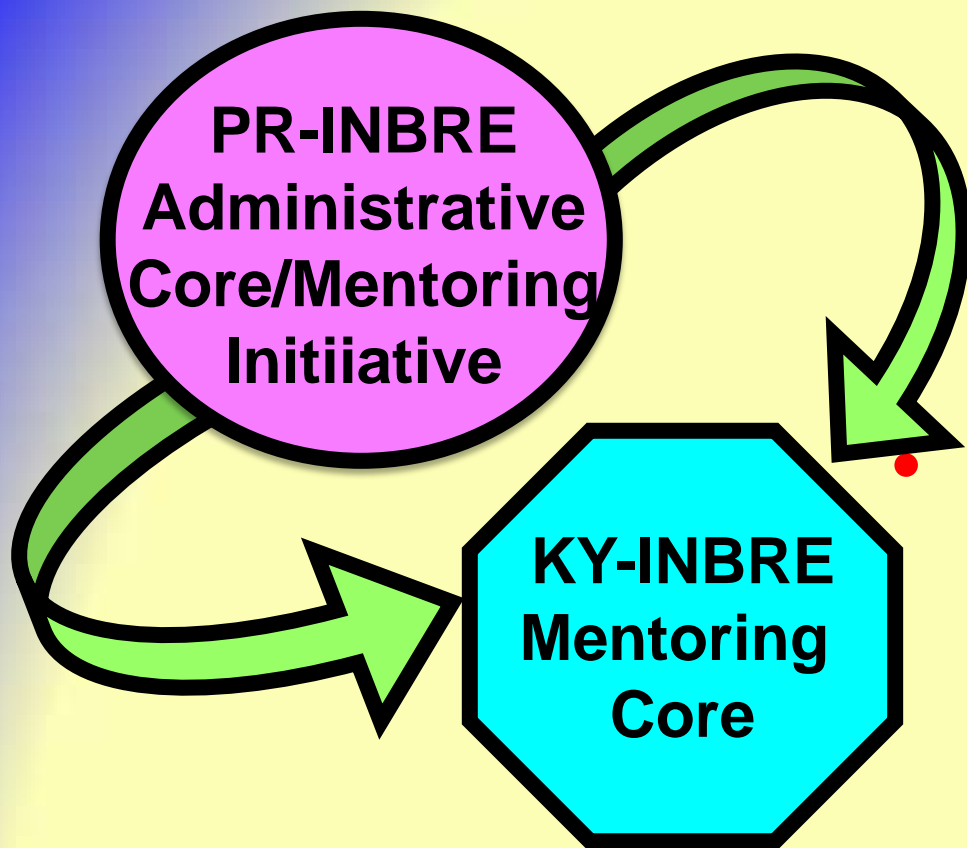


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# PUERTO RICO IDeA NETWORK



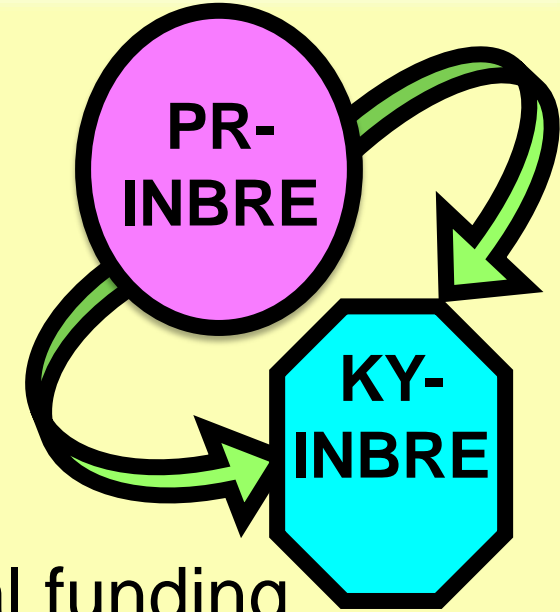
# Puerto Rico-INBRE Goals



- Enhance and strengthen the scientific infrastructure and research competitiveness of the Puerto Rico
- competitiveness, and number of human resources needed to attract established investigators; and
- Promote the development of research skills of talented junior investigators and gifted students.

## Mentoring Initiative:

- To mentor investigators from PUIs in order for them to:
  - Compete successfully for external funding.



### \* Requires:

- Identifying funding opportunities suitable for them (i.e. R15 grants)
- Offering Workshops for these specific grant mechanisms and on **grantsmanship**.
- Work **one-one** with these investigators to obtain a return in the investment.

## **Cycling of Subproject Investigators in INBRE:**

- Once investigators obtain external funding similar to or higher than that provided by INBRE they are to be cycled off becoming INBRE Scholars. Will continue to receive support by the program (i.e. covering the costs of a postdoctoral fellow).

- Remaining funds will allow us to cycle **IN** new investigators in order to enrich the program and the developing research environments in the PUIs.

## **Subprojects remaining from previous funding cycles:**

Dr. Jeniffer Barreto, UPR-MS  
Dr. Madeline Torres, UPR-M  
Dr. Antonio Alegría, UPR-H  
Dra. Margarita Ortíz, UPR-H  
Dra. Beatriz Zayas, UMET  
Dr. Gabriel Barletta, UPR-H

## **New funded subprojects:**

Dr. Rolando Oyola, UPR-H  
Dr. Gustavo López, UPR-M  
Dr. Miguel Otero, UCC  
Dr. José Roig, UNE  
Dra. Vibha Bansal, UPR-Cayey

# Mentoring Initiative

• Dr. Nigel Cooper and PI visited with investigators at their labs to discuss the status of their projects and the prospects for competitiveness for AREA grants (R15).

- **February 2010: Visited UPR-Humacao, UPR-MSC, UMET, UPR-Mayagüez.**
- PI discussed plans with EAC (March, 2010). EAC received enthusiastically the cycling mechanisms proposed, its goals and implementation in INBRE. EAC also considered the possibility of **Cycling Off** Investigators because of lack of productivity or inability to demonstrate that they can obtain funding in the future. However, all agreed that in terms of the latter, the overall outlook of the investigator is a major determining factor in any decision or recommendation by the EAC.
- **R15 Workshop: May, 2010**
- **Proposal submission, evaluation of results, further recommendations and actions.**

<b>Investigator</b>	<b>Publications (2009-2009)</b>	<b>Grants Submitted</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Resubmissio ns</b>	<b>Results</b>
<b>A. Alegría UPR-H</b>	<b>9 (7 years in INBRE)</b>	<b>R15, 2011, 1 RUI, 2012</b>	<b>Non-Scored, Pending</b>	<b>R15, 2011</b>	<b>Non-Scored</b>
<b>G. Barleta UPR-H</b>	<b>6 (7 years in INBRE)</b>	<b>2 R15, 2010</b>	<b>Score = 60 Non-Scored</b>	<b>R15, 2011</b>	<b>Non-Scored</b>
<b>M. Torres UPR-M</b>	<b>7 (7 years in INBRE)</b>	<b>R15, 2010</b>	<b>Non-Scored</b>	<b>Following Reviewer and Mentoring Committee Suggestions</b>	<b>Applying Animal Work/ New Local Collaborator</b>

# Lessons Learned, Challenges, Plans

- **Tested pool of PUI investigators have had more than 20 years in academia/research and have in general a lower understanding of grantsmanship issues that help to lead to success.**
- **Some PUI investigators in current PR-INBRE do not understand the mentor/collaborator-investigator dynamics in terms of PI-ship of their own projects (reflected in authorship in publications).**
- **Coming EAC meeting to make evaluations ...**
- **New workshops, New Steering Committee Guidelines**
- **Now new pool of younger candidates (Cycling Off/Cycling In).**



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# Acknowledgments

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## Kentucky-INBRE

Dr. Nigel Cooper  
Dr. Bruce Mattingly



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