

[2024] ELECTIONS FOR MAES NATIONAL BOARD



Name: Marissa Lemus

Position: REGION 4 VP EAST REGION

Chapter Affiliation:

Marissa Lemus, originally from Guatemala, is a passionate scientist deeply committed to diversity and inclusion. Her academic journey began with a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Engineering from the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, where she conducted groundbreaking research on the molecular characterization of corn to address hunger issues in her country.



Driven by her interest with biotechnology, Marissa pursued further studies at Northeastern University in Boston. There, she excelled academically, graduating summa cum laude with a Bachelor's degree in Biotechnology following a Master of Science in Molecular Bio.

Marissa's career has led her to Prime Medicine in Cambridge, MA, where she plays a pivotal role in cell therapy process development. Her work is characterized by innovation and progress, reflecting her solid commitment to making a positive impact in the field of biotechnology.

In addition to her professional endeavors, Marissa is deeply involved in supporting underrepresented students. She has provided mentorship and guidance to individuals from low-income backgrounds, first-generation students, and those with disabilities. At Northeastern University, Marissa actively contributed to fostering diversity and inclusion as a member of the CPS Council for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Marissa's multifaceted expertise and dedication to inclusivity position her as a driving force for positive change, both professionally and within her community.

Professional Experience:

Research Associate (Cell and Gene Therapy Process Development) at Prime Medicine.

The role involves contributing to the optimization and scaling of manufacturing processes. Collaborating closely with multidisciplinary experts, responsibilities include conducting experiments, analyzing data, and refining protocols to enhance efficiency and productivity. Ensuring adherence to regulatory standards and quality parameters is integral to the role. Through these efforts, the research associate plays a crucial part in advancing innovative therapies from laboratory research to clinical application, thereby contributing significantly to the improvement of patient outcomes and the progression of healthcare.

Outlook for MAES:

Organizations like MAES play a critical role in advancing diversity and inclusion within STEM fields, offering support, networking opportunities, and resources for Latinx professionals and students. Given the growing recognition of diversity's significance in fostering innovation and addressing complex challenges, it is anticipated that MAES will broaden its reach and influence.

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This could entail reinforcing partnerships not only with industry leaders, academic institutions, and other professional organizations but also with biotech, pharmaceutical, and health sciences industries. Collaborating closely with these sectors will not only expand opportunities for MAES members but also foster a more inclusive and diverse workforce in key scientific fields, driving innovation and addressing healthcare disparities.

Reminder:

1. *Nominee must pay dues by [enter Month and day]*
2. *Nominee Bio is due by [enter Month and day]*
3. *Bio Word Limit is 500 Words*
4. *Submit this bio as a PDF to the Election Committee at elections@mymaes.org*