I come from a family that beat the odds: my mother's family had no formal education beyond elementary school and she became a successful bilingual secretary and is now an artist. My father's family had to find refuge in Mexico when he was a kid. He is a now an accomplished researcher. Among many things my grandparents did, my paternal grandmother had to dress as a man to study and was one of 5 women in a class of 200 to become an MD in Guatemala. She also studied at Institut Pasteur as a single mother of 3 teens and later started her own business in Mexico. Started eating lots of mangos ^^ Break-in robbers steal almost everything including baby pics **Massachusetts** Institute of Technology * Dad doing his postdoc * Mom studying at a liberals art college and working Moved to Cuernavaca, Mexico Lived with grandmother and grandaunts and went to school in Mexico City for ~1 month. * Loved being spoiled ^^ * Was spoiled too much hehe * Learnt French during the summer * Joined a French school that year * Frequently I would call my grandmother for help with my homeworks while my dad was working or away My brother joined the family ^^ * I bought him a stuffed rabbit that we still have ESCUELA MOLIERE * Federico Zuvire Cruz: movie director CCC and activist * Maria Gutierrez-Arcelus: LCG-UNAM; Ph.D. at University of Geneva Medical School; Postdoc Harvard University * Maria Dolores Palacios: Ph.D. at Boston University * Adrian Cantú: LCG-UNAM; MS IBT-UNAM; INMEGEN; Ph.D. San Diego State University * Patrick Louchouarn: MD UAEM; Acupuncture Master * Ronan Louchouarn: BS; Acupuncture * Ale Gonzalez (artist), Betsy (master musician & orchestra member), Daniela (artist), Laura (designer), Mary Jo (artist), Nathalie (law & restaurant owner), Renata (artist), Solange (designer), Stéphane Dom (executive), ... Velma Hamilton Middle School, Madison, WI * Veronique (Histoire-Geo teacher): "Leo will just need someone to give him an opportuni-* Kids from many countries ty, he'll make the best of it". * Choir, soccer, ski, snow, school dance, etc * I really liked how we had to demonstrate concepts in our math classes * First DNA homework * First time seeing white vs black racism * Evacuated school soon after Columbine school massacre due to "hit list" note found at school Joined ITESM-Cuernavaca: * Emyl Merzoud: Game Designer at Rovio (Angry Birds) * Virgilio Larralde: Data Integration Consulting * Sebastian Ruiz: Trip Advisor * Jan Suter: Netflix producer * Abraham, Ana Paola, Chepo, Mario, Maria José, Paulo, Pedro, Rafa, Romel, Sonia, Ximena, ... Licenciatura en CIENCIAS GENÓMICAS Dad wins the UNAM National Prize for his work in Natural Sciences: * Eventually medal is stolen by break-in robbers Joined LCG-UNAM * Interview: While I like computers and math, biology has interesting challenging Attended HUGO 2005 with problems I want to work on * Rocío Domínguez Vidaña: LCG-UNAM; Ph.D. at Baylor College of Medicine; Staff Scientist at Baylor * Lucía Guadalupe Morales Reyes: LCG-UNAM; Ph.D. at Institut Pasteur; Faculty at LIIGH-UNAM Classmates (a few out of 40): * Claudia Gabriela Gonzaga Jáuregui: LCG-UNAM; Ph.D. at Baylor College of Medicine; Regeneron Pharmaceuticals * Mariana Gómez-Schiavon (Ph.D. Duke University; postdoc UCSF) * Sur Herrera-Paredes (Ph.D. University of North Carolina; postdoc Standford) Shoulder surgery * Fernando Rabanal Mora (Ph.D. Gregor Mendel Institute; postdoc MPI for Developmental Biology) * Carlos Vargas (Winter Genomics, MS and Ph.D. Universitat de Valencia) * Mariana Reyes (MS and Ph.D. Universitat de Valencia) * Atahualpa Castillo (Ph.D. and postdoc University of Bath) Visited Roberto Kolter's lab at Harvard University for a few months (winter and summer). * Jimena Mónzon (Ph.D. Univeristy of Bath; Oxford's Parkinson Disease Centre Career Develop-* Elizabeth Shank (postdoc; now Faculty at UNC) was my mentor ment Fellow) * Alejandra Zayas (Ph.D. IBT-UNAM) * Adriana Verenisse Gonzalez Sandoval (Ph.D. University of Bath; postdoc Stanford) Started working with Guillermo Dávila (CCG-UNAM; now LIIGH-UNAM) and Sur Herrera-Paredes * Daniela Robles (Ph.D. Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute; Faculty LIIGH-UNAM) * Luis Bolaños (Ph.D. CCG-UNAM; postdoc Oregon State University) * Rodrigo García (MS and Ph.D. Universitat de Valencia) * Renan Escalante-Chong (Ph.D. Harvard postdoc MIT; Immuneering Corporation) James Bullard (Ph.D. student with Sandrine Dudoit UC Berkeley) taught us a 1 week R and Bioconductor course * Gianella Garcia Hughes (Ph.D. UT Southwestern) * Aldo Barrientos (198x-2011) BioC2008 meeting: Alejandra Medina-Rivera (LCG-UNAM; Ph.D. CCG-UNAM; postdoc SickKids Toronto; Faculty LIIGH-UNAM) invited me to go with support from LCG-UNAM through Rafael Palacios (now LIIGH-UNAM). Went to an * Ana Georgina (Yina) Cobian (MS IBT-UNAM, Ph.D. San Diego State University) excellent lattice tutorial by Deepayan Sarkar. * Fernando Riveros McKay (Winter Genomics, Ph.D. Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute) * Martín Del Castillo Velasco Herrera (Winter Genomics, Ph.D. Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute) Upon returning, I start teaching R/Bioconductor courses at LCG-UNAM. I eventually taught courses at the PDCB-UNAM Ph.D. program even though I had no Ph.D. It was a great learning experience! This was critical in my path to a Ph.D. in Professors (only a few highlighted): Biostatistics. * Federico Sánchez (1950-2016) Bioc2009: Alejandro Reyes (LCG-UNAM; Ph.D. EMBL; postdoc Harvard) and I attend this meeting. After the meeting, * Guillermo Dávila Alejandro, Víctor Moreno Mayar (LCG-UNAM; Ph.D. and postdoc Natural History Museum of Denmark) and José Reyes * Margareta von Mentz (LCG-UNAM, Ph.D. Harvard) were my TAs in our first Bioconductor-only course at LCG-UNAM. * David Romero * Pablo Vinuesa BioC2010: I present a poster and Rafael Irizarry (Hopkins, now Harvard) and Ingo Ruczinski (Hopkins) invite me to apply to * Miguel Angel Ramírez - 201 - 201 - 201 - 201 - 201 - 201 - 201 - 201 - 201 - 201 the Biostatistics Ph.D. program. Also met Margaret Taub (Hopkins: postdoc now Faculty), Wolfgang Huber (EMBL), Amit Kaushal (Stanford), and Davis McCarthy (then undergrad at WEHI; Ph.D. University of Oxford; NHMRC Early Career asked Davis for advice once Winter Genomics gets is offering me to stay for a total of 3 years instead of the 2 I had planned. **Joined Winter Genomics** * First employee I got advice from Sandrine, Rafa, Wolfgang, James, Margaret, Elizabeth, Roberto, Amit, Davis, my family, Sur, Fernando, * Got funded after ~1 year, so I was Daniela E., Víctor, Alejandro, Gabriel, Renan, Carlos, Adrian, Yina, Rodrigo, Luis Pedro and Daniela R. about when to start in charge of 5 people Instituto de Biotecnología my PhD. I shared with them an 8 page document where I concluded that I did want to start my PhD then. Next up: where. * Worked at IBT-UNAM in Enrique Morett's lab Many things made it possible for me to join the Biostatistics Ph.D. program at Johns Hopkins: * I kept learning about R/Bioconductor and many other bioinformatics tools (mostly for * I was told that they would admit me to the master's program due to my math background. I told them about the CONACyT genome assembly from short reads). Realized I needed more statistics knowledge. scholarship (MS or PhD option) and emailed Rafa and Ingo. A few days later: my PhD admission was conditional on getting * Worked with Blanca Taboada (IBT-UNAM), Alfredo Mendoza (INMEGEN), Verónica the scholarship. I don't know if Rafa and Ingo said anything, but I've always felt grateful to them. Jimenez Jacinto (IBT-UNAM), Leticia Vega Alvarado (IBT-UNAM) among others. * Rafael Palacios (now LIIGH-UNAM), Enrique Morett and Xavier Soberón (now INMEGEN) wrote me recommendations letters. Rafael Irizarry shared with me one of his grants so I could write my scientific application for the scholarship. * I was offered the following opportunity: take masters classes + some math undergrad classes 1st year, pass masters com-Shoulder surgery prehensive exam, then take 1.5 years of PhD classes along with PhD comprehensive exam while also doing my teaching assitant requirements. Pass the rest as if I was a PhD student from day 1: aka, oral exam by the end of year 3, finish in 5 years. JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL Dad wins the Mexican National Prize for Arts and Sciences in the area of Natural, Physics and Math Sciences Passed the masters comprehensive exam after studying for about a month. Setting up a study group with my classmates Started to work with Jeff Leek (then Assistant Professor, now Full and their support was instrumental in me passing this exam. I've felt good at coordinating, so that's what I brought to the Professor at Hopkins) table. That and energy. I wrote a massive PDF with the key notes and definitions from our classes. Passed the PhD comprehensive exam. Had a more fragmented study group than for the masters, but it still worked. The Started to work with Andrew Jaffe (then Investigator, now Lead probability theory classes really brought us together! Annotating each equation with why the sides were equal really Investigator at LIBD; we met when he was a Ph.D. student) helped me. Couldn't have done this exam without my classmates support. Passed my oral exam with Jeff Leek, Hongkai Ji, Ben Langmead, James Taylor and Jiou Wang as my committee members with Ingo Ruczinski and Fernando Pineda as alternates. Meeting with each member for 30 min ~2 weeks before my exam was the best advice I got for this part. Also Ben told me to be more enthusiastic after my presentation, which I still try to do. Elbow surgery Misdiagnosed with a lymphoma for about a month. Marie Diener-West, Karen Bandeen-Roche, Jeff and Andrew were extremely supportive! Got lots of advice about career paths and different postdoc opportunities, advice that I didn't follow at times. I emailed and talked to many people including Mike Love, Yates Coley, Luca Pinello, Mike Schatz, Ben Langmead, PhD friends, high school - 2015-09 - 2015-10 - 2015-11 - 2015-12 - 2016-01 - 2016-03 - 2016-05 - 2016-06 - 2016-07 - 2016-08 - 2016-09 - 2016-10 - 2016-11 - 2017-01 - 2017-02 - 2017-03 - 2017-04 - 2017-05 - 2017-08 - 2017-09 - 2017-09 - 2017-10 - 2017-12 - 2017-12 - 2017-12 - 2018-01 - 2018-01 - 2018-02 - 2018-03 - 2018-04 - 2018-05 friends, etc. Ultimately I emailed Rafael Irizarry, Alexis Battle, Jeff Leek, Leah Jager, Maria, Adrian, Yina, Jeremy Ahouse and my family. I also appreciate all the patience several potential postdoc bosses had with me as I exchanged many emails with Defended my Ph.D. woo!! Jeff Leek, Daniele Fallin, Alexis Battle, Kasper Daniel Hansen and Andrew Jaffe served in my committee. Hongkai Ji and Fernando Pineda were my alternates. Jeff wore his US jersey to my Ph.D. defense, which was awe-[IBD] Sherri Rose (was a postdoc at Hopkins, now Faculty at Harvard) invited me and supported me to present at SACNAS2016 LIEBER INSTITUTE for **BRAIN DEVELOPMENT** Jeff invited me and supported me to present at ICSA2018 MALTZ RESEARCH LABORATORIES

Alexis Battle, Sarah Wheelan and Davis McCarthy introduced me to other people at Biology of Genomes.

We've written many emails together and it's always great to see them improve with their input.

Founded the LIBD rstats club together with Carrie Wright (postdoc at LIBD) and Emily Burke (staff scientist at LIBD).