

RAQUEL PAZ BERGIA

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EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Bachelor of Science, Neuroscience

GPA: 3.75

2024-2027

LONE STAR COLLEGE

Associate of Science with Honors in Research, Neuroscience and Biomedical Engineering

GPA: 4.0

2023-2024

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MEDICAL ASSISTANT AND LAB TECHNICIAN

Regenache (October 2023 - Present)

- Process blood and bone marrow to generate SCP, PLM, and BC/LL for reinjection procedures.
- Understand medical billing, appointment scheduling, and EHR systems.
- Assist physician during procedures by administering medications, guiding fluoroscopy, and noting vitals.

PUBLISHED AUTHOR

Squirrels in My Brain (September 2023 - Present)

- Completing research on Autism by analyzing the current literature and interviewing 12 neurodiverse people.
- Culminating the research in a book published in March 2025, alongside Madeeha Naqvi and Dr. Ravi Iyer.

FOUNDER

Unwiring Minds (June 2021 - Present)

- Advocate for brain education in youth, reaching more than 400,000 people worldwide.
- Interview 120 professionals and host the Unwiring Minds Podcast, recognized with international awards.
- Publish 30 articles that provide insight into diagnosis and treatment options for neurological diseases.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER

Duarte Memory and Aging Lab (January 2025 - Present)

- Investigating the biochemical basis of episodic memory decline in Parkinson's Disease patients.
- Writing a research paper and presenting at the CNS Technology & Science Undergraduate Research Forum.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Duarte Memory and Aging Lab (August 2024 - Present)

- Pre-process and analyze EEG recordings using MATLAB to ensure data accuracy in research experiment.
- Train new research assistants in EEG experiment administration, data processing, and lab protocols.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCHER

Lone Star Honors College (August 2023 - June 2024)

- Analyze studies on early intervention of alpha-synuclein in Parkinson's and propose the development of an IgG1 monoclonal antibody targeting the protofibrils of alpha-synuclein; present at the Great Plain Honors Council.
- Develop and conduct an in-lab experiment to research the impact of supplements on E. coli biofilm formation, and consequently, gut health, in Parkinson's Disease patients; present at the LSC Honors Research Conference.

VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEER

Power for Parkinson's (January 2025 - Present)

- Preparing equipment for symptom-based exercise classes.
- Assisting during class by spotting participants, and ensuring that they are safe and comfortable.
- Contributing to the community of Parkinson's Disease patients in Austin.

VOLUNTEER

UT Disability & Access (January 2025 - Present)

- Helping students with ADHD, Autism, and learning, hearing, visual, psychological, or medical disabilities by taking thorough notes for SDS 320E (Elements of Statistics).

ORGANIZATIONS

COMPETITION MEMBER

Texas Biomedical Engineering Society (November 2024 - Present)

- Participating in SolidWorks, Fusion 360, and 3D workshops.
- Competing in the 2025 National Medical Device Make-A-Thon at the University of Oklahoma (6th Place), and the American Academy of Pain Medicine Hack-A-Thon at Dell Medical School (Finalist)

EDUCATION LEAD (2024-2025) & ELECTED PRESIDENT (2025-2026)

Longhorn Neurotech (August 2024 - Present)

- Develop a software and hardware learning framework for future neuroengineers nationwide.
- Lead a weekly journal discussion session over emerging neurotechnologies.
- Create educational content for the establishment of The Neurotechnology Scholars Foundation.

PATHWAY SCHOLAR

Rice University Take Flight (August 2023 - May 2024)

- One of 90 scholars out of 80,000 students in the Lone Star College System.
- Participating in 4 day-long events each semester.
- Learning from researchers in the field of neurology and biomedical innovation.

APPRENTICE

Honors College Leadership Program (August 2023 - May 2024)

- Working with fellow students to improve the LSC Honors College.
- Volunteered at the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 LSC Honors Research Conferences.
- Planned and led events and workshops to help students throughout the research process.

AWARDS

LONE STAR COLLEGE STEM SCHOLAR (\$15K)

College of Natural Sciences, UT Austin (2024-2025)

TRANSFER SEMI-FINALIST SCHOLAR (\$10K)

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (2024-2025)

MC MONTGOMERY SCHOLAR (\$1K)

Lone Star Foundation (Spring 2024)

MERIT SCHOLAR (\$800)

Lone Star Honors College (2023-2024)

MERIT SCHOLAR (\$25K)

Dwight School Foundation (2022-2023)