

PRISCILLA FLORES-ASCENCIO PROGRAM: BME MS RESEARCH OPTION HOME TOWN: DODGE CITY, KANSAS

#### RESEARCH

Current Research is in Optimization of Decellularized ECM Hydrogel and Retinoic acid Dependence on Lung Morphogenesis.

#### CONTACT

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 9-10AM EST

### **HOBBIES**

Crocheting, Dungeons and Dragons (I don't have a party at the moment), Skin Care

# LEARN ABOUT CMU BME AMBASSADORS

## FAVORITE THING ABOUT BME DEPARTMENT

I really appreciate the emphasis on collaboration. Even during the pandemic I felt like the department was open to any questions that I had and I had already communicated with my peers so much before meeting some of them in person.

## FAVORITE THING ABOUT CMU

Coming from a bigger institution, I've noticed that it's a lot easier to call attention to your needs. We have what are called "liaisons" for academic support, financial support, and campus life. These are individuals who are specifically assigned to you to answer questions. I also brought up an issue that I wanted to address during my admissions process and I quickly found myself speaking to university leadership. The response to any issues I had felt very fast and personalized.

# WHY I PICKED CMU FOR MY GRAD STUDIES?

I picked CMU because I could see that they were invested in their students. It seemed clear to me that they put their money where it could help us accomplish the most. Any university could claim that their institution is collaborative but the BME department built spaces that showed an emphasis on encouraging collaborative interactions. The lab space that I work in also has a lab manager on staff, whose major role is to keep us safe and teach us how to use equipment.

### LONG-TERM CAREER GOALS

My long-term career goals are to work research and development in the pharmaceutical industry