

CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME: Hernando Rafael Perez, PhD, MPH, CIH, CSP, FAIHA
Owner, Perez IH Consulting LLC

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EDUCATION:

- 2004 Ph.D, Industrial Hygiene, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Dissertation: Detection of Indoor Airborne Fungal Contamination through Examination of Building Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Filters.
- 1998 M.P.H., Environmental and Occupational Health, Emory University, Atlanta, GA
- 1996 B.S., Microbiology, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
B.A., Sociology, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH

CERTIFICATION:

- 2006- Certified Industrial Hygienist, Comprehensive Practice, American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH), Certificate No. 9181
- 2007-2013 Healthy Homes Specialist, National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) and the National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH), Credential ID No. 90003509
- 2008- Certified Safety Professional, Comprehensive Practice, Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP), CSP No. 20661

HONORS:

- 2000-2001 National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Trainee Fellowship, Purdue University
- 2001-2003 Purdue Doctoral Level Fellowship, Purdue University
- 2005 Fellow, 2005 Summer Research Career Development Institute in Minority Health and Health Disparities, Center for Minority Health EXPORT Health Project, University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health
- 2006 Participant, American Industrial Hygiene Association Future Leaders Institute
- 2007 Sigma Xi

2008 Invited Thought Leader, American Industrial Hygiene Association Future Leaders Institute 2 of 12

2025 The FAIHA designation, which identifies industrial hygienists recognized for their achievement in the field of industrial hygiene, is owned by AIHA.

EMPLOYMENT:

2012 - Owner, Perez IH Consulting LLC

Independent consultant providing professional industrial hygiene, environmental health, and occupational health and safety consulting services.

4/2015 - Lead Industrial Hygienist / Environmental Hygiene Program Manager, Physical Plant Branch, Mission Assurance Division, Office of Security and Integrity, United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Camp Springs, MD.

Lead USCIS agency industrial hygienist, industrial hygiene/environmental health program manager and environmental/occupational health technical expert. Responsible for coordination and performance of industrial hygiene activities at USCIS facilities across the United States. Develop and implement industrial hygiene policies for all USCIS facilities.

Maintain DHS Top Secret Security Clearance

USCIS COVID-19 Crisis Coordination Team (CCT), Public Health Lead and Spokesman, Temporary Full Time Assignment, March 4, 2020 – June 2023. CCT responsible for development, coordination, and communication efforts related to the execution of COVID-19 response.

Chief, Occupational Safety and Health Section (acting), September 19, 2022 – July 30, 2024

USCIS Occupational Safety and Health Manager, August 2024 – Present

2016 USCIS Director's Unsung Hero Award

2019 USCIS Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate Associate Director's Hero Award

2020 USCIS Director's Cornerstone Award

2020 USCIS Director's Award for Exceptional Service

2021 USCIS Director's Community Partnership Award

2024 USCIS Director's Excellence in Labor Management Award

10/2014 – 3/2015 Environmental Health and Safety Consultant, Danya International, Inc., Silver Spring, MD

Performed on-site environmental health and safety reviews of Head Start programs throughout the United States and its territories in support of Danya International's monitoring contract with the Office of Head Start, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 3 of 12

2013-2014

Associate Professor of Public Health, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Drexel University School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA

Taught graduate level environmental and occupational health courses, conducted environmental and occupational health research, advised graduate students and performed various other professional academic tasks. Research involved industrial hygiene assessment of waste anesthetic gas exposure in veterinary technicians, allergens in animal care facilities, pesticide levels in indoor dust, and assessment of formaldehyde exposures. Teaching activities included a hazard assessment course every fall in which I lectured on as well as directed laboratory and field activities on industrial hygiene sampling theory and calibration. University level committee work included membership on the University Laboratory Safety Committee. Service on this committee involved the development of recommendations for changes and improvements to university laboratory safety policy.

Served as director of the School Industrial Hygiene Consulting Service from 2006 – 2014

2014 Drexel University Graduate Student Association Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award

2004-2013

Assistant Professor of Public Health, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Drexel University School of Public Health, Philadelphia, PA

(see above)

8/2003-6/2004

Graduate Assistant, SmokeFree Purdue Project Coordinator, Purdue University

Supervised undergraduate student workers, advised the student coalition, collected data for implementation of a social norms campaign, worked with Tippecanoe County Tobacco Control Partnership to promote smoke free environments, advocated for policies to make the Purdue campus smoke free, conducted media campaigns to encourage quitting.

5/2001-8/2001

Industrial Hygiene Intern, Eli Lilly and Company, Lilly Corporate Center, Indianapolis, IN

Conducted industrial hygiene evaluations, wrote and presented industrial hygiene reports, assisted in the development and implementation of laboratory engineering controls, developed training materials for the use of anesthetic gases.

1/2000-8/2000

Industrial Hygienist, State of Rhode Island Department of Health, Environmental Lead Program, Providence, RI

Reviewed lead inspection reports, performed quality assurance inspections of private lead hazard reduction contractors, conducted audits of licensing courses for lead professionals, consulted with owners on issues of regulatory compliance, provided the general public with information regarding lead poisoning prevention, conducted

clearance inspections, performed various tasks related to enforcement of Notices of Violation issued to landlords. These enforcement tasks included follow up inspections of cited properties and testifying in court on existing violations.

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1/1999-1/2000

Radiation and Biological Safety Specialist, Brown University Department of Risk Management, Providence, RI

Performed multiple tasks involving radiation and biological safety including radiation safety inspections of research laboratories, safety inspections of x-ray facilities, safety inspections of laser facilities, coordination of radioactive and biological waste removal, blood borne pathogen training (development and delivery) for university employees, management of the university radiation dosimetry program, tracking of all radioactive material shipments entering and leaving campus, and investigation of incidents involving radioactive and biological materials. Member of the Risk Management Emergency Response Team.

CONSULTANCIES:

2008-2010

Industrial Hygiene Consultant and Lecturer, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of Sri Lanka, Colombo, Sri Lanka

2010-2014

Industrial Hygiene Lecturer, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi, India

11/2005-2013

Evaluation Advisor and Consultant, Philadelphia Department of Health Healthy Homes Demonstration Project, Philadelphia, PA

4/2005-12/2005

Mold Management Task Force Consultant, Facilitator and Report Writer, Pennsylvania Department of Health, Harrisburg, PA

7/2004-10/2004

Consultant, Senior Grant Reviewer, Round 12 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Lead Hazard Control Program, Beacon Associates Inc., Bel Air, MD

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
American Industrial Hygiene Association

ADMINISTRATIVE, PROFESSIONAL, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Administrative Service

2008-2013

Co-Director, Drexel University Engineering Cities Initiative

2004-2006

Member, Recruitment Task Force, Drexel University School of Public Health

2005-2009

Member, Admissions Committee, Drexel University School of Public Health

2005

Member, Accreditation Steering Committee, Drexel University

- 2005-2014 Member, Educational Coordinating Committee, Drexel University School of Public Health
- 2005-2008 Curriculum Coordinator, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Drexel University School of Public Health
- 2006 Recruitment Subcommittee, Provost's Task Force on Faculty Diversity, Drexel University
- 2012-2014 Member, Drexel University Laboratory Safety Committee

Professional Service

- 2007-2010 Grant Reviewer, Review Panel, National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Internal Proposals, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
- 2005 Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene*
- 2006 Peer Reviewer, *Indoor & Built Environment*
- 2007 Peer Reviewer, *Environmental Research*
- 2007 Peer Reviewer, *International Journal of Environment and Waste Management*
- 2007 Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Medical Microbiology*
- 2008 Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Environmental Management*
- 2009 Peer Reviewer, *Indoor Air*
- 2010 Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Environmental Health*
- 2011 Peer Reviewer, Pediatrics
- 2006 Program Evaluator, Applied Science Programs, Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)
- 2006-16 Member, Academic Accreditation Committee, American Industrial Hygiene Association
- 2016-2020 Chair, Academic Accreditation Committee, American Industrial Hygiene Association
- 2009-2012 Member, Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences
- 2011 Member, Committee on Respiratory Protection Curriculum for Occupational Health Nurses, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences
- 2014- 2016 Member, Committee on Personal Protective Equipment for Workplace Safety and Health, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences
- 2014- 2019 Commissioner, Applied Science Accreditation Commission, ABET

2012 Expert Advisory Board Member, Head-Off Environmental Asthma in Louisiana (HEAL), Phase II, Xavier University of Louisiana

Community Service

2005 City Week High School Student Mentorship Program

2005-2013 Philadelphia School and Community Integrated Pest Management Partnership

2006-2014 Panel Member and Rater, Environmental Health Program Manager Civil-Service Examination, City of Philadelphia Personnel Department

2007-2012 Member, Technical Advisory Group, National Environmental Health Tracking Program, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Health

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Publications

Perez, Hernando. "Indoor Air Quality Guidelines" In Oxford Bibliographies in Public Health. Ed. David V. McQueen. New York: Oxford University Press

J Glueck, R Huneke, **HR Perez**, I Burstyn (2012) Exposure to airborne mouse and rat allergens among laboratory animal care workers. *Journal of the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science*, 51(5):554-560

Leavy A, **HR Perez**, I Burstyn (2012): Endotoxin and particle counts in subsidized households with asthmatic children in Philadelphia: a pilot study. *Indoor and Built Environment*, 21(4):515-523.

Solon I, PL Gurian, **HR Perez** (2012): The extraction of a *Bacillus anthracis* surrogate from pleated HVAC filter samples. *Indoor and Built Environment*, 21(4):562-567.

Perez HR, E Sullivan, K Michael, R Harris (2012): Fish consumption and advisory awareness among the Philadelphia Asian Community: A pilot study. *Journal of Environmental Health*, 74(8):24-28

Perez HR, S Haines, K Michael, I Burstyn, M Jandyala, P Palermo (2011) An evaluation of health and safety hazards in family daycare homes in Philadelphia. *Child and Youth Care Forum*, 40:151-157

Perez HR, R Johnson, P Gurian, S Gibbs, J Taylor, I Burstyn (2011) Isolation of Airborne Oxacillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* from Urban Residences *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene*, 8(2):80-85

Alvarado, C.S., Gandara, A., Flores, C., **Perez, H.R.**, Green, C.F., Hurd, W.W., and Gibbs, S.G. (2009) Seasonal Changes in Airborne Fungi and Bacteria at a Dairy Cattle

Gandara A, LC Mota, C Flores, **HR Perez**, CF Green, SG Gibbs (2006) Isolation of *Staphylococcus aureus* and antibiotic resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* from residential indoor bioaerosols. *Environmental Health Perspectives* 114(12):1859-1864

(Featured article in the Environews/Science Selections as “Unwelcome Guest: Airborne Staph in Homes” Environmental Health Perspectives. 114(12): A715.)

Perez HR, NJ Zimmerman, Z Berhane (2006) Evaluation of culturable particle load on HVAC filters before and after remediation: a pilot study. *Indoor and Built Environment* 15(6):525-533

Perez HR, AL Frank, NJ Zimmerman (2006) Health effects associated with organic dust exposure during the handling of municipal solid waste. *Indoor and Built Environment* 15(3):207-212.

Refereed Conference Proceedings

Perez HR, K Michael, I Burstyn (2012) Airborne Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in homes. *Proceedings of Healthy Buildings 2012, 10th International Conference, July 2012, Brisbane, Australia*

Perez HR, Z Berhane, P Gurian, T Alexander, A Buchholz, M Chilton, V Bragg (2008) An evaluation of the relationship between residential particulate and dust endotoxin exposures and five asthma specific functional outcome and quality of life indicators in inner-city asthmatic children *Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on Indoor Air Quality and Climate, August 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark*

Perez HR, NJ Zimmerman, H Cember, F Rosenthal (2005) Detection of indoor airborne fungal contamination through examination of HVAC filters. In Yang X, B Zhao, R Zhao (eds) *Proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Indoor Air Quality and Climate, September 2005, Beijing, China: pp.1409-1413*

Published Abstracts

Perez HR, NJ Zimmerman, H Cember, F Rosenthal (2005) Detection of fungal contamination through examination of HVAC filters. *Indoor Air*. 15(Supp. 11):69.

Reports Authored

Perez HR (August 2006) [Pennsylvania Mold Management Task Force Report to the Pennsylvania General Assembly.](#)

Invited Presentations and Panels

Expert Panel Member, *Do meteorological shifts precede and/or parallel shifts in hospital census* (Nursing Conference, Lourdes Medical Center of Burlington County) November 5, 2008, Camden, New Jersey

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Invited Lecturer on Industrial Hygiene, *Seminar and Workshop on Occupational Safety and Health*, Department of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, June 23, 2010

Invited Lecturer on Industrial Hygiene, *Workshop on Occupational Health*, Faculty of Medicine, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, June 28 & 29, 2010

Invited Lecturer on Industrial Hygiene, *International Conference on Emerging Trends in Preventing Occupational Respiratory Diseases & Cancers in the Workplace*, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi, India, March 22-24, 2011

Presentations

Perez HR, K Michael, I Burstyn Airborne Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus in Homes accepted for presentation at Healthy Buildings 2012: 10th International Conference of the International Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate, July 2012, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Perez HR, K Michael, I Burstyn Review of the Evidence for Airborne Transmission of Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and its Control accepted for presentation at American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition, June 2012, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Perez HR, M Chin, S Widman Quantitative comparison of PM 2.5 aerosol measuring devices in residential environments American Industrial Hygiene and Exposition, May 2010, Denver, Colorado.

Perez HR, Z Berhane, P Gurian, T Alexander, A Buchholz, M Chilton, An evaluation of the relationship between residential particulate and dust endotoxin exposures and five asthma specific functional outcome and quality of life indicators in inner-city asthmatic children presented at Indoor Air 2008: 11th International Conference on Indoor Air Quality and Climate, August 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark

Perez HR, S Gibbs Assessment, interpretation and reporting of bioaerosol sampling results in indoor environments, National Environmental Health Association Annual Educational Conference and Exhibition, June 2008, Tucson, Arizona.

Perez HR, A Buchholz, Z Berhane, P Gurian, T Alexander, M Chilton, V Bragg, An evaluation of airborne particle counts, dust endotoxin, and home characteristics on the physical health of asthmatic children, American Industrial Hygiene and Exposition, June 2008, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Perez HR, Z Berhane, P Gurain, M Chilton, Airborne Particle Counts, Dust Endotoxin and Activity Limitation in Inner-City Asthmatic Children (poster) American Public Health Association 135th Annual Meeting, November 2007, Washington, D.C.

Perez HR, Z Berhane, P Gurain, M Chilton, The Effect of Residential Endotoxin and Particulate Exposure on the Activity Levels of Asthmatic Children. American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition, June 2007, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Perez HR and NJ Zimmerman, Detection of indoor airborne fungal contamination through examination of HVAC filters. Presented at the 10th International Conference on Indoor Air Quality and Climate, September 2005, Beijing, China. 9 of 12

Perez HR and NJ Zimmerman, Detection of Indoor Airborne Fungal Contamination through Examination of Building HVAC Filters. Presented at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition, May 2005, Anaheim, California

Perez HR and NJ Zimmerman, Extraction and Quantification of Viable Fungal Particles from HVAC Filters as Indicators of Relative Airborne Levels in Building Air. Presented at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition, May 2004, Atlanta, Georgia

Perez HR and NJ Zimmerman, Viable Fungal Concentration on HVAC Filters as a Predictor of Average Airborne Fungal Concentrations. (Poster) Presented at the University of Cincinnati Pilot Research Project Symposium, October 2003, Cincinnati, Ohio

Perez HR and NJ Zimmerman, Validation of a Method to Quantify Fungi on Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning System Filters. Presented at the University of Cincinnati Pilot Research Project Symposium, October 2003, Cincinnati, Ohio

Perez HR and NJ Zimmerman, Evaluation of a Method to Quantify Fungi on Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Filters (poster) Presented at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition, June 2003, Dallas, Texas

TEACHING

Course Director, PBHL 641, Environmental and Occupational Hazard Assessment, Drexel University School of Public Health, Fall Quarter, 2006-Present, Full time MPH Program, Philadelphia, PA

Course Director, PBHL 640, Environmental and Occupational Health, Drexel University School of Public Health, Winter Quarter 2009-Present, Full Time MPH Program, Philadelphia, PA

Faculty Facilitator, MPH Block IX, Environmental and Occupational Health, Drexel University School of Public Health, Fall, 2010-Present, Executive MPH Program, Sacramento, CA

Faculty Facilitator, PBHL 640, Environmental Health, Drexel University School of Public Health, Winter Quarter, 2006-2008, Full Time MPH Program, Philadelphia, PA

Faculty Facilitator, PBHL 660, Occupational Health, Drexel University School of Public Health, Spring Quarter, 2006-2008, Full Time MPH Program, Philadelphia, PA

Faculty Facilitator, MPH Block IX, Environmental and Occupational Health, Drexel University School of Public Health, Fall, 2005-2007, Executive MPH Program, Philadelphia, PA

Faculty Facilitator, MPH Block IX, Environmental and Occupational Health, Drexel University School of Public Health, Winter, 2005-2006, Full Time MPH Program, Philadelphia, PA

STUDENT ADVISING

- Christopher Harvey, MPH June 2006, Community Based Master's Project:
*Assessing the impact of helicopter emissions on the respiratory health of office workers in the New College Building (Exemplary CBMP Award Winner) ***
- Erin Sullivan (Black), MPH June 2007, Community Based Master's Project:
Methylmercury exposures in the Philadelphia Asian Community: A vulnerability and susceptibility assessment of methylmercury exposure and subsistence fishing
- Lauren Gordon, MPH August 2007, Community Based Master's Project: *Pollution in the urban environment and its effect on clinic visits for asthma in Hispanic Children*
- Andrew Buchholz, MPH June 2008, Community Based Master's Project: *An evaluation of the combined effects of environmental particulate exposures and dietary deficiencies on pediatric asthma severity in inner city Philadelphia*
- Kianga Mungai, MPH June 2008, Community Based Master's Project: *Using indicators to identify populations in Washington D.C. susceptible to environmental toxins*
- Soniya Barde, MPH June 2008, Community Based Master's Project: *Analysis of traffic volume and asthma prevalence in Philadelphia school children*
- Komal Wadyal, MPH June 2008, Community Based Master's Project: *Isoflurane waste anesthetic gas exposure assessment*
- Renee Whiskey, MPH June 2009, Community Based Master's Project: *Integration of environmental public health into primary health care services for low income pregnant women*
- Rachel Johnson, MPH June 2009, Community Based Master's Project: *Isolation of airborne oxacillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus from urban residences*
- Cara O'Donnell, MPH June 2009, Community Based Master's Project: *Cost-benefit analysis to inform risk management of B. Antracis remediation*
- Michael Chin, MPH June 2009, Community Based Master's Project: *Quantitative comparison of PM 2.5 aerosol measuring devices*
- Jennifer Elmer, MPH June 2010, Community Based Master's Project: *A data-based analysis of isoflurane levels in veterinary operating theatres. (Exemplary CBMP Award Winner) ****
- Niquinn Folwer, MPH June 2010, Community Based Master's Project: *Revitalization of Brownfields in Northern Liberties*
- Benjamin Jarrett, MPH June 2010, Community Based Master's Project: *Comparison of clinical outcomes, resource utilization, and injury patterns between hospitalized obese and non-obese pediatric patients with traumatic injuries.*
- Karen Michael, MPH June 2011, Community Based Master's Project: *Analysis of airborne methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus and gram positive coagulase negative Staphylococcus species in homes*
- Heather Galada, MPH June 2011, Community Based Master's Project: *First responder knowledge and training needs for bioterrorism*

RESEARCH SUPPORT

12/2011 -4/2012	<p>\$10,000 Philadelphia Department of Public Health <i>Healthy Homes for Childcare Program Evaluation</i></p>
9/2009-8/2011	<p>\$110,000 PI: HR. Perez Philadelphia Housing Authority <i>Healthy Homes Intervention Study</i></p>
9/2008-10/2009	<p>\$89,973 PI: HR Perez The Barra Foundation <i>Integration of Environmental Public Health into Primary Health Care Services for Low Income Pregnant Women</i></p>
2007-2010	<p>\$490,000 PI: <u>PL Gurian (HR Perez Co-Investigator)</u> United States Department of Homeland Security <i>Fellowship Program in Microbial Risk Assessment for Public Security, Safety and Health</i></p>
11/2005-12/2007	<p>\$187,101 PI: <u>HR Perez</u> Drexel Synergy Grant <i>An Evaluation of the Combined Effects of Environmental Particulate Exposures and Dietary Deficiencies on Pediatric Asthma Severity in Inner City Philadelphia</i></p>
2005-2008	<p>\$76,800 PI: <u>HR Perez</u> Philadelphia Housing Authority <i>An Asthma Intervention in Philadelphia Housing Choice Voucher Properties: Community Based Participatory Research in an Urban Setting</i></p>
6/2003-6/2004	<p>\$3500 PI: <u>HR Perez</u> National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Pilot Research Training Program of the University of Cincinnati Education and Research Center Grant #T42/CCT5100420 <i>Viable Fungal Concentration on HVAC Filters as a Predictor of Average Airborne Fungal Concentrations</i></p>
6/2002-6/2003	<p>\$4772 PI: <u>HR Perez</u></p>

