

DR. PHILLIP A. ORTIZ

The vast majority of my work at all levels of my education and professional activity has been related to the study of diabetes mellitus. As a graduate student much of my work was applicable to insulin secretion and type 1 diabetes (also called IDDM or juvenile diabetes). My postgraduate work on insulin responsiveness in adipose tissues is applicable to type 2 diabetes (also called NIDDM or adult diabetes). During previous faculty appointments I was engaged in several projects applicable to both type 1 and type 2 diabetes. My moving to Empire State College has presented new challenges; no longer do I have access to onsite laboratories or a research budget.

On the other hand, at Empire State College I have been able to expand my scholarly interests to include the educational and professional development of minority scientists and the pedagogy of online and distance learning. As a member, and former chairperson, of the Minority Affairs Committee of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, I have the opportunity to participate in the setting of the society's agenda and sessions for its annual meetings, organize educational opportunities, contribute to task forces organized by the National Institutes of Health, and participate in meetings organized by the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science and the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students.