

DR. ALFONSO RUIZ

Place of Birth: Bogota, Colombia

5920 Jefferson Park Dr. , Tampa, Florida 33625

RESIDENCE: (813) 968-1923 – EMAIL: [RUIZALFO@AOL.COM](mailto:RUIZALFO@AOL.COM)

## **EDUCATION**

**Universidad Nacional de Colombia**, Bogotá Colombia. 1964

- Doctor Veterinary Medicine

**Iowa State University**, Ames Iowa

- M.S in Pathology and Microbiology, 1970
- PhD in Pathology and Toxicology, 1972
- Certification on Epidemiological Surveillance of Food-borne diseases. 1994
- Certification on HACCP. 1996

**Universidad Javeriana de Colombia**, Bogota, Colombia. 1973

- Certificate on Clinical Pathology

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**University of South Florida- College of Public Health**

2005- Present

- Adjunct Professor. Developing the subject on Ecology and Health

**Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).**

1978 – 2005.

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is an international public health agency with more than 100 years of experience working to improve health and living standards of the people of the Americas. It enjoys international recognition as part of the United Nations system, serving as the Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization, and as the health organization of the Inter-American System.

- Acting Area Manager. Health Analysis and Information Systems. Washington DC. 2005
- Regional Advisor in Research for Sustainable Development and Health. Washington, DC. 2004
- Consultant for the evaluation of the Pan American Center on Sanitary Engineering and Environmental Sciences. Washington –Lima 2004
- Director of PAHO US-Mexico Border Office. El Paso, Texas. 1999-2003.
- Regional Advisor for the Americas in Veterinary Public Health, Zoonosis, Emerging Diseases, & Research. Washington DC. 1989-1999.
- Chief Laboratory Services and Research. Pan American Zoonosis Center. Buenos Aires, Argentina. 1986-1989.
- Regional Coordinator for Animal Health Training Program in Latin America (PROASA) & Advisor for the diagnostic laboratory network of Mexico. Mexico DF, Mexico. 1982-1986.
- United Nations Project Leader for the Development of a diagnostic laboratory network. Georgetown, Guyana. 1980-1982.
- Advisor for Honduras for the development of diagnostic laboratory network and disease surveillance. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 1878-1980.

- Advisor for the organization of a diagnostic laboratory network for Cochabamba La Paz, Bolivia. 1986.
- International Team Coordinator for the bubonic plague control project, PAHO/ Ministry of Health/ European Commission. Lima, Peru. 1995-1996.

**Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).**

1975 – 1978.

- Consultant for Pathology, Disease diagnostics and laboratory network organization and administration. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

**Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario (ICA). Bogota, Colombia.**

1966 - 1975.

- National Director for Animal Health, (1972- 1975).
- National Head of Department of Pathology and Toxicology for diagnostics and research, ICA, Colombia. (1970 – 1972).
- Head of Post Graduate Training and Research in Pathology and Toxicology Programs, ICA/ Universidad Nacional de Colombia (1970-1975).
- Honorary Consultant for Toxicology for the National Legal Medicine Institute of Colombia. (1970- 1973).
- Chief Trypanosomiasis research unit (1967-1968)

**Instituto Zooprofilactico Colombiano**

1965-1966

- Chief Section of Tissue Culture. Research (1965- 1966)
- Diagnostic Services (1965)

**RESEARCH & TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Teaching Experience**

- Professor of infectious diseases. Universidad Nacional de Colombia (1965-1966)
- Assistant Professor of Virology, Universidad Nacional de Colombia (1973-1974)
- Professor of Histology, Pathology and Toxicology. Universidad Nacional de Colombia (1970-1975)
- Associate Professor of Histology, Animal Pathology . Universidad de Antioquia (1966-1967)
- Professor of Neuroanatomy , Neuropathology and Toxicology.. Post Gradute Program ICA/ Universidad Nacional de Colombia (1973-1975)
- Assistant Professor in Pathology. Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (1976-1977)
- Assistant Professor in Pathology and Toxicology. University of West Indians. Georgetown, Guyana. (1981-1982)
- Temporary Professor cathedra of Diagnostic Pathology. Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, (1985-1986)
- Temporary professor in Diagnostic Pathology. PAHO/ Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina (1987-1988)

## **Research Advisor**

- Scientific Advisor on Diagnostics and Research for the “Instituto Nacional de Microbiología “Carlos G. Malbran”, Buenos Aires, Argentina. (1991-1996)
- Scientific advisor on Research for the Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario (ICA/CEISA). (1992-1999)
- Scientific Advisor for the Diagnostic Laboratory Network of Mexico. (1984-1990)
- Member of the Steering Committee for rabies research in the Americas. (1993-1999)
- WHO Member of the international committee on biological standards and methods. (1988-1990)

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- Honorary citizen of Nebraska. 1968.
- Honorific member Phi Zeta Society. Ames, Iowa. 1972.
- Special award for research: Trypanosomiasis in Colombia. Bogota, Colombia. 1968.
- First price for the International research on poultry Diseases. Bustos F. Ruiz A, Molina E. 1975.
- Recognition from Honduras: “ Alfonso Ruiz’s Library “ Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 1979.
- Special recognition for professional merits. Alumni Association. Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogota, Colombia. 1984.
- Recognition as scientific committee member for the National Microbiology Institute. Buenos Aires, Argentina. 1996.
- Recognition from Paraguay for his contribution on Laboratory Biosafety. Asuncion, Paraguay. 1988.
- Recognition from Dominican Republic: Master of Professors of Veterinary Sciences. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. 1995.
- Recognition from Mexico for his contributions on the Study of Emerging Zoonoses. Puebla, Mexico. 1996.
- Recognition from Brazil for his contributions on Education and Social Communication. CONESCO, 1996.
- Recognition from Popular Republic of China for his contributions on Plague Surveillance and Control. 1998.
- Honorary Diploma from The American Veterinary Epidemiology Society for his distinguished contribution to public health. Nashville, Tennessee, 2002
- Honorary citizen of El Paso, Texas. 2003.
- PAHO Award Recognition as Director of the outstanding team/Unit of year 2003. Washington DC. 2003
- Recognition from Laredo, Texas for his contributions to the US-Mexico border health. 2004.
- Recognition from Yuma, Arizona for his contributions on the US-Mexico border health. 2004.

## **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

Member of PAHO scientific and technical groups

- Internal Advisory Committee on Public Health Research (Chairman). 1991-2000
- Health Core data. 1994-1995
- Health and Tourism. 1996-1999
- Emergent Diseases. 1994-1999
- Biotechnology development. 1989-1998
- Editing member for Health Conditions in the Americas. 1990-2000
- Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance. 1997-1999
- Disasters preparedness. 1996-1999

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books (Author, Co-author and/or Editor)**

- Sixty years of commitment to border health. PAHO US- Mexico border Field Office. Ruiz A, Mendoza G, Huerta P, Saucedo J. PAHO/FOEP. El Paso, Texas 2003.
- Diagnostic of health services resources in the US-Mexico Border. Vol 1 (Mexico) and Vol 2 (United States). Mendoza G., Ruiz A., Escarcega Flores E. PAHO/FOEP . El Paso, Texas. 2003.
- Environmental Health Indicators for the US-Mexico Border. Gosselin P., Frugal K., Ruiz A. PAHO FOEP. 2002.
- Cuarentenas Animales. Vol 1 and Vol 2 . Ruiz A (editor) PROASA. OPS/BID. Mexico . 1996
- Vigilancia Epidemiológica. Ruiz A. (Editor) PROASA . OPS/BID. Mexico. 1986.
- Comunicación y Educación en Salud Animal. (Vol 1 y Vol 2) Ruiz A (Editor) PROASA. OPS/BID. México. 1986
- Administración de programas de Salud Animal. Ruiz A, Galvez O. (Editores) PROASA. OPS/BID. México. 1986.
- Muestreo Patológico de Honduras. Ruiz A., Reyes J.L., Alvarenga R.E. IHIVM. Programa de Sanidad Animal (PSA). Secretaria de Recursos Naturales. 1980.
- Enfermedades de los Animales Domésticos en Republica Dominicana. Ruiz A. Direccion General de Ganaderia, Subprograma de Sanidad Animal (PIDAGRO). Santo Domingo, Republica Dominicana. 1977.

### **Chapters in Books**

- Health in the Americas. Chapters on Zoonosis and Emerging Diseases. PAHO. 1998
- La Experiencia Mexicana en Salud Publica. Chapter on: Oficina de campo de El Paso. Secretaria de Salud de México, OPS, SMSP, FunSalud, INSP, Mexico 2006.

### **Books in preparation**

- Ecology and Health

## **MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

- Development of animal disease diagnostic laboratory networks in Colombia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Guyana, Bolivia and Mexico, having built, equipped and trained staff for 66 laboratories.
- Development of international diagnostic and research laboratory networks on Rabies, Equine Encephalitis, Taeniasis/Cysticercosis, Echinococcosis/Hydatidosis, Leptospirosis, Plague and Vaccine production and control.
- Development of the animal disease inventory and epidemiological situation of Colombia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Guyana and Mexico.
- Assessment and development of the control program of the largest Plague outbreak of the 20th century in Peru. 1995-1996
- Control of the Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis outbreaks in Venezuela and Colombia 1998
- First Veterinarian included in the Health Research Advisory Committee for the Americas. And chairman of the Committee for two years.
- First Veterinarian named Chief of the PAHO US-Mexico border Office.
- First document on Basic Health Indicators made for the US-Mexico border.
- First analysis on Health Services resources made for the US-Mexico border.
- Development of concepts and criteria for selection of environmental health indicators.
- First documents on environmental health indicators produced for the US-Mexico border
- Elaboration of concept documents for PAHO/WHO on Children's Environmental Health Indicators.
- Creation of an information platform on social, economic and health indicators for the US-Mexico border.
- Definition of concepts and design of the strategy for the elimination of dog transmitted rabies in the Americas.
- Definition of concepts and design strategy for Taeniasis/ Cysticercosis prevention and control program for the Americas. Colaboration with South Africa in the implementation of the national program.
- Design the strategy for the surveillance of Equine Encephalitis in the Americas.
- Development of the Histopathology collections for the Universidad Nacional de Colombia (UNC), Universidad de Antioquia/Colombia, Post-graduate training in Pathology for ICA/UNC, Instituto de Investigaciones Medico-Veterinarias of Honduras (IIMVH), Laboratorio Veterinario Central (LAVECEN) of Republica Dominicana, National Veterinary Laboratory of Guyana, Pan American Center for Zoonoses in Argentina.
- Implementation and development of the largest and most important research project on Diabetes in the US-Mexico border. Model for the world.