

Latinxs and Hispanics in Mathematical Sciences



Hiram H. López Valdez

Hiram López grew up in Aguascalientes, a city in the middle of Mexico. Hiram earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Mathematics from autonomous university of Aguascalientes in August 2008. While getting his baccalaureate degree, he was a visiting scholar at UNAM (national autonomous university of Mexico) in Fall 2007. From 2008 to 2010 Hiram lived in Mexico City, when he was a M.S. student at CINVESTAV-IPN (center for research in advanced studies of the national polytechnic of Mexico). In 2010, Hiram returned to his home city to become an Associate Professor at his alma mater. In 2012 Hiram went back to CINVESTAV-IPN to get a Ph.D. in Mathematics under direction of Prof. Rafael H. Villarreal in May 2016. By earning a Swiss Excellence Scholarship Award, part of his Ph.D. studies were made at University of Neuchatel, Switzerland, under supervision of Prof. Elisa Gorla. Hiram was a Postdoctoral Fellow at Clemson University from 2016 to 2018, under direction of Dr. Felice Manganiello. Hiram joined Cleveland State University as an Assistant Professor in the department of Mathematics and Statistics in January 2019. Since then, Hiram lives in Cleveland with his wife, his daughter, and his son.

"Helping people is one of the most efficient and gratifying ways to improve the place we live for us and ours. When a person advances in an aspect of their life, the whole world is enhanced as a result.

Hispanic Heritage Month is the right time when we can show all what Hispanic and Latino people were and are doing to obtain a better world. Sometimes I feel everyone is pulling, but in different directions. Hispanic Heritage Month is the time when we can find a common direction to pull all together."

The main area of research of Hiram is coding theory from a commutative algebraic point of view and network coding. He uses mainly tools and results from commutative algebra, combinatorics, optimization, graph theory, and algebraic geometry. He also conducts research on image processing, where he is interested in the theory and the applications of binary images.

Hiram is a registered advisor of the Association of Latin Professionals For America (ALPFA), which is an organization at Cleveland State University. The purpose of the organization is to further advance the success and progression of the Latin community and to assist in preparing them for future professions.

Hiram has been linking and advising Mexican Ph.D. students who want to pursue a postdoctoral stay in the US with postdoctoral advisors at US universities. This connection is important because it creates a non-trivial path for Mexican Ph.D. students to carry out a postdoctoral stay in the US. The idea is to get a postdoctoral grant from the Mexican National Science Foundation and a lecturer position at a US University with a reduced teaching load. These two positions together provide similar conditions than a US postdoctoral fellowship.

Lathisms was founded in 2016 in order to showcase the contributions of Latinx and Hispanic mathematicians during Hispanic Heritage Month, which is celebrated in the United States from September 15 and October 15 every year. During this time, we feature/reveal a prominent Latinx/Hispanic mathematician daily. See all the featured mathematical scientists at LATHISMS.ORG.

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