

Brian Aguado, PhD

Dr. Brian Aguado is currently an Assistant Professor of Bioengineering at UC San Diego, where his laboratory research is focused on studying sex differences in cardiovascular disease using biomaterial technologies. Dr. Aguado is also the Co-Director for the Women's Health Innovations through Scientific Discoveries, Engineering, and Medicine (WHISDEM) Center at UC San Diego. Dr. Aguado completed his BS degree in Biomechanical Engineering from Stanford University and his MS and PhD in Biomedical Engineering from Northwestern University. He also obtained his certificate in Management for Scientists and Engineers from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern. He completed his postdoctoral fellowship in Chemical and Biological Engineering at the University of Colorado Boulder. Dr. Aguado has received numerous grants to support his research, including the NIH K99/R00 Pathway to Independence Award, the American Heart Association Career Development Award, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative Science Diversity Leadership Award, the NIH DP2 New Innovator Award, the NSF CAREER Award, and the Women's Health Access Matters (WHAM) Edge Award. Dr. Aguado is also the recipient of the American Society of Matrix Biology Young Investigator Award, the Society for Biomaterials Young Investigator Award, the Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS) Young Investigator Award, the Cellular and Molecular Bioengineering (CMBE) Rising Star Award, the CMBE Young Innovator Award, the Biomaterials Journal Young Investigator Award, the Great Minds in STEM HENAAC Award for Most Promising Scientist and Engineer, and was elected as an AIMBE Emerging Leader for his efforts as an ISSCR Goldstein Science Policy Fellow. Dr. Aguado also co-founded the non-profit organization LatinXinBME, a grassroots virtual mentoring group of over 600 Latinx biomedical engineers dedicated to building a community that supports each other personally and professionally through their careers. For his mentoring and teaching efforts, he was named one of the 100 Most Inspiring Latinx Scientists in America by Cell Press and received the Society for Biomaterials Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award, the BMES Diversity Award, the ASEE Constituent DEI Award, the Teacher of the Year Award from the Jacobs School of Engineering, the ISSCR Public Service Award, and the GEMINI Faculty Mentor Award from the UCSD Institute for Engineering in Medicine.

Dr. Aguado is running for Council Member of the American Society for Matrix Biology to build on the Society's strong foundation of exemplary research and inclusive community. If elected, he will pursue four initiatives. First, drawing on his experience building human-relevant tissue models, he will propose an ASMB E-Symposium on New Approach Methodologies (NAMs), modern research tools designed to reduce or replace the use of animal models. The symposium will highlight how human extracellular matrix tools are being used to build improved models of tissues in health and disease. Second, as Co-Director of WHISDEM, he will bring his commitment to broadening participation to ASMB by establishing the ASMB Social Impact Award, recognizing a member who has shown outstanding dedication to expanding access to matrix biology research among underserved communities. Third, he will work with the *Matrix Biology* editors to create special issue publishing research from outstanding early- and mid-career investigators, paired with dedicated opportunities for these investigators to present their work at the Biennial Meeting. Fourth, he will work with the Council to establish an ASMB Fellow designation, modeled on fellowship programs in other scientific societies, to recognize and encourage sustained leadership in research, education, and social impact among senior members.