



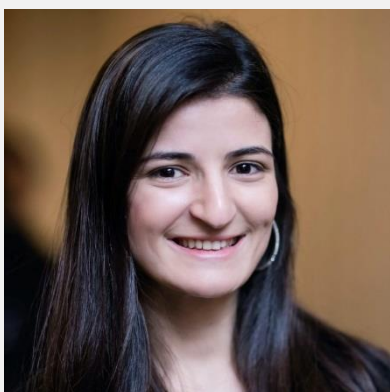
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Graduate Research Days 2022, Graduate Research Alumni Talk
Thursday, February 24, 2022 | 2:05pm-2:45pm EDT

Zoom URL: <https://utoronto.zoom.us/j/88506699872> | **Zoom Passcode:** 022022

Esmeralda Bukuroshi, ChemE, PhD, 2T1

HBSc, Biological Chemistry Specialist, UofT Scarborough



Senior Analyst, Innovation @ Ontario Health

Esmeralda is a recent PhD graduate from Chemical Engineering at University of Toronto. Her interest in pursuing an engineering graduate degree peaked during Graduate Research Days. She started her Masters of Applied Sciences in the Bender Laboratory on the chemical structure of various materials for high performing organic photovoltaics. Soon after, she bypassed into a PhD in the same research group.

During her graduate studies, Esmeralda was also fortunate to conduct research abroad in Israel and Copenhagen thanks to a research grant and the Mitacs Globalink Award.

She has been a keen advocate for the Chemical Engineering Graduate Student Association as well as the Graduate Engineering Council of Students. While working on various graduate student events, she held several student governance roles which sparked her interest in science policy and scientific communications.

Shortly after her PhD thesis defense, she joined Ontario's COVID-19 Testing Task Force, namely the Provincial Diagnostic Network of Ontario Health, as an Innovation Senior Analyst where she develops knowledge for provincial government strategy directions related to innovative testing solutions for COVID-19.

Phil De Luna, MSE, PhD, 1T8

MS, Chemistry, University of Ottawa
BSc, Chemistry, University of Windsor



Director, Materials for Clean Fuels @ National Research Council Canada

Phil De Luna is currently Program Director, Materials for Clean Fuels Challenge program at the National Research Council Canada (NRC). He is leading a \$57M multi-disciplinary program to develop innovative Canada-made clean energy materials that lower GHG emissions.

He has published 45+ papers in high-impact journals such as Nature, Science, Nature Chemistry, Nature Catalysis, and more. His research has been featured in mainstream media such as CBC, Newsweek, The Independent, VICE, and others. De Luna is a 2020-2021 Action Canada Fellow – Canada's top accelerator for policy leaders. He is also an NSERC Canada Graduate Scholar, a Massey College Junior Fellow, a Mission Innovation advisor for NRC, and a CIFAR Bio-Inspired Solar Energy Graduate Fellow. He has held competitive research internships at IBM Research Center in New York, Toyota Research Institute in Silicon Valley, and was a visiting researcher at University of California, Berkeley, and Stanford University. De Luna was named to the 2019 Forbes Top 30 Under 30 – Energy list, a GreenBiz Top 30 Under 30 and a Governor General's Gold Medalist.

Phil received his PhD specializing in nanostructured electrocatalysts for CO₂ Conversion under the supervision of Prof. Edward Sargent in 2019.