

CARMEN V. GAINES, PH.D.

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Carmen V. Gaines is a postdoctoral fellow at the Wake Forest University Institute for Regenerative Medicine (WFIRM). Her research takes a mechanistic approach in understanding the behavioral effects of keratin biomaterials on dermal cell adhesion, proliferation and migration *in vitro*. Signaling molecules driving these behaviors will be identified and examined intracellularly, with long-term implications in the area of chronic wound care.

Dr. Gaines received her B.S. in Bioengineering at Cornell University. After a brief time in industry as a medical device product development engineer, she returned to academia to pursue her M.S. and Ph.D. in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Florida. With an ever-increasing interest in biomaterial functionality and body organ regeneration, Dr. Gaines continued her training at WFIRM in the area of tissue engineering.