

CAROLINA OBREGÓN

EDUCATION

- 2012** M.A. (Art and Design), Aalto University, School of Arts, Design and Architecture, Helsinki
(Thesis: "[Sustainable Fashion: From Trend to Paradigm](#)")
- 2009** Bilingual Education Certification, Colombo-American Institute, Bogotá
- 1995** A.A.S. (Fashion), Fashion Studies, Parsons School of Design, New York
- 1992** B.A. equivalent, Fashion Design, Taller Cinco Centro de Diseño, Bogotá

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021 – Present** Part-time Faculty, Parsons School of Design, School of Strategic Design & Management (SDM), School of Fashion (SF), School of Arts, Media & Technology (AMT), Fashion Management (MPS) New York
- 2016 – 2021** Assistant Professor in Design, Universidad de los Andes (Uniandes), Bogotá
- 2014 – 2016** Assistant Professor, Program Coordinator, Arts and Design Faculty, Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano, Bogotá

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2023 Spring** Parsons School of Design, NYC
Graduate Courses: Collab: Biodesign Challenge Studio (AMT) / Manufacturing & Production (MPS)
Undergraduate Courses: Fashion Design Thesis Studio 1 Systems & Collection (SF)
- 2022 Fall** Parsons School of Design, NYC
Undergraduate Courses: Fashion Design Thesis Studio 1 Systems & Collection (SF) / Senior Project 1 Capstone Thesis (SDM)
- 2022 Spring** Parsons School of Design, NYC
Graduate Courses: Integrative Studio 1 External Partner: Calvin Klein (SDM), Manufacturing & Production (MPS)
Undergraduate Courses: Fashion Design Studio 2 Systems & Collection (SF) / Design of Business (SDM)
- 2021 Fall** Parsons School of Design, NYC
Undergraduate Course: Senior Project 1 Capstone (SDM)
- 2021 Fall** Basque Design Center, Barcelona
Graduate Course: BioFashion (virtual)
- 2016 – 2021** Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá
Graduate Course: Sustainable Design Studio
Undergraduate Courses: Studio I Design Thinking / Studio III Human Centered Design / Foundation Studio / Biodesign Challenge Studio / Thesis Project Studio VIII, BioFashion, Sustainable Fashion, Disruptive Sustainable Design (in English), Sustainable Product Development
- 2014 – 2016** Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano, Bogotá
Undergraduate Courses: Fashion Design Studio 1 & 2, Fashion History 1 & 2

AWARDS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

- 2017 – 2021** Research Fellowship for "Biodesign as a Tool for Fashion's Production Processes", Uniandes
- 2020** Directed the Biodesign Challenge "[Mana Prize for the Future of Beauty](#)" Uniandes winning team with [Linneo](#)
- 2019** Directed the Biodesign Challenge "[Overall Winner](#)" Uniandes winning team with [PseudoFreeze](#)
- 2018** Directed the Biodesign Challenge "[PETA Animal-Free Wool Prize](#)" Uniandes winning team with [Woocoa](#)
- 2017** Library Research Scholar, Harvard University, Cambridge
- 2017** Workshop Scholarship, "Trends in 21st Century Education and Its Use of Technology", Harvard University, Cambridge

PATENT

Patent, [PCT/IB2021/053817](#), BIO-NANOCOMPOUND AS AN AGENT FOR NUCLEATING AQUEOUS-BASED COMPOUNDS AND PRODUCTION METHOD THEREOF, presented 11/11/2021, Inventors: Pulido Espinosa, Isabel;

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

2020 Co-author with Christiaan Job Nieman *Design Visions for a Sustainable San Andrés*, Ediciones Uniandes, Bogotá

BOOK CHAPTERS

2023 “Challenging the Fashion Industry through Biodesign” in *Volume 10: Textile Futures in Bloomsbury Encyclopedia of World Textiles* (in revision), Bloomsbury, London

2022 “De la sostenibilidad al biodiseño: cambiando paradigmas en el ecosistema moda” in *Estudios de la moda en Colombia*, Ed. UTADEO, Bogotá

2021 “El legado de Anni Albers desde sus mentores Latinoamericanos” in *Bauhaus Reverberada*, Ediciones Uniandes, Bogotá

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

2023 Obregón, C., et. Al., “[Preparation, extraction, and processing of water-retted *Cannabis sativa* L. fibers](#),” Journal of Natural Fibers, Taylor & Francis

2023 Danies, G., Obregon, C., Burbano, A., “Plant Sciences and Biodesign: A Path to Addressing the World's Wicked Problems,” Journal of Quantitative Plant Biology – Art and Science and Society (in revision), Cambridge University Press

MAGAZINE ARTICLES

2021 “Disrupting Biodesign Through Different Mindsets” in [Biodesigned](#) (accepted article) (Cowritten with Giovanna Danies, Biodesign Challenge.org publishers, New York)

2020 “Manifiesto 4: La moda desde un pensamiento sistémico” in *Manifiesto 4*, Ed. Gloria Saldarriaga, Medellín

2020 “La tendencia in-sostenible” in *El Malpensante*, Ediciones Fundación El Malpensante, Bogotá

2019 “[La moda sostenible en la era antropocena](#)” in *Hilo*, Ediciones Exclama, Bogotá

2017 “Rebelde: Rei Kawakubo”. Article written for Publicaciones Semana, Colombia

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS & PAPERS

2021 “SauColors: An Alternative to Chemical Dyes” in *Sustainable Innovation 2021 Accelerating Sustainability in Fashion, Clothing, Sportswear & Accessories*, Center for Sustainable Design at UCA, UK

2018 “From Cosmopolitan Localism to Enhancing Sustainable Design Practices by Using Algae for Bioremediation in San Andrés” in [Congreso interdisciplinario en Arquitectura, Diseño, Ciudad y Territorio](#), U. Católica de Chile, Dec.

2015 “Exploring the Use of Amazonian Nanostructured Fibers as Prêt-à-porter fabrics” in [ICNF 2015 From Nature to Market – 2nd Int. Conf. on Natural Fibers](#), April 27- 29, Azores

2014 “Educación en moda: valores globales hacia un conocimiento local” in [XIII Festival Internacional de la Imagen](#), Dept. Diseño Visual, Univ. de Caldas, May 5 – 9, Manizales

2013 “The Future is Now: Designing a Sustainable Fashion Program in an Age of Austerity,” [Cumulus Dublin: More for Less—Design in an Age of Austerity Conference](#), Nov. 7 - 9, Dublin

2012 “Sustainable Fashion Education: Trend or Paradigm” in [Projecting Design 2012 Global Design Bridge Cumulus Conference](#), November, Santiago

2011 “Big Changes Start Small: A Look at Sustainable Fashion Design Efforts Around the World” *Cumulus Denver: From Understanding to Design and Back Again*, Sept. 29–Oct 2

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

2022 Invited speaker, “Biodiseño: Cambiando Paradigmas en la era del Antropoceno.” Insitituto Humboldt & Ecopetrol, Bogotá, Colombia, June 29

2022 Invited speaker, “Cambando Paradigmas por medio del biodiseño.” Universidad del Desarrollo (virtual), Santiago, Chile, Colombia, June 15

2021 Invited speaker, “[Fashion response-ability: re-fashion/bio-based futures](#).” U. luav di Venezia (virtual), Dec. 2

2021 Invited speaker, “[Verdes Futuros](#)” for *La Malpensante Moda* (virtual), Nov. 18

- 2021** Invited speaker, "[Biodiseño y Biomateriales](#)" for *Local Chile* (virtual), Oct .11
- 2021** Invited speaker, "Bioinnovación y Startups" for *Comité de Sostenibilidad*, Colombia Government, (virtual), Sept. 15
- 2021** Invited speaker, "Bioinnovación" for al HILO *La Silla Verde*, (virtual), Aug. 26
- 2021** Invited speaker, "Trabajando para organismos vivos y humanos" for EXMA ResEarth (virtual), June 16
- 2021** Co-director & speaker, [Symposium for Biodesign Challenge](#), (virtual), Apr. 15
- 2020** Invited speaker, "No se puede estar medio embarazado" for *Economía circular en la moda y fibras textiles sostenibles*, in Ibagué: Negocios y Moda (digital conference) Nov. 12
- 2020** Invited speaker, "Economía Circular" for [Ixel Moda](#), (digital conference), Oct. 20-23
- 2020** Invited speaker, "El legado de Anni Albers hasta la sostenibilidad en la moda Latinoamericana", for [La influencia de Bauhaus en el diseño de producción de las artes audiovisuales](#) , Alcaldía Bogotá, (digital conference), Oct. 20
- 2019** Chair, "Biodesign Disrupter for Dystopia" for [The Day After Cumulus Conference](#), Uniandes, Nov. 1, Bogotá
- 2019** Chair, "Systems Thinking & Sustainable Design" [The Day After Cumulus Conference](#), in Uniandes, Nov. 1, Bogotá
- 2019** Panelist, "Moda ética y sostenible" for [XII Congreso Internacional de Medio Ambiente](#), Oct. 21 - 22, Bogotá
- 2019** Panelist, "[Moda 360: El reto de las buenas prácticas](#)" for *Feria IFLS+ EICI, Acicam*, Feb. 3, Bogotá
- 2015** Panelist, "[La revolución está en los detalles](#)" for *La moda a debate, Cámara de Comercio*, July 25, Bogotá
- 2015** Panelist, "[Como crear un negocio de moda bajo la economía circular](#)" for *La moda a debate*, July 25, Bogotá

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2019 – Present** [E.biodye](#), Synthetic Biology *E coli* microbial pigment for the fashion industry, Uniandes
- 2019 – Present** [NanoFreeze](#), natural refrigeration based on a bionanocompound protein, Uniandes
- 2019 – 2021** Use of Biodesign in Sustainable Production Processes for the Fashion Industry, Uniandes
- 2019 – 2020** Biodesigned fungi regenerative makeup, Biodesign Challenge, Uniandes
- 2019 – 2020** "Manifiesto 4: A Call Towards Circular Fashion", a project for upcycling and reconstructing discarded Colombian National Police uniforms into luxury fashion, Uniandes
- 2019 – 2020** SauColors biological color derived from Sauco berries (*Sambucus ebulus*), as an alternative to synthetic indigo dyeing, Biodesign Challenge, Uniandes
- 2018 – Present** Woocoa Animal-Free Wool project, created a vegan textile from hemp fibers and mushroom enzymes, Biodesign Challenge, Uniandes
- 2015 – 2016** Yanchama Fibers (*Brosimum Utile*) Flame Retardants Produced from Nanostructuring with Magnesium Hydroxide, Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano
- 2015 – 2016** Analyzing, processing, and developing a Nanostructured Amazonian fiber for the end use as a textile and Prêt-à-porter design, Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano
- 2015 – 2016** Production of Nanocrystals of TiO₂ Over Jute Fibers for Functional and Sustainable Fashion, Universidad Jorge Tadeo Lozano
- 2015 – 2016** Nanostructuring *Astrocaryum Chambira* for Degradation of Textile Dyes, U. Jorge Tadeo Lozano
- 2015 – 2016** Exploring Amazonian Nanostructured Fibers as Prêt-à-Porter Fabrics, U. Jorge Tadeo Lozano

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2022** Mentor Fashion Management graduate thesis Parsons School of Design: Sarah Stewart, Sustainable Packaging
- 2016 – 2021** Director/Advisor undergraduate student's research theses Universidad de los Andes
- 2021 Nicole Hakim, "Made in Bazurto"
 - 2020 Ana Bejarano, "La moda no incomoda"
 - 2020 Valentina Cardona, "Disrupción orgánica"
 - 2020 Daniel Cubillos, "Reflejos de moda: el cuerpo en el espacio reflejado"
 - 2020 Sulguí Vanessa No, "Un lenguaje material: 2 identidades culturales"
 - 2020 María Camacho, "Memorias de una casa viajera"
 - 2019 Natalia Medina, "Bosque Andino"
 - 2019 Juanita Camacho, "Esencia y espacio"
 - 2019 Natalia Arrubla, "Espacio en bruto: upcycling para joyería en desuso"
 - 2019 Daniela Granada, "Lift"
 - 2019 Daniela Amaya, "LATIFF"

- 2018 María Valentina Frías, “Memorabilia: ver y tocar se llama curiosear”
- 2018 María José Chaves, “Alteraciones del cuerpo e ideales de belleza”
- 2018 Paula Alejandra Castellanos, “Vestuario escénico: Leda y el Cisne”
- 2018 Ana Luisa del Carmen, “Lou”
- 2017 Andrés Joan García, “Trend(pedia)”
- 2017 Ma. Lucía Villamizar, “Galería ANC: Inmersión en A New Cross”
- 2017 María Paula Vargas, “La presencia de la ausencia”
- 2017 Carol Daniela Melo, “Ágape”
- 2016 Catalina Zabala, “Dulce interior”

2018 – 2021 Directed and coached Uniandes Biodesign Challenge student teams who won the PETA & Stella McCartney Animal-Free Wool Special Challenge Prize with Woocoa (2018), the Overall Winner with PseudoFreeze (2019) and MANA for the Future of Beauty Special Challenge Prize with Linneo (2020)

2014 – 2016 Program Coordinator, Fashion and Design Management, Arts and Design Faculty, U. Jorge Tadeo Lozano

DEPARTAMENTAL / UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2016 – 2021 UNIVERSIDAD DE LOS ANDES

Departmental Committee on Academics

Departmental Committee on Methods and Curriculum

Co-designed new fashion and textiles minor

Co-designed biodesign minor

2014 – 2016 UNIVERSIDAD JORGE TADEO LOZANO

Head department coordinator

Departmental Committee on Academic's curriculum development

Implemented a practice center for nanotechnology and natural endemic textile fibers

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2022 Biodesign Challenge judge, virtual summit

2019 Converse Sustainable Challenge Co-leader, Uniandes, Bogotá

2018 Project Resound Colombia: Saber del Monte – From Farmer to Kitchen, Co-leader for the community, participatory, service design rural intervention project at Montes de María – El Salado

2018 Circular Economy Workshop Participant, Invitation by the Swedish Embassy to Sweden as a sustainability fashion expert, Borås & Stockholm, Sweden

2017 Visiting Library Scholar at Harvard University (summer), Cambridge

2012 - 2013 Fashion Education Consultant, Designed sustainable fashion curriculum U. Jorge Tadeo Lozano

MEDIA COVERAGE

2022 Un Futuro Biodiseñando, Moda Consciente, Podcast Gencast, Colombia

2022 Lo Qué Haces Cuenta, Moda Consciente, Podcast National Geographic, Argentina

2022 Moda sostenible y Consciente, Interview, Revista Las Rosas, Argentina

2021 [Desplastificación de la moda](#), Podcast Be Clá, Colombia

2021 [Vestir un latido](#), Revista La Malpensante Moda, interview, Colombia

2021 [Manifiesto por un consumo consciente: moda circular](#), Revista Diners, Colombia

2021 [Manifiesto cuatro, el libro de moda para pensar en el medio ambiente](#), El Colombiano, Colombia

2021 [Manifiesto cuatro: una oda a la memoria](#), Revista Alternativa

2021 [La presentadora Claudia Bahamón, en modo ambientalista](#), La Opinión

2021 [El auge de los cursos y diplomados sobre la industria de la moda en Colombia](#), El Espectador

2020 [Moda sostenible en Colombia](#), Universidad Nacional Radio, Bogotá

2020 [Estudiantes de Diseño gana premio en el Biodesign Challenge](#), Uniandes, Bogotá

- 2019 [Biodesign Winners: Universidad de los Andes Making Ice In A Warming World](#), Forbes Magazine, USA
- 2019 [Building Centre: Bacteria proteins freeze water at 4° Celsius](#), Building Center website, United Kingdom
- 2019 [Estudiantes Uniandes ganaron el Biodesign Challenge 2019](#), Uniandes, Bogotá
- 2019 [Estudiantes Uniandes ganaron el “Biodesign Challenge 2019” en Nueva York](#), El Espectador, Bogotá
- 2019 [De uniformes de Policía a prendas a la moda](#), Axxis Magazine, Bogotá
- 2019 [Diseñadores de moda colombianos interviene uniformes de Policía](#), Fashion Radicals Blog, Bogotá
- 2019 [De uniformes de Policía piezas de diseño sostenible](#), Uniandes, Bogotá
- 2019 [Estudiantes convierten uniformes de Policía en vestidos de pasarela](#), BLU Radio in BLU JEANS, Bogotá
- 2018 [Circular Economy Fashion Show](#), Innovation & Creative Industries, Swedish Embassy, Bogotá
- 2018 [PETA & Stella McCartney BioDesign Challenge Winners Create Animal Free Wool](#) Forbes Magazine, USA
- 2018 [What Will It Take to Make Vegan Wool?](#) Smithsonian Magazine, USA
- 2018 [UPDATE: Game-Changing Wooooa Earns PETA's 2018 Animal-Free Wool Prize](#), peta.org, USA
- 2018 [Estudiantes ganan concurso internacional por crear lana vegana](#), El Espectador newspaper, Bogotá
- 2018 [Estudiantes crean lana vegana en un laboratorio](#), Noticias RCN live interview, Bogotá
- 2018 [Uniandinos reciben premio por creación de lana vegana](#), Uniandes, Bogotá
- 2014 [“5 Things Fashion Students Need to Know About Sustainability?”](#), The Guardian, UK
- 2014 [“Qué Recomendación”](#), Revista Caras, Bogotá
- 2014 [“Moda en la Tadeo”](#), El Espectador newspaper, Bogotá
- 2014 [“El cuidado del medio ambiente se pone de moda”](#), El Espectador newspaper, Bogotá
- 2006 Carolina Obregón handbag collection, July edition, Fuchsia Magazine, Bogotá
- 2006 Carolina Obregón handbag collection, June edition, Caras Magazine, Bogotá
- 2005 Carolina Obregón handbag collection, April edition, JetSet Magazine, Bogotá
- 2003 Carolina Obregón handbag collection, Style Smart, NYC
- 2000 Handbag finalist, GenArt Styles International Design Competition, NYC
- 1999 Carolina Obregón handbag, July edition, Glamour magazine, USA

GLOBAL FASHION INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- 2012 Assistant Sustainable Designer, Anniina Nurmi, Helsinki
- 2010 Assistant Manager and Visual Merchandiser, Coach Inc., Los Angeles
- 2010 Assistant Designer and Manager, Alvin Valley Retail, Los Angeles
- 1999 – 2009 Designer/Founder, Obregón Accessories, New York City, Guadalajara, Fez, Bogotá
- 2002 – 2004 Sales Associate and Fashion Merchandiser, GianFranco Ferré, NYC
- 1998 – 2002 Market Research and Trend Specialist, Liverpool Department Stores, NYC
- 1997 – 1998 Assistant Designer, Helen Wang, NYC
- 1995 – 1997 Assistant Designer, Jill Stuart, NYC

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English/ Spanish - fully bilingual (oral/written native fluency in both languages)

OTHER

Dual citizenship United States / Colombia