



## **BIO**

Julia Felipe is an Associate Professor in the Department of Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine with an appointment that includes large animal clinical care and student/resident training in internal medicine at the Cornell University Hospital for Animals; teaching in the veterinary, graduate and undergraduate curricula; and a research program in the field of immunology. She received her veterinary degree from UNESP-Campus Botucatu, Brazil, and practiced as a field veterinarian in her native country before pursuing advanced training in the United States. She has a Master of Science degree from Kansas State University, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in immunology from Cornell University. She is board certified by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, and oversees a clinical immunology laboratory that offers immunologic testing for horses. The major thrust of her research and training has been developmental immunology and immunodeficiencies. Her laboratory studies common variable immunodeficiency (CVID) in horses, a non-familial, late-onset condition that leads to a halt in the production of B cells in the bone marrow and, consequently, impaired antibody production. This condition is the most clinically relevant immunodeficiency in human patients, and the horse species is the only naturally-affected model of study to date. Her research group described that B cell-commitment transcription factors, and downstream target gene expressions were downregulated in affected equine patients, and aberrant epigenetic mechanisms were associated with gene silencing, with the resulting halt in B cell production. Her current research efforts pursue the *in vitro* modification of the epigenetic aberrations in hematopoietic stem cells and lineage precursors for autologous transplantation to patients.

## **STATEMENT**

Julia Felipe has been a Cornell faculty since 2002, and served in several academic roles, including faculty and leadership search committees; task force, planning and executive committees; graduate program executive committees; the Expanding Horizons program (training opportunities for DVM students in developing countries); as a mentor in the Sloan & Colman diversity fellowship program; University Public Engagement Council; University Working Group on Public and Global Activities; Tenure Appeals committee; as a SUNY Faculty Senator (alternate); and a previous appointment as the Director of the Veterinary Curriculum. These opportunities allowed her to work with faculty, student and staff at many different levels, identify needs and develop policies, support new programs and professional development, engage teaching and learning with communities, and represent and promote diversity in the academic environment for collective goals. As a member of the Nominations and Elections Committee, she would continue to encourage and ensure faculty awareness, participation, influence, and ethnic and gender representation for decision-making of University proposals and initiatives.