

# Melina Pérez Torres

melina.perez2@upr.edu

## Personal Statement

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What interests me more about biology is to understand the genetic, behavior and neuroscience fields to further on apply it to my research and expand my skills and knowledge. After completing my bachelors' degree I aspire to continue Ph.D. studies in the field of genetics hoping to work with inflammatory response that causes allergies.

## Education

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- 2013-Present: University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
- 2019: Bachelor's Degree in Biology: Molecular Focus (expected)

## Research Experience

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- 2015-Present: UPRRP, Circadian Rhythm of Sleep in *Drosophila melanogaster* (mentors: Dr. Alfredo Ghezzi & Dr. José Agosto)
- 2017 (summer): National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA), France, Honey Bee Behavior, Reward and Decision Making in Honey Bees (mentors: Dr. Tugrul Giray & Dr. Yves LeConte)
- 2016 (summer): Namik Kemal Universitesi, Turkey, Honey Bee Behavior, Protein Diet and Circadian Rhythm in Honey Bees (mentors: Dr. José Agosto & Dr. Devrim Oskay)

## Presentations

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- 2017 (January): "The Role of a Protein Diet on the Survival and Ontogeny of Circadian Rhythm in *Apis mellifera*" Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB), NO, Louisiana.
  - 2016 (December): "Regulation of Sleep Homeostasis by the Translational Repressor Pumilio in *Drosophila melanogaster*" Puerto Rico Neuroscience Conference, SJ, Puerto Rico
  - 2016 (November): "Regulation of Sleep Homeostasis by the Translational Repressor Pumilio in *Drosophila melanogaster*" Molecular and Cellular Cognition Society (MCCS), SD, California.
  - 2016 (July): "The Role of a Protein Diet on the Survival and Ontogeny of Circadian Rhythm in *Apis mellifera*" University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma.
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