

Biographical Sketch

Andrea Sánchez Peña

Current Status

Undergraduate
Department of Biology, UPR-Río Piedras

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Education

2013-2018 BS Biology

Current Research Interests: My research focuses on studying the beneficial interaction between the Hawaiian bobtail squid, *Euprymna scolopes*, and the bioluminescent marine bacterium, *Vibrio fischeri*. Since *V. fischeri* is the only microorganism that can successfully colonize the squid's light organ, we want to understand the molecular mechanisms behind *V. fischeri* adaptation and colonization of the host's light organ.

Research Experience

2015-present University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Undergraduate
Researcher (mentor, Dr. Zomary Flores-Cruz)
2017 (summer) University of Iowa, REU student (mentor, Dr. Wilmara Salgado-
Pabón)

Honors

2015-2017 Puerto Rico Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation
Fellowship

Presentations at Local Meetings

Sánchez-Peña, A., Torres-Pérez, W.X., Flores-Cruz, Z. *ahpC* expression in *Vibrio fischeri*. 36th Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting and the 51th Junior Technical Meeting, Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico, Ponce, March 2016.

Sánchez-Peña, A., Torres-Pérez, W.X., Flores-Cruz, Z. *ahpC* expression in *Vibrio fischeri*. IX Frontiers in Environmental Microbiology Symposium, University of Turabo, Gurabo, March 2016.

Sánchez-Peña, A., Mestres-Villanueva, M.A., Flores-Cruz, Z. *ahpC* expression in *Vibrio fischeri* mutant backgrounds, Bayamón Regional Hospital, Bayamón, April 2016.

Sánchez-Peña, A., Mestres-Villanueva, M.A., Flores-Cruz, Z. *ahpC* expression in *Vibrio fischeri* mutant backgrounds, 5th Student Research Symposium of the Puerto Rico

Society of Microbiologists, Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico, Ponce, October 2016.

Presentations at National Meetings

Sánchez-Peña, A., Mestres-Villanueva, M.A., Flores-Cruz, Z. *ahpC* expression in *Vibrio fischeri* mutant backgrounds, ASM Microbe 2016, Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, Boston, MA, June 2016.

Sánchez-Peña, A., Mestres-Villanueva, M.A., Flores-Cruz, Z. *ahpC* expression in *Vibrio fischeri* mutant backgrounds, ABRCMS 2016, Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, FL, November 2016.

Sánchez-Peña, A., Berríos-Reyes, P.A., Flores-Cruz, Z. *ahpC* expression in OxyR mutant backgrounds of *Vibrio fischeri*, ASM Microbe 2017, Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans, LA, June 2017.