

# *Luisa M. Méndez Román*

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## **Current Status**

Undergraduate student

Dept. of Chemistry, UPR-Río Piedras

## **Education**

2017-present Chemistry, UPR-Río Piedras

2016 - 2017 Croem High School, Mayagüez PR.

**Current Research Interest:** My research interest is focused on characterizing the impact of non-synonymous mutations in the transcription factor GATA4 and its interactions with DNA. My fields of interest are molecular biology and neuroscience, imparting special attention on molecular and chemical processes that occur on the human body and that are involved in gene mutations.

## **Research Experience**

2018 – present UPR-Río Piedras, Research Fellow (mentor, Dr. José Rodríguez)

2017 – 2018 UPR-Río Piedras, Research Fellow (mentor, Dr. Orestes Quesada)

## **Honors**

2018 Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Fellowship

2018 American Chemical Society, Chapter Río Piedras

- 2017 Association for Women Geoscientist, Award for Geoscience Excellence
- 2017 NOAA, Taking the Pulse of the Planet Award
- 2017 American Meteorological Society, Certificate of Outstanding Achievement
- 2016 Winter 2016 Pre-College Research Symposium, Certificate of Recognition