

## Biographical sketch

### **Edgardo Santiago-Rivera**

Current status: PhD candidate  
Dept. of Biology, UPR-Rio Piedras

**E-mail:** [edgardo.santiago5@upr.edu](mailto:edgardo.santiago5@upr.edu)



### **Education**

2010-2015 B.S. Biology  
2015- Phd student at University of Puerto Rico  
2021 Phd Expected

**Current Research Interest:** I am interested in understanding how genes are involved into cell differentiation. Currently, I work with with the *wntA* gene signaling pathway involved in the melanin expression and pattern on Heliconius Butterflies. I use gene editing approach (CRISPR-Cas) and gene expression profiles (RNA seq) to test gene functionality and gene regulation.

### **Research Experience:**

2017-2019 Smithsonian STRI-fellow, Dr. Owen McMillan and Dr. Riccardo Papa  
2017 El Verde -University of Arizona, Field assistant, Dr. Vanessa Buzzard  
**2014** El Verde Field Station, Field researcher, Dr. James Ackerman.  
**2013** Columbia University of New York, Research Assistant. Dr. María Uriarte.  
**2013** University of Puerto Rico -Río Piedras Research assistant. Dr. García Arrarás.  
**2012** Soil Chemistry Department, Laboratory assistant, Dr. Julia Ohallarans.  
2011 University of Puerto Rico, Field assistant, Dr. Sloan

### **Other research activities:**

2018 ATAC-seq workshop, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Gamboa, Panama  
2019 Powershell bioinformatic workshop, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute  
2019 R programming workshop, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

### **Fellowship Awards:**

Ecological Society of America  
PR-LSAMP

### **Teaching Experience**

**2015-2016** General Biology I & II  
**2016-2017** Laboratory of Botany

### **Presentations at International Meeting:**

Concha, Carolina, Edgardo Santiago, Riccardo Papa and Owen McMillan, The role of *wntA* signaling molecule in the melanin pattern on Heliconius wing scales, October 2018, Barro Colorado, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama.

Santiago-Rivera, Edgardo, Riccardo Papa, Carolina Concha, Owen McMillan. Dissecting the downstream genes regulated by *wntA* signaling pathway involved in the melanin pattern expression (2019), Tupper, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Ancon, Panama.