

# ALEXANDRA ORTIZ ROSA

## Current Status

PhD Student  
Department of Biology, UPR-Rio Piedras

Email: alexandra.ortiz9@upr.edu

## Education

|         |                             |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| Present | PhD Biology                 |
| 2017    | MSc Molecular Biotechnology |
| 2014    | BS General Biology          |

**Current Research Interests:** My research focuses on assessing efficacy of a Zika virus vaccine candidate and its potential to limit viral dissemination into immune privileged tissue focusing on the nervous system, as well as, male and female reproductive tract.

## Research Experience

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2019 | Graduate Researcher, UPR Medical Sciences Campus (Mentor, Dr. Carlos Sariol)       |
| 2018 | Graduate Researcher, Institute of Neurobiology (mentor, Dr. Manuel Diaz Rios)      |
| 2016 | Research Assistant, UPR Medical Sciences Campus (Mentor, Dr. Carlos Sariol)        |
| 2014 | Research Assistant, Interamerican University of PR (Mentor, Dr. Timothy Hendricks) |
| 2013 | Research Assistant, Universidad Central del Caribe (Mentor, Dra. Wanda Vélez)      |

## Other Research Activities

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2019 | Neurobiology: Mechanisms and Advanced Approaches |
| 2018 | Leadership Alliance Career Development Workshop  |
| 2015 | Neurons in Action Workshop                       |
| 2013 | Molecular Biology Summer Academy                 |

## Honors

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|------|--|
| 2020 | Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) Fellowship   |
| 2019 | International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) Graduate Fellowship<br>Emerging Researchers National (ERN) Conference Scholarship |
| 2018 | Puerto Rico Center for Environmental Neuroscience (PRCEN) Fellowship   |

## Presentations at Local Meetings

Localization of GABA-like and Fulicin-like immunoreactivity in the central nervous system of *Dolabrifera dolabrifera*. Poster presentation. Puerto Rico Neuroscience Conference, Ponce School of Medicine, Ponce, PR (December 1, 2019)  
Poster presentation. 6th PRCEN Retreat and Assessment Activity, Hotel El Convento, Old San Juan, PR (November 27-28, 2018)

Alternative splicing of the WT1 gene dl6 interneurons in the developing spinal cord.  
Poster presentation. 24th Annual Puerto Rico Neuroscience Meeting, University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, PR

Poster presentation. 4th Puerto Rico Cell Signaling Meeting, Universidad Central del Caribe, Bayamón, PR

### **Presentations at National Meetings**

Localization of GABA-like and Fulicin-like immunoreactivity in the central nervous system of *Dolabrifera dolabrifera*. Oral Presentation. ERN Conference, Marriott Washington Wardman Park Hotel, Washington DC (February 21-23, 2019)

### **Publications**

Pérez-Guzmán, E., Pantoja, P., Serrano-Collazo, C., Hassert, M., Ortiz-Rosa, A., Rodríguez, I., Giavedoni, L., Hodara, V., Parodi, L., Cruz, L., Arana, T., White, L., Martínez, M., Weiskopf, D., Brien, J., Silva, A., Pinto, A., Sariol, C. (2019). Time elapsed between Zika and dengue virus infections affects antibody and T cell responses. *Nature Communications* 10(1), 4316. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-12295-2>