

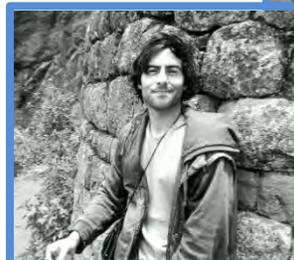
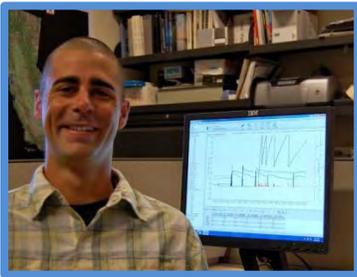


United States
Department of
Agriculture

National Institute
of Food and
Agriculture

Hispanic-Serving Institutions Collaboration Yearbook

Spring 2013



The Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program Collaboration Projects 2013 Yearbook

The Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) Education Grants Program, administered by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and authorized by section 815 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform (FAIR) Act of 1996 (7 USC 3241), is a competitive grants program designed to promote and strengthen the ability of HSI carry out education programs that attract, retain, and graduate outstanding students capable of enhancing the Nation's food and agricultural scientific and professional work force. Projects may involve individual institutions or collaboration initiatives between two or more HSIs or with other colleges and universities, units of government, or the private sector.

The 2013 Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program Collaboration 2013 Yearbook showcases the students participating in seven collaboration projects from twenty-seven institutions. Eighty-three percent of the students were Hispanic and fifty-five percent were female. Regarding their grades, about eight percent reported a perfect 4.0, nearly 40 percent (39.9 percent) of the students indicated a GPA greater than 3.50 but less than 4.0. A similar proportion (38.8 percent) reported a GPA between 3.00 and 3.50. and about five percent (5.2 percent) entered a GPA below 2.51. Together, participant students speak 17 languages in addition to English.

These collaboration projects focus on:

- Increasing the number of underrepresented groups to reflect the nation's population demographics and to attain post-secondary and post graduate degrees in the food, agricultural, and natural resource sciences;
- Enhancing the quality of postsecondary instruction within these disciplines;
- Facilitating the skill and competency development of Hispanic students in order to be competitive for jobs in the food and agriculture sector and at the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other federal agencies;
- Providing opportunities and access to food and agricultural careers in the civil service; and;
- Aligning the efforts of HSIs and other non-profit organizations in support of the academic development and career attainment of underrepresented groups.

Contacts:

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National Program Leader
202-720-2082
ilawrence@nifa.usda.gov

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Program Specialist
202-720-8282
jlopez@nifa.usda.gov

Table of Contents

Florida International University Project Page.....	3
Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agriculture Education and Hispanic Workforce Development (FCCAgE)	3
Florida International University Graduate Students	4
Florida International University Under Graduate Students	5
Environmental Studies	5
Biology.....	10
Chemistry	26
Criminal Justice.....	28
New Mexico State University Project Page	29
The New Mexico/Puerto Rico Natural Resource Career Track (NRCT) Program.....	29
New Mexico State University Graduate Students	30
University of Puerto Rico Graduate Students.....	33
New Mexico State University Under Graduate Students	35
Texas A & M University – Kingsville Project Page.....	47
Science, Technology and Environmental Programs for Undergraduate Preparation (STEP UP) to USDA Career Success.	47
Texas A & M University – Kingsville Graduate Students	48
Texas A & M University – Kingsville Under Graduate Students	52
Texas State University Project Page	70
USDA FATE Grant Food Safety and Agroterrorism Training: Educating Our Future Workforce.....	70
Texas State University Graduate Students	71
Texas State University Under Graduate Students	72
Texas State University	72
Laredo Community College	84
Northwest Vista Community College	87
Palo Alto Community College	90
University of Puerto Rico Project Page	93
University of Puerto Rico Under Graduate Students.....	94
Center for Education and Training in Agriculture and Related Sciences (CETARS) Mayaguez Campus	106
University of Puerto Rico Under Graduate Students.....	106
University of Texas at El Paso Program Page.....	128
BGREEN - Building a Regional Energy and Educational Network: A Partnership to Integrate Efforts and Collaboration to Shape Tomorrow’s Hispanic Sustainable Energy Leaders.....	128
University of Texas at El Paso Graduate Students	129
University of Texas at El Paso	129
New Mexico State University	131

Texas State University	135
Texas A & M University - Kingsville	136
University of Texas El Paso Under Graduate Students	137
University of Texas at El Paso	137
New Mexico State University	138
Texas State University	142
Texas A & M University – Kingsville	144

California State University Project Page.....147

Watershed Management Experimental Learning for USDA Careers Internship Program..... 147

California State University Graduate Students.....	148
Biology.....	148
Coastal and Watershed Science and Policy.....	150
Ecology and Sustainability.....	157
Engineering	158
Environmental Science.....	158
Geographic Information Systems/Geography	159
Industrial Technology	160
Landscape Architecture and Conservation Zoology	161
California State University Under Graduate Students.....	161
Biology.....	161
Computer Science	165
Ecology	165
Engineering	166
Environmental Science.....	170
Geographic Information Systems/Geography	172
Geology	177
Health Science.....	180
Hydrogeology.....	181
Industrial Technology	182
Mathematics	182
Plant Science	183
Sociology	184

Florida International University Project Page

Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agriculture Education and Hispanic Workforce Development (FCCAgE)

Award: 2011-38422-30804

Miami, Florida:

Florida International University Miami-Dade College University of St. Thomas

San German, Puerto Rico

Inter-American University of Puerto Rico:

PI for Florida International University: Mahadev Bhat bhatm@fiu.edu 305-348-0186

PI for Miami Dade College: Loretta Adoghe ladoghe@mdc.edu 305-237-1691

PI for University of St. Thomas: Pilar Maul pmaul@stu.edu 305-628-6603

PI for Inter-American U of PR: Arlin Toro arlintoro@yahoo.com 787-470-5873

The Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agriculture Education & Hispanic Workforce Development (FCCAgE) is a multi-institutional consortium funded by the USDA Hispanic Serving Institutions Grants Program. The Agroecology Program at Florida International University (FIU) works with Miami-Dade College-North, St. Thomas University, and Universidad Interamericana de Puerto Rico, San German, Puerto Rico. The goal of the program is to provide students with a holistic, multidisciplinary, and problem-based approach necessary for tackling tomorrow's agro-ecological challenges. The FCCAgE is a program that recruits and trains Hispanic students from communities under-represented in agriculture sciences and natural resource management. It offers training in the agriculture and natural resources sciences, through coursework, such as an 18-credit hour Agroecology Certificate Program, travel and research, Agroecology related and professional development workshops, summer internships, field tours, and job placement assistance. Students receive up to \$24,000 in funding throughout their scholarship term to support for time spent in experiential and experimental based learning.

Majors: Environmental Studies Biology Chemistry Criminal Justice

Florida International University Graduate Students
**Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agriculture Education and Hispanic Workforce
Development (FCCAgE)**

NAME: *Jonathan Javier Otero Ramos*
INSTITUTION: Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, San German Campus
MAJOR: Environmental Sciences: Environmental Biology
RANK: Second Year Master Degree
HOMETOWN: San German, Puerto Rico
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: December 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS, FNS, FSIS, NIFA
EMAIL ADDRESS: jonathan.otero.ramos@gmail.com



DEGREE: Environmental Sciences: Environmental Biology

SKILLS: -Excellent computer skills -Bilingual: Spanish and English -Abilities in different microbiological techniques: -Environmental sampling -Membrane filtration -Aseptic techniques -Analytical Profile Index -Bacterial staining -Disk diffusion test -Media Preparation - Knowledge in the use of autoclave, incubators and microscopes.

NAME: *Miles Medina*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: M.S. Environmental Studies (Concentration in Agroecology)
RANK: 2nd year graduate student
HOMETOWN: Miami, FL
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: mmedi066@fiu.edu
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Dec 2012
DEGREE: M.S. Environmental Studies (concentration in agroecology)



RESEARCH: My research topic is aquaponics.

SKILLS: Logical and analytical skills Excellent attention and concentration skills Good methodological and research skills Bilingual: English and Spanish (fluent) Organic gardening management Leadership and student management

Florida International University Under Graduate Students
**Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agriculture Education and Hispanic Workforce
Development (FCCAgE)**
Environmental Studies

NAME: *Cristina Urbina*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University (FIU)
MAJOR: Environmental Studies
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: Miami Beach, FL
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Fall 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS, APHIS,
NRCS, NIFA
EMAIL ADDRESS: aurbi014@fiu.edu, ac.urbina10@gmail.com
DEGREE: Bachelors in Art



SKILLS SET: Use lab equipment, Plant identification, Data entry, Experience in Collecting, harvesting, and labeling plant material samples on preparation for experimental analysis, Proficient with scientific data entry, strong documentation and communication skills. Bilingual.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Tropical fruits

NAME: *Adisbelkis Alvarez*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Environmental Studies (BS)
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
NRCS
EMAIL ADDRESS: Aalva082@fiu.edu
DEGREE: Bachelors in Environmental Studies
(BS)



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
Agricultural Engineer

SKILLS SET: -Proficient in Microsoft Office -Fluent in Spanish, English, Some Italian -Can work well under pressure and work well in a team setting -Self-directed, Organized, Punctual - Good writing and photographer skills

RESEARCH TOPIC: Biogas

NAME: *Arturo Castellon*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Environmental Studies
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: December 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
USFS ARS and APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: acast099@fiu.edu
DEGREE: Environmental Studies (BA) and Agroecology certificate

SKILLS SET: Fluent in English and Spanish -
Proficient in Microsoft Word Office -Familiar
laboratory safety and equipment

RESEARCH TOPIC: Plant diseases (plant parasitic nematodes and fungi).



NAME: *Luis Garbinski*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Environmental Studies B.S.
RANK: Student
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Fall 2016
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
ARS NCRS NIFA
EMAIL ADDRESS: lgarb004@fiu.edu
DEGREE: High School Diploma

SKILLS SET: Proficiency with Microsoft Office,
Fluency speaking/writing English and Spanish,
Efficient team member.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Currently assisting a graduate student with his aquaculture research.

Willing to sample different areas of the field of labor and gain knowledge and hands-on experience, currently work at the FIU organic garden weekly managing a set of sustainable, organic garden beds.



NAME: *Jose Martinez*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Environmental Studies (BS)
RANK: Freshman
HOMETOWN: Hialeah
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: 2017
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: NRCS, ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: jmart589@fiu.edu
DEGREE: Bachelors in Environmental Studies (BS)



SKILLS SET: -Bilingual (Spanish and English) (My written Spanish isn't fluent) -Proficient in Microsoft Word and PowerPoint -Have leadership skills and experience working under pressure from being sentinel, vice president and captain of the vegetable team in FFA (Future Farmers of America) at John A. Ferguson Sr. High. -FNGLA Certified Horticulture Professional (FCHP) -Commitment -Friendly -Patient -Cooperative -Organized -Honest -Helpful

RESEARCH TOPIC: Which light treatment (sunlight) works best for coconut and Alexander Palms.

NAME: *Luke Thema*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Environmental Studies (BS)
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: Nokomis, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Spring 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
USFS
EMAIL ADDRESS: lthem001@fiu.edu
DEGREE: Bachelors in Environmental Studies (BS)



SKILLS SET: Leadership, hard work, devotion and education.

RESEARCH TOPIC: My research set out to obfuscate the many benefits of using WVO, with the long-term goal of implementing campus made biodiesel at Florida International University. Although implementation is key to sustainability, my research did not stop at production. I started to research the effects of methanol on free fatty acids (FFAs) during an acid esterification, due to the ability of FFAs to hinder biodiesel yield. This research conducted and was presented at the 2013 National Biodiesel Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

NAME: *Rosario Vidales*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Environmental Studies
RANK: Freshman
HOMETOWN: Homestead, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Spring 2015
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: NRCS,
USFS
EMAIL ADDRESS: rvida018@fiu.edu
DEGREE: B.S. in progress

SKILLS SET: Speak, read and write English and Spanish; Microsoft office programs: proficient in Word, Excel, and PowerPoint; Helicon Focus photo compilation software, high magnification work with SMZ1500 Stereomicroscope and Eclipse 80i Phasemicroscope.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Effect of orchid bee naturalization to South Florida Orchid Growers.



NAME: *Melanie Marcela Vasquez*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies
HOMETOWN: Miami, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Spring 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: Wildlife Services, USFA
EMAIL ADDRESS: Mvasq031@fiu.edu
DEGREE: Bachelor of Science

CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: My aspirations are to be able to conduct fieldwork research, get my hands dirty.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Worm composting methods on spinach health and development.



NAME: *Eliana Cordoba*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Environmental Studies International Relations
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Fall 2014.
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
Foreign Agricultural Service
EMAIL ADDRESS: ecord016@fiu.edu

SKILLS SET: Research, work experience, entomology, ecosystem management, scientific writing.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Aquaponics/fisheries. Water projects/Aquaponics: fish and plant production. Environmental education/ Commodities/International commodities. Poverty eradication: articulation of education and development of those in deep need. USDA internship summer 2012.

History degree from Colombia. Anthropology studies (Colombia). Scuba diving certification. Photography/Film/Documentaries. Sports.



NAME: *Ricky Valido*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College North Campus
MAJOR: Environmental Science
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Hialeah, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: 2016
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: Fort Lauderdale Florida, Invasive Plant Research Laboratory
EMAIL ADDRESS: Ricky.Valido001@mymdc.net
DEGREE: Biology

SKILLS SET: Analyzing feeding behavior of host insects, using laboratory equipment (Microscopes, Microsoft Word) Field data collection, lab data collection.

RESEARCH TOPIC: The feeding behavior of the beetle *Lilioceris cheni* on the invasive plant *Dioscorea bulbifera*.



Florida International University
**Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agriculture Education and Hispanic Workforce
Development (FCCAgE)**

Biology

NAME: *Daniella Vargas*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Biology **RANK:**
Junior
HOMETOWN: Flushing, NY
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Spring 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: USFS, NRCS,
ARS, APHIS, CNPP, FSA,
EMAIL ADDRESS: dvarg022@fiu.edu
DEGREE: Bachelors of Science in biology with certificate in
agroecology.



SKILLS SET: Fluent in Spanish and English, trained and certified in laboratory safety, CPR, as well as certified as a wildland type 2 firefighter. Also able to communicate well with others, work well in teams, and be active team leader.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Agricultural pest management, and Resource conservation.

I'm Colombian-American, and I was raised in Queens, New York. I attend Florida International University (FIU) from where I will be graduating with a BS in biology and a certificate in agroecology.

NAME: *Moise Louis*
INSTITUTION: Miami-Dade College
MAJOR: Biological Science with Biotechnology concentration
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
EMAIL ADDRESS: moise.louis002@mymdc.net
DEGREE: Associate in Science (Biology)



SKILLS SET: Microsoft Excel, Power Point, Access, Outlook,
Type 30-40wpm, Licensed Electrician

RESEARCH TOPIC: Herbal Pro-Cancer Plants

NAME: *Jessica Moreno*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College
MAJOR: Biological Sciences- Biotechnology
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Fall 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS IPRL
EMAIL ADDRESS:
Jessica.moreno004@mymdc.net/jessicamoreno27@aol.com
DEGREE: B.S. Biological Sciences



SKILLS SET: -Experience working in laboratory setting. -Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. -Digital macrophotography (Helicon focus). -Equipment and tools handling such as nanometer, centrifuge, micropipettes, and thermal cycler.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Metagenomic Analysis of Rhizosphere

NAME: *Genevy Lima*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College
MAJOR: Biological Science
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Miami, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: August 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
APHIS ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: genevylima24@hotmail.com
DEGREE: Bachelor in Science



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
Veterinary Medicine and Research of cancer cells, stem cells, neuroscience and musculoskeletal system.

SKILLS SET: -Verbal and written communication skills
-Professional personal presentation -Organizing and planning -Reliable -Fast learner -Multi-tasker -Leadership -Knowledge of basic laboratory methods, techniques and procedures -Bilingual -Equipment handling -Knowledgeable on Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel

RESEARCH TOPIC: Microbiology

NAME: *Diana Valentina Rivadeneira*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College (North Campus)
MAJOR: Biology
RANK: Sophomore **HOMETOWN:**
Guayaquil, Ecuador **EXPECTED**
GRADUATION DATE: May 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: CNPP
EMAIL ADDRESS: valerivag@hotmail.com
DEGREE: A.A.



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
Conduct scientific research, preferably in the immunology field.

SKILLS SET: Bilingual, proficient in Microsoft Word, Laboratory equipment handling and safety.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Rhizoplane Isolation

NAME: *Claudia Isabel Gonzalez*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College North Campus
MAJOR: Biopharmaceutical Sciences
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: La Habana, Cuba
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: July, 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
ARS APHIS NRCS
EMAIL ADDRESS:
Claudia.gonzalez024@mymdc.net
DEGREE: Bachelors of Science



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
Biological Researcher with a focus in wildlife conservation and agricultural genetics.

SKILLS SET: Well skilled in biological lab and chemical lab procedures. Proficient in Spanish. Proficient in Microsoft Office applications.

RESEARCH TOPICS: 1. Water Analysis 2. Tomato Growth

I love the scientific as well as the artistic parts of working in a lab and the field, discovering new ideas and helpful resources. Photography is one of my hobbies as well as painting and singing. I enjoy being in the garden in our school and working to make it more beautiful and to hopefully start a new farmer's market with our produce.

NAME: *Aixa Guadarrama*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College
MAJOR: Biotechnology – Pharmaceutical Research
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: Hialeah, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: 05/04/2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: aixaguadarrama@yahoo.com
DEGREE: Bachelors of Science in Biological Sciences



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Pharmaceutical Cancer Research

SKILLS SET: Proficient in using Microsoft Office, excellent Communication Skills, strong research skills, good oral/written communication skills in English and Spanish.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Cancer & Obesity

I love the arts. Attending musicals or art galleries are my absolute favorite. I enjoy nature and naturist activities such as gardening. I especially enjoy outdoor activities like kayaking and swimming.

NAME: *Patricia Gonzalez-Abreu*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College
MAJOR: Biology
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Fall 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: patty305sw@yahoo.es
DEGREE: Bachelor in Biology Science



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: My career and research aspiration are becoming a pharmacist and do research cardiovascular diseases related to obesity.

SKILLS SET: -Microsoft Office Suite. -Microsoft Windows, Vista, W7. -Excellent Communication Skills. - Strong Research Skills. -Experienced in Planning/Coordinating Activities. -Critical Thinker. - Problem Solving. -Attention to Detail. -Extremely Organized. -Good oral/written communication skills in English and Spanish.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Rhizoplane Isolation

NAME: *Paul Zuniga*
INSTITUTION: MIAMI-DADE COLLEGE
MAJOR: Bachelor's of Science in Biological Science –
Biotechnology Track. **RANK:** Junior (Pre-
admitted in Bachelor's Program)
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: FALL - 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
and APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: paul.zuniga001@mymdc.net
DEGREE: General Transcript A.A. Degree



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Work in a molecular biology laboratory.

SKILLS SET: -Knowledge of DNA isolation and PCR-Sequencing. -Able to use Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. - Fluent in both English and Spanish.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Koi fish behavior: Why are they found on only one corner of the lake at Miami Dade College?

For leisure, I like listening to music, trying to detect what each instrument is doing.

NAME: *Philip Joshua Mercado*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College
MAJOR: Biotechnology
RANK: Junior **HOMETOWN:** Miami,
Florida **EXPECTED GRADUATION
DATE:** 2015
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
Center for Nutrition Policy and
Promotion
EMAIL ADDRESS:
Philip.Mercado001@mymdc.net
DEGREE: BS in Biotechnology



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
Cancer Epidemiology.

SKILLS SET: Experience using the inductively coupled
plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP- OES)/(MS).
Proficient in using Microsoft Office and Logger Pro.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Extracting heavy metals in fruit juices using chelators.

NAME: *Rose Losekar Lorna Jean-Mary*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College (North Campus)
MAJOR: BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES-BIOPHARMACEUTICAL
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Miami, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: 04/2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: rose.jean-mary001@mymdc.net
DEGREE: Bachelor of Science



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: My career and research aspirations are to develop and apply analytical and decision-making techniques that are required in a science career. Focus on long-term skills development to boost my research and career options. One of the most important things for me is applying my knowledge and skills. I feel really confident in the subject and research I have been studying since my freshman year in college.

SKILLS SET: Strong interpersonal and communication skills, possess good negotiating and decision making skills, self-confident and able to work with the team, flexible and able to adapt positively to changing circumstances and challenges, and Good Leadership qualities.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Chelating Heavy Metals from Juices.

NAME: *Solomon Mpalanyi*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College
MAJOR: Biopharmaceutical Sciences
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Miami Gardens
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: 04/31/2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: solomon.mpalanyi001@mymdc.net
DEGREE: Biological Sciences



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Nuclear Pharmaceutical and Aids Drug research.

SKILLS SET: Bio Informatics knowledge and Nuclear Medicine Technologist as well as Computer knowledge.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Aids drug resistance.

NAME: *Stephanie Diaz*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College North
**Biological Sciences with concentration on
Biopharmaceutical Sciences**
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
NRCS
EMAIL ADDRESS: stephydiaz@aol.com
DEGREE: Bachelor's of Science in Biological
Sciences

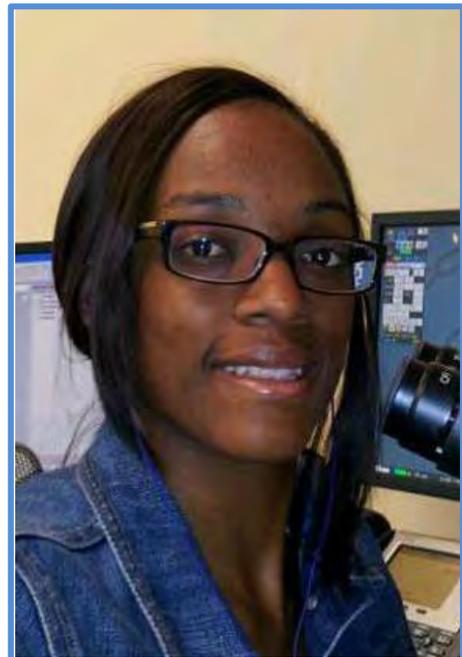


CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
Conduct research on wildlife conservation, eventually
immersing myself in the media industry
(documentaries) in order to further relay the results of my research to non-science persons.

SKILLS SET: Bilingual, proficient in Microsoft word, excel, leadership, Raven Voice Analysis
software, some experience with Sony Vegas Video Editing Software.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Effect of Soil Medium on Growth of Roma Tomatoes.

NAME: *Traniece Yvette Fullwood*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College
MAJOR: Biotechnology
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: Miami, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: July 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: traniecefullwood@gmail.com
DEGREE: Biotechnology



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: My
aspirations are to conduct research in developmental
Biology.

SKILLS SET: Microsoft Suite, Laboratory safety and
Biotechnology equipment.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Developmental Biology.

NAME: *Yaneisy Rodriguez*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College North Campus
MAJOR: Biology
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Miami
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Fall 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: FNS
EMAIL ADDRESS: yaneisycuba@gmail.com
DEGREE: Bachelors of Science in Biological Sciences

CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: I would like to become a pharmacist. My research aspiration is to study more about cancer and ways to prevent it through nutrition.

SKILLS SET: Good skills with computers.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Cancer and plants.

My hobbies are to dance, watch TV shows and movies. I speak three languages Portuguese, Spanish and English. My interests are to become a pharmacist and to learn some new languages.



NAME: *Jeny Misdraji*
INSTITUTION: St. Thomas University
MAJOR: Biology/Psychology minor in Chemistry
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: El Progreso, Honduras
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: jmisdraji@stu.edu
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2014
DEGREE: B.S. in Biology/Psychology

CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Attend graduate school. As of now, learn more research techniques and this summer do a research related internship.

SKILLS SET: I thrive in team work oriented projects, as well as deadline driven work. I am proficient in many laboratory techniques such as PCR, gel electrophoresis, western blotting, immunostaining, and transfection.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Biochemical research in the anticarcinogenic properties of endemic Florida plants.



NAME: *Garrick Amedee*
INSTITUTION: St. Thomas University
MAJOR: Biology
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: Miami, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: December 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: gamedee@stu.edu
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: December 2013
DEGREE: B.S Biology Specialization Research



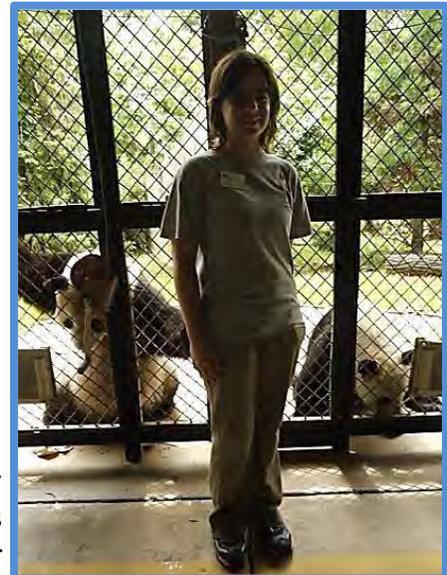
CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Behavior analysis.

SKILLS SET: Research and Forest Technician intern.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Entomology

I am pursuing the career to study the behavioral response to a wildlife organism, to observe the characteristics in a natural habitat versus a closed environment. As a child, I highly collected animal facts sent through the mail, and enjoy each new issue to be kept organized and in great condition. I enjoy outdoor activity, and will continue the study of different martial arts once my educational career comes to an end.

NAME: *Karen Vergara* **INSTITUTION:** Saint Thomas University
MAJOR: Biology, Pre-Veterinarian Studies
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Miami, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: kvergara@stu.edu



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Veterinary Science

I like to read about new animals, or discover new information on well-known animals. I'm creative; I always try to find a way to improve the efficiency of objects, or work related tasks. I consider myself to be very work oriented, since I always strive to meet and exceed the standards.

NAME: *Karenyn Herdocia*
INSTITUTION: St. Thomas University
MAJOR: Biology
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Miami, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: kherdocia@stu.edu
DEGREE: Biology B.A



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
Microbiologist and to work for the CDC.

SKILLS SET: Bilingual, computer literate (Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, and Outlook), responsible, self oriented, dedicated.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Testing *Careavaripes* and *Neostauropusalternus* as biological control agents for the Florida invasive plant species *Rhodomyrtus tomentosa* and Analyzing the Carbon and Nitrogen levels in *Schinus terebinthifolius* leaves after senescence.

NAME: *Luisa Maria De Souza*
INSTITUTION: St. Thomas University
MAJOR: Biology and Chemistry
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: Hialeah, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE:
May 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: ldesouza@stu.edu
DEGREE: B.S.S in Biology & B.S in Chemistry



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Aspire to obtain a career on chemistry, genetics, or molecular biology.

SKILLS SET: Computer proficiency • Bilingual speaker: Spanish and English • Leadership • Public Speaking • Laboratory skills in Microscopy, Plant Tissue Culture, Staining techniques: ±Gram, Acid Fast, Simple • Use of scientific instruments, such as autoclave, pH meter and flow Cytometer.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Molecular biology, chemistry, and genetics.

NAME: *Siffredi Ramos*
INSTITUTION: Saint Thomas University
MAJOR: Bachelor's of Science in Biology and Minor in Chemistry
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: Hialeah, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: sramos@stu.edu
DEGREE: B.S. in Biology

SKILLS SET: Bilingual, Gel electrophoresis, Micropipetting, PCR, DNA extraction, NCBI.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Searching for homologous genes in aphid species.



NAME: *Melanio Bruceta*
INSTITUTION: Saint Thomas University
MAJOR: Biology
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: Hialeah Gardens, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2013
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: mbruceta@stu.edu
DEGREE: Biology and Minor in Chemistry

CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Work for the USDA as a Chemist

SKILLS SET: DNA extraction, PCR, Gel electrophoresis, DNA sequencing, gene editing, Gram positive and gram negative staining, acid fast staining, Microscopy, and Western Blotting.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Chemistry, Biochemistry



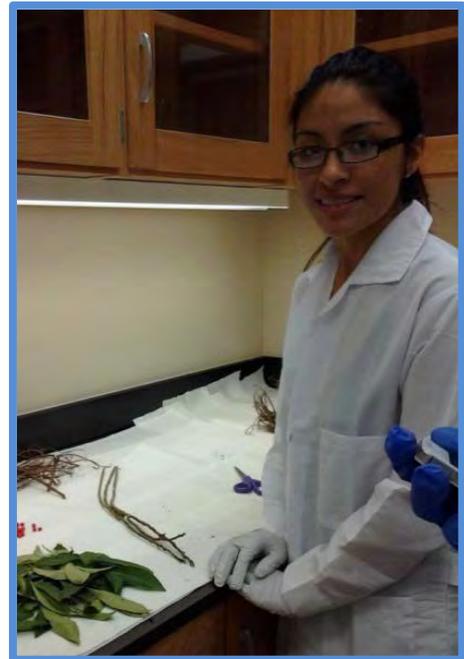
I was born in Cuba, and moved to the United States when I was 17 years old. I completed my associate's degree in Business Administration in Florida National College with the purpose of going to the University and completing my Bachelor in Science. Currently, I am a senior at Saint Thomas University. My hobbies include playing guitar, gardening, and roller-skating.

NAME: *Vanessa Valentin* **INSTITUTION:**
Saint Thomas University MAJOR: B.S
Biology with Minor in Chemistry RANK:
Junior
HOMETOWN: Lima, Peru
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: USDA
ARS
MAIL ADDRESS: vvalentin@stu.edu;
vanessa.valentin001@gmail.com
DEGREE: B.S. Biology with Chemistry Minor

CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Biological
Research Scientist.

SKILLS SET: Becoming a Entomologist.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Testing *Careavaripes* and
Neostauropusalternus as biological control agents for the
Florida invasive plant species *Rhodomyrtus tomentosa* and
Analyzing the Carbon and Nitrogen levels in *Schinus terebinthifolius* leaves after senescence.



NAME: *Daylenis Hernandez*
INSTITUTION: St Thomas University
MAJOR: Biology/ Minor: Chemistry
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Villa Clara, Cuba
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Spring 2014.
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: DHernandez2@stu.edu
DEGREE: Bachelors Degree In Biology, Minor in
Chemistry.

CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
Biochemist. Molecular biology, biochemistry,
microbiology research.

SKILLS SET: A year and a half of Entomology and
Nematology at the University of Florida (IFAS Extension). Microbiology, Chemistry, Botany,
Entomology research experience.

RESEARCH TOPIC: RNA extraction and analysis in potatoes.



NAME: *Anthony Acosta González*
INSTITUTION: Inter-American University of Puerto Rico,
San German Campus
MAJOR: **BIOLOGY RANK:**
Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Lajas, Puerto Rico
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: MAY, 2015
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: Tonyfogues@hotmail.com
DEGREE: BACHELOR



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Animal
Biology or Marine Biology

SKILLS SET: COMPUTER SKILL, WORK UNDER
PRESSURE, ORGANIZED, RESPONSIBLE, INITIATIVE,
AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS.

NAME: *Beverly Alvarez Torres*
INSTITUTION: Inter-American University of Puerto Rico
MAJOR: **Biology with minor in Chemistry and Environmental Technology**
RANK: **Sophomore HOMETOWN:**
Guánica, Puerto Rico **EXPECTED**
GRADUATION DATE: May 2015
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: beverly.1793@hotmail.com
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2015
DEGREE: **Biology with minor in Chemistry**
and Environmental Technology



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
Veterinarian Medicine, Nutrition, Botanic, and
Genetics

SKILLS SET: Computer Knowledge, Languages
Proficiencies: Spanish and English, Group Work,
Written and Conversational Facility, Work under
Pressure

RESEARCH TOPIC: Survival of brine shrimp utilizing the algae *chlorella* and *spirulina* as food.

NAME: *Christian A. Millán Hernández*
INSTITUTION: Inter American University of Puerto Rico, San Germán campus
MAJOR: Biology **RANK:** Senior
HOMETOWN: San Germán
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: USFS ARS
SEMAIL ADDRESS: c_millan.01@hotmail.com
DEGREE: BS in Biology



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: I would like to pursue a career in Cellular and Molecular Biology. I have not defined a research theme yet for my graduate studies, but I will like to work, practically, in anything related to plants or animals.

SKILLS SET: -Laboratory and field studies skills: Ecology, Entomology, Microbiology, Chemistry, Biology, Zoology, and Botany. -Knowledge in Application Programs: Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and Power Point. -Skills preparing insects' microscope slides. -Fully Bilingual: Spanish and English

RESEARCH TOPIC: Measuring the attractiveness of chemical and food lures for pollinating beetles in an *Annona x atemoya* orchard.

NAME: *Isamar Toro Silva*
INSTITUTION: Inter-American University, San German Campus
MAJOR: Biology
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Sabana Grande, Puerto Rico
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2015
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: isa_1731@live.com
DEGREE: achelor in Science



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: In the future I will like to have the opportunity to work as a Conservationist Biologist.

SKILLS SET: Laboratory work (preparation of slides samples), field preparation and cleaning.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Are the Guanajibo River bacteria's susceptible to Penicillin and Streptomycin?

NAME: *Jannybeth Vazquez Ocasio*
INSTITUTION: Interamerican University San German Campus
MAJOR: Biology
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: San German, Puerto Rico
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2016
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: janny_14@live.com
DEGREE: Bachelor

CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: PhD in Genetics.

SKILLS SET: Skills in Biology, Chemistry and management of equipment related with the field of genetic.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Development of sweet sorghum for biodiesel development.

I am interesting in the field of Genetic. I want to acquire experiences and skills in the science field.



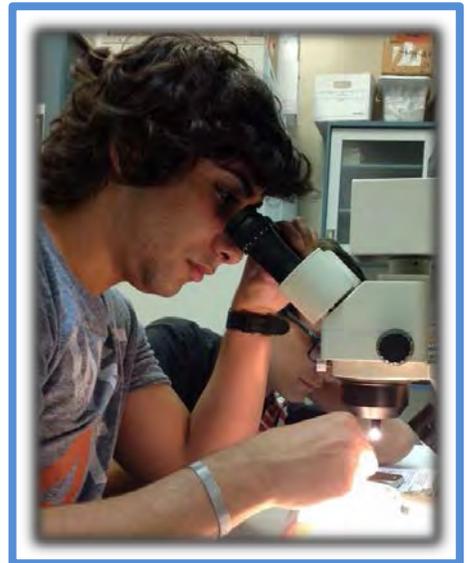
NAME: *Johnsua Acosta Justiniano*
INSTITUTION: INTERAMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF
PUERTO RICO, SAN GERMAN
MAJOR: BIOLOGY
RANK: Freshman
HOMETOWN: SABANA GRANDE, PUERTO RICO
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: MAY, 2016
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: johnsua.acosta@hotmail.com
DEGREE: BACHELOR

CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Agronomy and horticulture.

SKILLS SET: COMPUTER SKILL, WORK UNDER PRESSURE, ORGANIZED, LEADERSHIP, RESPONSIBLE AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS.



NAME: *JOSE G. RODRIGUEZ VALENTIN*
INSTITUTION: INTERAMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF
PUERTO RICO, SAN GERMAN
MAJOR: BIOLOGY
RANK: SENIOR
HOMETOWN: CABO ROJO, PUERTO RICO
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: MAY, 2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARC
EMAIL ADDRESS: jrvalentin1890@gmail.com
DEGREE: BACHELOR



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS:
GENETICIST; GENETIC IN PLANTS, MOLECULAR
BIOLOGY.

SKILLS SET: COMPUTER SKILL, WORK UNDER PRESSURE, ORGANIZED,
LEADERSHIP, RESPONSIBLE, INITIATIVE, MICROBIOLOGICAL TECHNIQUES,
PLANT TISSUE TECHNIQUES, LOGICAL AND ANALYTICAL SKILLS, TEACHING
AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

RESEARCH TOPIC: GENETIC IN CARRIBEAN AREA PLANTS.

NAME: *Leishnaly M. Santiago Negrón*
INSTITUTION: Inter-American University of Puerto
Rico
MAJOR: Biology with minor in Environmental
Technology
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Sabana Grande, Puerto Rico
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2015
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN:
Nutrition and Biotechnology
EMAIL ADDRESS: leishnalym@gmail.com
DEGREE: Bachelor in Science



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Food
Microbiology.

SKILLS SET: -Computer skills and knowledge in Programs: Microsoft Word, Excel, Power
Point and Publisher. -Excellent attention and concentration skills. -Ability to work under
pressure. -Service oriented attitude -Organized, responsible and leader -Ability to work
independently and collaboratively with others or in teams -Knowledge in Basic Entomology. -
Interpersonal skills -Effective communication skills -Ability to learn easily.

Florida International University Under Graduate Students
**Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agriculture Education and Hispanic Workforce
Development (FCCAgE)**

Chemistry

NAME: *Randy Juste*
INSTITUTION: Florida International University
MAJOR: Chemistry (BS)
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Miami, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2015
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS : rjust005@fiu.edu
DEGREE: Chemistry (BS)



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: To go into chemical ecology or chemical related studies.

SKILLS SET: Able to work well with others, effective communicator.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Composting chemistry.

I like sports and recreation. Video games, jogging, working out and reading.

NAME: *Jorge E. Vázquez Ocasio*
INSTITUTION: Inter-American University of Puerto Rico San German Campus
MAJOR: Chemistry
RANK: Senior
HOMETOWN: San German, Puerto Rico
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: 05/2014
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRES: jvazquez242@gmail.com
DEGREE: Bachelor's



SKILLS SET: Advanced laboratory techniques, Management of genetic tools and equipment for research, Analytical skills, scientific writing expertise.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Transfer of fire resistance from Mediterranean cypress to other trees.

NAME: *Carlos A. Ruiz Velez*
INSTITUTION: Inter American University of Puerto Rico San German Campus
MAJOR: Chemistry
RANK: Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Las Marias
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2015
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS
EMAIL ADDRESS: carlos.ruizvelez@gmail.com
DEGREE: In progress



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Toxicologist.

SKILLS SET: Excellent interpersonal skills, computer skills, and lab skills.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Resistance to antibiotics of bacteria found in fresh waters.

My interests are in becoming a toxicologist and do several research and investigations. Something that I like to do in my free time is searching the web for new discoveries in the world of Chemistry and medicine.

NAME: *Liz M. Sanchez Bengochea*
INSTITUTION: Inter-American University of Puerto Rico
MAJOR: Chemistry **RANK:**
Freshman
HOMETOWN: Yauco, Puerto Rico
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May 2016
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: APHIS
EMAIL: liz.bengochea@gmail.com
DEGREE: Chemistry



CAREER AND RESEARCH ASPIRATIONS: Veterinarian Medicine and Nutrition

SKILLS SET: Computer Knowledge, Languages Proficiencies: Spanish and English, Group Work under Pressure, Responsible and enthusiastic

My interests are the nutrition and animals. I like to help the animals and the other ones. I describe myself as a good team leader, with dynamism and motivation.

NAME: *Jiomar Santiago Feliciano*
INSTITUTION: Inter American University of Puerto Rico
MAJOR: Chemistry **RANK:**
Sophomore
HOMETOWN: Las Marías, P.R.
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: Spring 2015
USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN: ARS or
FAS
EMAIL ADDRESS: stateffapresident10@hotmail.com
DEGREE: BS Chemistry & Minor in Biology

SKILLS SET: Organized, Focus, Achiever and passionate for what I do.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Determination of soil's health in Coffee Crops Areas in Puerto Rico.



Florida International University
**Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agriculture Education and Hispanic Workforce
Development (FCCAgE)**
Criminal Justice

NAME: *Hayley O'Bryan*
INSTITUTION: Miami Dade College
MAJOR: Criminal Justice
RANK: Junior
HOMETOWN: Hollywood, Florida
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: May
2014
**USDA AGENCY YOU ARE INTERESTED
IN:** USFS FSIS APHIS
EMAIL ADDRESS: hayobryan@gmail.com
DEGREE: Bachelor's in Applied Science's
B.A.S.

RESEARCH TOPIC: Planting Texas
Bluebonnets.



New Mexico State University Project Page

The New Mexico/Puerto Rico Natural Resource Career Track (NRCT) Program

- **Dr. Martha Desmond, Project Director, Professor, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM Email:mdesmond@nmsu.edu**
- **Dr. Jess Zimmerman, Co Project Director, Professor, Institute for Tropical Ecosystem Studies and Program in Environmental Studies, University of Puerto Rico - Rio Piedras, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico
Email: jesskz@ites.upr.edu**
- **MS. Berlinda Baca Sanchez, Co Project Director, US Forest Service, WO Civil Rights, Multicultural Workforce Strategic Initiatives (MWSI), Branch Chief, 4000 Masthead, NE, Albuquerque, NM Email: bbacasanchez@fs.fed.us**
- **Dr. Skip VanLoem, Co Project Director, USDA Forest Service, Institute of Tropical Studies and Professor, Dept Agronomy and Soils, University of Puerto Rico –Mayquez, Mayquez, PR Email: svanbloem@uprm.edu**
- **Dr. Jennifer Frey, Education Coordinator- New Mexico, College Associate Professor, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM 88003
Email: Jfrey@nmsu.edu**
- **MS. Erika Concepcion, Education Coordinator – Puerto Rico, Department of Natural Sciences, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Email: erilyn23@gmail.com**
- **MS Jenna Padilla: Project Recorder, Geology Undergraduate, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, Email: Jpad92@nmsu.edu**

The New Mexico/Puerto Rico Natural Resource Career Track (NRCT) Program is collaboration among 14 Hispanic Serving Institutions in New Mexico and Puerto Rico focusing on Climate Change and Forest Service (FS) Labor Force Track. Our main objectives center on identifying and mentoring cohorts of students to prepare them for careers in Natural Resource Management. Students are placed in cohorts according to their academic standing (year 1, year 2 , year 3 and graduate). These students are provided a series of experiential learning opportunities appropriate for their academic level that engage them in resource management. Annual programs include agency internships; semester research mentorships; graduate student mentoring/assistantships; 3 field courses; a semester exchange program between New Mexico and Puerto Rico; a series of workshops, field days, and trainings to prepare and excite students about natural resource careers; Spring Visitors Day for 2 yr institutions; high school and entry level college field trips, and an advising and tutoring program to help students academically. Program students are placed on internships with the USDA FS, other natural resource agencies or in research mentorship positions. We are working hard to make our program students competitive for the new PATHWAYS Program. We believe the NRCT program will result in improved student recruitment, retention, academic performance and graduation rates; a greater number of students transitioning from 2 to 4 yr institutions; and more students moving directly to careers with the FS or other USDA agencies. Students apply to participate in programs and selection is determined by committees from collaborating institutions. Program oversight is provided by Project Directors and 2 Education Coordinators. The NRCT Program mentors a minimum of 50 students annually. We strive to maintain the USDA's goal of retaining 90% of program students annually and eventually moving them to USDA, other agency career pathways or careers in academia.

New Mexico State University Graduate Students

Name: *Danielle (Dani) Cedillo*
Campus: New Mexico Highlands University
Rank: Graduate Student (MS)
Major: Natural Science with a concentration
in Geology
Internship: Recreation Forestry Technician for
the USFS in Minturn, CO
Graduation Date: May 2014
Email: dcedillo_615@hotmail.com



I grew up in Kansas and moved to New Mexico for college. I was intrigued with the mountains and overall landscape, so within one month of the move I changed my major to Environmental Geology. I received my Bachelor's degree in the spring of 2012 and began my masters the following fall. I have too many interests and hobbies to list, but the main ones consist of yoga, object manipulation and fire object manipulation, snowboarding, mountain biking, triathlons, and hiking. I have enjoyed all of my internships because they taught me many important skills, expanded my network, took me to new and exciting places, and were always an adventure. Most importantly, internships are great because they provide the opportunity to experience the work environment, and get a sample of some potential careers in your field so that you have a chance to decide what may or may not be for you before you make a commitment. There are so many career options in Geology that I haven't been able to choose one yet, but have been slowly narrowing down my options. For the NRCT program, I am funded as a graduate assistant and I also participated in the Sevilleta fall field trip.

Name: *Armando De La Cruz*
Campus: NMSU-Las Cruces Main Campus
Rank: Graduate (MS)
Major: Civil Engineering
Internship: Civil Engineer in Dubois, WY, Long-term
Pathways Student
Graduation Date: May 2014
Email: delacruz@nmsu.edu



After entering the NRCT program in spring 2012 I was selected as a SCEP student and converted to the long-term PATHWAYS program. Upon graduating, I will begin full time employment with the US Forest Service in Dubois, WY. I am excited about my career opportunity with the Forest Service look forward to moving to various regions and experiencing what the Forest Service has to offer. I plan on traveling the world someday.

Name: *Eboni S. Duke*
Campus: New Mexico State University- Main
Rank: Graduate (MS)
Major: Wildlife Sciences – Long-term Pathways Student
Graduation Date:
Email: eboni.duke@yahoo.com



Internship: I have interned with the U.S forest service in California and New Mexico since 2008. During the summers of 2008-2010, I worked as a biological technician, for Sierra National Forest, surveying for threatened, endangered and forest sensitive species. During the summers of 2011 & 2012, I worked as a wildlife biologist trainee, for Lincoln National forest, surveying for threatened, endangered, and forest sensitive species.

I grew up in Oakland, CA and as a child I was always interested in the outdoors and animals. Following my passion I enrolled, as an undergraduate student, at Tuskegee University and majored in forestry with a minor in wildlife. After five years in the south I was ready for a change and I also wanted to further my knowledge about wildlife. As a result, I applied to New Mexico State University and was accepted into the Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Ecology. Currently, I have a year remaining in my graduate program. After I graduate, I will work for the U.S Forest Service as a wildlife biologist.

Name: *Rene Galindo*
Campus: NMSU - Las Cruces, NM Main
Campus
Rank: Graduate Student (MS)
Major: Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation
Ecology- Fishery Sciences, Long-
term Pathways Student
Internship: USDA Forest Service Santa Fe
National Forest, Santa Fe S.O. Fish
Biologist SCEP
Graduation Date: Dec 2012
Email: rene@nmsu.edu



Born and raised in the El Paso, TX, I have always enjoyed being outdoors. I enjoy going fishing, hunting, hiking, camping, and pretty much everything dealing with the outdoors. I especially fascinated and enjoy working with fish. The NRCT has given me the opportunity to work and be guided by a Fish Biologist from the Santa Fe National Forest. The NRCT has allowed me to peruse my Master's degree in Fisheries and make a career in the Forest Service as a Fish Biologist. I started my permanent position as a Forest Service biologist on the Siuslaw National Forest in Oregon in fall 2012.

Name: *Gizelle Hurtado* **Campus:**
NMSU Main Campus
Rank: Graduate Student (PhD)
Major: Biology
Graduation Date: May 2014
Email: gmh11@nmsu.edu



Position: NRCT Fellow and RISE to the Postdoctoral Fellow: My research focuses on the behavior, genetics and zoonotic potential of *Peromyscus* (deer mice) in the urban-wildland interface. As a NRCT fellow the NRCT program expands my professional network and provides me with mentoring opportunities and undergraduate summer field assistance/interns.

I earned my bachelors in Wildlife Management and Conservation from Humboldt State University; at Humboldt I focused on mammal management and upland habitat management and wildlife human-interactions. I then attended San Jose State University where I focused my Masters research on Human Dimensions and Natural Resource management. While attending Humboldt State and San Jose State, I worked for the Forest Service, where I gained professional and leadership experience.

Name: *Stephanie C. Lopez*
Campus: New Mexico State University- Main
Rank: Graduate Student (MS)
Major: M.S. Range Science
Graduation Date: August 2011
Email: lopez@nmsu.edu



Internship: Range Technician, Lincoln National Forest

I am interested in pursuing a career as a rangeland specialist or working for a USDA cooperative extension program in natural resources. Currently, I am following my passion by continuing my education in range science. I have had the opportunity to work for the USDA Forest Service as a range technician and biological science technician for three seasons. My course work has covered a wide range of topics in wildlife and animal and range sciences. Throughout my academic career I have taken a number of job-related training courses such as measuring and monitoring plant populations, GIS for the natural resource scientist, rangeland plants, wildland fire behavior, advanced rangeland ecology, soil morphology, natural history of vertebrates, and zoology. As an undergraduate, I was selected to participate in the Ronald E. McNair Post baccalaureate Achievement Program at New Mexico State University. I consider this experience a stepping-stone, which has led me in the direction to pursue a Master's degree. I am a member of the Natural Resource Career Track Program at New Mexico State University; this is an organization for Hispanic students interested in careers in the natural resource fields. I believe that my education and work experiences have made me a strong candidate for the kind of work I am seeking.

New Mexico State University Graduate Students
University of Puerto Rico Graduate Students

Name: *Natalia B. Álvarez Negrón*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus
Rank: Graduate Student (MS)
Major: Environmental Sciences (Multidisciplinary)
Graduation Date: May 2014
Email: natalia.alvarez78@gmail.com



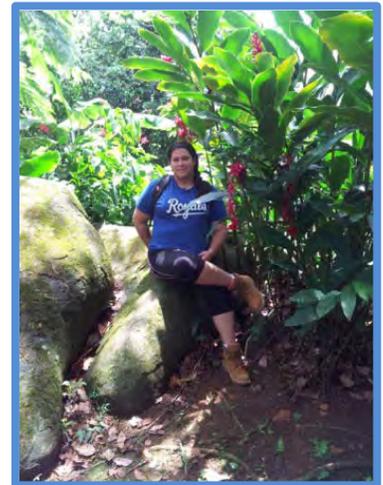
I obtained a Bachelor's degree in General Sciences from the University of Puerto Rico, Cayey Campus in 2005. At present I am completing a master's degree in the Environmental Sciences Program in the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus in the multidisciplinary option. This allows for the integration of a social component into my research interests. I am currently a participant in the USDA Natural Resource Career Tracks program where I am developing my thesis research focusing on the potential for the development of urban agriculture initiatives in the San Juan Metropolitan area in Puerto Rico. My thesis goals include a survey of current urban agriculture programs in San Juan, a GIS study of potential land areas for agriculture in the metropolitan area, and resident survey to determine attitudes and perceptions of food production and security in an urban context.

Name: *Carlos A. Ortiz-Alvarado*
Campus: Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus
Rank: Graduate Student (MS)
Major: Biology, with a major in Ecology and Environmental Sciences
Internship: Summers 2011 and 2012 Internship with Alliance for Minority Participation (AMP) working with the relationship between genetic expression and defensive behavior in ants.
Graduation Date: May 2014
Email: cortiz3515@gmail.com



Having an undergraduate research experience and obtaining a BS degree in Biology, I am eager to continue my studies on environmental biology with the aspiration of eventually pass my knowledge and experience unto others as a professor. Currently, I am interested in biological evolution and how it relates to molecular aspects of communities and populations, with the purpose of acquiring new insights into environmental-genetic interactions and their role on the conservation and management of species. I would like to continue on this track and contribute whatever I can to the environmental studies, species conservation, and the evolutionary theory.

Name: Yamilis Ocasio-Rodriguez
Campus: University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras
Rank: Graduate Student (PhD)
Major: Environmental Sciences
Graduation Date: May 2015
Email: yamilis.ocasio1@upr.edu



I have always wanted to be an environmental scientist, which led me to study chemistry for my bachelor's degree at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) – Río Piedras Campus. In order to apply my knowledge of chemistry to the improvement of the environment, I studied my master's degree in soils at the UPR – Mayaguez Campus. For the master's degree I evaluated the water quality of streams in small agricultural and non-agricultural watersheds, focusing on the potential for soils to be a direct contributor to surface water contamination. In order to achieve my childhood dream to become a faculty researcher, I started to study my doctorate degree in Environmental Sciences at the UPR-Río Piedras. My participation in the New Mexico-Puerto Rico Natural Resources Career Track Program (NRCT) has been filled with enriching experiences and personal growth. As a graduate student in the program, I have participated in activities involving both undergraduate and high school students. I was the teaching assistant for the NRCT field course at UPR, assisting with logistics and leading the instruction in water sampling methods. Also, I led a soil workshop during a weekend internship for high school students in the Luquillo Schoolyard Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) Program. NRCT contributes to this program by having graduate and undergraduate students interact with high school students interested in natural resource fields.

Name: *Betzy G. Rossi*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Medical Sciences Campus
Rank: Graduate Student (MS)
Major: Environmental Health
Internship: Forest Service, Hell Canyon Ranger District of the Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota
Graduation Date: May 2015
Email: betzy.rossi@upr.edu



In the summer of 2012 I worked as a Forestry Technician in the timber sale prep crew. My job consisted of marking trees with mostly orange paint, with an ultimate goal in preparing them for future timber sale. This required a lot of walking on rough terrain, long days in the field and carrying the equipment and paint needed to complete the tasks at hand. We also painted and marked with a GPS the boundaries of several units. This experience has been a great one, helping me on my personal and professional growth. It opened the possibilities to have a new experience that I never dreamed I would have. I really enjoyed working for a federal agency. I know this experience will be an advantage to my future plans.

New Mexico State University Under Graduate Students

Name: *Heberto J. Chaparro*
Campus: NMSU Main Campus
Rank: Senior
Major: Spanish, History, and Wildlife Science
Expected date of graduation: August 2013
Email: heberto@nmsu.edu



Internship: I have been working for USDA APHIS Wildlife Services (WS). During summer 2010, I worked all over NM as a wildlife biologist doing predator control; and summer 2012, I worked at the National Wetlands Research Center in Ft. Collins, CO doing virology and vector control.

I grew up in El Paso, TX and came to New Mexico to study and learn more about agriculture and wildlife. I have been in school for five years and hopefully will graduate soon. I enjoy languages; I currently speak three and I understand up to five. I enjoy traveling, have studied in China and currently I am studying in Puerto Rico. I have done research in Nicaragua and Belize. I am majoring in wildlife science because animals are my passion. I always was attracted to herds in ranches or the inhabitants of a forest. I will hopefully work for a government agency and share with the community all the knowledge I have gathered.

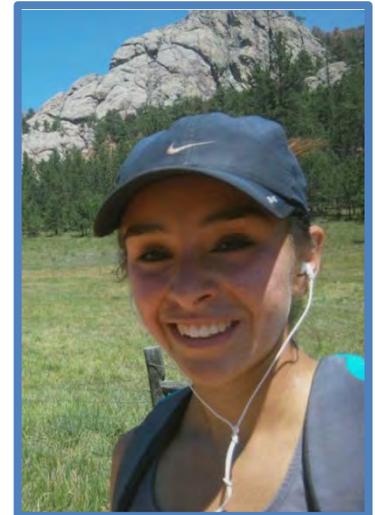
Name: *Elyssa K. Duran*
Campus: New Mexico Highlands University - Las Vegas, NM
Rank: Senior
Major: Double major: Forestry (double concentration in Forest Management and Wildland Fire) and Spanish
Expected date of graduation: May 2013
Email: shevy_4_life08@hotmail.com



Internship: NRCS Colorado (Durango, Trinidad, and Pagosa Springs Field Offices).

I enjoy hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, traveling, reading, and trying new things. I'm seeking a major in Forestry because of how and where I grew up. I am very interested in managing natural resources for future generations and Forestry encompasses many things such as watersheds, fuels, aesthetics, range, fire, etc.; so it is perfect. I am also seeking a degree in Spanish, as language is important to me and something I really enjoy. The NRCS internship(s) have been great in giving me on the job experience and training; the field work is invaluable. Being able to design management plans has definitely brought things into perspective because one must think about landowner objectives, as well as finding balance in ecosystems. Potential careers could range from being a soil conservationist, forester, working in fuels, fire or even in policy.

Name: Jenna Padilla
Campus: NMSU-Las Cruces Main Campus
Rank: Junior
Major: Geological Sciences and a minor in Geographic Information Systems
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: jpad92@msn.com



Internship: Land Minerals Tech for the U.S. Forest Service in the Black Hills National Forest.

Narrative: Growing up in the southwest, I have learned to love the outdoors. I enjoy running, hiking, and camping. I am also on the NMSU Track & Field team, where I challenge my competitive spirit as a Division I athlete. Geology is a fascinating subject, and I especially enjoy learning about land processes and the mining aspect of the subject. The NRCT has opened doors and assisted me in finding a career path within the Forest Service. They helped me find my internship in South Dakota which was an amazing experience. I hope to obtain my master's degree before pursuing a career in geology field.

Name: Juan Jauregui
Campus: New Mexico Highlands University
Rank: Junior
Major: Forestry with a concentration in Forest Management
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: juanjauregui62@yahoo.com



Internship: Long-term internship with the Forest Service out of the Carson National Forest in Region 3.

I enjoy hiking, fishing, and being outdoors; this played a key role in determining what I wanted to major in. I decided that whatever it was, it must consist of me spending part of my time outdoors. I was in Future Farmers of America in high school and competed in the Forestry Career Development Event Contest. This is what helped me decide to go into forestry. I have previous internships with NM State Forestry, NM Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute, and with the US Forest Service. These internships helped me realize the importance of experience and how they will benefit me in the future. They allowed me to gain experience in different fields and decide what career I wanted to pursue. The US Forest Service is what I enjoyed the most so that is the direction that I choose to pursue. This led me to becoming part of the NRCT program which has opened up many new doors for me. The Belize field class that I attended through the NRCT program in May has been my highlight in the program. It allowed me to look at Forestry from a global perspective and to see what other issues there were worldwide.

Name: *Lynette Rincon*
Campus: New Mexico State University- Main
Rank: Senior
Major: Range science major with a minor in livestock production
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2013
Email: rinclyn@nmsu.edu



Internship: Recreation Tech - Bozeman, MT.

I'm from El Paso, TX. I've attended University of the Southwest in Hobbs, NM where I played soccer and competed in Track and Field; as well as attending Oklahoma State in Stillwater, OK before coming to NMSU. I currently work at the Meat Lab on campus, where we harvest, process, and package animals. I plan on working for a conservation agency as my career, most likely Forest Service. I have worked a summer internship with Southwestern, where I sold an educational system that included books and discs. I also worked a summer internship with NRCS in Stillwater, Oklahoma. This past summer I had an internship with the Forest Service in Bozeman, Montana where I was a part of the recreation crew. After working with the Forest Service, I felt right at home. I have always enjoyed being outdoors, doing laborious activities, and just being surrounded by agriculture in general. Although it was only a summer, I enjoyed going to work every day. This is a job where I would love coming to work every day.

Name: *Dominique Lujan*
Campus: New Mexico State University- Main
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Wildlife Science
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2013
Email: domrlujan@msn.com or nmsu



Internship: Wilderness Crew at Hell Canyon District, Custer, SD.

I was born in Las Vegas, NM and raised in Albuquerque, NM. Some of my hobbies include hiking, camping, hunting, riding ATV's, looking for fossils and rocks, or just being out in the mountains. Since I enjoy the outdoors, nature and wildlife, I am seeking a degree in Wildlife Science. Once I receive my degree in Wildlife Science, I am hoping to obtain a career within the US government, such as the Forest Service, BLM, or Fish and Wildlife. I am thankful and fortunate to be a member of the NRCT Program. I have been able to participate in career-building activities such as workshops, seminars, field trips, field classes and a program retreat. I was afforded the opportunity to travel to different states and see things such as the Grand Canyon, Mount Rushmore, and Crazy Horse. I worked in the Black Hills Forest in South Dakota.

Name: *Miranda Campos*
Campus: New Mexico State University - Main
Rank: Senior
Major: Wildlife Science/Biology
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2013
Email: mjcampos@nmsu.edu



Internship: Roswell, NM with the BLM 2011 and West Yellowstone, MT. with the Forest Service 2012.

I am originally from Albuquerque, NM. I was brought up in a home where being in the outdoors was a common occurrence. I grew up hunting and fishing, which are some of my favorite pastimes to date. Because of this love I had for nature and wildlife, I chose to attend NM State to further my passion. This is why I chose to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Science. Through the university and the fantastic Fish, Wildlife and Conservation department, I was able to acquire amazing internship experiences with the Bureau of Land Management in Roswell, NM and West Yellowstone, MT with the Forest Service. I learned so much from these job opportunities and made amazing friends. I have dealt with everything from birds that dwell in the air to lizards that hide underground. Through all of this, I have realized that having a career that involves wildlife is where I am supposed to be. And hopefully in the future I can be a great wildlife biologist or any other job title that can take me to see different parts of the country and understand the nature surrounding us.

Name: *Vanessa Martinez*
Campus: New Mexico State University- Main
Rank: Junior
Major: Agriculture and Community Development- Natural Resource Management
Expected date of graduation: May 2016
Email: martinv@nmsu.edu



Internship: Kamas, UT.

The degree I'm seeking is a Masters in Agricultural Science and community development. I chose this degree plan because it highlights two areas of interest to me, sustainable agriculture and strategic development for impoverished communities. In a career I would like to see myself more out doing field work. Ideally, the NRCS would be the agency that my academics and interests coincide. For the past two summers I have worked with the Forest Service as a forestry aid; I was placed in Kamas, UT, working on the Wasatch-Cache forest. The forest is full of hidden gems that can only be accessed by endurance. I also enjoyed the new friends and mentors I made; everyone was very kind and always willing to lend a helping hand. In May 2012, I was granted the opportunity to partake in a Belize Field Ecology Course, another amenity granted through the NRCT program. There I tracked through the jungles of Belize, and swam in the crystal blue waters of the Cayes (islands), all in the name of science. It was a blessing and I am very grateful.

Name: *Santiago Garcia*
Campus: New Mexico Highlands University
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Forestry with a concentration in Forest Management
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: sgarcia18@live.nmhu.edu

Internship: 2012 Granby, CO, Sulphur RD, Arapahoe NF, Forestry Tech (Sawyer)

I am from Rowe, NM. My interests include hunting, fishing, and anything outdoors. I chose a degree in forestry because I enjoy the outdoors and want to preserve it for future generations. What I enjoyed most about my internship was that it was a lot of fun with tons of physical activities. After graduating, I would like to obtain forester position in the government. I would like to manage a forest to promote optimal hunting opportunities for the public and to provide local logging companies to benefit from the restoration projects.



Name: *Justin Martinez*
Campus: University of New Mexico
Rank: Junior
Major: Information Engineering
Computer Science
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: justin24@nmsu.edu

Internship: Hood Canal Ranger District (Quilcene, WA) Forestry Technician.

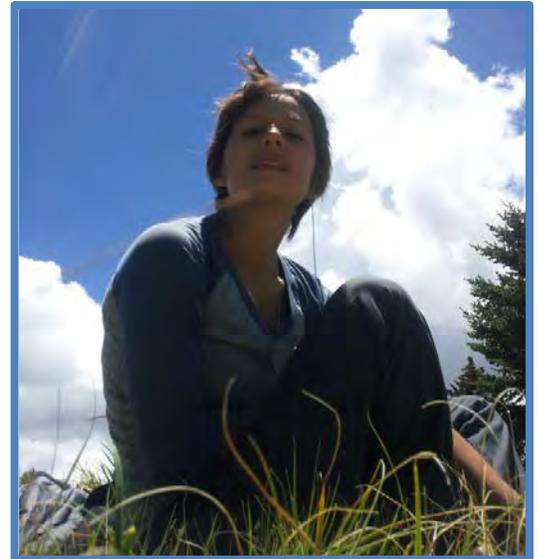
I am seeking a degree in Information Engineering because it will allow me access to a broad spectrum of job opportunities, as well as good pay. I have always enjoyed working with computers, and I built my first computer when I was 16. When I graduated high school I wanted to incorporate computers and my artistic ability to become a graphic design artist, but felt my artistic ability was lacking. So, I stuck with computers and kept art as a hobby, maybe one day I'll become a graphic design artist! I loved my internship; the hiking, traveling and meeting of new people was my highlight. My internship was very memorable and will always hold a special spot in my mind. The NRCT program allowed me to see places I would have never seen and I am truly grateful that I was offered this opportunity. I cannot list the amazing things I've seen and done thanks to the NRCT program, this is a wonderful program for students and anyone who gets the chance to be involved. I want to one day work for the Forest Service, Park Service, Department of Agriculture, or any federally granted organization, preferably in information engineering or fire.



Name: *Megan Stovell*
Campus: New Mexico State University- Main
Rank: Junior
Major: Environmental Science Major/Anthropology Minor
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: meganshae.stovall@gmail.com

Internship: Lincoln NF, Carlsbad, NM as Fire & Range Tech.

I am from Carlsbad, NM. I enjoy the outdoors and doing things like hiking and camping. I also find joy in artwork, music, meeting new people, and spending time with loved ones. I love everything about the environment and care deeply about its health and well-being. I am also interested in human nature and the impact that it has on the environment. That is why I have chosen the educational path that I have. What I have enjoyed most about my internships thus far has been the experience and the wonderful opportunity to learn, meet new people, and spend time outside. I would love nothing more than to combine all of my interests in the environment and human interaction and make a career out of it.



Name: *Lia Martinez de Armendariz*
Campus: New Mexico State University
Rank: Senior
Major: Civil Engineering Technology with a minor in Spanish
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: ldm_2009@live.com

Internship: Taos, NM.

I am from Canjilon, New Mexico, a small northern New Mexico mountain town. I love being outdoors, watching movies, learning new things, and playing sports. I chose my degree because I like working hands on, love math, and like building and creating new things. My interest in knowing how structures are built has increased, as I have learned a lot through my degree. I encourage those who like math and love a challenge to pursue an engineering degree. When I am finished with my degree I would love to use my Spanish as much as possible in the engineering field.



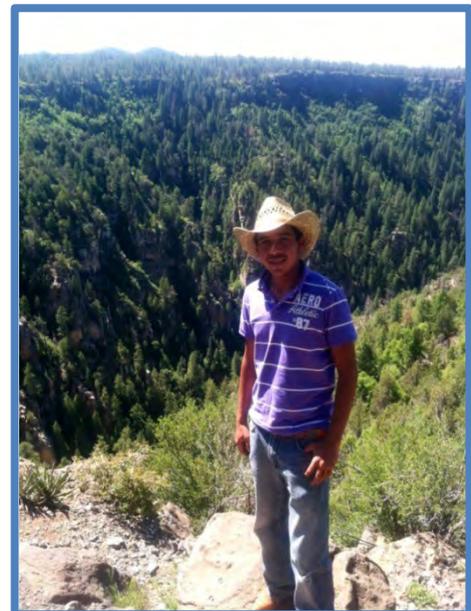
Name: *Lorenzo A. Herrera*
Campus: New Mexico Highlands University
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Forestry/Fire Science
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: Lorenzo_Herrera93@yahoo.com



Internship: I have only had one summer internship working for USDA Forest Service. During the summer of 2012, I worked in southeast Colorado as a type II wildland firefighter performing duties such as slash piling and mop-up. I also performed basic fire line activities such as line construction, hose lays, and removal of fuels. To add, I was engaged in maintenance and deconstructing fences around the grasslands. I was placed in Springfield, Colorado on the Comanche National Grasslands and had a great opportunity in being engaged in three wild fires.

I grew up in Taos, NM and came to New Mexico Highlands University to study and learn more about forestry and wildland firefighting. I have been in school for a year and a half, and I really enjoy the privilege of getting an education. I am bilingual in English and Spanish. As a child I grew up in Tres Piedras, and was influenced by my father to fight wild fires and work hard to succeed. There was no such thing as to give up. I enjoy everything that has to do with horses such as riding, training, shoeing, raising, etc. I am majoring in Forestry/Fire Science because it has been an influence on me since a young age. After the summer of 2012, I knew I really enjoy the work. I plan to obtain a career with the Forest Service in fire moving through ranks as time goes on and plan to retire within twenty years.

Name: *Pedro Castillo*
Campus: New Mexico State University - Main
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Wildlife Science
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: peter_10@nmsu.edu



Internship: Bitterroot NF, Hamilton, MT.

I was born in Zacatecas, Mexico and came to the United States when I was just 7 years old. I became interested in wildlife because I have always been raised in the outdoors, working with plants and animals. Working internships is really good for my education and career for several reasons. For example, you get to know people, places, and acquire experience, which helps get a good job after graduation.

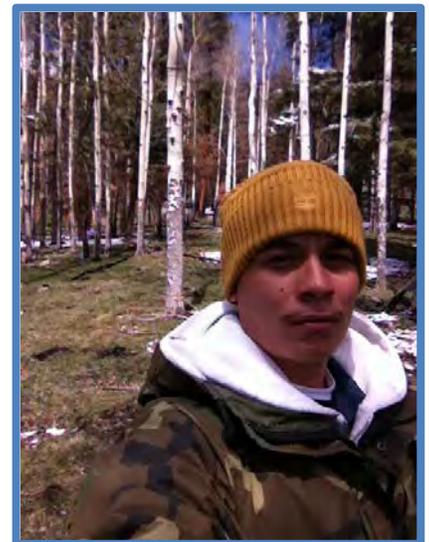
Name: *Marc Estrada*
Campus: New Mexico State University- Main
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Wildlife Science
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: mde_76@yahoo.com



Internship: Forestry Aid (Fire General) in Reserve Ranger District.

I come from a small town of Reserve, NM where I gained my passion for the outdoors. I enjoy spending time outdoors and doing activities such as horseback riding, camping, snowboarding, and hunting. Most importantly of all, I enjoy doing these activities with my friends and family. I plan to transfer to New Mexico Highlands University for a change in major to Forestry. I look forward to my future endeavors and hope to receive a long term internship in a forestry related field, specifically fire. My previous experiences working and observing the Gila Wilderness and the forests surrounding it, specifically upon severe wildfire behavior, are what have inspired me to pursue a Forestry degree and career. The NRCT program has been a great opportunity for me to travel and see different areas I normally would not have.

Name: *Benjamin D. Gonzales*
Campus: New Mexico Highlands University
Rank: Senior
Major: Forest Management
Expected date of graduation: May 2013
Email: bgonza41@live.nmhu.edu



Internship: Boulder, Colorado (Timber-Prep) Summer: 2012.

I am originally from Las Vegas, New Mexico and was raised on the Gonzales Ranch. Because I spent a lot of time outdoors, I developed a desire to learn more about the woodlands and why things were the way they appeared. I am interested in most sports and outdoor activities. Through this program I was given the opportunity to travel to Belize which was unlike anything else. I am interested in forestry mainly for the preservation and endurance of natural resources, and to help develop methods for improving management practices in the U.S. In terms of career opportunities, I plan to find employment with the Forest Service and I am interested in soil science and watershed development. This summer I worked in Boulder and Idaho Springs, CO. I met some very interesting people and learned about the local forest and some of the problems they were facing there. I plan on acquiring my Master's degree at Highlands University and I am enjoying my time at NMHU.

Name: *Antonio S. Garcia*
Campus: New Mexico Highlands University
Rank: Senior
Major: Forestry
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2013
Email: adapt_and_overcome@hotmail.com



Internship: 2011: Recreation SCEP, Sandia Ranger District, Tijeras, NM. 2012: Recreation SCEP, Mount Taylor Ranger District, Grants, NM.

During the summer of 2012, I interned for the Mount Taylor Ranger District in Grants, New Mexico as a Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) student. As a SCEP intern in natural resource management, I worked closely with the public providing information about the district's trails, recreation areas, and policies. I was in charge of creating a trail systems user guide for the public, using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). On the NMHU campus, I was involved in several clubs and organizations. I also work for the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute, providing technical assistance and practical knowledge in forest and woodland restoration with the intent to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire and restore health and sustainable forested ecosystems and restoration-based economies. My hobbies include hunting, fishing, and many other outdoor activities. I plan to obtain my BS in Forestry and work full time for the United States Forest Service at the Sandia Ranger District.

Name: *Luis F. Hernandez*
Campus: New Mexico State University
Rank: Senior
Major: Wildlife Science - Aquatic Ecology & Management Options
Expected date of graduation:
Email: hernluis@nmsu.edu



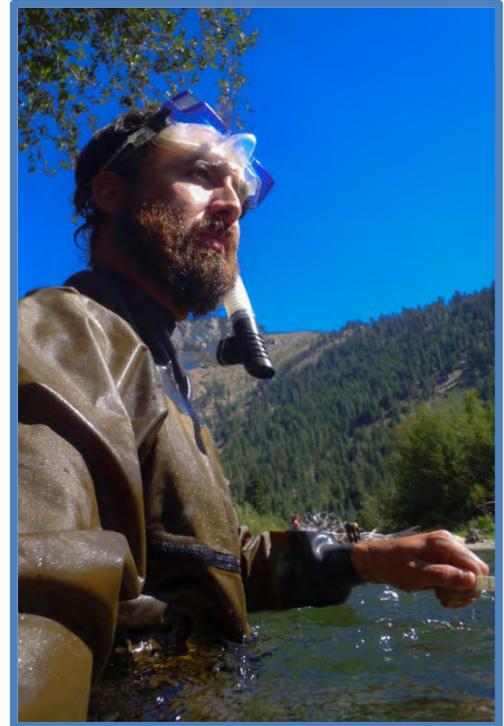
Internship: USFS, Tres Piedras Ranger District, Carson National Forest Summer 2012.

Born in Mazatlan, Mexico and raised in Long Beach, CA and Las Cruces, NM, I have had the opportunity to experience a variety of ecosystems as a child and was always interested in the flora and fauna of each place. I have also had firsthand experience of natural resource exploitation due to urban sprawl and tourism in all the cities I lived in, and I would like to help protect our natural legacy for future generations to enjoy. NRCT has given me the opportunity to get to know the people and organizations involved in managing the nation's natural resources. It has helped me to understand how resource management works on a local, state, and the federal level.

Name: *Hugo Cobos*
Campus: New Mexico State University- Main
Rank: Senior
Major: Fish, Wildlife, & Conservation Ecology
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2012
Email: tonedout@nmsu.edu

Internship: Entiat, WA Fisheries Biologist Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest.

I grew up in Las Cruces and have always had an interest in wildlife and being outdoors. I enjoy hiking, backpacking, hunting and fishing, and outdoor/wildlife photography. I have had many great internships that have taken me from Costa Rica to Montana. The past two summers have taken me to central Washington as a Fisheries Biologist SCEP where I hope to be placed after my graduation in December.



Name: *Angelina (Angie) Munoz*
Campus: New Mexico State University- Alamogordo
Rank: Senior (Associates)
Major: Associate of Science Degree
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: angelicone@gmail.com

Internship: Lincoln NF, Cloudcroft, NM.

I am a mother of two children ages 12 and 7, and I work part time at a local water store. I am currently working on my Associate of Science degree and will graduate spring 2013. I then plan to transfer to NMSU in the fall to further my career degree in Wildlife Science. I am working on this degree and hope to get a permanent position with the top leading agency, the United States Forest Service. I love to go hunting, camping, and fishing, basically anything outdoors; so why not get a job doing what I love best.



Name: *Erin Trujillo*
Campus: New Mexico State University - Main
Rank: Senior
Major: Wildlife Science minor: Range Science, Biology
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2012
Email: errintru@nmsu.edu

Internship: 2 summers on the Gallatin National Forest in Montana and a SCEP position on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington. One summer on the Valles Caldera National Preserve in New Mexico as a biologist tech on the vegetation crew.

I'm from Albuquerque, NM and most of my childhood was spent on my grandparent's farm in Bernalillo, NM. I was not always interested in having a career in natural resource management but when I came to New Mexico State University, I fell in love with the outdoors all over again. After my first summer in Montana I was hooked and knew I was headed in the right direction with the Forest Service. I was soon accepted into the career internship program and after I graduate in December, I will be converted in to a full time permanent position as a wildlife biologist with the Forest Service.



Name: *Anibal Rene Juarez*
Campus: New Mexico Highlands University - Main
Rank: Junior
Major: Forestry: Forest management concentration-Natural Resource Management
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: ajuare11@live.nmhu.edu

Internship: Kamas, UT. Big Timber MT, Sedalia CO.

I was born in San Bernardino, CA and I grew up in Anthony, New Mexico and in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. The degree I'm seeking is a Bachelor in Forestry, with a concentration in Forest Management. I want to learn as much as possible so I can also know how to manage other biospheres, and have the ability to apply my knowledge to contribute to a broader conservation projects in other countries. Thanks to the help of the NRCT program I have successfully worked in different states thought out my forestry career. In 2010, I worked on recreation for the Wasatch-Cache Forest, stationed in Kamas, UT. In 2011, I worked for range for the Gallatin National Forest stationed in Big Timber, MT. In 2012, I worked for the OHV Trail Crew for the Pike National Forest stationed in Sedalia, CO. I enjoyed cleaning the fire pits in Utah, slashing in Colorado, and hiking the parries of Montana. Being Smokey the Bear for a bear safety talk in Mirror Lake (the most popular lake in HW 150) was my favorite day in Utah. The best day in Montana was spraying in natural bridge. I had the privilege to study in Belize for a field course in May of 2012. From the survival training in the jungle to the astonishing aquatic life in South Water Caye island.



Name: *Richard M. Flores*
Campus: Luna Community College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Life Science/Wildlife Management
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: Rich.flores19@gmail.com



Internship: Gardiner Montana Wilderness/Trail Crew.

I am from San Jose, N.M.; a small village in between Pecos N.M. and Las Vegas N.M., born and raised. I was brought up on a ranch (the one I am standing in in this picture) and love the outdoors. My hobbies include fishing, swimming, hiking, riding ATV's, mud bogging, camping, hunting, skiing, snowboarding, rafting, biking, or just hanging out in the mountains. I basically enjoy any outdoor activity you can imagine. I love animals and have raised plenty of my own from horses, dogs, pigs, sheep, cattle, and more. However I want to see more "wild" wildlife. This is why I am pursuing a career in wildlife management. I have had many internships with the Forest Service and other natural resource agencies. Including U.S. and state branches of the Forest Service, Tierra y Montes SWCD; I conducted research on the Wind River Ranch, and also worked at a ranch that is in the process of becoming a wildlife refuge. The knowledge I have gained from these positions has pushed me closer to my dream. The opportunities the NRCT program has given me are ample, and I have no doubt in my mind that I will succeed in this with their help and guidance.

Name: *Amanda Melendrez*
Campus: New Mexico Highlands University
Rank: Junior
Major: Geology
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: amandamel91@gmail.com



Internship: Hydrology/Soil Science SCEP in Taos, NM

I am from Los Lunas, Nm, a small town south of Albuquerque, NM. I am currently seeking my B.S in geology. I have always loved being outside and going on adventures and hikes, I could never imagine myself working in a large city in an office every day. I enjoy working for the Forest Service because it gives me the opportunity to spend a lot of my time working outdoors. This is my first internship. I have really enjoyed the work environment of the Carson National Forest; everyone is very helpful and pleasant to be around. The forest is also very beautiful and full of life. I have so many hobbies it is hard to list them all. Some of which include singing, fire spinning, object manipulation, and beading.

Texas A&M University-Kingsville Project Page

STEP UP to USDA Career Success; Science, Technology and Environmental Programs for Undergraduate Preparation to USDA Career Success

USDA-NIFA Award Number: 2011-38422-30826 (2012-02298)

Project Director:

- Shad D. Nelson, shad.nelson@tamuk.edu Texas A&M University-Kingsville (TAMUK)

Co-PDs:

- Randy L. Stanko, randy.stanko@tamuk.edu (TAMUK);**
- Michael Persans, University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA), Edinburg, TX;**
- Debora Villalon, dvillalon@southtexascollege.edu So. Texas College (STC), Weslaco, TX;**
- Armando Duarte; Armando.Duarte@harlingen.tstc.edu Texas State Technical College (TSTC), Harlingen, TX;**
- Jonda Halcomb, jhalcomb@delmar.edu Del Mar College (DMC), Corpus Christi, TX.**

This is a ‘**Regional Collaboration**’ [ROCN] project located in South Texas involving **five** educational, primarily Hispanic Serving Institutions, and multiple USDA research or service centers and agencies (primarily USDA-NRCS (NRNR Track), but also preparing employees for the USDA-AMS, -ARS, and-APHIS) aimed at providing student experiential learning and student recruitment and retention through agricultural- and natural resources-oriented research or career training. The lead institution, Texas A&M University-Kingsville (TAMUK) in collaboration with an additional 4-year institution, University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA), and three 2-year community colleges (DelMar College, South Texas College (STC), and Texas State Technical College (TSTC) will be the academic institutions involved in this project. The purpose is to build a bridge between regional community colleges and continue students after obtaining a 2-year Associates degree to continue onto a four-year degree to obtain the necessary skills and academic training to qualify for hire in the USDA upon graduation with a Bachelor of Science degree.

The STEPUP objectives are: 1) To form a collaborative effort to provide undergraduate education and hands-on training to a minimum of 50 underrepresented Hispanic south Texas students. 2) To better prepare students for opportunities in agricultural- or natural resource sciences-related internships within USDA (STEP UP), targeted summer camps and short-courses for skills training in the soil-, animal-, or natural resource- sciences. Objective 3) To provide an underserved student population with the opportunity to experience firsthand exposure to research in agricultural or natural resource sciences through faculty-mentored projects, **or** the opportunity to have a USDA career training experience during a 10-wk summer internship.

The STEP UP grant proposed to serve a minimum of 50 undergraduate and 5 graduate Hispanic students annually and surpassed that in Year 1 by serving 60 students who participated in and received stipends from the STEP UP grant. The participants were 57 percent male and 43 percent female and 70 percent Hispanic.

Texas A&M University-Kingsville Graduate Students

Name: *Luis Ayala*
Campus: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Rank: MS
Major: Animal Science
Expected Graduation: May 2014
Email: ayalaluis1@live.com

I was born in Weslaco, TX. I like to fish, hunt, and like to ride horses. The title of my thesis is: The age dependent effect of 17beta-estradiol on estrogen receptor alpha and beta and the leptin receptor in the choroid plexus. My career aspiration is to earn a PhD in animal science more specifically in the area of reproduction.



Name: *Maria Consuelo Donato Molina*
Campus: Texas A&M University Kingsville
Rank: PhD
Major: Hispanic Studies
Internship: Step Up Project Manager at Texas A&M Kingsville.
Expected Graduation: May 2015
Email: consudonato@gmail.com

I was born in Colombia, South America. I am Agronomist Engineer and also did a Master's degree in Rural Development and a Specialization in Conflict Analysis and Management. I completed all of them in my country. Also, while living in Brazil, I did a Specialization in Agri-Business. Currently I'm doing a PhD in Hispanic Studies learning about socio-cultural, politics, economics issues related to Latinos living in Latin American and United States. I am enjoying my courses because one of my passions is to read books and since my program belongs to Liberal Arts Department, we must read mountains of books. The program is very interesting and my emphasis will be studies in rural areas, my specialty.



I have passion for Latin music, arts and crafts. I have visited several countries in Latino America and one of my favorite things to do when I am visiting a country, is to visit its "Mercados", food market or fair, and try the different kind of fruits and foods, take pictures, and find regional dolls for my personal collection.

Name: *Amanda Garcia*
Campus: Texas A&M University Kingsville
Rank: MS
Major: Plant and Soil Sciences
Expected Graduation: December 2012
Email: amanda1322@gmail.com



Science has always been my passion and I enjoy the research I have conducted and plan to continue broadening my experiences and knowledge in my field. I enjoy exploring the outdoors, traveling to new places, and trying new things. I love spending time with my family and enjoy sharing my passion of science with them. I spend my free time inventing creative ways to repurpose (recycle) items and create them into art pieces. I am working on my thesis: Over expression of a Calcium Signal Modifier Gene (CSM-1) in Sweet Orange Cultivars and Molecular Characterization of Transgenic Plants.

Name: *Francis J. Melgoza*
Campus: Texas A&M Kingsville
Rank: MS
Major: Plant and Soil Science
Expected Graduation: May 2013
Email: melgozaswimmer07@aol.com



Currently I am working on finishing up my thesis project to graduate in May 2013. I live in Mission, TX and I travel every day to Weslaco, TX to the Citrus Center. My time at the center is very fulfilling I get to work on things I enjoy. In July of 2012 I traveled to Miami for the ASHS conference and it was a great experience where I was able to present some of my experiments. The experience I have gained is practical and I will eventually put it to use in my career. Besides working on my research (Understanding and improving freeze tolerance in citrus) and school I also enjoy to ride my road bike on the weekends. After receiving my degree I will pursue an agriculture specialist position with CBP.

Name: *Raul Cesar Rivas-Cantu*
Campus: Texas A & M University Kingsville
Rank: Graduate Student
Major: Environmental Engineering
Expected Graduation: May-2013
Email: raul.rivas_cantu@students.tamuk.edu

I am originally from Mexico and I moved to Texas almost 9 years ago for becoming a US permanent resident. After 20 years of industrial and environmental experience in Mexico, I decided to come back to school to study a PhD in Environmental Engineering to improve my academic background. That has taken a great effort for learning new theoretical concepts and to reinforce my practical knowledge in Environmental Engineering, Green Chemistry, and Biochemical Engineering. I like to

develop new chemical and biochemical processes at laboratory and plant level, and I think that with the acquired knowledge it is possible to improve the relationship between industrial processes and environmental protection. Preventing the degradation of the environment, and improving the application of renewable resources to produce energy and bio- products without affect the food-chain are the most important topics for the development of my future career.



Name: *Jennifer Nichole Trevino*
Campus: Texas A&M University Kingsville
Rank: MS
Major: Plant and Soil Sciences
Internship: Monsanto, Bishop, TX
Expected Graduation: May 2013
Email: horse_n_rabbit@yahoo.com

My hometown is San Benito, TX. I enjoy Volunteering and serving in my church, making handmade jewelry, and reading. Currently I am working on my thesis evaluating the Impact of Planting Dates on Psyllid Populations and ZC Disease Incidence in Pearsall, TX. I'm interested to build a career working within the USDA-NRCS.

My aspiration is to build a career working within the USDA-NRCS.



Name: *Alinna M. Umphres-Lopez*
Campus: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Rank: M.S.
Major: Plant and Soil Science
Expected Graduation: May 2013
Email: alinnalopez@yahoo.com

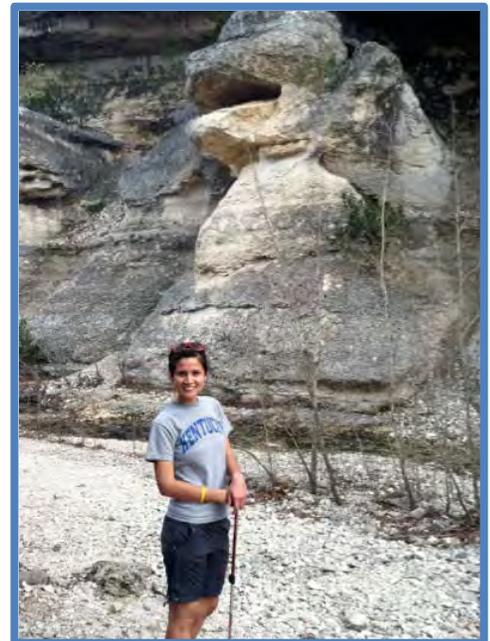
My hometown is Zapata, Texas. During my leisure time I enjoy hiking, fishing, camping, hunting, traveling, cooking, reading, and spending time with my family. The title of my thesis is: Agronomic factors affecting grain and forage sorghum production in south Texas. My aspirations are to continue in a research oriented career that facilitates the growing challenges in agriculture.



NAME: *Yessica Cerino*
INSTITUTION: University of Texas-Pan American
RANK: MS
MAJOR: Biology
EXPECTED GRADUATION DATE: December 2013
Email: yecerino@broncs.utpa.edu

My graduate research project in plant biotechnology has provided me with a different approach as to how I can positively impact the environment. Some of my future career plans include working in research, ideally in conservation or preservation of native plants and animal species.

Growing up in Edinburg, in the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, I was witness to how quickly a small semi-rural town can change into a big commercial hotspot. I always knew I wanted to work to conserve the environment, as most of my interests lie outdoors. Hiking, fishing, and camping are a few of my favorite pastimes. However while indoors, I can just as easily find solace within books. Luckily I have been able to travel the United States, and volunteer at the Chicago Brookfield zoo.



I am interested in working for the ARS, APHIS or USFS.

Texas A&M University – Kingsville Under Graduate Students _____

Name: *Calan Ahrens*
Hometown: Alpine, TX
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Wildlife Recreational Entrepreneurship
Rank: Sophomore
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014
Degree: Bachelor Degree in Wildlife recreational Entrepreneurship.
Email: ahrenscalanj@yahoo.com



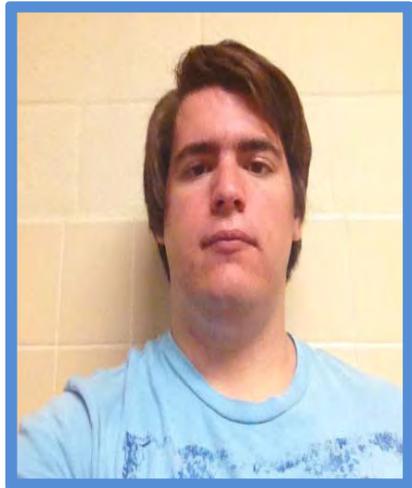
Career and Research Aspirations: I plan to make a career owning my own business as a whitetail breeder, stock contractor for rodeos, or a ranch manager.

USDA agency you are interested in: ARS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Kerrville, Texas
Employer: USDA ARS Knipling- Bushland Livestock Insects Research Laboratory.

What I learned: My position at the ARS Lab was Sand Fly Colony Maintenance and Biological Science Aid Intern under Dr. Andrew Li. I worked under Darci Burchers the Biological Science Technician who trained and educated me how to properly conduct maintenance of the Sand Fly Colony (Kerrville Strain).

Name: *Ignacio Garcia*
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Agribusiness
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Fall 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: iblahme@yahoo.com

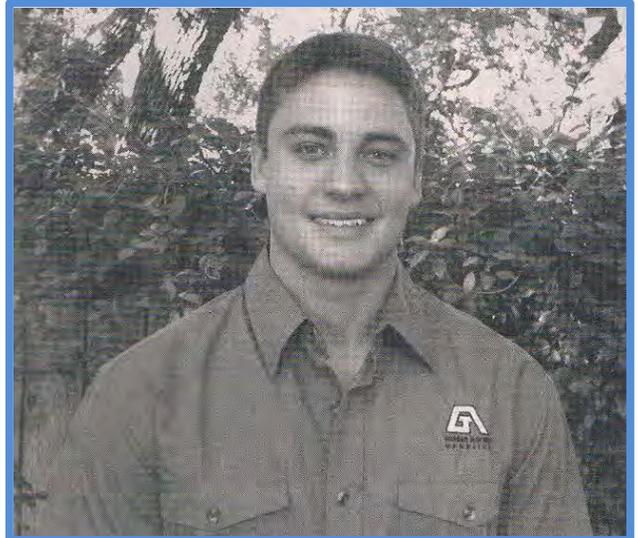


USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Kingsville, Texas
Employer: USDA-NRCS at Plant Material Center.

What I learned: The more important thing is the experience I got from working in the Plant Material Center in Kingsville TX. All the work we did will help me in the future after graduation. This internship has helped me in several ways to get my four year degree.

Name: *Wesley Gibson*
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Agribusiness
Rank: Senior
Graduation Date: August 2012
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: wes_gibson@hotmail.com



Career and Research Aspirations: I want to work in agribusiness because it helps me to learn more about marketing and management to be a leader and good decision maker.

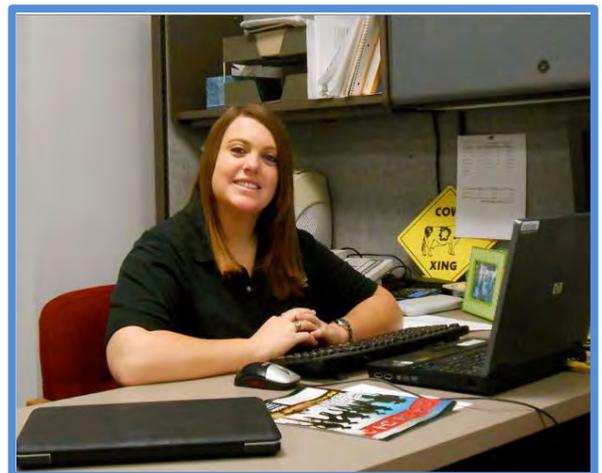
USDA agency you are interested in: AMS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location:
Waco, Texas

Employer: NRCS - Golden Acres Genetics

What I learned: I worked as Special Topics Assistant. Here I learned all aspects about the seed genetics industry in the south and had continual apprenticeship throughout to keep me pointed in the direction of seed sales. Employed in Agricultural Industry after summer internship ended.

Name: *Stephanie Godfrey*
Institution: Texas A&M Kingsville
Major: Animal Science
Rank: Senior
Graduation Date: December 2012
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: scegodfrey6@gmail



Career and Research Aspirations: I am interested in beef cattle production and reproduction.

USDA agency you are interested in: AMS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location:
Amarillo, TX

Employer: USDA-AMS at Livestock and Grain Market News (LGMN)

What I learned: I was covering various livestock auctions and producing reports both livestock and grain.

About Me: I enjoy working as volunteer feeding cattle and horses.

Name: *Nathan Hammack*
Hometown: Edna, Texas
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Agriculture Science w/Teaching Certification
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2013
Email: nthammack@live.com



Career and Research Aspirations: Graduate and receive my masters in Agriculture Science, teach Agriculture at a high school or at an accredited junior college or university.

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Corpus Christi, Texas
Employer: Texas AgriLife Research & Extension

What I learned: I worked on Effect of BT gene on Transgenic Corn.

About Me: I enjoy saltwater fishing, running my purebred Santa Gertrudis cattle operation, riding my motorcycle on trails and back roads, playing pool, and barbequing. I live and grew up on a ranch in South Texas, immersed in agriculture from the time I was born, and hold the utmost respect for it.

Name: *David Johnson*
Hometown: Rockport, TX
Institution: Texas A&M Kingsville
Major: Agribusiness
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: djon1rpt@yahoo.com



Career and Research Aspirations: The research we conducted during my summer internship excites me to possibly pursue the NRCS as a career path.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Kingsville, Texas
Employer: NRCS Kika De La Garza Plant Materials Center.

What I learned: I participated on a Research project of alternative bio-fuels and also testing seeds: germination, lifespan, reproduction. The skills I obtained on the job were critical to my possible future with the NRCS. The time I spent in the field really helped me get a feel for what kind of work the NRCS does.

Name: *Allison Logan*
Hometown: Bloomington, TX
Institution: Texas A&M Kingsville
Major: Plant and Soil Science - Horticulture
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: allison.logan@students.tamuk.edu

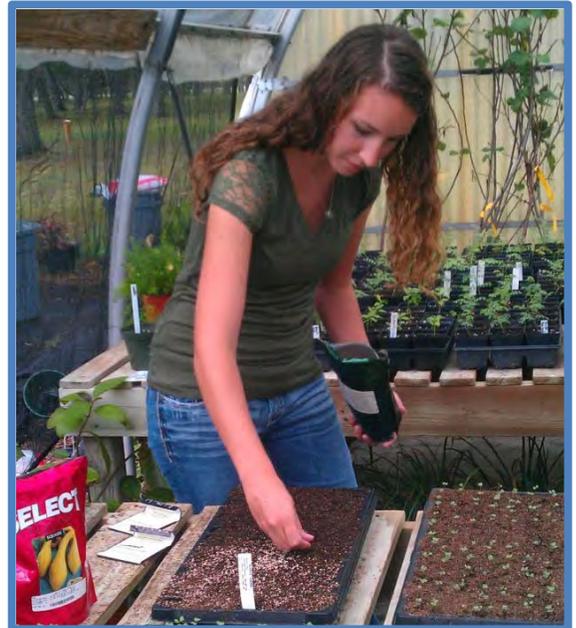
Career and Research Aspirations: I want to have my own business whether it is a nursery in retail or wholesale, in the Victoria, Texas area.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Victoria, Texas

Employer: Devereux Gardens

What I learned: One of the best things about this internship was learning all of the tips and tricks of owning a nursery.



Name: *Andrew Martinez*
Hometown: Lytle, TX
Institution: Texas A&M Kingsville
Major: Agriculture Science
Rank: Sophomore
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: andrewmartinez974@hotmail.com

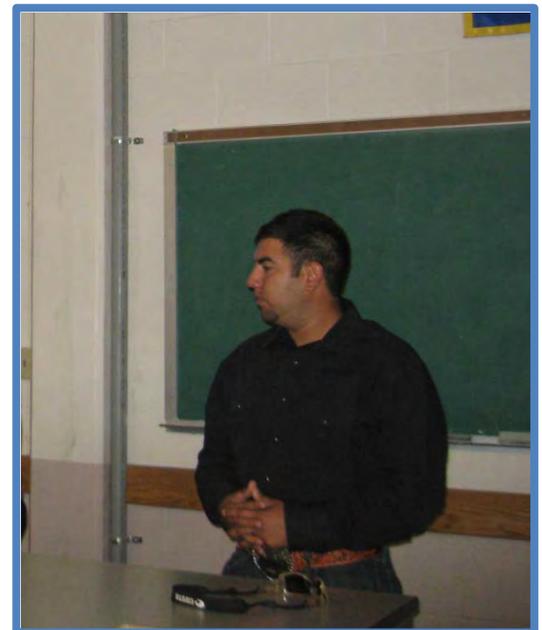
Career and Research Aspirations: I would like to research wildlife in areas of genetics.

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Kingsville, Texas

Employer: NRCS - Texas A&M University Farm.

What I learned: I worked at the university farm growing sweet potatoes and on maintenance of the farm. I learned how the farm is managed and how labor intensive it is to keep the farm operating. I learned that growing sweet potatoes is very intense work until the vines take over the weeds.



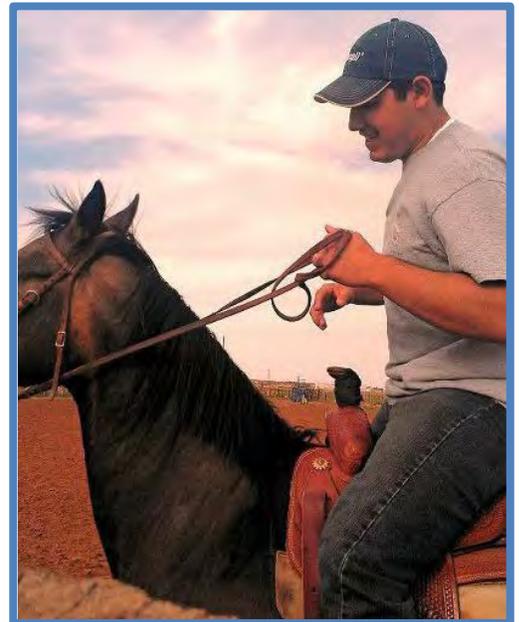
Name: *Charles Martinez*
Hometown: Ferris, TX
Institution: Texas A&M Kingsville
Major: Agribusiness-Ranch Management
Rank: Freshman
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: charleymartinez@sbcglobal.net

Career and Research Aspirations: I plan to be an active cattle producer and working in the beef industry.

USDA agency you are interested in: AMS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Bovina, Texas
Employer: AMS-Cargill

What I learned: After being in the yard I gained a new appreciation for the beef feeders in our country. I learned that in order to be successful the people working at the feed yard need to be coherent and everybody needs to work as a team. I also learned that the way a feedlot makes money is by numbers and by being efficient.



Name: *Dennis Tyler Mays*
Institution: Texas A&M Kingsville
Major: Plant and Soil Science-Agronomy
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: d.tylermays@live.com

Career and Research Aspirations: Once obtaining my B.S. in Agronomy, I plan to go and get a degree in Integrated Pest Management to become an Extension IPM agent.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Wharton County, Texas
Employer: Texas AgriLife Extension

What I learned: I worked as an Extension- IPM agent Intern learning about things in the fields of Entomology, Agronomy, Research, and general crop production. I learned the proper way to scout cotton, how to properly identify some insect pest, as well as how to understand thresholds and when to spray.



Name: *Fidel Mendoza*
Hometown: Harlingen, Texas. **Institution:** Texas A&M Kingsville
Major: Agricultural Science
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Bachelor Agricultural Science
Email: melgozaswimmer07@aol.com



USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Mission, Texas
Employer: ARS-APHIS

What I learned: I worked in a project about Research with Cattle fever tick, Arundo scale and Carrizo cane.

Name: *Veronica Mata*
Institution: Texas A&M Kingsville
Major: Animal Science Pre-vet
Rank: Sophomore
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: mata_veronica@yahoo.com



USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Corpus Christi, Texas
Employer: NRCS Zone Office

What I learned: I worked on preparing material for public, helping in training people in several cities. It was a lot more traveling that I was planning for. I never realized how many different types of jobs are involved with agriculture.

Name: Amy Marie Serrata
Hometown: Robstown, TX
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Animal Science
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: amyms08@aol.com



Career and Research Aspirations: When I Graduate, I plan to become a Veterinarian Technician.

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Texas A&M University Kingsville Farm

Employer: Texas A&M University-Kingsville

What I learned: I learned how to work and care for livestock. Throughout my life, I have never been around cattle, goats, rabbits, or swine. This internship gave me the experience I needed to become comfortable working with livestock.

Name: Roxanne Silguero
Hometown: Kingsville, TX
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Animal Science
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: roxanna.silguero@gmail.com



Career and Research Aspirations: Obtain a master's degree in animal science.

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Corpus Christi, TX.

Employer: Texas AgriLife Extension with Dr. Megan Clayton, Range Specialist.

What I learned: I learned many new skills pertaining to range improvements and plant/brush identification. I learned different ways to treat range and participated in test plots for chemicals targeting brush or plant species. I was also able to help and participate in the other intern's research project, such as supplementation needs of beef cattle fed native and improved grasses.

Name: *Chad M. Sledge*
Hometown: Houston, Texas
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Plant and Soil Sciences
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: December 2010
Degree: Bachelor of Science, Concentration:
Environmental Soil Sciences
Email: chadsledge@yahoo.com

Career and Research Aspirations: Land Management Assessment and Strategies.

USDA agency you are interested in: USFS and NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Opelousas Louisiana Soil Survey office (South Texas Plant Materials center)
Employer: USDA NRCS



About Me: I enjoy going to new places to study patterns in nature and business. Studying and creating maps and statistical data fascinates me however, my true passion is being outside.

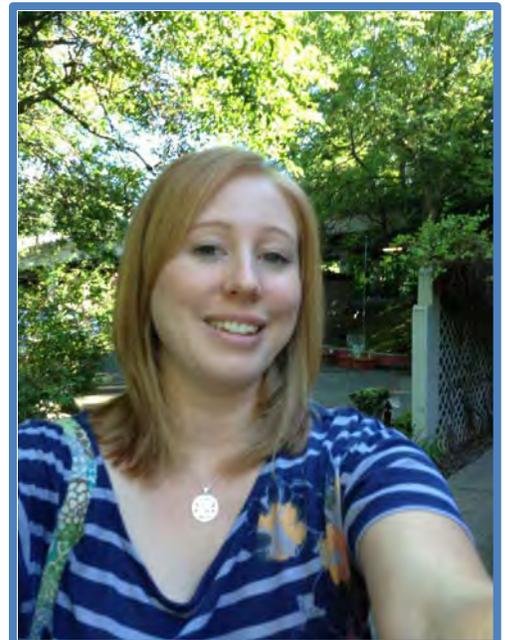
Name: *Crystal Weaver*
Hometown: Corpus Christi, TX
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Plant and Soil Science
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: c.hagen1984@yahoo.com

Career and Research Aspirations: I am interested in Forest Biology and Ecology.

USDA agency you are interested in: USFS.

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Portland, Oregon
Employer: USDA-Forest Service, Regional Office.

What I learned: I conducted several formal and informal interviews; I read and learned about climate changes and participated on the construction of the topographical poster map.



Name: *Blake Lawrence Young*
Hometown: La Vernia, TX
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Plant and Soil Science, **Concentration:**
Agronomy
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Email: blyoung@yahoo.com

Career and Research Aspirations: To be a research correspondent for local, state, or federal entities around the globe.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS or ARS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Port Lavaca, TX
Employer: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Internship Project: Evaluation of Economic Threshold of Boll Feeding Bugs in Cotton.

About Me: My interests include being outdoors, such as, fishing, hunting, driving tractor, camping, golfing and the beach. An interesting fact about me is I will be the first person in my immediate family to obtain a college degree. Another interesting fact is that I love to travel and sight see and just get lost on some back roads taking in what I can.



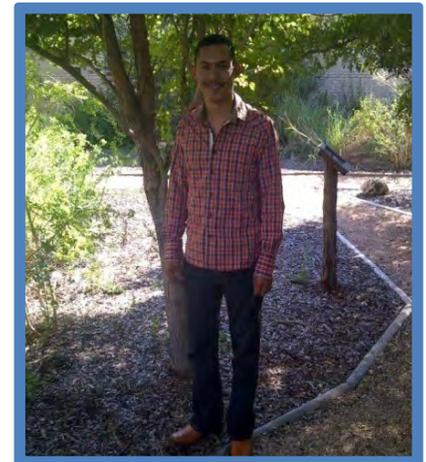
Name: *Adrian Cisneros*
Hometown: Brownsville, Texas
Institution: Texas State Technical College, Harlingen (2 yr college)
Major: General Agriculture
Rank: Junior
Degree: Obtained Associates degree, now seeking Bachelors of Science
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Email: cisnerosadrian_4@yahoo.com

Career and Research Aspirations: Border Inspector on plants and animals.

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

The STEP UP/USDA funding has helped me in graduating from a 2 year Technical College and transferring into a four year degree university in Texas A&M University Kingsville.

About Me: I enjoy riding horses and taking care of livestock animals. I also like to work in the ranch with my parents.



Name: *Dante Delgadillo*
Hometown: Port Isabel, TX
Institution: Texas State Technical College, Harlingen (2 yr college)
Major: Agriculture Science
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Email: dantedelgadillo84@yahoo.com

Degree: Obtained Associates degree, now seeking Bachelor of Science

Career and Research Aspirations: I plan to be a plant science researcher.

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

The step up program has been a huge help for me in the sense that it's giving me some financial breathing room, allowing me to really concentrate on performing well in my classes. I just don't think that I could handle the load with study time considered if it weren't for the step up USDA funding.

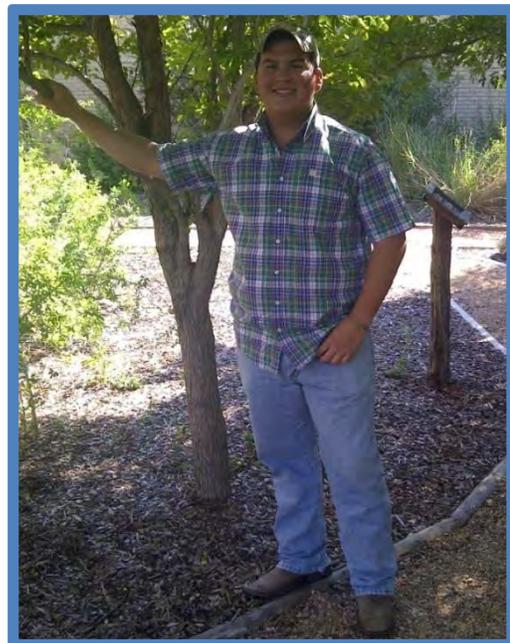
About Me: I enjoy hunting, fishing, being on the ranch.



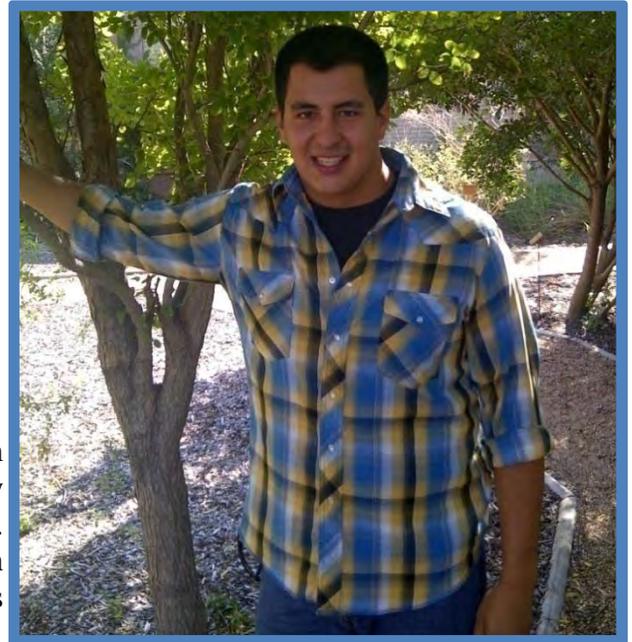
Name: *Carlos DeLeon*
Hometown: McAllen, Texas
Institution: Texas State Technical College, Harlingen (2 yr college)
Major: Agriculture Science
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Degree: Obtained Associates degree, now seeking Bachelor of Science
Email: carlosdl21@yahoo.com

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

The STEP UP program has made my transfer from TSTC to the Texas A&M University-Kingsville so much easier. It helped me cover some tuition and book expenses. Overall I am glad to be a part of the Step Up program at Texas A&M Kingsville.



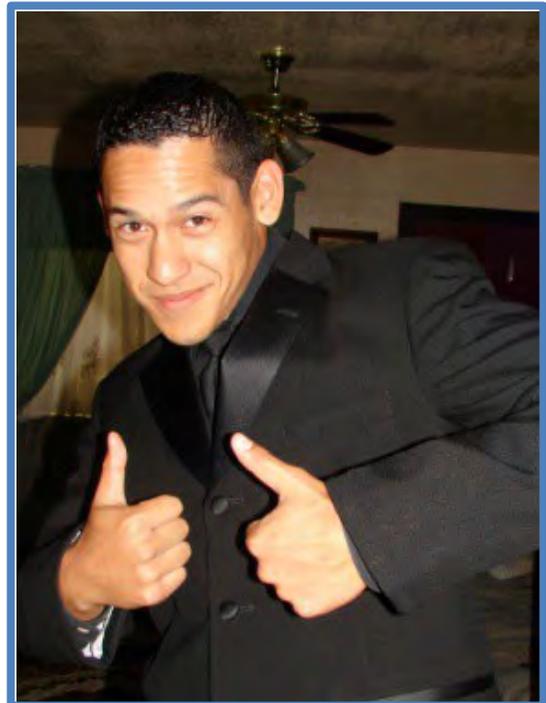
Name: *Diego Garza*
Hometown: Harlingen, TX
Institution: Texas State Technical College,
Harlingen (2 yr college)
Major: Agriculture Science
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Email: diego_garza92@yahoo.com
Degree: Obtained Associates degree, now
seeking Bachelor of Science



USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

I transferred to TAMUK IN 2012. I have a firm belief that without the STEP UP/ USDA funding my goal of a four year degree would be much tougher. The extra funds have helped me with some tuition and book fees that my financial aid didn't cover as well as living expenses such as food, rent, and gas.

Name: *Gilbert Gomez*
Institution: Texas State Technical College, Harlingen (2 yr college)
Major: Agriculture Science
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Degree: Obtained Associates degree, now
seeking Bachelor of Science
Email: gomezgilbert10@yahoo.com



USDA agency you are interested in:
NRCS

I transferred from TSTC to Texas A&M Kingsville. The step up program has helped me to make college life a lot easier and got me a lot farther, rather if I myself would have be trying to support myself through college. The program has granted me scholarship money to continue my goal, in completing my college degree. It pays for books and my tuition.

Name: *Yvonne J. Sanchez-Welther*
Hometown: Brownsville, Texas
Institution: Texas State Technical College, Harlingen
Major: Agriculture Science
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: December 2013
Degree: Associates in Agriculture Technology from TSTC,
now working on Bachelor of Science
Email: ywelther@yahoo.com



Career and Research Aspirations: To work for USDA or NRCS.

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Harlingen, Texas
Employer: USDA-APHIS

The STEP-UP grant greatly helped me in the transition from TSTC in Harlingen to Texas A&M-Kingsville with ease.

About Me: I enjoy working and playing outdoors. My heart has always been on agriculture, but I have also completed a degree in culinary arts and have worked in the private industry and institutional setting. I like to work with people and have been involved in many community organizations, donating my time and skill to them. I hope to earn my degree from Texas A&M – Kingsville and get a job with the USDA or NRCS.

Name: *Megan Dupnik*
Hometown: Corpus Christi, Texas
Institution: Del Mar Community College and Texas A&M University-Kingsville.
Major: Plant and Soil Sciences
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: mighty_zoomaster@yahoo.com



Career and Research Aspirations: Plant disease resistance researcher.

About my summer 2012 Internship: Cotton Boll Rot Location: Kingsville, Texas
Employer: Texas A&M University Kingsville

About Me: I enjoy gaming, I love spending time on the beach or walking my dogs. I volunteer out at a barnyard animal sanctuary. I originally went to Delmar College getting my associates degree in Biotechnology with the intention of going into human genetics, but plants ended up interesting me more. More can be done with them.

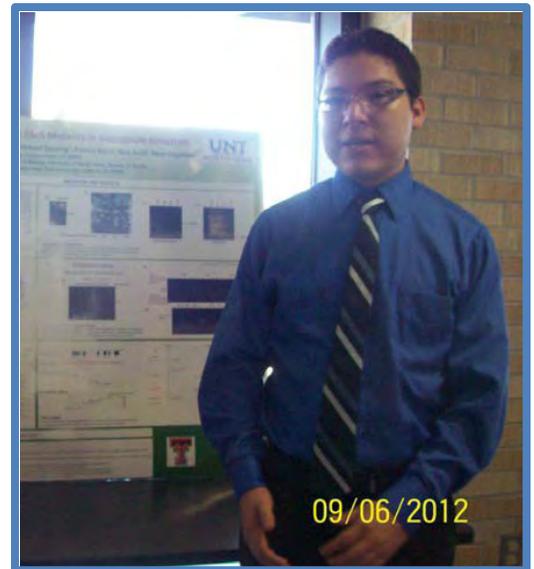
Name: *Adrian R. Garcia*
Hometown: Corpus Christi **Institution:** Del Mar College
Major: Biotechnology
Rank: Sophomore
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Associate of Applied Science
Email: adrrgarcia@gmail.com

USDA agency you are interested in: ARS

Employer: UNT, Biochemistry department

What I learned: I studied the FATB1 gene in Low-Palmitic EMS Mutants in *Gossypium hirsutum* by cloning and sequencing. I enjoyed the process of searching for and gaining as much information I could find, both in the wet lab and the computer lab.

About Me: I use to play bass and sing for a punk rock band, Remnants of the Stereo. I'm currently reading House of Leaves, by Mark Danielewski, as well as being more focused on my academics. I am also a member of Sigma Alpha Pi, The National Society of Leadership and Success.



Name: *Monica Rose Perez*
Institution: Del Mar College
Major: Biotechnology, Biology Pre medical emphasis
Rank: Sophomore
Expected Graduation Date: Fall 2013
Degree: Associates in biotechnology and biotechnology
Email: mperez120@webdmc.delmar.edu

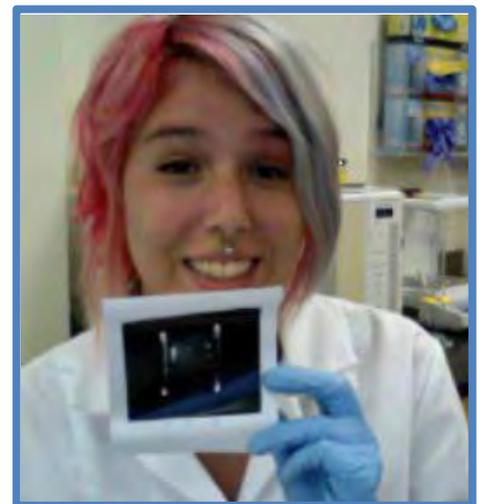
Career and Research Aspirations: I would like to obtain an MD/PhD so I can become a medical doctor who does research.

USDA agency you are interested in: ARS, APHIS, CNPP, FNS, FS, NAL, NRCS, RD

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Ardmore Oklahoma

Employer: Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation

What I learned: I was able to use some of the techniques I learned in biotechnology and I learned some new things. This internship helped me confirm that I was on the right track. I am striving to get myself back to a similar environment because this internship was amazing for me and I want to be backing there again studying, away from negativity, and closer to my goals.



Name: *Higinio Valadez*
Hometown: Odem, Texas
Institution: Del Mar Community College and Texas A&M University-Kingsville.
Major: Plant and Soil Science-Agronomy
Rank: Senior.
Expected Graduation Date: Fall 2013
Degree: Bachelor Science.
Email: hvaladezdmc@gmail.com



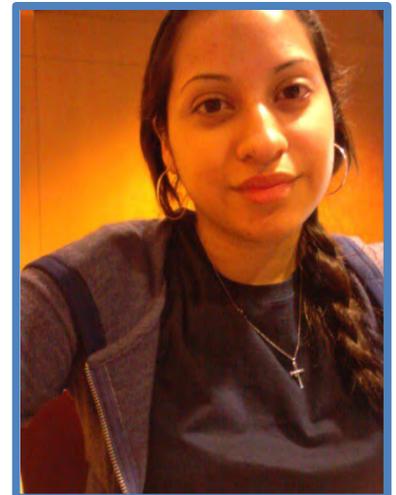
USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Kingsville, TX
Employer: USDA-NRCS Plant Material Center

What I learned: What the purpose was of a plant material center and how they worked with NRCS field offices supplying seed of plants that were specific for erosion control. How to operate a hammer mill and a seed cleaning machine.

About Me: I have a ford Jubilee tractor that I want to restore just need a garage, I have experience fixing street bikes, dirt bikes, atvs, utvs.

Name: *Elainie Marlene Martinez*
Hometown: San Juan, Texas
Institution: South Texas College (STC)
Major: Biology
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Degree: B.S. Biology
Email: lani_manene_16@live.com



Career and Research Aspirations: Researcher in infectious diseases and or toxicology. My dream goal is to be a research pharmacist to specialize in the field of toxicology or infectious diseases. I enjoy the medical field especially medicine.

USDA agency you are interested in: ARS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Moore Air Base
Employer: USDA/ARS Dr. John Goolsby

What I learned: This opportunity helped me with the critical thinking process of research methods. I learned how to work well with others as a team. I gained responsibility and experience in a quarantine environment.

Name: Amy Ruiz
Hometown: Mercedes, TX
Institution: South Texas College (STC)
Major: Biology
Rank: Sophomore
Expected Graduation Date: 2013
Degree: Associates
Email: flybunnygirl7@aol.com



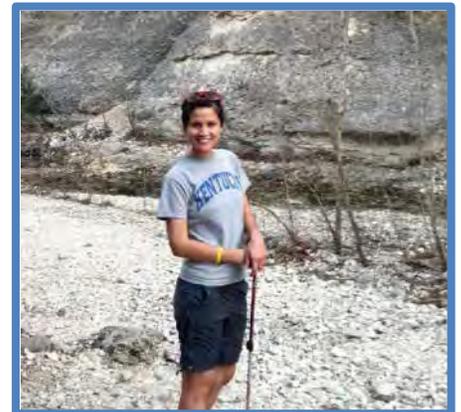
Career and Research Aspirations: Pediatrician

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Weslaco, Texas
Employer: Texas A&M Kingsville Citrus Center with Dr. Kunta

What I learned: How to successfully diagnose two types of Citrus viruses. I enjoy learning about how viruses and diseases work and the different processes needed for proper diagnosis. (RNA vs. DNA).

About Me: For being 17 years old, I was fortunate enough to conduct this project as an undergraduate student at South Texas College while still being a junior in high school. I always enjoy learning new things and being able to apply them to life. I like running in 5k mud runs, ice skating, and catching up on the newest movie releases. I hope to one day leave my mark in the world in the science field.

Name: Yessica Cerino
Hometown: Edinburg, TX
Institution: University of Texas-Pan American
Major: Biology
Rank: Graduate student
Expected Graduation Date: December 2013
Degree: MS in Biology
Email: yecerino@broncs.utpa.edu



Career and Research Aspirations: Some of my future career plans include working in research, ideally in conservation or preservation of native plants and animal species.

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS; ARS; FS.

About Me: Hiking, fishing, and camping are a few of my favorite pastimes. However while indoors, I can just as easily find solace within books. Luckily I have been able to travel the United States, customarily visiting the local zoos, aquariums and state parks. As an undergraduate, I was able to volunteer at animal shelters, a sea turtle conservatory and the Chicago Brookfield zoo, where I got up close and personal with over 25 species of butterflies.

Name: *Stephanie Ortiz*
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: UTPA (University of Texas-Pan American)
Major: Biology
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science. (B.S.)
Email: sortiz4@broncs.utpa.edu



Career and Research Aspirations: I plan to do a Master of Science in Public Health degree to aide in my future career in research.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Edinburg, TX
Employer: University of Texas-Pan American

What I learned: From the research I conducted, I have learned to accurately identify a problem and actively seek a solution, in which, I believe, has helped me gain more patience and confidence in the work I do.

About Me: My hobbies include running/jogging whenever I can find time to do so! . I also enjoy watching movies.

Name: *Emily Sanchez*
Hometown: Harlingen, Texas
Institution: UTPA (University of Texas-Pan American)
Major: Pre-Dent BIO
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Degree: DDS
Email: emsanchez2@broncs.utpa.edu



Career and Research Aspirations: Dentist (Dental research)

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Mission TX.
Employer: APHIS - Moore's Air Force Base

What I learned: Probiotic- effects of bacteria on the Mexican Fruit Fly.

About Me: I am in a Dental Early Acceptance Program; I am interested in the science field and the field of dentistry. My hobbies are studying, reading, painting, and skating. I graduated from South Texas High School for Health Professions 2011.

Name: *Eliza A. Sebastian*
Hometown: India
Institution: UTPA (University of Texas-Pan American)
Major: MS in Biology
Rank: Graduate student
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014
Degree: MS
Email: easebastian@broncs.utpa.edu

Career and Research Aspirations: After doing my internship with USDA for more than half a year and working with erudite professors like Dr. Erin Schuenzel and Dr. Michael Persans, I started to develop a passion towards agriculture and plant research.

USDA agency you are interested in: ARS, APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Edinburg, TX
Employer: UTPA Biology Department

What I learned: My research project focused on determining the origin and population structure of the bacteria *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* (Psa), a pathogen of kiwi fruit. I also had the privilege of presenting my Psa poster at one of the USDA conferences during summer 2012.



Name: *Eric Shah*
Hometown: Edinburg, Texas
Institution: UTPA (University of Texas-Pan American)
Major: Biology
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Fall 2014
Degree: Bachelor Sci. B.S.
Email: ershah@broncs.utpa.edu

Career and Research Aspirations: I would like to obtain a PhD in either the field of molecular biology or genetics. I would enjoy teaching/researching for a university or working for the USDA.

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS & ARS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Weslaco, TX
Employer: Texas A&M University at Kingsville Citrus Center

What I learned: I developed protoplasts that were intended for staining and microscopy. I enjoyed the hands on experience that the Citrus Center provided.



Name: *Tess Thomas*
Hometown: McAllen, Texas
Institution: UTPA (University of Texas-Pan American)
Major: Biology
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: 2014
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: tthomas@broncs.utpa.edu



Career and Research Aspirations: My goal is to continue my studies at a master's program and follow a career in research. I would love to be involved in a research programs that makes a difference in the world, but also helps youth get involved in science and research.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS; ARS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Edinburg, Texas
Employer: University of Texas Pan American

What I learned: So far, I have learned the techniques of water quality testing, methods of sample collection, proper use of water quality testing equipment. I also improved research and documentation skills (collecting data, writing and gathering materials for research papers).

About Me: I love watching crime dramas, especially those revolving around forensic anthropology and forensic archeology (Bones). My hobbies include painting and drawing. I also love to read and go on road trips.

Name: *Johnathon Waggoner*
Hometown: Alamogordo, NM
Institution: UTPA (University of Texas-Pan American)
Major: Biology
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: 2014
Degree: BS.
Email: jmwaggoner@broncs.utpa.edu



Career and Research Aspirations: Bacterial Research

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Edinburg, TX
Employer: APHIS, Dr. Ruiz-Arce

What I learned: USDA Molecular techniques.

Texas State University Project Page

FATE Food Safety and Agroterrorism Training: Educating Our Future Workforce

The USDA FATE Grant’s objectives include creation and implementation a Joint Admissions Agreement with Texas State University and Laredo Community College / Palo Alto College / Northwest Vista College to increase the transfer rate of Hispanic students to a 4 year university.

It will encourage Hispanic community college students to develop early linkages with Texas State University through the newly established University Transfer Centers, mentorship websites, summer camps, faculty networking, and experiential learning fieldtrips and have a retention rate at or higher than that of the University. The grant will train 50 scholar Hispanic students in the course “Preparing Communities for Agroterrorism”.

The goal will be to retain and place 90 percent of the student participants in job shadowing and internship opportunities within USDA agencies; graduate 50 Hispanic students who are well trained and ready to enter employment in the food safety / inspection areas with APHIS, FSIS, or another USDA agency.

This grant is the first one awarded to Texas State University since it achieved the status of a “Hispanic Serving Institution”, it is housed in the Department of Agriculture and directed by Dr. Douglas Morrish and Dr. Ryan Saucier.

Four Collaborating HSI Institutions

Texas State University – San Marcos, Texas - Lead Institution(TSU)

**Co PIs: Doug Morrish dm43@txstate.edu 512-245-3321
& Ryan Saucier ps51@txstate.edu 512-245-3325**

Laredo Community College, Laredo, Texas

Nora Garza nrgarza@LAREDO.EDU 956-721-5337

Northwest Vista Community College*, San Antonio, Texas

Carlos Aguirre caguirre57@alamo.edu 210-485-0300

Palo Alto Community College*, San Antonio, Texas

Gary Shelman jshelman@alamo.edu 210-486-3920

* Part of the Alamo Community College District

Texas State University Graduate Students
Texas State University-San Marcos

Name: *Juan Garcia*
E-mail: *jg1572@txstate.edu*
Hometown: Eagle Pass
Institution: Texas State University – San Marcos
Rank: Graduate Student
Major: Agriculture
Expected date of graduation: August 2013



As an undergraduate I worked for a graduate student on his study of composting invasive plant species. I am a teaching assistant for college agriculture undergraduate classes such as Agricultural Engineering (AG 2373), and other agriculture systems courses. My interests include participating in FFA related activities, being active in my departmental clubs, and volunteering in the San Antonio Livestock Exposition. I enjoy outdoor activities such as hunting, fishing, kayaking, etc.

Short-term goals: includes graduating from Texas State University with a Masters degree in Education and becoming an agriculture science education teacher in Eagle Pass.

Long-term goals: includes building my community agriculturally and pursue a Ph. D in Agriculture.

Name: *Diana Morales*
E-mail: *dm1434@txstate.edu*
Hometown: Castroville, TX
Institution: Texas State University – San Marcos
Rank: Graduate Student
Major: Agriculture
Expected date of graduation: May 2014



My interests include participating in FFA related activities, being active in the agricultural department clubs, and volunteering in the community.

Short-term goals: includes graduating from Texas State University with a Masters degree in Agriculture Education and becoming an agriculture science education teacher.

Long-term goals: includes pursuing a Ph. D in Agriculture where I could teach at a university one day.

Research/Outreach: My research includes *Hispanic/Latino Student Perceptions of Agricultural and their Knowledge Levels of the Different Agencies within the USDA.*

Texas State University Under Graduate Students _____
Texas State University-San Marcos

Name: *Mariela Lizbeth Aguilera*
Email: *Marielaa2010@yahoo.com*
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Texas State University San Marcos
Rank: Junior
Major: Nutrition/Dietetics Concentration track
Graduation Date: Fall 2014



Internship: My personal preference would be with USDA FNS, NIFA, and FSIS.

Skills: Communication, Organizational, and Leadership skills

Short Term Goals: For the moment my biggest goal is to successfully complete the current semester with a good grade point average, as well as possibly obtaining a summer internship.

Long Term Goals: I aspire to graduate from Texas State University with a B.S in Food and Nutrition, go on to apply and complete the Dietetic Internship.

Research/Outreach: I am currently participating in research with professors in the Food and Nutrition department at Texas State University.

Name: *Alyssa Carrera* **Email:** *avc1@txstate.edu*
Hometown: Mission, Texas
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Junior.
Major: Animal Science with a minor in Biochemistry.
Expected Graduation: May 2015.



Internship: I am seeking an internship with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service area of the USDA. I am interested in Veterinary Services.

For short term goals: My goal is to complete my undergraduate course work and be accepted into a Veterinary School.

For long term goals: In the long term, I aspire to open my own Veterinary practice, and work closely with the USDA conducting research on various diseases.

Research / Outreach: I currently have not participated in any research or outreach programs.

Name: *José Miguel Castro*
Email: jmc243@txstate.edu
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Texas State University San Marcos
Rank: Senior
Major: Biochemistry & Applied Mathematics
Expected graduation: May 2015



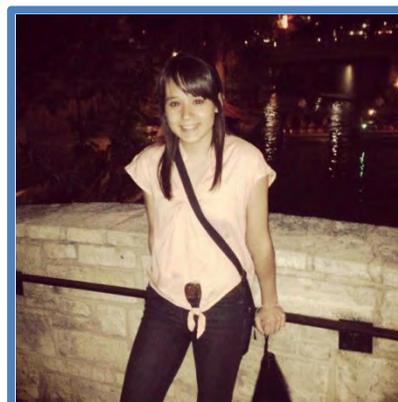
Internship: FNS & APHIS

Short term goals: To finish my BS in Biochemistry and Applied Mathematics. Then enter Osteopathic program at UNT health science center in Fort Worth, TX.

Long term goals: To become a gynecologist obstetrician. Then, after finishing my education I plan to help my community by serving them with everything I can. Want to help other by working on a Hospital or with the government. Either or will make be help others.

Research/Outreach: I was offered a research opportunity this summer at Texas State University with Dr. Watkins. The project is about finding how bacteria can manage to extract sulfur from polycyclic organic compounds sin order to produce environmental friendly fuels.

Name: *Stephanie Chapa;*
Email: snc4@txstate.edu
Hometown: San Antonio
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Animal Science
Expected date of graduation: May 2016



Internship: APHIS

I am a sophomore at Texas State University, and studying Animal Science. I am in the agriculture organization MANRRS. I like to play all kinds of sports and hang out with my friends. I love animals which is why I went into studying animal science. I hope to one day become a Veterinarian. I have not yet decided if I want to work with small animals or large animals.

Short term goals: I hope to get an internship in something relating in my major either this summer or next summer. I hope gain a lot of experience in the internship I will have.

Long term goals: My long term goals are to get into veterinary school at A&M University. After I graduate from vet school I want to open my own practice.

Name: *Johnny De La Cruz*
Email: j_d144@txstate.edu
Hometown: San Antonio, TX
Rank: Junior
Major: Geography – Resource & Environmental Studies
Graduation date: 2015



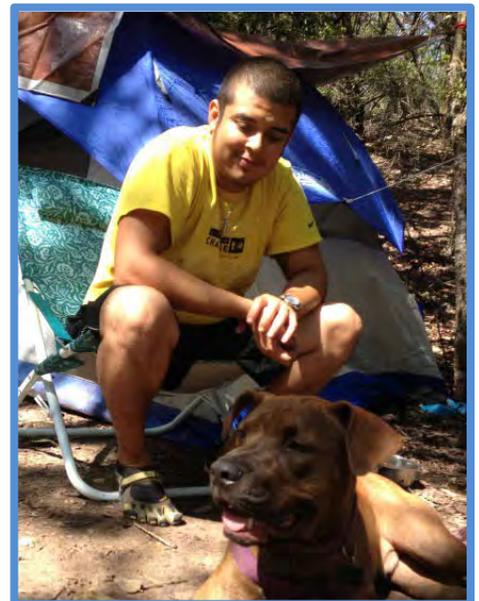
Internship: NRCS

Skills: I'm skilled with computers and technology. I'm a problem-solver.

Short term goals: My short-term goals are to finish this semester to the best of my ability, and to complete my undergraduate studies in the same manner. I'll take the appropriate amount of classes to ensure that I meet all requirements and finish in a timely manner. Another short-term goal of mine is to acquire an internship with the NRCS. I'll continue to be the best person that I can be for my wife and step-kids.

Long term goals: My long-term goals are to complete a few different internships, within NRCS, in order to enter the agency at a higher level, and to advance through the NRCS. I'd like to have a child, or two, of my own. I, also, fully intend on returning to attend, and complete, graduate school for further advancement.

Name: *Sergio de Leon*
Email address: sjd39@txstate.edu sergio.deleon05@me.com sergio.deleon05@gmail.com
Hometown: San Antonio, TX.
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Senior
Major: Nutrition and Foods with a minor in Agriculture
Expected date of graduation: Spring 2014

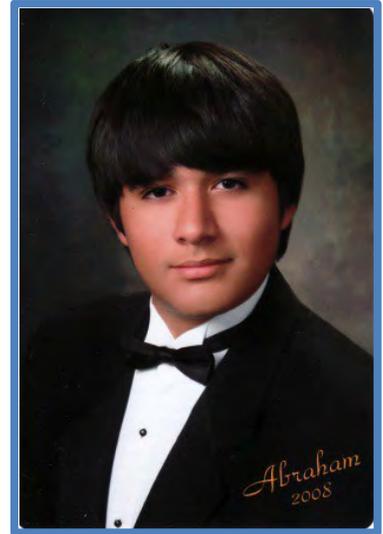


Internship: I would prefer to gain an internship in a location that is known for their overall community interaction and incorporates the principle of locally produced goods into their programs.

Short-term goals: My short term goals are to graduate and gain an internship with a respective organization of my choosing.

Long- term goal: My overall goal is to have a well-established urban farming system, which encompasses the principles of a U-Pick operation along with the experience of a farmer's market. My operation would be in close proximity to downtown San Antonio, TX where I will provide fresh organic produce.

Name: *Abraham Saturnino Garcia*
Email: asg45@txstate.edu
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Senior
Major: General Agriculture
Expected date of graduation: May 2015



Internship: I would like to have an internship with NRCS.

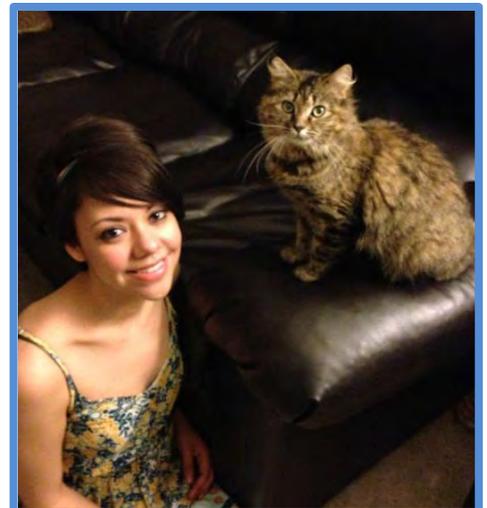
Skills: I know my fair share of MAC and PC computers, I speak Spanish and play trombone.

Short term goals: I want to graduate, but with as much experience as I can obtain from the university and the internships I take.

Long term goals: With the knowledge that I obtain, I would like to start a program to let people know that it is possible to grow fresh products with limited space. I would also like to have my own garden of fresh produce.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: I did one research called HSI Research Symposium. Texas State University reached out to community colleges looking for student majoring in agriculture and the sciences around it. I was fortunately one of the students and I was sharing it with people around Laredo Community College.

Name: *Patricia Garcia*
Email: pcg15@txstate.edu
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Texas State University of San Marcos
Rank: Senior
Major: Agriculture-Animal Science
Expected Graduation: Spring 2014



Internship: I would hope to get an internship with the USDA branch, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

Skills: I am knowledgeable in diverse areas of science, have excellent skills in raising goats and poultry, good experience in leadership positions, and admirable skills in Fine Arts.

Short term Goals: Some of my aspirations include graduating next semester and pursuing a Masters degree in Agriculture.

Long term Goals: One of my dreams is to pursue a career in which assists to poor communities in the United States and in different countries as well.

Name: *Magaly Gomez*
Email: *m_g12@txstate.edu*
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Texas State University – San Marcos
Rank/Year: Sophomore
Major: Agribusiness Management – Horticulture
Expected date of graduation: May 2015



Internship: I am currently Interning with USDA NRCS and will continue to intern with the Soil Conservationist until I graduate in 2015.

Skills: I work well with others and can adapt to different situations easily.

Short term goals: I hope to graduate from Texas State in 2015 with a career already started (possibly with USDA).

Long term goals: My ultimate goal in life is to have a career which makes me happy so I want to become a manager at a botanic garden, because to me there is nothing better than being outside surrounded by beautiful plants. I also want to own land and create a space that is not only beautiful, but that keeps the environment healthy.

Name: *Jessica Gonzalez*
Email: *jg1878@txstate.edu*
Hometown: Schertz, Texas
Institution: Texas State University- San Marcos
Rank: Senior
Major: Agriculture Business and Management-
Specialization in Horticulture
Expected graduation date: December 2013

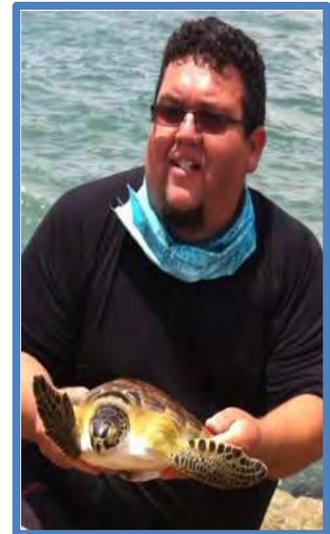


Internship: I have not participated in an internship but I would like to do one with the USDA- APHIS.

Short term goals: I would like to continue learning and gaining as much knowledge as I can about horticulture before I graduate. I am trying to participate in an internship with the USDA for the summer of 2013. If I do not receive one with the USDA I am still going to try to participate in an internship that pertains with horticulture.

Long term goals: After graduation I would like to hopefully receive a job with the USDA. I would really like to work in the APHIS department, working with plants.

Name: *Marcus F. Guerra*
Email: *marcusfg28@hotmail.com*
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Environmental Science
Graduation date: 2014



Internship: Searching for an internship with the USDA.

My short term goals right now is to complete 20 hours of volunteer work before April. I look forward to volunteering next semester with San Antonio Food Bank. I have focused on the Texas Quality of Environmental Science and The United States Department of Agriculture to gain an internship in the summer of 2013.

My long term goal is to finish Grad school at Texas State University. Working toward my bachelor degree has proven to be an exciting adventure and thinking of continuing my education is definitely in my future. The United States Department of Agriculture and Texas Commission of Environmental Quality are two companies I have focused my career on for the future.

Research/Outreach: I am currently working on a project with Bountiful Baskets in San Antonio, this is an organization that gathers people together to purchase large amounts of produce and offer it locally to people who are encouraged to eat healthy.

Name: *Abdiel Lopez*
Email: *LopezAbdiel210@hotmail.com*
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Junior
Major: Biology
Graduation date: June 2016



Internship: I would like to intern anywhere I can be using a microscope.

Skills: I am very efficient with technology, especially computers, I have a deeper understanding than average I would say. I am also a very quick learner, I tend to grasp concepts really quickly.

Short term goals: My short term goals is to graduate from college with the best grades that I can achieve.

Long term goals: My long term goals are to be able to live comfortably and not have to struggle to survive.

Name: *Jennifer Ann Lopez*
Email: *jal165@txstate.edu*
Hometown *Laredo, Texas*
Institution: *Texas State University*
Rank: *Senior*
Major: *Geographic Information Science*
Graduation date: *December 2013*



Internship: *USDA - APHIS*

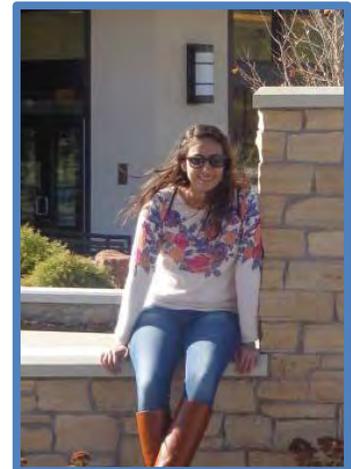
Skills - Besides my knowledge and experience with Office Productivity Suite, I am experienced in Arc GIS (ArcMap10), Adobe Illustrator C6, and have terrific communication skills.

Short Term Goals - Gain internship with USDA.

Long Term Goals - Maintain a managerial position and several years of employment with the same company and explore my capabilities with leadership roles.

Research/Outreach Projects: **SUMMER 2012** - USDA Agroterrorism training **WINTER 2013** – USDA with New Mexico Dept. of Agriculture.

Name: *Anailse Martinez*
Email: *anailse90@hotmail.com / a_m304@txstate.edu*
Hometown *Laredo, Texas*
Institution: *Texas State University*
Rank: *Senior*
Major: *Nutrition and foods / Dietetics Track*
Expected date of graduation: *May 2014*



Internship: I would like to intern with USDA in the Food and Nutrition Service Office.

Skills: - Mac and Windows O/S, Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe CS5: Dreamweaver, Photoshop, Connect, Various web design tools -Exceptional organization and time-management skills

Short term goals: My nearest goal at this time is to get my degree.

Long term goals: When I graduate I will like to get Dietetic Internship that way I will be able to take my Dietetic Registration.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: I am currently helping one of my professors in a research related to Vitamin A as a metastasis control method. I really enjoy working in lab, it is very rewarding observing how everything that I've learned in a classroom can be apply in a lab.

Name: *Jesus Martinez* **Email:**
jom9@txstate.edu
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Texas State University
Expected Graduation Date: spring of 2015
Major: Animal Science
Rank: Sophomore



Internship: I plan to intern with APHIS or NRCS for next summer.

Skills: Some skills that I can say would help me out living away from home is that I can be as kind as possible to new people. Start to create networking system with professors and students.

Short Term Goals: My short term goals is to keep trying my hardest to keep up with my classes, be able to receive a job working as a veterinary assistant, getting my foot in the door for future employment once I graduate from Vet School.

Long Term Goals: I hope to be accepted into a vet school by the time I graduate with my bachelors in Animal Science.

Name: *Marissa Martinez*
Email: *mm2151@txstate.edu*
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Senior
Major: Animal Science
Expected Graduation Date: December 2014



Internship: APHIS

From a young age, I have always loved being around animals whether it was helping my grandfather on the ranch or raising my own animals. Due to this passion of mine, I have decided to pursue a career in veterinary medicine.

Short-term goals: Obtain a degree in animal science from Texas State University maintaining a GPA of 3.8 or higher. After that I plan on being accepted to a prestigious veterinary school to further my education.

Long term goals: After I complete veterinary school, I plan on opening my own vet clinic in a rural area of Texas that is affordable for people of all types.

Name: *Jenny M Pantoja*
Email: jmp11@txstate.edu
Hometown: Born in Cali Colombia, raised in Houston
Institution: Texas State University-San Marcos
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Animal Science
Expected date of graduation: May 2015



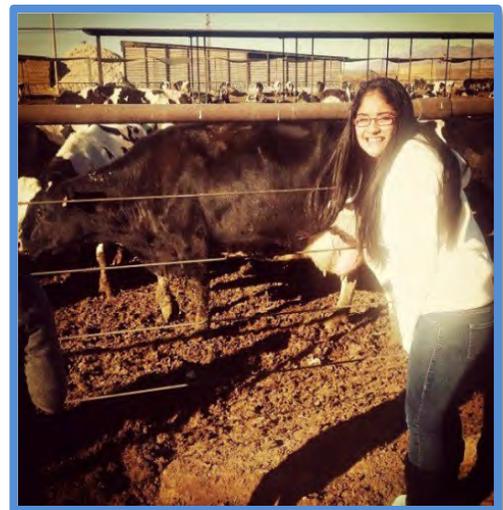
Internship: I have not completed one. I am interested in completing an internship with APHIS or NRCS.

Skills: typing, basic computer programs

Short term goals: For now my goals are to finish school and do the best I can. Also, learn how to be responsible young adult.

Long term goals: After finishing College I wish to work managing farms. My grandma has a farm in Colombia and I wish to fix the farm up and make it as productive as it was one day. Perhaps work with the government and help the less fortunate.

Name: *Maricela Perez* **Email:** m_p13@txtstate.edu
Hometown: La Marque, Texas
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Junior
Major: Animal Science
Graduation date: May 2015



Internship: I would love to do an internship with APHIS.

Skills: I am really good with computers, math, science and writing. When it comes to skills in these fields if I don't know how to do something then it is really easy for me to learn it quickly.

Short term goals is finishing my Bachelors degree with a 4.0 GPA and being accepted into the Texas A&M veterinarian program. Another one would be to become part of church here is San Marcos and become an active member of that church community.

Long-term goals, As for long-term goals, I want to be able to own my home, and have a steady career as a veterinarian at my own practice. I would also like to start my own animal rescue foundation and shelter so that I can help find homes for the many animals that do not have homes. In the future, another one of my main goals is establish a church with my fiancé and to be a mentor to all the young children and young adults of that church.

Name: *Natalie Perez* **Email:**
N_p2@txstate.edu
Hometown: Converse, Texas
Institution: Texas State University-San
Marcos
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Nutrition and Foods
Graduation: December 2014



Internships: I am interested in working with federal programs such as WIC and SNAP, and educating families about food choices.

Skills: Proficient in both Spanish and English, interpreter, structured and dynamic communicator.

Short Term Goals: Graduate in less than four years with a GPA greater than 3.75.

Long Term Goals: Get involved with federal programs involving families and students, private practice in conjunction with starting a health business

Name: *Candice Rodriguez*
Email: C_r8@txstate.edu
Hometown: San Antonio
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Biology
Graduation date: December 2015

Internship: I've not taken any internships just yet but I would love to take one soon. The location would not matter as long as I gain experience in the field I'm interested in. I would like to travel out of state though to experience life outside of Texas.

Short term goals: This semester I intend on passing all my classes with a 3.5 or higher, working a 15 hour or greater week at my job, The Disney Store, and still trying to run and read as much as I can in between.

Long term goals: I would love to work in a lab. I've always loved the lab environment and being able to create new things out of nothing. It would be great to assign it all a purpose as well. I would want to research ways on saving and protecting lives from zoonotic diseases. I wish to one-day understand the way they all work to help find cures or immunizations against them.



Name: *Carlos Sencion*
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Email: cas260@txstate.edu
Institution: Texas State University.
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Animal Science
Expected graduation date: Spring 2015



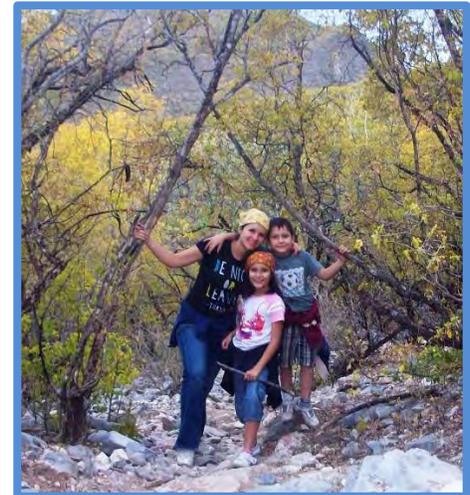
Internship: (APHIS) and Farm Service agency (FSA).

Skills: First semester being away from home has made me become a responsible adult. I have good communication skills that will help me in the future with finding a job.

Short term goals: My short term goals is to succeed in all my classes to receive my bachelors in animal science. I also plan to get a job as vet-assistant which will help me in the future in veterinary school.

Long term goals: In the near future after graduation I plan to attend vet school at Texas A&M in College Station. It has been my passion as a child to become a veterinarian. I have always had the love and care for animals of any kind. I would like to work in the agriculture industry after perusing my degree in veterinary medicine.

Name: *Karla Siller*
Email: karlass26@hotmail.com
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Texas State University - San Marcos
Rank: Junior
Major: Biology
Expected day of graduation: May 2014



Internship: FSIS.

Skills: Dedicated, responsible, and initiative taker.

Short term goals: Graduate from Texas State and travel to new places.

Long term goals: Contribute in activities that foment our community development through positive workshops and try to motivate others to do so. Participate in long scale research projects. Work with USDA.

Research/Outreach Projects: I've done microbiology and environmental research projects such as bacterial resistance among cleaning techniques, bacterial stress to environment, and water safety in public places. I've also worked in mathematics workshops that provides support to high school students in their transition to college.

Name: *David Vela* **Email:**
dv1098@txstate.edu
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Texas State University
Rank: Senior
Major: Agriculture, **Minor:** Animal Science
Expected date of graduation: December 2013



Internship: USDA Forest Service – Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie

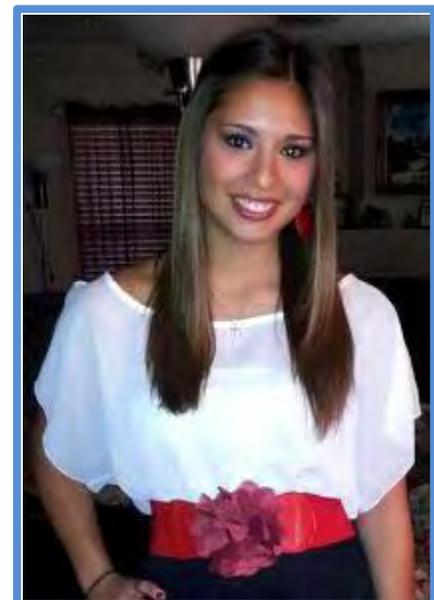
I come from a ranching background and have always loved the outdoors. My hobbies include hunting, fishing, exercising, and anything pertaining to the outdoors.

Skills: My coursework in agriculture has allowed me to become knowledgeable in many areas of biological sciences.

Short term goals: I hope to graduate with honors and be accepted into graduate school.

Long term goals: I hope to one day work for USDA and be in a position that allows me to improve agricultural practices across the country.

Name: *Emily Way*
Email: Emilyway123@gmail.com
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Texas State University-San Marcos
Rank: Junior
Major: Nutrition Dietetics
Expected graduation: Fall 2014 or Spring 2015



Internship: CNPP or FNS

Skills: I am very good with working with technology, I catch on very fast to new objectives and tasks, and I love learning new things.

Short term goals: To find an internship that will open many doors for my future. I currently want to be a Pediatric Dietitian, but maybe this internship will move my interests in a different direction.

Long term goals: In the long run, I am hoping to start my practice in a hospital, and learn more about what dietitians days consist of. I then want to move my way towards becoming a Pediatric Dietitian, or whatever I choose to do in the future.

Texas State University Under Graduate Students
Laredo Community College

Name: *Kassandra Gonzalez*
Email: *martelkassieeli@live.com*
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Laredo Community College
Major: Agriculture and Animal Science
Expected Date of Graduation:



I love to swim, ride horses, read books, play with and take care of animals, planting and gardening. My nickname is Kassie

Long term goals: I want to work with animals and take care of animals that are hurt or wounded. I want to work with animals to protect people and continue my education by working on-line for a Master's of Agriculture.

Name: *Marcella Juarez*
Email: *Fifa_mij@yahoo.com*
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Laredo Community College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Agriculture
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2013



Internship: USDA Wilderness Ranger Internship in Colorado.

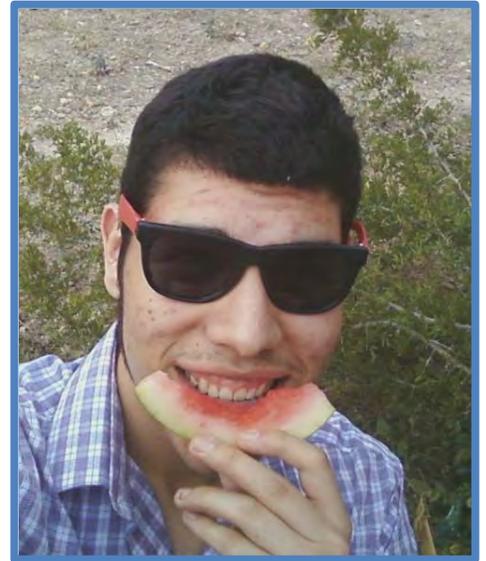
Skills: I am a very hard worker and have a positive attitude. I can do anything I set my mind to.

Short Term Goals: I expect to graduate from Laredo Community College in 2013 and transfer to Texas State University.

Long Term Goals: After obtaining my degree in agriculture, I plan to bring all of the knowledge and experience gained back to my family's ranch.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: I would like to learn more about and experiment with the aquaponics system.

Name: *Manuel Enrique Juarez Jr*
Email: Soccer_mej@yahoo.com
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Laredo Community College
Rank: Freshman
Major: Agriculture
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2014



Internship: USDA Wilderness Ranger Internship in Colorado.

Short Term Goals: I plan to graduate from Laredo Community College in 2014 and transfer to Texas State University.

Long Term Goals: After obtaining my degree in agriculture, I plan to bring all of the knowledge and experience gained back to my family's ranch.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: One effective method of farming that I would like to utilize and learn more about is the aquaponics system.

Name: *Regino Lopez*
Email: reginol94@gmail.com
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Laredo Community College
Rank: Freshman.
Major: Electrical Engineering
Expected date of graduation: Fall 2015



Internship: NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Skills: My skills include speaking Spanish, being very friendly/approachable, a decision maker, and punctual.

Short Term Goals: My short-term goals include leaving LCC with a 4.0 and receiving as much financial assistance through scholarships to relieve the burden of expenses off my parents.

Long Term Goals: My long-term goals include becoming a successful engineer that is working under the field of renewable energies or any engineering firm that creates technology that benefits humanity such as the team of engineers that introduced the straw purifier that allows those in Africa to drink clean water straight from any body of water.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: I attended the STEM summer bridge program at LCC which focused on agriculture and plant life.

Name: *Shelby Medina*
Email: *Shelby_catcher@hotmail.com*
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Laredo Community College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Animal Science
Graduation date: May 2013



Internships: Couple of internships I applied for was Soil conservationist with the department of agriculture and NRCS.

Skills: Computer and writing skills:

A short term goal is to graduate with 3.7 GPA or higher to attend a university with my degree.

A long term goal of mine would be that after I graduate with a doctoral degree, I plan to open up my own veterinary clinic and to be a full time veterinarian.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: I volunteer at my local animal shelter and at the Laredo food bank. I have volunteered as a coach for softball and volleyball.

Name: *Gabriela Dolores Solis*
Email: *Live-2-see@hotmail.com*
Hometown: Laredo, Texas
Institution: Laredo Community College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: *Biology/Animal Science.*
Expected date of graduation: May 2013



Internship: ARS, APHIS, or FSA

Skills: I can use certain programs from the computer efficiently. I am a fast learner, responsible, and time-oriented.

Short term goals: My short term goal is to graduate with summa cum laude from Laredo Community College.

Long term goals: My long term goal involves becoming a veterinarian. I want to get a doctor degree in both Biology and Animal Science.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: At the moment I am working on a project with the Honor students at Laredo Community College. I plan on presenting the project at Houston in April. The project is about staying healthy; diets, exercising, and body mass.

Texas State University Under Graduate Students
Northwest Vista Community College

Name: *Jewel Roselle Graw*
Email: shootingstar2010@hotmail.com
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Northwest Vista College
Rank/Year: Junior
Major: Biology- Concentration in Wildlife Biology
Expected date of graduation: May 2013

Internship: APHIS or NRCS.

Skills: -Able to speak, read and write Spanish -Proficient in Microsoft Office Word, PowerPoint, and Internet Explorer - Familiar in operating laboratory equipment such as Microscopes, Spectrophotometer 20 and Fume Hoods -Able to make Gram stain and Acid-fast stain slides



Short term goals: to acquire an Associate's Degree in Biology.

Long term goals: After obtaining my Bachelor's Degree, I am determined to continue my education moving forward to the graduate program and attaining a Master's Degree in my field of interest to specialize myself even further in wildlife.

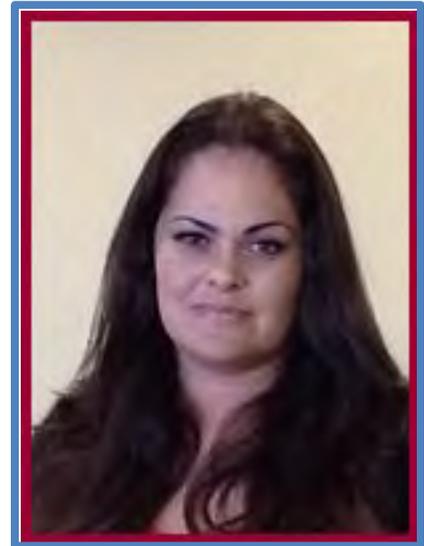
Name: *Angelinda Medina*
Email: Angelinda25@gmail.com
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Northwest Vista College
Major: Nutrition
Expected Date of Graduation:

I like anything having to do with music, creating or improving something, being outdoors, watching football, baseball, volleyball, spending time with my family.

Long term goals: In five years I see myself working for a MLB team as an athletic trainer or working as an athletic trainer for the pro rodeo circuit.



Name: *Tammy Meir*
Email: *trm19@txstate.edu*
Hometown: Buffalo, New York
Institution: Northwest Vista College
Major: Science/System Administrator
Expected Date of Graduation



My interests are in computers. I enjoy working in the technology industry. My hobbies include modeling for a private agency, volunteering my time and services in the community, traveling, fishing, and spending as much time as possible with my loved ones. I've climbed Pikes Peak before the capability was there to drive up it. I am a grandmother of (2) two-year-olds.

Long term goals: My career goal is to have a doctorate degree. As technology advances, my goal is to continue to grow along with it. I see myself in five years either finishing or completing a Master's degree. My aspiration is to never give up. Life is full of adventures. I don't want to be along for the ride. I want to be part of its history.

Name: *Sara Pittman*
Email: *sara_pittman92@yahoo.com*
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Northwest Vista College
Rank: Junior
Major: Anthropology/Biology
Expected date of graduation: 2014



Internship: APHIS

Skills: My skills would be the amount of information I know about animals and my evolving knowledge of physical anthropology.

Short term goals: I would like to get my Master's Degree in Physical Anthropology and get an internship with the federal government.

Long term goals: Long term goals would be something similar to Forensic Anthropology and/or doing extensive research in physical anthropology.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: Although I have not participated in any research I would like to do research on human identification and the diversity of human bones.

Name: *Isamar Sanchez*
Email: *Isamar.sanchez11@gmail.com*
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Northwest Vista College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: General Studies in Science/Animal Science
Expected date of graduation: May 18, 2013 with an associates from Northwest Vista College



Internship: APHIS or NRCS

Skills: I love meeting new people and can interact with people of all ages. I can work with others and can effectively be a leader as well as a follower. I am ambitious and kind.

Short term goals: I plan on graduating with my bachelors in animal science and get accepted into the college of veterinary medicine at Texas A&M.

Long term goals: If I succeed and become a veterinarian I would like to expand my skills and become dog trainer as well as a dog groomer and someday open my own practice. I also plan on attending graduate school to become an agricultural engineer.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: I take time to volunteer at the humane society. As a Sunday school teacher for my church. I help lead a religious club at school that allows us to go and do missionary work for our community.

Name: *Heidi Stence*
Email: *hstence@yahoo.com*
Hometown: Santa Cruz, Peru South America
Institution: Northwest Vista College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Wildlife Biology
Expected date of graduation: June 2014



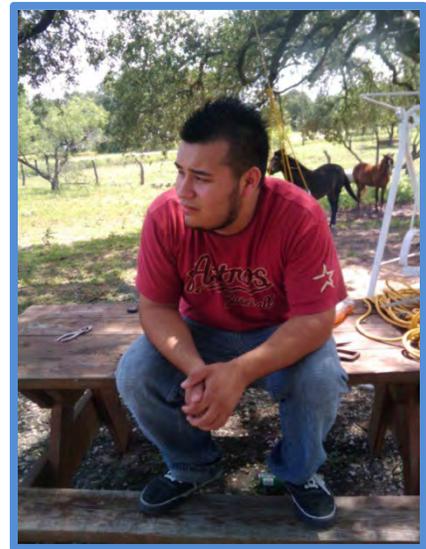
Internship: APHIS, the SCA, or the AZA.

Skills: I am Bilingual in English and Spanish; I am able to use Microsoft Word, Office, and PowerPoint proficiently.

Short term goals: I am currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Wildlife Biology. After this spring semester, I will be transferring to Texas State University.

Long term goals: After I graduate from Texas State, I plan on obtaining a master's degree in Wildlife Biology or Animal Sciences. My end goal as a Wildlife Biologist would be to work in a zoo or in a conservatory for endangered animals. There I plan on doing research on the behavior and psychology of the animals.

Name: *Samuel Verastegui Jr.*
Email: sv.tsubio@gmail.com
Hometown: San Antonio Texas
Institution: Northwest Vista Community College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Wildlife Biology
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2015



Internship Goals: I am hoping to be able to land an internship within the forestry department or in wildlife biology.

Skills: I would say that my most important skill is how I treat people. I try to be as nice as possible, regardless of whom the person is. I am also a very fast learner.

Short Term Goals: I am really concentrated on being selected for an internship. That is probably at the top of my list.

Long Term Goals: I eventually want to graduate from Texas State with a Doctorate or at the least a Master's degree. Those have been my long term goals from a very young age, and have no plans of quitting school any time soon. My education is my top priority.

Texas State University Under Graduate Students

Palo Alto Community College

Name: *Juan Castaneda*
E-Mail: jcastaneda80@student.alamo.edu
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution; Palo Alto College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Environmental Science Studies
Expected date of graduation: May, 2016



Internship: Soil Conservation

Short Term Goals: I have a short term goal I have is to simply eat healthier. Doing this will make me healthy and live a longer fuller life, who wouldn't want that?

Long term Goals: A long term goal of mine is to have my degree in Environmental Science so that I can use the resources afforded to me to be knowledgeable of the nature I love so much. Having this knowledge is instrumental to educating others and preserving the earth.

Name: *Jacob Chavez*
Email: j.cgrows@yahoo.com
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Palo Alto College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Environmental Science
Expected date of graduation: May 2015



Internship: NRCS or APHIS.

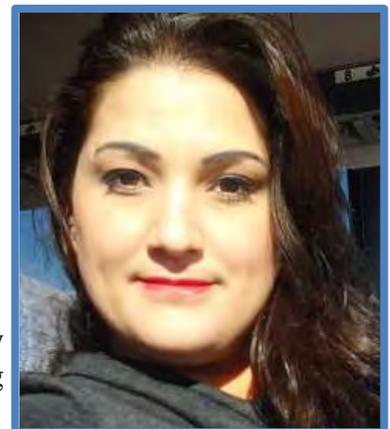
Skills: I am very proficient in landscape designs as well installations. I also have the ability to operate heavy machinery such as skid steers and zero turn lawn mowers.

Short term goals: Of course one goal of mine is to graduate. In doing so, I wish to obtain as much knowledge as possible.

Long term goals: I would love to be able to travel all over to teach agriculture and farming where it is direly needed.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: I have currently been involved in community outreach programs in which we go out and design, install, or maintain gardens and different landscapes.

Name: *Susan Flores*
Email: sflores323@student.alamo.edu
Hometown: San Antonio
Institution: Palo Alto College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Biology/Pre Medicine
Expected date of graduation: 2013



Internship: AVIS

Skills: CPR certified Homeland Security Certified, Ag Security Certified, and Self Employed for 12 years so I am skilled in running a small business.

Short term goals: I plan on graduating from Palo Alto College. After graduation I will transfer to Texas State in San Marcos Texas to earn my BA..

Long term goals: My long term goal is to become a physician and donate my time to Project Smile where I will help families in need in third world countries.

Research and/or Outreach Projects: I do and am a donor and participant in many organizations and community projects.

Name: *Daisy S. Garcia*
Email: *daisy_garcia_6@yahoo.com*
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Palo Alto Community College
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Agriculture
Expected date of Graduation: May 2013



Internship: San Antonio Rodeo This was my second year doing an internship with the San Antonio Rodeo.

Short term goals: I will be graduating in May with my Associates degree from Palo Alto College.

Long term goals: My long term goal involves my degree, a career, land, livestock, and a family. I will work for a bachelors at Texas State and with the FATE Grant I hope to find a place within the USDA and build a career with them. I would like to eventually purchase land, have livestock, and raise and breed exotic game animals..

Research and/or Outreach Projects: I am currently the President of the Lone Star Ag Club, Vice President of Fellowship in Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, and a member of the Horticulture Club and the Future Educators of America.

Name: *Sylvia Ann Perez Hiller* **Email:**
slyhi66@gmail.com
Hometown: San Antonio, Texas
Institution: Palo Alto Community College
Rank: Sophomore 2013
Major: Nutrition/Dietician
Graduation date: 2015

Internship: FNS Agency for USDA.

My short term goal is to get a summer internship with the USDA, so that I can get work experience that I will need for future jobs.

My long term goal is to seek a career within the USDA in the field of Nutrition so that I may give back to my community and nation. I would love to be in a position that will allow me to use the skills and education that I have gained from college and the Texas State FATE scholarship.



University of Puerto Rico Project Page

UPRM Center for Education and Training in Agriculture and Related Sciences (CETARS)

Félix R. Román PD, Marco de Jesus, Martha L. López and Juan López Garriga Co-PDs, Chemistry Department, UPRM; Oscar Perales and Marcelo Suarez, Co-PDs Department of Engineering Science and Materials UPRM; Winston Dela Torre, Department of Crops and Agro-environmental Sciences UPRM; Jorge Gardea-Torresdey, Chemistry Department University of Texas at El Paso; Jesus Lee-Borges, University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla; Angela Gonzalez and Félix Torres, Inter-American University of Puerto Rico at San German, and Rolando Tremont University of Puerto Rico at Humacao

Summary for First Year

CETARS is 800K/year project funded by USDA-NIFA-HSI program including matching support from the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez (UPRM) to provide 55 undergraduate and graduate students from agriculture, engineering and other related disciplines with meaningful research training and outreach activities. This project is an interdisciplinary and collaborative effort between five Hispanic serving institutions aimed to provide innovative, high impact research training related to agriculture and related sciences and to establish and consolidate a pipeline by attracting, retaining and graduating talented individuals from K-12 to the PhD, while supporting their actual placement in Agriculture-related positions. The outcomes during the first year include the constructions of school gardens at 10 participating K-6 public schools and weekly follow-up visits to provide educative lectures. The CETARS project also hosted a Globe Program component which included 12 additional public schools. The Globe Program activities included the training of 12 UPRM CETARS students and 20 K-12 teachers in hand-on measurements of soil and water quality and monthly visits to public schools for hands on traing of students. Also as part of the Globe Program, CETARS students provided Science on Wheels Chemistry shows impacting over 500 K-12 students. These shows consisted in visits to participating schools using a university van equipped with all necessary materials to provide a spectacular show in which K-12 students experienced the magic of chemistry. Forty undergraduate and graduate students participated in research projects leading to 12 publications in peer review journals including several cover pages. Eighteen CETARS students participated in paid internships at USDA and related agencies. Two courses were offered on line, Chem 6007 Food and Agricultural Applications of Nanotechnology, a graduate course team taught by Oscar Perales, Marco de Jesus and Martha L. Lopez, all CETARS Co-PDs and the other at the University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla (Agro 4035, Introduction to Conservation of Natural Resources). Chem 6007 course was offered on site at UPRM and online for other students at IAUPR and UTEP. During the first year, three CETARS students graduated with B.S. in Chemistry and one with BS in Agriculture. Dissemination activities included 60 oral or poster presentations at the first year CETARS symposia and six outreach activities about agricultural nanotechnology impacting 600 K-12 students. These activities reach the media by radio and TV reports including two on the UPRM campus webpage.

University of Puerto Rico Under Graduate Students
UPRM Center for Education and Training in Agriculture and Related Sciences (CETARS)

Name: *Angel G. Rivera-Colón*
Campus: **Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón**
Rank: **GS-03**
Major: **Biotechnology**
Expected date of graduation: **Dec 2013**
Email: **arcolon@gmail.com**



Internship: Forestry Aid Technician, US Forest Service Sulphur Ranger District's Timber Crew, Granby CO.

During summer 2012, I participated on an internship at the US Forest Service Sulphur Ranger District in Granby, CO. I was a Forestry Aid Technician in the district's Timber Crew, working primarily on the Road Side Hazard Tree Removal project, due to the spread of the Mountain Pine Beetle plague. Here we collected data of hazard tree presence next to the district's roads and trails through GIS and surveying techniques. This data led to physical layout of cutting units based on the silviculture classification of the area.

Name: *Francis Marie Correa Coreano*
Campus: **University of Puerto Rico: Bayamón Campus**
Rank: **Senior**
Major: **General Biology (Natural Sciences)**
Expected date of graduation: **May 2014**
Email: **francismcc2007@hotmail.com**



Internship: South Platte, Colorado

I was born at Bayamón, Puerto Rico. Since I was a kid, nature and outside activities always called my attention. I also used to travel around the island just to take pictures of them. In August, 2008 I started college at University of Puerto Rico at Bayamón. I started to study General Biology in my second year of college because due to personal reasons I started in Education. Because I am attracted to nature and environment I was not sure which branch of the natural sciences I wanted to study, so I decided to do a major in General Biology. As soon as I did it, I entered in the Chapter LIFE: Leading Initiative for Future Ecologists, in which I participate in promoting recycling. Then I entered in the Program: Natural Resources & Career Track; Puerto Rico and New Mexico where I confirmed my interests once again. In this program I participated in the Belize Field School and I made an Internship in South Platte, Colorado as a Forestry Technician in Wilderness. All of these make me glad for my decisions because I know I'm doing exactly what I want to do.

Name: *Damaris V. Méndez Vallellanes*
Campus: Universidad de Puerto Rico en Cayey
Rank: Junior
Major: Biology
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: damaris.mendez@upr.edu



Internship: Range aid technician: Weed Crew. Gallatin National Forest, MT

I absolutely love everything that has to do with the outdoors: the fresh air, beautiful scenery, contact with wildlife, hiking, camping even skydiving. The Natural Resources Career Tracks program has provided me with enriching experiences and opportunities in the areas of science that I'm most interested. Among those are ecological field trips in Puerto Rico and Belize) where conservation is the main focus. In these they taught basic skills related to land management along with some projects which I found very exciting. My summer internship experience in Montana was like nothing I could have expected. The objective was to protect the environment by getting rid and controlling the spread of invasive or noxious plant species. Everything I learned was 100% new to me, which enlighten my enthusiasm. It seemed almost unbelievable that walking in the forest, riding horses and driving an ATV was my job! I also had time to look at other sites, among my favorites was Yellowstone National Park.

Name: *Jose J Rivera Perez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez
Rank: Undergraduate student
Major: Civil Engineering
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2013
Email: jose.rvera79@upr.edu



Internship: Forestry Aid

I interned in Colorado in 2012 with the U.S. Forest Service. I was located in Rio Blanco County, Colorado in the White River National Forest for eight weeks. My position was "Forestry Aid" where I had the opportunity to work in different positions within the forest. My main job was to improve the forest trails. In this occupation I was working 60 miles of trails cleaning the debris and giving the required maintenance for them. In addition I worked as "Wilderness Ranger" in different areas of the forest, delivering information to visitors, especially on restrictions established on the use of camp fires. I also had the opportunity to work in the machine shop where I provided maintenance to the tools used in the field. In addition to these major tasks, I also participated in the maintenance work with horses and mules, conducted a biological study of a riparian creeks, and other tasks. This was a great opportunity, allowing me enriching experiences in different areas of civil engineering and the opportunity to consider my professional future.

NAME: *Keishla Rodríguez – Rodríguez*
Institution: University of Puerto Rico-Humacao Campus
Project: NRCT
Major: Microbiology
Rank: Junior
USDA Agency of Interest: APHIS and ARS
Degree: Bachelor Degree
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2013
Email: keishla.rr@gmail.com



Not all is work and study in this life, for there has to be a balance. That is why I love to interacting with nature, hiking, extreme sports, learning other customs and traditions, making new friends and much more. Also, I am very dynamic and multifaceted person. I like to collaborate and learn in the different jobs I am given. It is very important for me to work hard and finish what I have started, also when working in a group it is important to share ideas so the best option is chosen. I have to point out that I have been able to overcome many obstacles such as becoming the first woman and scientist in my family to have had a higher degree in learning and at the same I have been of example for other women in my family. When it comes to the world that surrounds me it has always fascinated me to observe the diverse factors and interactions that influence on our bio systems. What I enjoy doing the most is working on investigations related to climate changes and how these plants in different elevations. Plants may seem insignificant but it is also as important as the water we consume. This is why it is important for me to study the diseases and their possible epidemics that plague our crops and forests. This being what I will follow in my graduate studies and eventual career.

Name: *Stella V. Gonzalez Alfonso*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
Rank: Junior
Major: Environmental Sciences
Minor: Geography
Expected date of graduation:
Email:



Internship: Belize 2012

As a student of Environmental Sciences and Geography, I want to understand the interactions of humans with the environment and the impact caused, to provide solutions for the change that results. Everything started to change in high school when I took classes in Environmental Sciences and later Geography, which helped me realize that humanity needs agents of change and I could be one of them. I have worked in forest projects, in the university, and with AKKA SEEDS, the chapter of ecology, teaching different aspects of nature. I'm an active member of the Ecological Society of America (ESA), and I've been fortunate to also participate in conventions and seminars, including the 97th Annual Meeting of ESA in Portland, Oregon and the 2012 SEEDS Fieldtrip in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Name: *Carlos Javier Arzola Torres*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Rank: Undergraduate Student
Major: Agricultural sciences with concentration in livestock industries
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: carlos.arzola@upr.edu



I live in Cidra, Puerto Rico, and in this town I did my elementary, middle and senior studies. I started taking two classes social sciences classes in University of Puerto Rico at Cayey while studying in high school. During August 2011 I started studying Agronomy in University of Puerto Rico at Utuado. In January 2013 I transferred to University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez to complete my studies, where I have an average GPA of 4.00. I'm autodidactic, responsible and respectful, and I have a vast interest to learn new things. I like to study and to watch tv channels such as Discovery Channel, Animal Planet, and the History Channel. I love typical Puerto Rican music and to read about the history of humanity and about the environment. I have the commitment to work for a better Puerto Rico through agriculture and to help others in need as I currently do with my neighbors in my community. I have worked directly with the environment and with animals, and also in governmental agencies interacting with my coworkers and the general public.

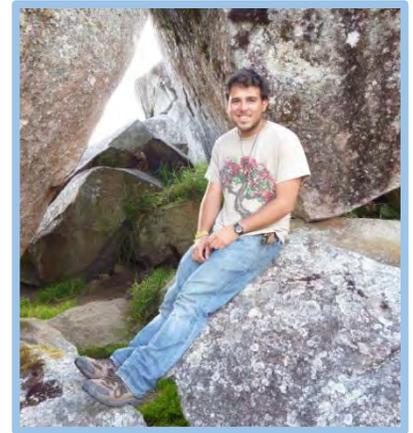
Name: *Doris M. Laguer Martinez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus
Major: Geology (Junior Year)
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: doris.laguer@upr.edu



Internship: Northeastern University ALERT REU Program (Summer 2011).

I'm a geology student at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez. I became interested in studying geology because it's a field that requires interaction with nature and a lot of outdoor work. I enjoy studying geology because the classes involve practical work, research assignments and looking at specimens, rocks and fossils. Since my first year, I have been able to go in many field trips and visit a lot of interesting places like the San Lorenzo batholith and many others. After I graduate I plan to continue my graduate studies in Marine Geology, in sedimentology or stratigraphy. My hobbies and interests include: camping, hiking, traveling and reading. My past internship experience was very interesting because I was able to work with nanotechnology and (low concentration) explosives. My research project consisted in the synthesis and growing of Zn Oxide nanoparticles and detection of these particles using a mass spectrometer. Also, I was able to work with graduate students and learn more about chemistry. It was a wonderful experience that I would like to repeat again.

Name: *Jean C. Rodríguez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez Campus
Rank: Undergraduate Student
Major: Microbiology
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2013
Email: jean.rodriguez4@upr.edu



Internship: VA Skin Care Doctor Shadowing (2011); Andean Cultural Immersion (2012)

I grew up in Yauco, PR experiencing the wonder of nature, a coffee farm in the mountains and a horse farm adjacent to Susúa Forest. Intrigued with science and nature, I enrolled in college and started a new life studying Microbiology. Searching what I am meant to be, I started to have experiences in different fields. In 2011, I completed the Basic Experience in DNA Analysis and Genotyping and worked as an intern in the VA Caribbean Healthcare System's Skin Care division for a month, helping in the treatments of wounds and other skin care problems with regenerative fibroblastic cell treatments and anoxic negative pressure machines. I kept looking forward and in the summer of 2012 I lived in a sustainable little Andean-Quechua village in the mountains of Cusco, Peru. For three weeks I volunteered in organic potato, oat, and quinoa fields, taking care of animals, and teaching English in their small rural schools. Once finished the volunteering, I spent two months backpacking part of the South American continent, visiting Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil, and Venezuela. During my free time I enjoy to road trip my island with my friend, camping, hiking, running horse, and spent time with my family. I haven't been able to choose a field to continue my graduate studies, but I'm really interested in Microbial Ecology and Soils.

Name: *Erik Calderón-Dávila*
Campus: Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamon campus
Rank: Under graduate
Major: General Biology
Expected date of graduation: May 2013
Email: erik.bassoon@gmail.com



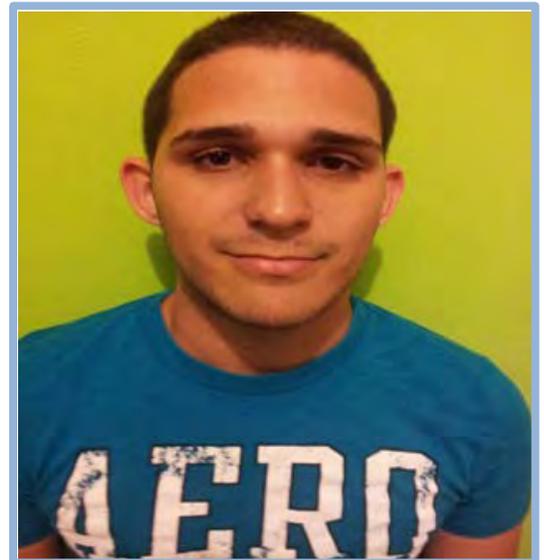
I grew up in Toa Baja, Puerto Rico. I am studying in the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamon campus. Since I went to the UIPR I start to work with exotic animals in the island, and one year later with bats. I am an undergraduate student, looking toward to a doctoral degree in ecology. I participated in the North America Symposium of Bat Research (NASBR), I presented my investigation in Ontario, Canada in October 2011. One of my biggest hobbies is got to caves, photograph animals, surfing and go to school to present information of our endemic mammals (bats). I hope to participate in most of the internees possible to gain more skills and knowledge. That's one of my goals, to be a good professional with a definite goal and managed to help society when I can continue to acquire knowledge. There are a lot of different career opportunities in the ecological field and I am sure that they are going to be very helpfully to a great start in my life.

Name: *Luis O. Marrero-Ramos*
Campus: Inter-American University of Puerto Rico,
Bayamon Campus
Rank: Undergraduate Student
Major: B.S. Biology
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: luiso.ramos@live.com



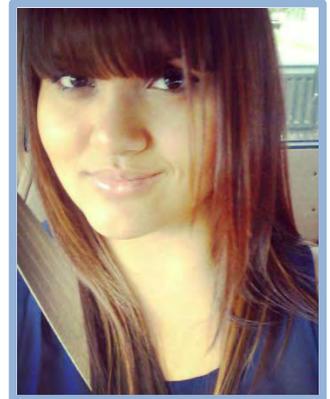
I am from the island of Puerto Rico. I have always been fascinated by nature and the outdoors. This fascination grew more intense as I pursued a degree in B.S. Biology in the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamon Campus. I am interested in a career with the USDA as an Entomologist that focuses on agriculture protection from invasive insect species, using an approach that will not harm the surrounding ecosystem. I have done volunteer work with USDA APHIS where I assisted in collecting and classifying insect specimens in the field. My work experience has taught me a lot and has inspired me to carry on this path.

Name: *Manuel F. Olmeda Saldaña*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez Campus
Rank: Undergraduate-Second Year
Major: Biology
Expected date of graduation:
Email: manuel.olmeda@upr.edu



I grew up in Utuado, Puerto Rico in a farm where I helped to pick up plantains, oranges and avocado pears. My passion for the environment grew during my membership in the 4-H Club, of which I am still a volunteer leader. In the year 2010, I represented Puerto Rico in the National 4-H Congress which took place in Atlanta, Georgia. In that same year, I decided to obtain an Open Water Scuba Diving License to witness the marine world with my own eyes. Two years later I took the Advanced Scuba License and Enriched Air Nitrox License courses. I was a catechist for three years at the Saint Michael Church, mainly working with teenagers and troubled youth. I enrolled at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, coursing a Biology Major which has expanded my brand of interests. My goals are to finish my major in biology, and eventually a Master's Degree in Marine Biology, and Doctorate degree and work in investigations related to Coral Reefs, Sponges and Conservation of Wildlife.

Name: *María A. González-Morales*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Rank: Undergraduate-Second Year
Major: Agronomy-Crop Protection
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: maria.gonzalez63@upr.edu



I was born in Maunabo, PR. My interest in the Agricultural Sciences began in the 4-H Club where I developed as a leader. To start my university studies I joined the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, Agricultural Sciences Faculty in Crop Protection. I am very interested in the divulgation and orientation of people in regards to the protection of the environment and the importance of agriculture.

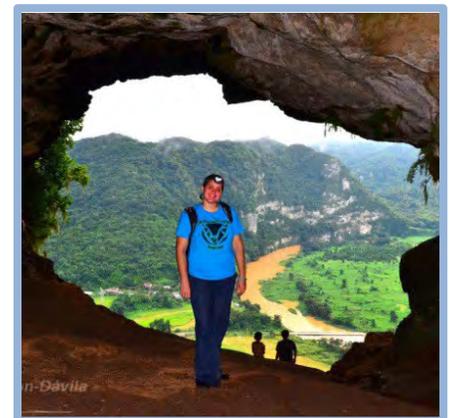
Skills: I consider myself adaptable to different or difficult situations and can, when necessary, work well under pressure. I have studied and possess extensive skill with: Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.

Short Term Goals: Get an Internship where I can developed my professional skills and expand my knowledge.

Long Term Goals: Graduate from the University and continue my studies (master and doctorate). Obtain a job where I can grow up as a professional and contribute to the improvement of the company.

Research and/or Outreach project: Outreach Project with CETARS. Teaching in elementary schools how to create School gardening and protect the agricultural environment.

Name: *Michelle A. Luna Luna*
Campus: Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus
Rank: Under Graduate Student
Major: General Biology
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: michelle-lunaluna@hotmail.com



My goal in life is to have and do that which fills me with joy and allows me to develop myself and help others. I have been working in an investigation with bats of Puerto Rico, specifically taking measures of the metabolic rates of the specie *Molossus molossus*. Also, I worked in 10 different caves investigating the seed dispersion by bats of the endangered species *Stahlia monosperma*, an endemic tree of Puerto Rico. I am also the founder of the Student Organization Caribbean Bats Conservation Program in our campus. We do field trips to caves, organize educational conferences and encourage other students to participate in research. I love to do work that relates to biology, going to the field and doing research.

Name: *Mónica Salazar Ortiz*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus
Rank: Undergraduate student
Major: Environmental Sciences with a minor on social anthropology
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: monica.salazar@upr.edu

I was born and raised in Puerto Rico. Ever since I was a child I was infatuated with nature. I enjoyed most in high school the basics of science like biology and chemistry but especially environmental sciences. After graduating, I applied to the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus, which accepted me. Soon after starting my freshman year, I joined various environmental student clubs and started committing to my country's most crucial environmental crisis like use of energy and waste management. In January 2012, I participated in the Composting and Recycling Internship sponsored by Syracuse University. I am currently still working with them. As a junior, I have taken enough classes to know this is the career for me. To further develop my knowledge and skill in the scientific area, I prepare to take on any challenge.



Name: *Mónica Vélez*
Campus: Río Piedras
Rank: Third Year
Major: Environmental Sciences
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: monica-velez.0@gmail.com

Internship: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ashland, Ohio, Summer 2012

I am currently a junior at UPR. My goals are to excel in my courses and continue graduate studies in the continental USA. I want to work and dedicate my life to environmental sciences because I believe that the understanding provided by science can be used to promote environmental equity and justice. I think that living in Puerto Rico and having grown up in a bilingual/bicultural environment has made me a more open-minded individual. I approach problems from different perspectives and thus reach a more balanced resolution. In addition, as a woman and a Puerto Rican, I am also concerned about the poor representation in the academic fields of science of women and Hispanics.



Name: *Patricia Morales González*
Campus: **University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus - Puerto Rico**
Rank: **Undergraduate**
Major: **General Biology**
Expected date of graduation: **May 2014**
Email: **alci-morales@hotmail.com**

I grew up in San Juan, Puerto Rico. I'm a currently enrolled in my 4th year as a Biology major student at University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus. I chose Biology as my major due to the passion nature has always inspired in me. Up to August of 2012 I expected to apply to veterinary school once I completed my bachelor degree but current Ecology and Sub graduate level Investigation courses have awoken my interest in pursuing career in natural wildlife conservation. Some of my hobbies include diving, indoor target shooting, knitting and gardening. I am currently trying to enroll in the NRTC this summer so that in order to explore new career options relating to the preservation of nature and its resources.



Name: *Ricardo Liquet González*
Campus: **Puerto Rico University, Mayagüez campus**
Degree: **Undergraduate Student**
Major: **Biology**
Expected date of graduation: **Dec 2013**
Email: **ricardo.liquet@upr.edu**

I was born in Mayagüez Puerto Rico and still living there and studying in the local campus. I like to be outdoors always hiking, snorkelling, cultivating, in fact I like to do almost anything that involves fun work and helping others. I'm crazy on cultivating strange plants and food crops. Last year I learned about Beekeeping and love it. Also enjoy looking for good mushrooms to take photos and to observe their interactions. In present I'm taking a Forest ecology Course and really enjoy it so I'm looking forward to learn more about this area.

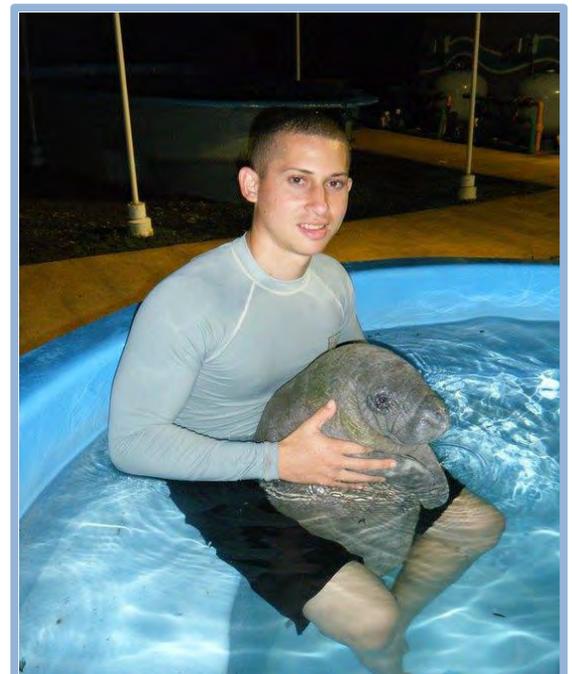


Name: *Sofia Macchiavelli*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus
Rank: Undergraduate
Major: Biology
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: sofia.macchiavelli@upr.edu



Right now my goal is looking for research or internship opportunities in order to continue my path towards a successful career. I am happy with what I have achieved until now. I have been able to go to different summer programs, institutions and trips focused on science and the environment. I have been able to go to Galapagos Islands in an educational trip. I was able to participate in the Intel ISEF International Science Fair. I was a participant of the National Hispanics Environmental Council Summer Institute, which oriented the students about USA Jobs and the different federal government agencies including NRCS, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service and more. I want to use these opportunities and skills which I have acquired in order to have a job which I love and where I learn every day. My passion is in the natural sciences, ecology and evolution. I have already taken courses related to this but I want to keep learning in order to be good at my job, which can hopefully be a place in a federal agency.

Name: *Kevin Gabriel Martes Román*
Campus: Universidad Interamericana
Rank: Undergraduate
Major: Environmental Science
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2013
Email: kevinmartes@hotmail.com

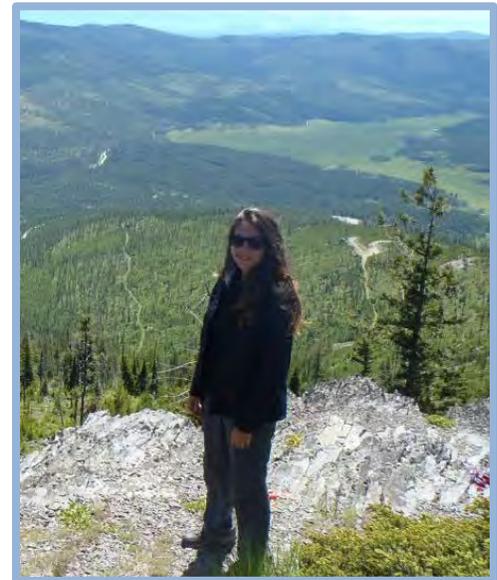


Kevin G. Martes Román (1988, Bayamón, Puerto Rico) is an environmental science student in the Bayamon Campus of the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico. He has a short career in architectural design and in addition to his major degree he is doing two minors in chemistry and biology. He serves as a volunteer at the Manatee Conservation Center of Puerto Rico. Where he has been conducting management and capture of marine mammals, necropsies, aerial surveys, building transmitters and control of water quality. He also participated in an internship with the Forest Service Wilderness Ranger serving at the Black Hills National Forest in South Dakota. In the internship he received training in chainsaw, crosscut, first aid and CPR. In addition to receiving knowledge and practice in the management of natural resources.

Name: *Ruby Rivera Cruz*
Campus: UPR, Rio Piedras Campus
Rank: GS-04
Major: Environmental Science and Geography
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: rar29@hotmail.com

Internship: Forest Service Flathead National Forest, Montana)

I am a senior at the University of Puerto Rico doing a double major in Environmental Science and Geography. My goal is to enter graduate school for an Environmental Planning and work with natural resources management. I want to diversify my internship experiences and this summer I would like to work for the Natural Resources Conservation Service.



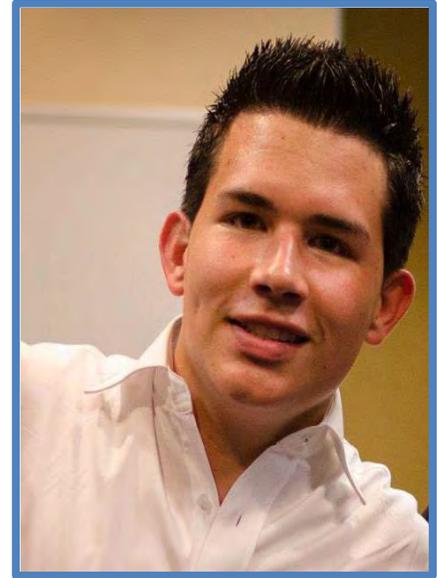
Name: *Lelanee Ortiz-Rivas*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Humacao
Rank: Undergraduate Student
Major: Wildlife Management
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2012
Email: lela_or@yahoo.com

Internship: Forestry Aid Technician, US Forest Service Sulphur Ranger District's Timber Crew, Granby CO.

During my years as an undergraduate student, I have had the opportunity to participate in academic activities such as internships, research and workshops which have enriched my academic and professional life. In 2007, as part of my research experiences, carry out studies of behavior and aquatic birds in the nature reserve of Humacao with Dr. IRIS Velasquez. From 2009 until the present 2012, I have been participating in research projects related to the reproductive ecology of the "coquí llanero" (*Eleutherodactylus juanariveroi*) an endemic species of Puerto Rico, which is under threat of danger of extinction. In 2010, I had the experience of completing one semester of academic studies in tropical biology in Costa Rica. For the 2011 participate in an REU (Undergraduate Research Experience) in our national forest El Yunque - the green. At the beginning of 2012, participate in a workshop of amphibian husbandry in captivity in our in our neighboring Republic Dominicana-Santo Domingo. This same year 2012, I was chosen within the first cohort of students to participate in the New Mexico-Puerto Rico Natural Resources Carrer Track program. My goal is to be part of the full team of forest service or one of the organizations within the natural resources and environmental.



Name: *Miguel Angel Torres Torres*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Rank: Under-graduate Student
Major: Biology
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: miguel.torres20@upr.edu



I grew up in Orocovis and moved to Mayaguez for college. Even though I am studying Biology now, I am thinking of switching concentrations to Agronomy. Since I was a child I had the opportunity of working in the estate with my family because most of them worked in agriculture, therefor I feel more attracted to Agronomy. In the classes that I have taken I have done very good, which has led me to start a hydroponic project in one of my families estate. This has made my interest grow to participate in internships that may help me to the success of my project. My principal hobby has to do with music. I complement my studies in the Orchestra of the university, playing minor and major percussion. In the future I wish to participate in a job that may help me in professional and personal way.

Name: *Sharleen M. Ortiz-Rivera*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico- Río Piedras Campus
Rank: Undergraduate (B.S.)
Major: Environmental Sciences
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2013
Email: s.ortizrivera@gmail.com



Internship: Recreation Forestry Technician for USFS in Salida Ranger District, CO

Currently a senior year undergraduate student. Plans to continue her graduate studies relating the natural resources management field. When not in school nor work, enjoys volunteering in field activities of The Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico and other environmental organizations. In summer 2012 worked with the San Isabel NF trail crew as a Forestry Technician in Salida Ranger District, Colorado. While there she planned and maintained recreational trails. She enjoys the outdoors and loves to experience new adventures in nature. Very enthusiastic to spend time in the field, applying what she has been studying for the past years. She's open to learn from new and enriching life experiences. She's currently looking forward to future internships, field courses and many other instructive activities for all the knowledge and skills she will acquire and help her to enhance her professional career. Her career aspiration includes experience in various natural resources management discipline. To be able to help nature and serve the people encouraging conservation ethics by promoting the health, productivity, diversity, and beauty of forests and other natural resources.

University of Puerto Rico Under Graduate Students

Name: *Abner E. Mercado Arocho*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico-Aguadilla
Rank: Junior
Major: Biology (Biomedical Sciences)
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2015
Email: abner.mercado@upr.edu



Internship: I have been involved in research at UPR-Aguadilla since my freshman year until the present under the guidance of Dr. José M. Planas.

I grew up in San Sebastián, a rural town in the west part of the Island of Puerto Rico. I am currently a junior in the Biology at the University of Puerto Rico-Aguadilla.

Skills: -Skilled with laboratory equipment -Technologically adept -Fully bilingual (Spanish & English) -NIS-Elements Advanced Research software, Confocal, Dissection, and Fluorescent Microscopy

Short Term Goals: Graduate with honors from the Biology (Biomedical Sciences).

Long Term Goals: Work as a clinical researcher and physician in the fields of cardiology/cardiovascular sciences.

Name: *Adriana Oliveras Cabrera*
Campus: UPR-Humacao
Rank: Senior
Major: Industrial Chemistry
Internship: None, but interested in participating in one
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2014
Email: adriana.oliveras@upr.edu



Skills: Working in the research laboratory taught me how to work in collaborative groups with fellow students and staff. It has also helped me practice my laboratory techniques and learn new ones.

Short Term Goals: My current goals are to continue working on research projects while finishing my second major.

Long Term Goals: I plan to continue post graduate studies in biochemistry, focusing on human health and environmental issues

Name: *Adriana E. Osoria Jimenez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla, PR
Rank: Biology Bachelor Degree
Major: Biomedical Sciences
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2015
Email: adriana.osoria@upr.edu



I am a resident of the town of Isabela, Puerto Rico. I am currently in my third year of study in a Bachelor of Biology at the University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla. Among the tasks that I like to do, are read, travel and field activities. I am interested in environmental issues and resource protection. I participated in voluntary work and the most important satisfaction was to share with all the community and to promote a message of conservation.

Skills: Bilingual, Spanish and English. Highly responsible person and hard worker. Enjoy participating of extracurricular activities.

Short Term Goals: Graduate with BS in Microbiology, since I understand that knowing this area allows us to understand many biological processes. of any nature, therefore, as a short term I am looking for a master in this area.

Long Term Goals: As a long-term goal I am interested in obtaining a certification in the area of Cytotechnology at the Medical Sciences Campus of Puerto Rico. The reason for this certification is in my interest and background cell research that can be studied to determine the origin of diseases.

Name: *Ana C. Barrios*
Campus: University of Texas at El Paso
Rank: Senior
Major: B.S. Biochemistry
Internship: N/A
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2013
Email: acbarrios@miners.utep.edu



Skills: Some of the analytical techniques include the usage of ICP-OES, Microwave for acid digestions, UV-Vis Spectroscopy for enzyme analysis and XRF.

Short Term Goals: Graduate from the University of Texas at El Paso.

Long Term Goals: I would like to work for the United Nations and get involved in the environmental issues that many communities encounter. I would like to involve in research and also teach others about the recent discoveries and future work related to nanotechnology, public health and the environment.

Name: *Ana María Vega Suárez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Animal Science
Internship: None
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2015
Email: ana.vega4@upr.edu



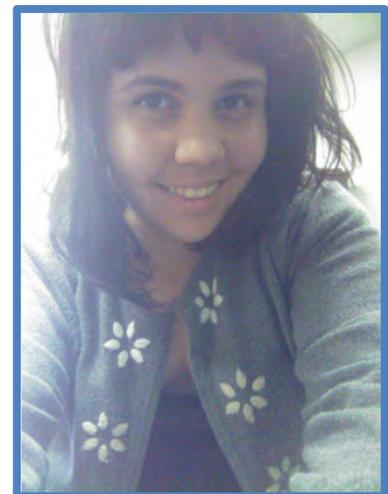
Skills: I have experience using computer programs such as Word, Excel, Power Point, Movie Maker, Camtasia. I fluently speak and write Spanish and English. I have good interpersonal communication skills.

Short Term Goals: Finish my Bachelor's degree in Animal Science with the certificate in the Pre-Vet Program. I would also like to work in a veterinary clinic to gain experience with small animals. I would also like to participate in the USDA Summer Internships.

Long Term Goals: My long term goals are to become a Veterinarian or to continue with a Master's Program in Animal Science. I would like to work in a Zoo with large animals or be a Veterinarian for wild animals. Otherwise, I would like to go to graduate school in a program related to animal reproduction.

Research and/or Outreach project: I have been working in the outreach project, giving workshops to fourth grade students on agricultural science.

Name: *Andrea Lopez-Rodriguez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez Campus
Rank: Senior
Major: General Agricultural Sciences
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2014
Email: andrea.lopez2@upr.edu



Internship: None

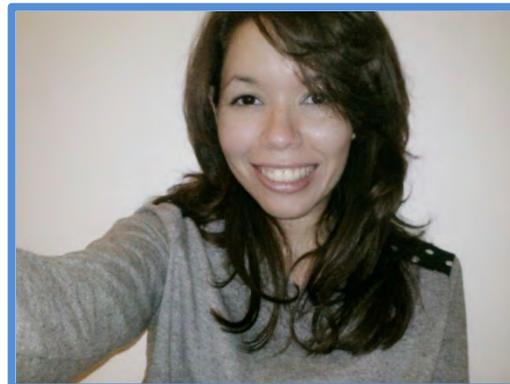
Skills: Image J, Gimp, Pro engineering (4 & 5), Proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel) and Java Script.

Short Term Goals: Graduate from the UPRM .

Long Term Goals: Continue into graduate school; find a job to sustain me and my family; get married and have kids.

Research and/or Outreach project: The use of porosity sintered recycled glass and its applications for soil remediation. I am also participation of the GLOBE activities.

Name: *Anel Marie Arroyo González*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez
Rank: Freshman
Major: Chemical Engineering
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2018
Email: anel.arroyo@upr.edu



Internship: None

I would like to use my knowledge for remediation of contamination of contaminated soils and water and find new ways to help our environment in the most efficient way possible.

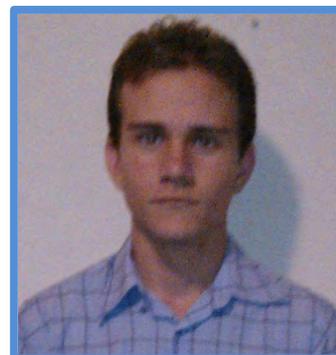
Skills: Bilingual (Spanish and English), knowledge of computers (Microsoft office).

Short Term Goals: Get good grades and graduate with honors.

Long Term Goals: Find a job if possible with USDA, where I can be productive and able to help people.

Research and/or Outreach project: Right now I am in a group research that deals with recycled glass that is processed in different ranges of time and heat to determine the optimum porosity level needed to make plaques that can filter and remove harmful chemicals from fertile soil.

Name: *Angel R. Pacheco Rodriguez*
Campus: Mayaguez
Rank: Undergraduate Student
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2014
Email: angel.pacheco4@upr.edu



Internship: Industrial Biotechnology None at this moment.

Skills: Fluent in both Spanish and English. Proficient in MS Office, MATLAB - Specialized Equipment: PCR, Bio-molecular techniques, Fundamental Chemistry and Analytical Techniques, Mass Spectrophotometer and Gas Chromatography.

Short Term Goals: Further my knowledge of bioremediation.

Long Term Goals: Pursue a doctoral degree in agriculture.

Research and/or Outreach project: On the fall semester of 2012 my research project consisted of the effectiveness of *Mimosa pellita*, "touch me not", in lead extraction from voladora soil. I also partook in the Beach Cleanup day executed by Industrial Biotechnology Student Association (AEBI) and various other student associations.

Name: *Arleen Rodriguez Declat*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Rank: Second Year
Major: Horticulture
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2015
Email: arleen.rodriquez1@upr.edu



Internship: ARS-Beltsville, MD under Dr. Pastor-Corrales as a Biological Science Aid in the Soybean Genomics and Improvement Laboratory.

Skills: Spanish speaker and advanced reading, writing and speaking abilities in English. Proficient in Microsoft Office.

Short Term Goals: Continuing exploring my abilities and putting them into practice with the CETARS group.

Long Term Goals: I am considering continuing my studies to a PhD.

Research and/or Outreach project: Vegetable Garden and Agricultural Related Workshops. Two schools have been impacted so far. First one (2011-2012) is the elemental school Concordia in Mayaguez, P.R with 60 students from 4th grade and 6th grade. Second one (2012-2013) is the elemental school Francisco Vincenty in Mayaguez, P.R which I am currently visiting this semester. We have a total of 12 students from 1st grade to 3rd grade.

Name: *Avner A. Velez-Martinez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez
Rank: Senior
Major: Industrial Biotechnology B.S. and Food Science and Technology Certification
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2013
Email: avner.velez@upr.edu



Internship: During summer 2012, I worked in USDA-ARS in Maryland.

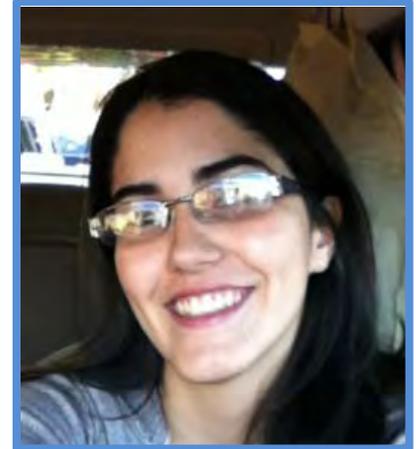
Skills: -Fluent bilingual. -Capable of managing projects, establishing priorities, and meeting deadlines efficiently. -Strong computer skills in Windows, Microsoft Office and Minitab.

Short Term Goals: Finish my final semester with good grades and graduate on May 2013. **Long**

Term Goals: I would like to enter a graduate school, preferably in Food Science. **Research**

and/or Outreach project: I work in an undergraduate research from spring 2011 to the present under the mentoring of Dr. Félix R. Román.

Name: *Bianca Álamo-Irizarry*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico- Mayagüez Campus
Rank: Junior
Major: Industrial Biotechnology
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2014
Email: bianca.alamo@upr.edu



Skills: -Fully bilingual (English and Spanish), -Highly motivated, - Analytical thinking and good communicator.

Short Term Goals: Graduate in Spring 2014 of a B.S. in Industrial Biotechnology.

Long Term Goals: Continue further studies in Bioengineering.

Research and/or Outreach project: I have mainly worked in two research projects involving nanotoxicity and phytoremediation. I studied the “Impact of CoFe_2O_4 Nanoparticles on the Growth and Development of the Tomato Plant (*Solanum lycopersicum*)” and “Puerto Rico Aqueducts and Sewers Authority’s (PRASA) Compost and Sludge Characterization, Compost-Soils Systems Interaction and Effect of Compost-Soils Systems in Basil (*Ocimum basilicum*)”.

Name: *Darsy Kimberly Smith* (no photo)
Campus: Agriculture Sciences
Rank: Agronomist
Major: Crop Protection
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2014
Email: darsy.smith@upr.edu

Internship: I worked as a soil conservationist with the NRCS in Kalispell, Montana.

Skills: *Certificate of ServSafe, National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation. * Knowledge using GIS software * Knowledge using Soil Survey program * Knowledge using laboratory instruments and test (centrifuge, ELYZA) *Good communication and interpersonal relationship skills. *

Short Term Goals: -Finish my undergraduate program, on May 2014, crop protection at least with a 3.50gpa. -Start master degree on plant breeding or phytopathology.

Long Term Goals: -Identify an interesting area to study and graduate from PhD. -Get a job in which I could develop myself and fulfill the expectations of the company or research - Help my mother obtain a better home.

Research and/or Outreach project: -USDA-National Resource Conservation Service: May-July 2012: Soil conservationist.

Name: *Diana T. Medina Laabes* (no photo)
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Humacao
Rank: Senior Undergraduate student
Major: Microbiology
Expected Date of Graduation: May 2015
Email: diana.medina1@upr.edu

Skills: -**Bilingual:** Spanish/ English -**Software:** Excel, Word, Power Point -**Techniques:** Excellent and extensive lab skills.

Short Term Goals: Finish my bachelor degree in Microbiology. I want to enter a post bachelor programs. After one year in this program, I will go to graduate school, in USA or Spain, for a Master degree in Microbiology.

Long Term Goals: I want a Ph. D in Molecular Biology. When I finish it, my new objective will be to have my own research group to find other ways to use the rubbish using as mediator the metabolic reactions of microorganisms. All this with vision of improved the soil for the agriculture and production of food.

Research and/or Outreach project: “Antimicrobial Screening of Plants Traditionally Used in Puerto Rican Folkloric Medicine” (August, 2011 - May, 2012) Using essential oil from Ylang – ylang *Cananga odorata* as possible insecticide against coffee berry borer *Hypothenemus hampei*.

Name: *Elisa Ramos Camacho*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Humacao
Rank: Senior Undergraduate Student
Major: Biology
Internship: None at this time.
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: elisa.ramos1@upr.edu



Skills: -Microsoft word, Excel and Power point -Movie maker -In the lab I have skills doing: Oil Extraction, Dilutions, Steam distillation, TLC, Simple and fractionated distillation.

Short term goals: Finish my Bachelor Degree with a GPA of 3.00 or higher in Biology, and hopefully accepted in a Summer Internship Program at USDA.

Long term goals: Be admitted to graduate school and complete a Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology, Biology or Biochemistry and work if possible with USDA.

Research and/or Outreach project: I have worked in research in Animal Behavior with Dr. Iris Velazquez and now I'm working with Professor Ileana Rodriguez in the development of an organic pesticide capable of avoid the growth of the Coffee Leaf Miner, *Leucoptera Coffeella*.

Name: *Francisco A. Negrón Avilés*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez Campus
Rank: Junior
Major: Chemical Engineering
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2014
Email: francisco.negron1@upr.edu



Internship: After entering the university I attend to a workshop of Windows Excel management, work in a phytoremediation research, work in the field with plants and soils, analyzing soil pH and others properties and learn how to use laboratory equipment in June-July 2009 at the mentoring of Winston De La Torre in the University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez Campus.

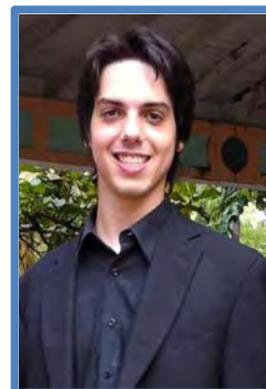
Skills: Knowledge of F-AAS, GF-AAS, pH meter, and Laboratory Microwave.

Short Term Goals: My short term goals are to impact the schools in PR in the area of agriculture, accomplish my research and finish my semester with good grades and be able to obtain an internship.

Long Term Goals: My long term goals are to graduate from the university and continue graduate studies in an area related of chemical engineer, environment and agriculture and later be able to work with USDA or the private sector in areas related to the environment and agriculture.

Research and/or Outreach project : -Assessing the micronutrient composition of Coloso and Voladoras soils and its relation for the sustainable development of the Coloso Agricultural Reserve in Aguada, PR.

Name: *Gerardo A. Nazario*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez Campus
Rank: Undergraduate
Major: Civil Engineering; Surveying and Topography
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: gerardo.nazario@upr.edu



Skills: Spanish and English (fully bilingual), AutoCad 2010 (basic), Excel (VBA), Power Point, Experience with Chemistry and Physics laboratories

Short Term Goals: To continue my research and graduate with my BS in Chemical Engineering

Long Term Goals: To work for the USDA and study a master's degree in civil engineering.

Research and/or Outreach project: POROSITY IN SINTERED RECYCLED GLASS AND ITS APPLICATIONS IN AGRICULTURE”.

Name: *Gloricelly Marie Román Arocho*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus
Rank: Freshman
Major: Chemistry
Expected date of graduation: May 2017
Email: gloricelly.roman@upr.edu



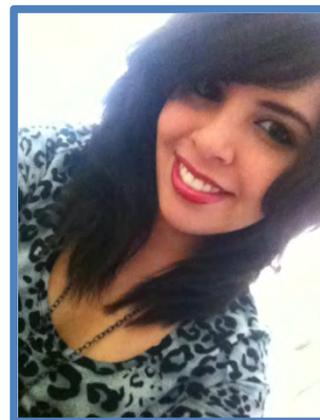
Skills: Fully bilingual in English and Spanish; excellent writing skills, great communication skills. Word, PowerPoint, and Excel.

Short Term Goals: I would love to go on a summer internship at USDA, where I could acquire more laboratory, teamwork, and working skills which will help me become an competent professional in the future.

Long Term Goals: Find a good a job in which I can use my education to become an asset to the company and the community.

Research and/or Outreach project: New in the program, soon will be participating in the GLOBE project.

Name: *Glory M. Velazquez*
Campus: Mayaguez
Rank: Undergraduate, second year
Major: Chemistry
Expected date of graduation: May 2016
Email: glory.velazquez@upr.edu



I chose the BS. in Chemistry to become a scientist . From an early age I was interested and fascinated by health issues, fauna and flora. Living in the country side of my town has taught me how necessary nature is for health and well-being of all living beings. Before joining the Mayaguez campus, I have participated in various community service activities such as beach cleanups and recycling, giving me a chance to take care of a small part of my Island. Because of those efforts, I'm motivated to continue working with the protection of the environment.

Skills: Bilingual. Drawing and painting skills.

Short Term Goals: Graduating with a degree in Chemistry. Participate of a summer internship.

Long Term Goals: Have a doctorate in Chemistry or Pharmacy.

Research and/or Outreach project: Started participating of Globe program activities and will start visiting schools this semester.

Name: *Gudianne M. Romero*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Agronomy
Expected date of graduation: May 2016
Email: gudianne.romero@upr.edu



Internship: NRCS-USDA Utuado field office.

Skills: -Ability to adapt to any work situation. -Able to work in groups - Responsible leader -Bilingual -Microsoft suit -Trimble -Contour line and elevation map interpretation.

Short term goals: To participate in an internship in USDA and as an exchange student in a foreign country.

Long term goals: Become a professional in Soil Agronomy and work for USDA.

Outreach project: During my bachelor I have had the opportunity to be in the USDA-CETARS program. At the beginning we were given the task to create a logo. Today the logo on our shirts is that logo I created.

Name: *Jeannette M. Montalvo-López*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico in Aguadilla Campus
Rank: Undergraduate Student (B.S.)
Major: Sciences in Environmental Technology
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2014
Email: jeannette.montalvo@upr.edu



Internship: Intern Coop Program (EHS)

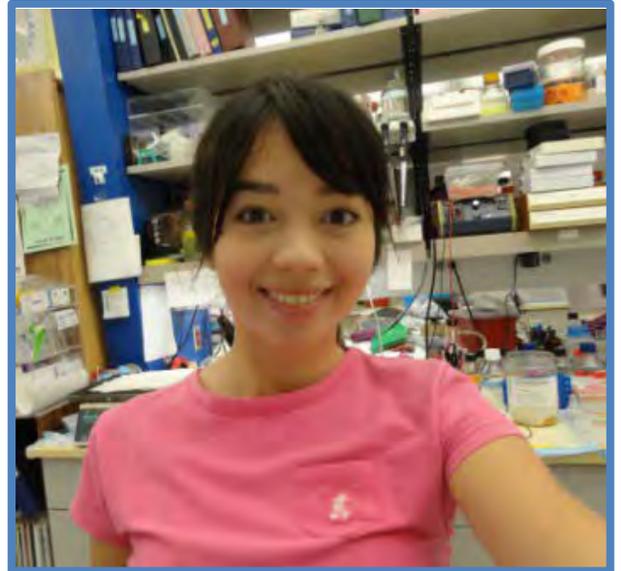
Skills: Intermediate domain of Microsoft Stronger domain of Auto CAD. OSHA 30 hrs.

Short Term Goals: Finish my bachelor's degree in Environmental Technology. Submit the documentation to be licensed as an Operator of Drinking Water Treatment Plants III (I pass the exam) and as a Draftman (I past the exam too). Take a GIS certification.

Long Term Goals: Finish a master degree in Environmental Health or Industrial Hygiene. Do researches related to detection of antibiotics in water and indoor air pollution in manufacturing. Have an environmental consulting company.

Research and/or Outreach project: Research related to Urban Ecology (in progress), guidance by Dr. Ruben Hernández

Name: *Joaris Soto Hernández*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Aguadilla Campus
Rank: Junior
Major: Bachelor's Degree: Biology
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2015
Email: joaris.soto@upr.edu



Internship: I did research on the summer of 2009 with MSEIP Program.

Skills: I speak Spanish and English. Having the ability to manage Microsoft Works, Power Point, Internet, Excel and Data Bases programs has helped me develop oral presentation in front of an audience.

Short Term Goals: Graduating with a BS in Biomedical sciences and going to grad school.

Long Term Goals: I would like to get a PhD in endocrinology.

Research and/or Outreach project: I've done research related to sanity quality of sand and water at Villa Pesquera Beach at Puerto Rico, Halobacterias at Guanica, Puerto Rico and the function of nuclear receptors in regulating metabolic pathways in several disease states.

Name: *Jonathan L. Gomez Samot*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico of Mayagüez
Rank: Student
Major: Agronomy
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: jonathan.gomez2@upr.edu



Skills: Communication, Flexible, hard-working, Knowledge of computer software such as Word, Excel and Power Point., Organizational Skills, Spanish and English

Short Term Goals: Finish my bachelor's degree in Agronomy. Participating in professional development and internship opportunities at school. Maintaining a grade point average.

Long Term Goals: Graduate and get and get a job at USDA where I can apply my knowledge and continue developing as a professional.

Outreach project: Visits in elementary schools to construct and sustain a vegetable home garden.

Name: *Jorge D De Jesus Silva*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico – Mayagüez campus
Rank: Junior, Undergraduate Student (B.S.)
Major: Mechanical Technology In Agriculture
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: jorge.dejesus5@upr.edu



Skills: -Good communication skills, in English and Spanish. - Prepared to work in different computer Software's such as AUTOCAD, Word, Excel, Power Point and Mat Lab.

Short Term Goals: Finish my bachelor's degree in Mechanical Technology in Agriculture.

Long Term Goals: Graduate studies in an agriculture sciences and related field and find a job opportunity within USDA or other federal agency where I can develop as a competent employee.

Research and/or Outreach project: Research in gathering evapotranspiration data using different procedures and making more efficient methods. Outreach in making an Agricultural Tour for 100 elementary students in the Alzamora Farm located on campus.

Name: *Joshua Otero Pichardo*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus
Rank: Junior
Major: Agronomy
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: joshua.otero@upr.edu



Internship: I worked during summer 2012 for NRCS.

Skills: Computer literacy (Microsoft Word, Microsoft Power Point, Microsoft Excel, Internet), Bilingual (Spanish: Fluent and English: reading/writing/listening/ beginner speaker)

Short Term Goals: Participate in a summer internship for the USDA to conduct research, practice my skills and gain work experience; Finish my undergraduate research and finish my major in agronomy in order to compete for a permanent job in a government agency preferentially at USDA.

Long Term Goals: I want to pursue graduate studies in agricultural sciences and obtain a doctoral degree in order to become the most skilled professional.

Research and/or Outreach project: I am conducting research about the detection of Lethal Yellowing Phytoplasma in palms of Puerto Rico. This disease that primarily attacks the coconut trees has not been officially registered in Puerto Rico.

Name: *Keishla Cortes Vera*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla
Rank: Junior
Major: Biomedical
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: keishla.cortes@upr.edu



Skills: -Spanish and English, -Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point and Publisher, -laboratory techniques.

Short term goals: In my short term goals are to be accepted into a summer internship to do research and to obtain satisfactory grades to graduate with honors.

Long term goals: In my long term goals are: to be accepted into a graduate school where I can acquire the skills to help and put into practice what I have learned.

Research and/or Outreach project: The study of biophysical factors of the beach Villa Pesquera, Isabela Puerto Rico. In this project I had the opportunity to work in a research dealing with water pollution. I calculated the physicochemical factors of a beach located. I was able to take samples of different strategic points in the water in order to examine and determine if the drain pipe that was used had an effect on the pollution on the beach.

Name: *Kiara M. Vélez Pérez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Humacao
Rank: Undergraduate (Senior)
Major: Bachelor Degree of Industrial Chemistry
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2015
Email: kiara.velazquez@upr.edu



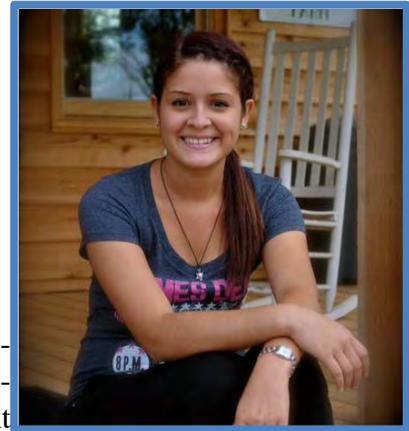
Skills: I have the qualities to be a leader, to work in groups, be responsible and productive. I have skills in the area of bench in the laboratory equipment such as GC, GC-MS, HPLC and IR.

Short Term Goals: My goals this year are continue participating in the CETARS program and to participate in an internship at USDA.

Long Term Goals: I want to to graduate school in the area of Environmental Chemistry and become a professional and help to improve natural resources.

Research and/or Outreach project: environmental research to identify and determine the presence of metals and pollutants in a body of water bordering to the neighborhood Coto Mabu in Humacao.

Name: *Krystal Navarro Acevedo*
University: University of Puerto Rico Campus: Mayaguez, P.R.
Rank: Undergraduate Student- Senior Year
Expected Graduation: December, 2013
Major: Agricultural Sciences - Crop Protection
Email: krystal.navarro@upr.edu



Internships: -Soil Conservationist- Internship with USDA-NRCS- South -Research Assistant- Internship with Pioneer Hi-Bred- Illinois. -Intern- University of Illinois at Champaign- Plant Breeding Center- Illinois.

Skills: -Excellent ability to manage assigned tasks during high pressure and difficult situations. -Fluent in writing, speaking, and talking English & Spanish. -Superior Leadership skills working with diverse groups of people.

Short Term Goals: Finish my Bachelor's degree in December 2013 with a 3.50 GPA. I also want to participate as an Intern at the ARS Agency during the summer 2013.

Long Term Goals: I will like to pursue my Masters at University of Puerto Rico in the Molecular Biology Laboratory and then finish my PhD at Wisconsin or Ohio State University. Finally I will like to work for an USDA Agency with emphasis in Plant Pathology.

Name: *Laura Victoria Ramírez Martínez*
Campus: Inter American University of Puerto Rico
Rank: Undergraduate
Major: Microbiology – Minor in Chemistry
Expected date of graduation:
Email: laura.ramirez@upr.edu



Internship: Nutrient absorption of the basil plants using phytohormones and soil-compost.

Skills: -English and Spanish -Word, Excel and Power Point

Short Term Goals: Nowadays, my goal is to continue with my research project and graduate.

Long Term Goals: To continue graduate studies in Epidemiology and find a job at USDA where I can apply my knowledge and continue developing as a professional.

Research and/or Outreach project: During the summer internship at UPRM I worked to promote the nutrient absorption of the basil plants using phytohormones and soil-compost systems.

Name: *Leany E. Lugo-Avilés*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus
Rank: Junior
Major: Industrial Biotechnology
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: leany.lugo@upr.edu



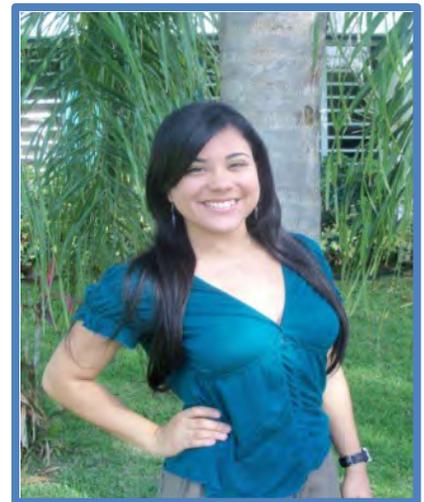
Skills: Bilingual (English and Spanish), fast learner, responsible, highly motivated self-starter, problem-solver, analytical thinker and good communicator.

Short Term Goals: Graduate in Spring 2014 of a B.S. in Industrial Biotechnology.

Long Term Goals: Continue graduated studies in field related to agriculture. Find a job preferentially at USDA.

Research and/or Outreach project: Two research projects involving nanotoxicity and phytoremediation. I studied the “Impact of CoFe₂O₄ Nanoparticles on the Growth and Development of the Tomato Plant (*Solanum lycopersicum*)”.

Name: *Liliana María Hernández González*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez Campus
Rank: Senior-Undergraduate Student
Major: Civil Engineering
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2014
Email: liliana.hernandez1@upr.edu



Internship: Summer Research Experience at the University of Madison, Wisconsin.

Skills: Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Power Point), Visual Basic Application (VBA), Autodesk AutoCAD, SketchUp Program and ImageJ. English & Spanish speaker,

Short Term Goals: My short term goals are to be successful in the conference presentations of my research at Washington, DC this February.

Long Term Goals: I hope to get accepted in a Graduate School in order to obtain a Master and a Doctor’s degree in the field of Material Science and Engineering or in Environmental Engineering.

Research and/or Outreach project: In order to contribute to control the soil pollution and identify alternative uses for recycled glass, my research has the purpose of creating porous glass beds by controlled sintering that can be used as a filter for polluted soils.

Name: *Linoshka Rivera Melendez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Humacao
Rank: Senior
Major: Chemistry
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: linoshka.rivera@upr.edu



Internship: I have not participated, but I am looking forward to future participation.

I was born in Caguas Puerto Rico and studied at the Colegio Bautista in Caguas. Since childhood I liked to mix things and always thought that would be a scientist in the future. When I started college and was exposed to the chemistry laboratory, from that moment I knew I wanted to be chemist.

Skills: Leadership skills, the art of drawing and the art of writing poems.

Short Term Goals: In the short term I have a goal of graduating from my degree in Industrial Chemistry.

Long Term Goals: In the long run I have aimed to enter graduate school or become a doctor in pharmacy and promote recycling on the Island.

Research and/or Outreach project: I've been working for three years in research under the mentorship of Professor Rolando J. Tremont in the environmental chemistry.

Name: *Lizbeth Carrasquillo Carrasquillo*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Humacao's Campus
Rank: Senior
Major: Industrial Chemistry
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: lizbeth.carrasquillo@upr.edu



Skills: I am a very organized person, with leadership skills and the capacity to reach established goals.

Short Term Goals: I will get my bachelors degree of Industrial Chemistry, obtaining the largest amount of experience and knowledge possible.

Long Term Goals: I will continue graduate studies in Environmental Chemistry. I also want to work in a related area to put in test what I have learned and I love if possible at USDA NRCS.

Research and/or Outreach project: Analyzing heavy metals in soil and water, in the elective concentration, "Environmental Chemistry".

Name: *Manuel H. García-Cartagena*
Campus: Interamerican University of Puerto Rico – San Germán Campus
Rank: Senior undergraduate student (B.S.)
Major: Biology
Expected date of graduation: May 2016
Email: m.garcia2680@gmail.com



Internship: Summer 2012 – UPRM Summer Research Internship at University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez.

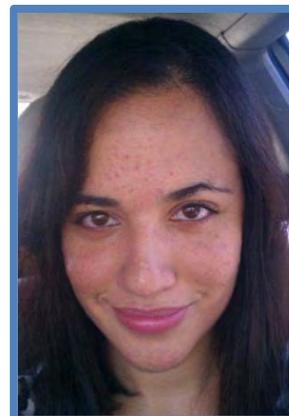
Skills: High proficiency in written and spoken Spanish and English, word processing, data analysis, basic Windows OS troubleshooting, Level 1 SSI Diver's license.

Short Term Goals: Finish my bachelor's degree in Biology.

Long Term Goals: Pursue graduate studies in an agriculture and/or health sciences related field and find a job opportunity within USDA or other federal agency where I can develop as a competent scientist.

Research and/or Outreach project: Removal of As and Cr oxyanions from ground water using magnetite based nanoparticles and nanocomposites. My participation in this project was under the guidance of Drs. Roman and Perales groups at UPRM.

Name: *Maricely Ramirez Hernandez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Rank: Junior
Major: Chemical Engineering
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: maricely.ramirez@upr.edu



Skills: Computer Skills , Equipment Skills, Personal Skills

Short Term Goals: My short-term goals are to continue as an undergraduate research student so that I may gain more experience working in a lab environment and participate in an internship or COOP program to gain better knowledge on applying what I have learned in the classroom to different scenarios.

Long Term Goals: My long term goals are to pursue a PhD in materials science and apply my knowledge in the fields of agriculture and food science to contribute to a better and more sustainable future.

Research and/or Outreach project: Synthesizing silver nanoparticles in order to use them within a food packaging material for inhibition of the growth of bacteria thus increasing the longevity of the product by preventing rotting at an early stage.

Name: *Mario A. García-Rodas*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus
Major: Agronomy
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2015
Email: mario.garcia3@upr.edu



Skills: Language: Fluent in English and Spanish PC: Proficient in Word, Excel and Power Point

Short term goals: Graduate with a bachelor's degree in Agronomy. Get a good internship job abroad for the summer of 2013. Successfully grow a good orchard during the semester with the students from my outreach project.

Long term goals: Obtain a master's degree in Soil Conservation. Own a fertile plot of land in Puerto Rico to start my small agronomical business.

Outreach project: My outreach project consists of visiting elementary schools and teaching the skills and knowledge needed to make good vegetable orchards and successfully maintain them. Last year I worked in Luis Muñoz Rivera elementary school, Mayaguez and this year I am working with the students of Barrio Castillo elementary school, Mayaguez.

Name: *Nancy R Cardona-Cordero*
Campus: UPR- Medical Sciences Campus
Rank: 1st year Graduate Student
Major: Environmental Health
Expected date of graduation: Dec 2014
Email: nancy.cardona@upr.edu



Internship: I worked for PRENRD (Puerto Rico Natural and Environmental Resources) as wildlife biologist doing predator control and invasive species control; and winter 2012, I worked at the US Fish and Wildlife Services promoting the planting of shade coffee plants.

Skills: Problem solving, team player, planning and organizing, works under pressure, working with little or no supervision.

Short-term goals: Finish my master's on May 2014 and apply for a PhD in Environmental Science.

Long-term goals: Finish my PhD and work as a professor so I can teach others the importance of having one world for billions of people, animals, and organisms.

Research and/ or Outreach Project: Managing Damage and Threats Associated with Invasive E. patas Monkeys in the Southwest Part of Puerto Rico.

Name: *Natalia N. Olmeda Viera*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico- Humacao
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Bachelor degree – Industrial Chemistry
Expected date of graduation: May 2016
Email: Natalia.olmeda@upr.edu



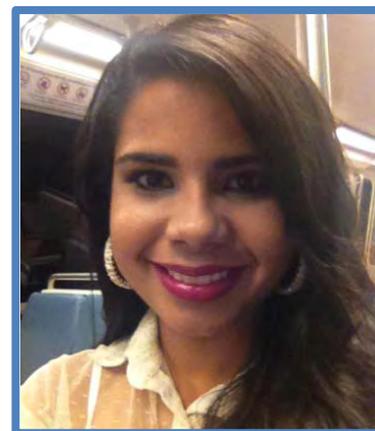
Skills: I have developed leadership skills and also the capacity to work in groups others. Also I am very good working in research laboratory and in the field taking samples. I have the experience of working with the electrochemistry process and other environmental experiments and using analytical instruments.

Short term goals: Currently, my goals are to continue working in research programs.

Long term goals: Post graduate studies in or outside Puerto Rico, in an area related to environmental chemistry.

Research and/or outreach project: Contaminated soils using electrochemistry to analyze heavy metals. I also worked analyzing water samples from a creek located near some houses.

Name: *Nathalia Carolina Cancel Villamil*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus
Rank: Senior
Major: Agricultural Sciences, General Agriculture
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: nathalia.cancel@upr.edu



Internship: I worked with the USDA ARS agency, in the state of Maryland as a laboratory assistant. We study if compost was appropriate to use while growing fresh crops.

Skills: Bilingual in Spanish and English with intermediate level in English speaking. Detail oriented and with strong organizational skills. Ability to prioritize multiple projects and meet designated deadlines.

Short Term Goals: To participate in a Agricultural internship next summer, with the ARS.

Long Term Goals: Work with a government agency specially USDA, and share my knowledge with others for the benefit of our Agriculture and Country.

Research and/or Outreach Project: My outreach activity consisted in preparing a vegetable garden in “Finca Alzamora” at the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez Campus.

Name: *Nathalie Gonzalez Jimenez*
Campus: Inter American University of PR
Rank: Graduated with a Bachelor Degree in May 2012
Major: Chemistry
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: ngonzalez.chem@gmail.com



Internship: (ARS)/(NCAUR) located in Peoria, Illinois.

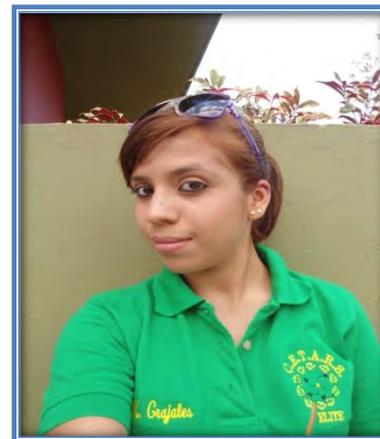
Skills: -Bilingual, -Microsoft Office, -consider myself a responsible, punctual and respectful person in the work environment.

Short Term Goals: Finally figure out what is best for my future as a chemist and as a human being.

Long Term Goals: To continue achieving important contributions on my field of work. Enter graduate school and finish a PhD.

Research and/or Outreach project: My work during my summer internship will be published soon. I was not authorized to reveal any information.

Name: *Rosiel M. Grajales Cortés*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Rank: Sophomore
Major: Agronomy and Soils
Internship:
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: rosiel.grajales@upr.edu



Internship: (NRCS) in Lumberton, North Carolina. During the summer I practice as a District Conservationist Student Trainee.

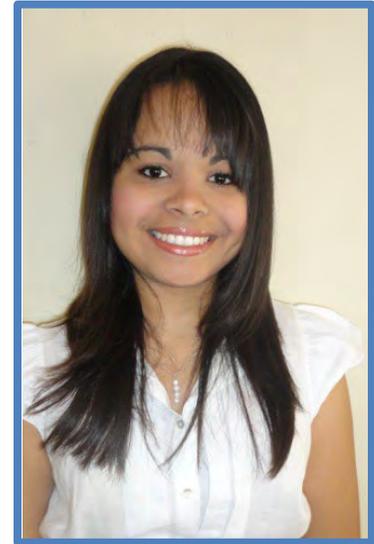
Skills: I'm responsible, organized, and punctual person. Excellent leadership skills as well as being part of competitions. Also I understand, read and write at an intermediate English level.

Short Term Goals: Have an internship every summer with and USDA agency while I'm studying and graduate of College.

Long Term Goals: Work in a USDA agency and keep studying for a Doctors degree in Plant Anatomy and Physiology.

Outreach project: My work at the Agriculture Program is to promote the interest in agriculture, by teaching different aspects about Home Gardening and the importance of agriculture to students of Elementary Schools.

Name: *Taina Rodriguez Curet*
Campus: InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico at San German
Rank: Senior
Major: Biology
Expected date of graduation: May 2013
Email: taina.rodz@gmail.com



Internship: Participated in summer research internship at UPR-M.

Skills: Bilingual; Spanish/English.

Short Term Goals: Finish my BS in Biology.

Long Term Goals: Continue graduate school in Biology and enter the job market preferentially with the USDA.

Research and/or Outreach project: Determination of metals in propolis samples from Puerto Rico. I am participating in outreach activities at public schools lecturing and orientations about agriculture and the protection of natural resources.

Name: *Tania Avila Lasalle*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla Campus
Rank: Junior
Major: Biomedics
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: tania.avila@upr.edu



Internship: I went to a summer internship in the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, MA.

Skills: Communication skills, organizational skills, problem solving skills, teamwork skills, and decision making skills.

Short Term Goals: I want to finish my bachelor's degree and to continue with my PhD.

Long Term Goals: My long term goals are to obtain a PhD.

Research and/or Outreach project: "Distribution of Gastropods community on the rocky coast of Aguadilla, Puerto Rico". The study was carried out on the rocky shore intertidal zone of the beach's super lateral Surfers Beach (18 ° 30,408 'N, 67 ° 8535' W) located in the Ramey Base in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico.

Name: *Verónica Ramírez*
Campus: University of Puerto Rico-Humacao
Rank: Senior
Major: Industrial Chemistry
Expected date of graduation: May 2015
Email: veronica.ramirez3@upr.edu



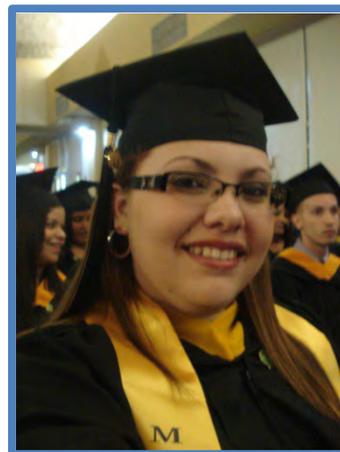
Skills: I consider myself like a responsible person, proactive, with the capacity to take decisions in critical situations, a person with leadership and with the capacity to manage teamwork.

Short Term Goals: Graduate in May 2013.

Long Term Goals: Continued studying in a graduate school until obtain the doctoral degree.

Research and/or Outreach project: I participated of two research projects during the last two years with two different mentors. My first project was in the area of nanoparticles and now I am involved in environmental research. During the summer 2012, I worked at the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao offering workshop to high school students teaching them the importance of the environmental chemistry in our lives.

Name: *Wildelys Colón-Jusino*
Campus: Inter AmericanUPR, San German Campus
Rank: BS Recent Graduate
Major: Chemistry, minor in Microbiology
Expected date of graduation: May 2014
Email: wildyrocker20@hotmail.com



Internship: I was an intern for the United States Environmental Protection Agency at Washington DC Headquarters.

Skills: -Bilingual (Spanish and English) -Microsoft Word, Excel PowerPoint, and Publisher, Lotus Notes, Scigress. Basic AutoCAD usage -Knowledge in RCS Air Sampler, UV-Vis Spectroscopy, Membrane filtration technique, autoclave, AAS, pH meters, IR spectroscopy, electrophoresis, GC instrumentation, temperature sensors, titrations, solution and media preparation, aseptic techniques, Gram Stain, streak plating, pour plate, serial dilutions, API.

Short Term Goals: Continue growing in my new job and keep networking and meeting new people. Additionally, I would like to refine my analytical and lab skills.

Long Term Goals: I would like to go back to school to finish a Masters degree in Environmental Policy or Chemistry.

Research and/or Outreach project: Heavy metal presence and concentration in Honey samples from Puerto Rico.

The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) Program Page

BGREEN - Building a Regional Energy and Educational Network: A Partnership to Integrate Efforts and Collaboration to Shape Tomorrow's Hispanic Sustainable Energy Leaders

Project Director:

Heidi A. Taboada (UTEP)

Co-Project Directors:

Shad Nelson (TAMUK), Tongdan Jin (TXState), and Delia Valles (NMSU)

Table below shows complete list of PDs and Co-PDs:

UTEP	TAMUK	TXState	NMSU
Heidi A. Taboada (PI) hataboada@utep.edu	Shad D. Nelson (PI) kfsdn00@tamuk.edu	Tongdan Jin (PI) tj17@txstate.edu	Delia Valles (PI) dvalles@ad.nmsu.edu
Jose F. Espiritu	Greta Schuster	Luyi Sun	Hansuk Sohn
William Hargrove		Reed Richardson	Ram Acharya
Salvador Hernandez			Nirmala Khandan
Juan Noveron			
Shane Walker			

Project Overview:

A consortium comprised of the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), Texas A&M University-Kingsville (TAMUK), Texas State University-San Marcos (TXState), New Mexico State University (NMSU), and USDA-ARS proposes to establish an educational network to increase the number of Hispanic students enrolled in studies related to Sustainable Energy and facilitate the employment of Hispanics in critical occupations to USDA's mission in renewable energy and rural development. The breadth and diversity of the faculty involved and the range of resources and activities that are available across the partner institutions and USDA and agricultural research partners provide unique opportunities for students to engage in interdisciplinary Sustainable Energy education, and cutting-edge research.

BGREEN adopts an integrated approach composed of four key components 1) Outreach & Recruitment, 2) Education, 3) Experiences, and 4) Dissemination directed to advance Sustainable Energy research and education which bases its strength in identified regional and national needs to educate and train future Hispanic sustainable energy leaders. This project is clearly aligned with the all university partners' strategic missions and visions.

The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) Graduate Students
The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)

Name: *Olivia Moreno*
Campus: The University of Texas at El Paso
Rank: PhD
Major: Environmental Science and Engineering
Expected Graduation: December 2014
Email: ocmoreno@miners.utep.edu



Internship: During the summer of 2012, I worked in Washington D.C. with USDA-NIFA-Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment.

Skills: Able to operate GaBi 4.0 and SimaPro softwares for life cycle impact assessment, HOBOT Datalogger software for energy efficiency practices in buildings and Matlab programming software.

Research Interests: My research interests include sustainable/environmental engineering, renewable/alternative energy technologies, life cycle impact assessment, energy systems optimization, and energy efficiency management.

Name: *Karla Gutierrez*
Campus: The University of Texas at El Paso
Rank: PhD
Major: Environmental Science and Engineering
Expected Graduation: Spring 2014
Email: krgutierrez@miners.utep.edu



Karla Gutierrez obtained a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering at UTEP where she gained experience teaching in the Industrial Layout and Industrial Methods and Ergonomics Labs. As an undergraduate, Gutierrez was recognized as an outstanding peer mentor and while in graduate school, she was recognized as an outstanding Industrial Engineering Graduate Student. Karla Gutierrez is currently a Research Associate while also pursuing a PhD in Environmental Sciences and Engineering at The University of Texas at El Paso.

Research Interests: Her research interests are in renewable energy optimization and biofuels and she is investigating technologies to commercialize in these fields. Her Ph.D Dissertation work focuses on Feedstock Logistics. Gutierrez's expertise lays in the investigation, generation and implementation of the state of the art optimization techniques in Industrial and manufacturing engineering such as genetic algorithms, tabu search and the newly developed evolutionary algorithm based on adaptive echolocation.

Name: *Julio Eduardo Padilla*
Campus: The University of Texas at El Paso
Rank: PhD
Major: Chemistry
Expected Graduation: Fall 2013
Email: jepadilla@miners.utep.edu



Internship: I spent the summer of 2012 working at the USDA-Agricultural Research Service in Lubbock, Texas. While in Lubbock I worked on a few projects related to soil microbiology and erosion.

First, I took part in the field sampling of dozens of agricultural fields under the conservation reserve program in order to analyze the effect of perpetual farming on soil health. The main project, which will lead to a publication, focused on analyzing, with Mid-Infrared Spectroscopy, the effects of erosion on farmlands from Akron, Colorado. Over a hundred dust samples collected over USDA research fields in Akron, CO, were analyzed in order to determine the nutrients and microbes being eroded from farmlands and the differences between different types of crop rotations and tilling practices.

Research Interests: My research interests have always been in environmental science. I believe a major concern for our planet is the rapid consumption of its natural resources and the pollution that results from it. In order for human kind to have a future, we must find a way to change the way we live. From developing renewable energy to the rapid depletion of our water sources, these are important concerns that scientists must address. I am currently developing new methods and materials for the desalination of water. My career goals are to continue to improve our quality of life and the conservation of our environment by continuing my research within a government agency.

Name: *Rodney Vance*
Campus: The University of Texas at El Paso
Rank: PhD
Major: Environmental Science and Engineering
Expected Graduation: Fall 2013
Email: rvance@miners.utep.edu



Internship: USDA-NIFA-IBCE Over the summer I had the opportunity to intern with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture where I received valuable experience on grant proposal and funding processes, as well as recognizing the importance of HSI's and the opportunities they offer for Hispanic students to access higher education.

Research Interests: I believe it is important to increase research on renewable energy systems and energy sustainability, as well as promote good land management. I feel it is equally important to improve environmental quality while conserving the natural resources that agriculture depends on.

The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) Graduate Students
New Mexico State University (NMSU)

Name: *Arturo Del Valle*
Campus: New Mexico State University
Rank: PhD
Major: Industrial Engineering
Expected Graduation: Summer 2014
Email: arturodelvalle@me.com



I was raised in the city of Torreon, Mexico and moved to El Paso when I was 18; I attended the University of Texas at El Paso where I obtained a B.S. and later on I also completed an M.S. in pure Mathematics by May of 2007. Upon graduation I realized many of the skills as a Mathematician could be applied in the world by becoming an Engineer and thus I decided to start a PhD in Industrial Engineering at the New Mexico State University which I hope to finish by the summer of 2014.

Research Interests: My career and research aspirations are to study and research the topics that encourage environmental sustainability trends in the industry. Some important topics of great interest to me are the study of Combinatorial Materials Research with an application to environmentally friendly materials and, also a great concept that I enjoy researching is concerned with the design of sustainable supply chain networks which would potentially reduce future pollution output in our environment.

Name: *Alejandro Bernal*
Campus: New Mexico State University
Rank: Ph.D
Major: Economic Development
Summer Internship 2012: N/A
Expected Graduation: December 2014
Email: abernal@nmsu.edu



Narrtive of Research: Renewable resources such as wind can provide sustainable options for generating power in rural areas particularly in New Mexico. Most communities in New Mexico are classified as areas with high potential for wind as well as solar energy production. Therefore, the primary objective of this study is to develop cost estimates for producing wind energy using available data for the price of turbines, other installation and maintenance costs, and historical wind speed data for rural communities in New Mexico.

Skills: Bilingual – Spanish/English

Research Interests: Economics, Renewable and Sustainable Energy, Food Safety and Security.

Name: *German Reyes*
Campus: New Mexico State University
Rank: PhD
Major: Industrial Engineering
Expected Graduation: December 2014
Email: greyes@nmsu.edu



My research project basically deals with the distribution of fuels in the United States in a sustainable manner. The purpose of the research is to find optimal or near optimal ways of distributing fuels. A heuristic algorithm such as the Ant Colony Optimization (ACO) algorithm is being adapted in order to find the best routes for distribution.

Skills: Development of mathematical and simulation models for optimization.

Research Interests: My career and research interests lie in the area of transportation and logistics. In general, I believe that good and efficient transportation and distribution systems are imperative in a sustainable world. Furthermore, my interests include developing mathematical models and simulation models in order to improve existing systems.

Name: *John W. Schutte*
Campus: New Mexico State University
Rank: PhD
Major: Chemical Engineering
Summer Internship 2012: None
Expected Graduation: May 2015
Email: jwschutt@nmsu.edu

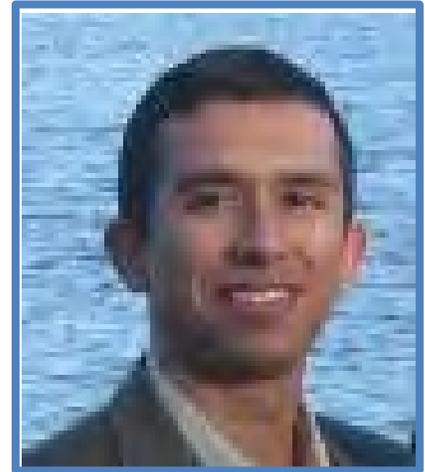


Research project: Chemical Recycling of Plastic Solid Waste for the Production of Transportation Fuels. Since the first industrial scale production of synthetic polymers (plastics) took place in the 1940s, the production, consumption and waste generation rate of plastic solid waste (PSW) has increased considerably. Plastics are used in our daily lives in a number of applications, from greenhouses, mulches, coating and wiring, building materials to packaging, films, covers, bags and containers.

Skills: 10+ years of chemical engineering experience, AutoCAD, Microsoft Office, Canvas, SAS, ASPEN Plus, MathCAD, PLC background, strong communication skills, strong management skills

Research Interests: Working on means of reducing plastic waste while showing an economic profit.

Name: *Hector Hernandez*
Campus: New Mexico State University
Rank: MS
Major: Agricultural Economics
Summer Internship 2012: N/A
Expected Graduation: May 2014
Email: hlhernan@nmsu.edu



I am a graduate student in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Business at New Mexico State University. I have a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Chicago and am currently studying for a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics at NMSU. I have served in the Peace Corps in Mauritania, West Africa and as a Fellow with International Justice Mission in Rwanda, East Africa. My research interests are in the areas of food security, cooperative management, international development, international trade, microfinance and renewable energy.

Research Interests: Currently I am working on an economic study of solar energy and the factors that lead households in New Mexico, Arizona and California to install solar panels on residential homes. Other research interests are in food security, cooperative management, international development, international trade, microfinance and renewable energy.

Name: *Bridgette Quintero*
Campus: New Mexico State University
Rank: M.S.
Major: Civil Engineering
Summer Internship 2012: n/a
Expected Graduation: May 2012
Email: bridgegrace10@aol.com



Research project: Biodiesel produced from microalgae is identified as a possible replacement for fossil fuel and jet fuels as the growth of algae is C neutral and there will not be any harmful emissions to the environment during production. Once the algae are grown, 40-60% lipids are available to harvest for biodiesel the process produces useful organic matter as a byproduct.

Skills: I am a professional Ballet Folklorico Dancer. I have obtained a variety of engineering skills throughout my college experience such as math, science, attention to detail research, computer software programs and writing research papers.

Research Interests: My research interests include; Green innovations, growth and development of new fuels, water resources, and sustainability.

Name: *Jody Lynn Elias*
Campus: New Mexico State University, Las Cruces
Rank: MS
Expected Graduation date: May 2013
Email: jlstice@nmsu.edu



Skills: I received my BSEE at NMSU where I also received a minor in Environmental Management. It was through those classes that I developed a great interest in alternative resources in power generation and materials. This led me to pursue a higher education in Industrial Engineering Management and Grad Certificate in Systems Engineering, where I am able to conduct research in manufacturing techniques and materials such as wood plastic composites.

Research Interest: Research in alternative processing methods and materials testing that can replace products and materials already in practice. This will lead to a more durable and less expensive alternatives to current practices. I am currently working to determine a viable replacement for drying tables in use by a local Chile company. This consists of combining and testing wood plastic composite samples implementing physical and computational methods.

Name: *Clarissa Gonzales*
Campus: New Mexico State University
Rank: MS
Major: Industrial Engineering
Expected Graduation: May 2013
Email: clg@nmsu.edu



Internship: During the summer of 2012, I worked at Intel in Rio Rancho NM. I worked with core processor chips.

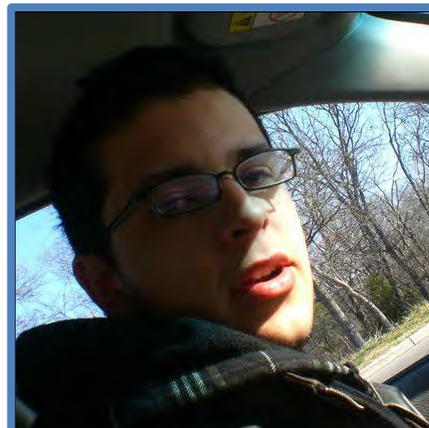
When I began my undergraduate career in civil engineering, I had the opportunity to be exposed to a full range of engineering courses, all of which tended to reinforce and solidify my strong interest in engineering. I have worked as an engineering intern for the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium in Anchorage, Alaska, traveling all over Alaska from Nome to Juno, above the Arctic Circle and Anchorage. I have worked as a Waste Water Operator Intern for the Jacob Hands Waste Water Treatment Plant in Las Cruces NM and Intel Corporation for the summer and fall semesters of 2012. In the field of engineering, I have developed a special interest in industrial engineering and the LEAN program and will complete my masters in May of 2013. I believe that my diverse background will bring a positive influence to my work and everything I do.

Skills: Auto-Cad, Microsoft products, JMP

Research Interests: TIMWOOD, LEAN and Six Sigma.

The University of Texas at El Paso Graduate Students _____
Texas State University - San Marcos (TSU)

Name: *Ivan Zecena*
Campus: Texas State University – San Marcos
Rank: M.S.
Major: Computer Science
Expected Graduation: July 2013
Email: ivan_zcl@txstate.edu



I'm originally from Guatemala but I've lived in Austin, Texas, for the last couple of years. I obtained my B.S. in Computer Science with a minor in Mathematics in 2011, and I'm currently working on my Master's in Computer Science at Texas State University. In my free time I like to play the drums, and listen to music while I lay with my cat and read a good science fiction book.

Research Interests: My current research focuses on High Performance Computing and the impact of parallel algorithms and task granularity on Energy Efficiency. In short, my goal is to design energy efficient software algorithms for computing clusters in a way that energy consumption is reduced. In addition to this, my thesis work is on the efficiency of running multiple virtual machines on GPUs.

Name: *Brady Henry Bauer* (No photo)
Campus: Texas State University – San Marcos
Rank: M.S.
Major: Agriculture
Expected Graduation: May 2012
Email: bb1246@txstate.edu

Research Interests: In regards to the to the research area of the renewable energy technology, I feel that I can bring my knowledge and educational experience in agriculture. Agriculture is the main front of the United States without it we might not be able to survive. Agriculture and renewable energy go together in that through agriculture many items grown or produced can be considered renewable energy. Also, through research on renewable energy technology I feel that if there are going to be new discoveries for it that agriculture and wildlife will be the main sources to start from since they impact the world the most. In my field of agriculture I have been working with many crops and environments, and also working with many aspects of the environmental wildlife. I feel that a step forward in order to help advance agriculture and the wildlife that thrives through many of the agriculture environments is to help improve the environment through advancements in agriculture. Through, this we must first educate others, by doing this renewable energy technology will help theses advancements, and I would love to be at the fore-front of this new advancement.

The University of Texas at El Paso Graduate Students _____
Texas A&M University - Kingsville (TAMUK)

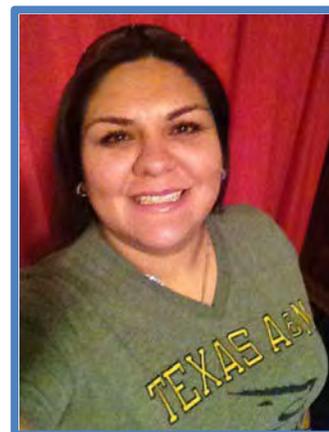
Name: *Madahy Romero*
Campus: Texas A&M University College Station
Rank: PhD
Major: Soil Sciences
Expected Graduation: December 2013
Email: madahyromero@yahoo.com



I'm currently a third-year Ph.D. student at Texas A&M University located in College Station, Texas. In May, 2010, I graduated from Texas A&M University - Kingsville with a M.S. in Plant and Soil Science. My undergraduate degree is from The University of Texas-Pan American, where I earned my BS in Biology in May 2007. In order for us to be able to excel in our careers, we need to have a healthy mind and body to be able to do so.

My career and research aspirations involve becoming an interdisciplinary research soil scientist. I want to have the opportunity to work with other research scientist on problems involving the conservation of systems involving plants, soils, and surface and groundwater sources. I would like to have a specific focus on agricultural chemicals, not only investigating their impacts on the environment, food safety, and human health but also discovering new herbicide active ingredients qualified for commercial development.

Name: *Krystal Montemayor*
Campus: Texas A&M University Kingsville
Rank: M.S
Major: Animal Science
Expected Graduation: December 2014
Email: krystal_sr_22@yahoo.com



Internship: During the summer of 2012, I worked in different regions across Texas working with USDA & APHIS Veterinary Services and Plant Protection Quarantine.

I always had an interest in livestock. My bachelor's degree is in agriculture science with a minor in plant and soil science. I am now working on my master's degree in animal science. I plan to one day be employed by USDA APHIS where I would be able to contribute to the agency and also educate the general public on what APHIS has to offer. My career and research aspirations are to extend my education on the process from when a certain commodity is planted to the actual consumption of cattle, which would then lead to determining carcass quality. I am very interested in the entire process.

Name: *Rey Munoz III*
Campus: Texas A&M University Kingsville
Rank: MS
Major: Plant and Soil Science
Expected Graduation: May 2014
Email: reynaldo.munoz@hotmail.com



Internship: Assistantship with USDA/NRCS- Kika Dela Garza- Plant Material Center Kingsville, Texas.

I was raised in Uvalde, Texas; I recently graduated with an Agribusiness Degree in May 2012. I was raised around agriculture all my life from riding pens at Driskill Feed yard Inc. to running produce lines. I'm pursuing a Master's Degree in Plant and Soil Science to become diversified within my field of study. With this degree I can become familiar with the production of crops and alternative methods of producing Biofuels. My graduate project is Biofuels Research Project.

My career and research aspirations are to study and research the 5 species such as Prairie Acacia Lespedeza, Purple Bush Bean, Lab- Lab and Siratro in order to potentially use species in the development of Biofuels.

The University of Texas at El Paso Under Graduate Students _____ **The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP)**

Name: *Braulio Delgado*
Hometown: El Paso TX
Institution: University of Texas at El Paso
Major: Civil Engineering
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: December 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: bdelgado4@miners.utep.edu



USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: El Paso TX
Employer: NRCS

What I learned: -Surveyed the fields by doing irrigation land leveling. -Designed pipeline to transport water to the fields in the most efficient way. -Designed canals to spread the water into the field. -Inspected and verified the working conditions of the watersheds that are located outside the city limits.

Name: *Evelyn Rios* (no photo)
Hometown: El Paso, Texas
Institution: University of Texas at El Paso
Major: Civil Engineering
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013
Degree: Bachelor of Civil Engineering B.S.
Email: erios4@miners.utep.edu

Career and Research Aspirations: To be able to obtain a job that I enjoy and able to provide helpful solutions.

USDA agency you are interested in: NCRS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Las Cruces, NM
Employer: New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, Mentor: Dr. Bawazir

What I learned: I learned how much water an invasive plant species, saltcedar, is able to intake and how much evapotranspiration is occurring. I learned how to do soil analysis, make and measure piezometers, and develop a research project.

The University of Texas at El Paso Under Graduate Students _____ **New Mexico State University**

Name: *German Montes*
Hometown: Las Cruces, NM
Institution: New Mexico State University
Major: Electrical Engineering
Rank: Sophomore
Expected Graduation Date: Fall 2015
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: montes24@nmsu.edu

Career and Research Aspirations: Find a job I can enjoy.

USDA agency you are interested in: FAS or ARS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Las Cruces, New Mexico
Employer: NMSU, Mentor: Dr. Delia Valles. Associate Professor NMSU.

What I learned: I learned what the drying process of the plants is and also how to make plant into the desired size of grain wanted even if it is really smart, worked with all the grinders available to turn it into different grain sizes.



Name: *Michael Carlock*
Hometown: El Paso, Texas
Institution: New Mexico State University
Major: Industrial Engineering
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2014
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: carlock@nmsu.edu

USDA agency interested in: NRCS

About my summer 2012 research experience: Location: Las Cruces, New Mexico. New Mexico State University
Employer: NMSU - Mentor Dr. Delia Valles. Associate Professor NMSU.

What I learned: I learned the precision needed in classifying and forming composite biomaterial and then testing for tensile strength and yield strength. Each step in the research process is important and requires much attention to detail to ensure test results are accurate.



Name: *Ursula Erickson*
Hometown: Las Vegas, NM
Institution: New Mexico State University
Major: Industrial Engineering
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: 05/11/2013
Degree: BS
Email: uerickso@nmsu.edu

Career and Research Aspiration: My goal is to work with either ARS or NCRS to improve soil quality or help with research on renewable biofuel such as switch grass and miscanthus.

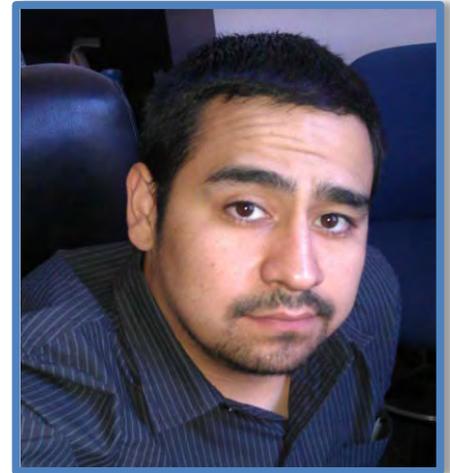
USDA agency you are interested in: ARS, NCRS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Temple, TX
Employer: USDA-ARS. Mentor: Dr. Jim Kiniry.

What I learned: I worked gathering plant parameters for a simulation program known as Almanac. I learned how properly gather data and process the plants: from harvesting, weighing, and drying to deseeding. I gained knowledge of different plants.



Name: *Fernando Perez*
Hometown: Las Cruces, NM
Institution: New Mexico State University
Major: Industrial Engineering
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2014
Degree: Bachelor of Science B.S.
Email: ferperez@nmsu.edu



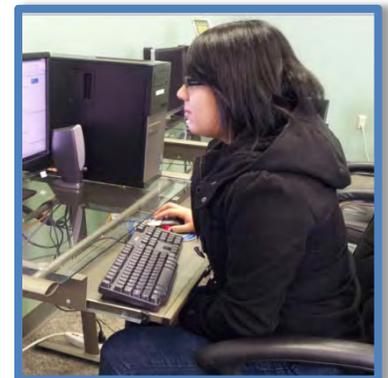
Career and Research Aspirations: Sustainability and Renewable energy, making a healthier world.

USDA agency you are interested in: ARS, NASS, or RMA.

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Las Cruces, NM
Employer: New Mexico State University, Mentor: Dr. Delia Valles – Associate Professor NMSU.

What I learned: I learned about agricultural waste products and the possibility of using these products in different ways. The overall goal of my summer research was highly focused on developing wood-polymer composites, where the source of the wood is organic waste produced in the agricultural industry.

Name: *Cristina Villa*
Hometown: Artesia, NM
Institution: New Mexico State University
Major: Industrial Engineering
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014
Degree: Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering
Email: crisis@nmsu.edu



Career and Research Aspirations: My goal is to graduate from New Mexico State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering and a Supplementary Major in Mathematics.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS and ARS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Temple, TX
Employer: Grassland Soil and Water Research Laboratory in Temple, TX. USDA-ARS.

What I learned: This past summer I worked at the Grassland Soil and Water Research Laboratory in Temple, TX. The goal was to optimize this yield through the study of different factors affecting this growth, one of which was the region.

Name: *Eliana Nuñez*
Hometown: Las Cruces, New Mexico
Institution: New Mexico State University
Major: Industrial Engineering
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: eliana77@nmsu.edu

Career and Research Aspirations: Upon graduation, I plan on pursuing a Masters degree in Environmental Engineering.

USDA agency you are interested in: ARS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Temple, Texas
Employer: USDA-ARS Grassland Soil and Water Research Lab, Mentor: Dr. Jim R. Kiniry.

What I learned: During my summer internship I learned how to use the ALMANAC model for switchgrass simulation modeling. Most of the internship was spent performing field research to evaluate the accuracy of simulation of the switchgrass biomass production by the ALMANAC model.



Name: *Basilio Garcia* **Hometown:**
Albuquerque, NM **Institution:** New
Mexico State University **Major:**
Industrial Engineering
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: December 2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: bossman@nmsu.edu

Career and Research Aspirations: To work in the development of materials that will be used in everyday society.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS and ARS

About my Project experience Fall 2011 and Spring 2012:
Location: Las Cruces, NM
Employer: NMSU. Mentor: Dr. Delia Valles – Associate Professor NMSU.



What I Learned: I learned about Wood-Plastic Composites in using chili stalk and polyethylene plastic to find mixtures and additives that would form a material with the least defects.

The University of Texas at El Paso Under Graduate Students _____
Texas State University

Name: *Adrian Fabian*
Hometown: Austin, Texas
Institution: Texas State University – San Marcos
Major: Electrical Engineering
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering
Email: adrianfabian@txstate.edu



Career and Research Aspirations: I would like to pursue my interest in green energies and perhaps become an entrepreneur with the knowledge I have gained here at Texas State.

USDA agency you are interested in: OEPNU

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Austin, Texas
Employer: Texas State University – San Marcos, Mentor: Dr. Larry Larsson, Dr. Tongdan Jin (co-advisor)

What I learned: I learned a great deal about the history of green energies and how they have evolved over the past couple of centuries.

Name: *Saul Villarreal*
Hometown: Brownsville, Texas
Institution: Texas State University
Major: Industrial Engineering
Rank: Graduated
Graduation Date: Fall 2011
Degree: Bachelors of Science
Email: saul.e.villarreal@gmail.com



Career and Research Aspirations: Energy, Process Improvement, System modeling

USDA agency you are interested in: OEPNU and ARS

About my 2010/2011 internship: Our project was a Distributed Generated (DG) grid designed to supply both green and power grid energy to satisfy the demand of a Semiconductor facility.
Employer: Texas State University, Mentor: Dr. Tongdan Jin and Dr. Jesus Jimenez.

What I learned: I learned an immense amount of project planning, WT and PV systems, reliability, mathematical modeling, DG planning simulation, optimization of volatile systems.

Name: *Jarett Martin*
Hometown: Georgetown, Texas / Memphis, TN
Institution: Texas State University
Major: Chemistry
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science (B.S.)
Email: jm2215@txstate.edu



Career and Research Aspirations: Develop skills in chemical industry and pursue further education.

About my Summer 2012 Internship Location: Waco, TX
Employer: Baylor University Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry REU program, Mentor: Dr. Patrick Farmer-Dept. Chair and Professor.

What I learned: I learned concepts of bioinorganic chemistry by expressing proteins and then subjecting those proteins to metal substitution. My experience developed my lab, writing, and leadership skills as a member of an on-going research project directed by PhD student (Tara Clover), along with weekly leadership and scientific ethics seminars.

Name: *Victor A. Santana-Viera*
Hometown: San Juan, P.R.
Lives in: Nolanville, TX
Institution: Texas State University-San Marcos
Major: Industrial Engineering
Rank: Undergraduate
Expected Graduation Date:
Degree: Bachelor in Science
Email: vas41@txstate.edu



Career and Research Aspirations: My research focus is analyzing and researching the semiconductor manufacturing industry focusing on understanding how the semiconductor manufacturing factories (wafer fabs) work, to develop different strategies to reduce the power consumption of the whole factory, which is a huge problem in the semiconductor industry.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

The University of Texas at El Paso Under Graduate Students
Texas A&M University – Kingsville

Name: *Emma Biediger*
Hometown: Schertz, Texas
Institution: Texas A&M University Kingsville
Major: Animal Science
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013
Degree: Bachelor of Science B.S.
Email: emmabie@gmail.com



Career and Research Aspirations: Find a job I can enjoy.

USDA agency you are interested in: AMS or ARS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Corpus Christi, Texas
Employer: Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center, Mentor: Dr. Megan Clayton – District 11 Range Specialist.

What I learned: I learned how to treat brush and invasive plant species with herbicide through IPT and other spraying methods. I also learned about extension, the work they do, and what it takes to outreach to the public.

Name: *Jessica Castellano*
Hometown: McAllen, TX
Institution: Texas A&M University Kingsville
Major: Agriculture Science and Technology
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Degree: Bachelors Degree-Agricultural Education
Email: jrcastellano@yahoo.com



Career and Research Aspirations: I would love to teach agriculture and be the FFA Advisor to bring leadership to the young minds of our society.

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS and NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Weslaco, TX
Employer: Texas A&M University - Kingsville Citrus Center.

What I learned: This past summer I worked at the Citrus Center and conducted research on Nematode Quantification and the soil borne fungus Phytophthora. I extracted DNA from soil and plant leaves to see if they were infected with the fungus.

Name: *Miguel Gomez*
Hometown: San Antonio
Institution: Texas A&M Kingsville
Major: Plant and Soil Science PLSS
Rank: Senior
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013
Degree: Bachelor Science
Email: iblame@yahoo.com



Career and Research Aspirations: My research interest is to work within the areas of soil nutrition, soil toxicity, plant nutrition and possibly plant genetics.

USDA agency you are interested in: NRCS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Denham, LA
Employer: USDA-NRCS at the Soil Survey office in Denham Springs.

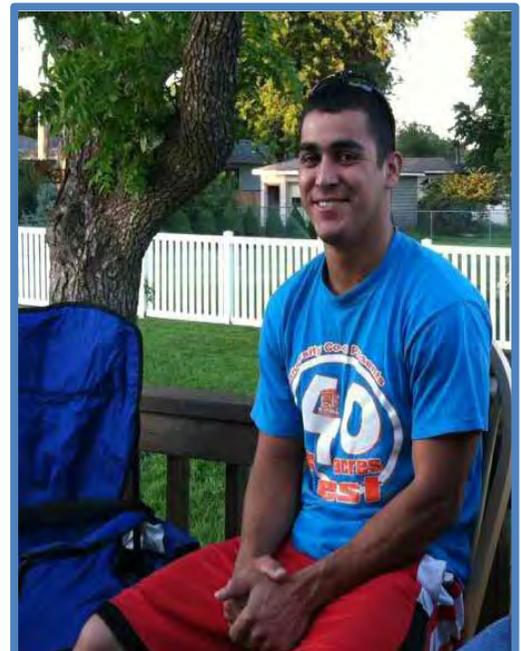
What I learned: I worked reclassifying soils below the hypothermic line.

Name: *Eduardo Reyna*
Hometown: Rio Grande City
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Animal Science
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: Spring 2014
Degree: Bachelor Scienc
Email: drd_ryn@yahoo.com

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Grand Island, Nebraska
Employer: USDA-AMS with JBS Swift Packing Plant

What I learned: I learned so many new things in the short amount of time that I was working in the two packing plants. This semester I'm actually looking forward to joining the meats judging team at Texas A&M University Kingsville. I can know say I am knowledgeable in that particular area. I learned so many new things considering the fact that it was my first time ever stepping foot inside a packing plant.



Name: *Cristina Teran*
Institution: Texas A&M University-Kingsville
Major: Animal Science
Rank: Junior
Expected Graduation Date: December 2012
Degree: Bachelor of Science
Email: cristina91_th@hotmail.com

USDA agency you are interested in: APHIS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Mission, Texas
Employer: ARS

What I learned: I worked with *R. microplus*, or Cattle Fever Tick, Arundo Scale or *R. donacis*, Arundo wasp or *T. romana*, and *Arundo donax*, or commonly called Carrizo Cane.



Name: *Travis Daniel Trevino*
Hometown: Mercedes, Texas
Institution: Texas A&M University Kingsville
Major: Animal Science
Rank: Graduate
Expected Graduation Date:
Degree: Bachelor Animal Science
Email: travistrevino454@yahoo.com

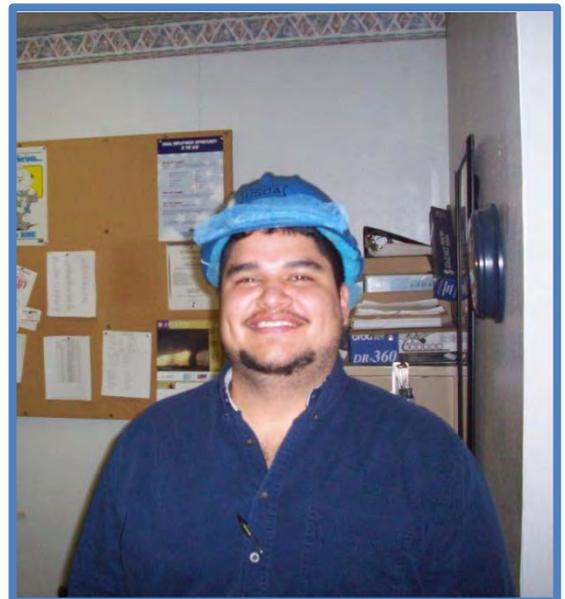
Career and Research Aspirations: I would like to have a career in the Meat Science Field, hopefully having research in the field be the main part of that career.

USDA agency you are interested in: AMS

About my summer 2012 Internship: Location: Lexington and Grand Island, Nebraska
Employer: USDA-AMS

What I learned: I worked as a meat grader.

About Me: When I took this internship I was very interested in the Meat Science field. I still maintain this interest and I am hoping to expand on it in Graduate School here at TAMUK. I enjoy fabricating meat and learning more and more about the industry that I hope that one day I am involved in it more directly. I am the first born son of my family where agriculture is a big part of our daily lives as we raise lambs for show in my hometown.



California State University San Bernardino Project Page

Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers Internship Program

Award: 2011-38422-31204

PI: Julie Lappin, J.D.
Water Resources Institute, CSU San Bernardino
jlappin@csusb.edu
909-537-3687

Co-PI: Dr. David Zoldoske
Water Resources and Policy Initiatives, CSU Fresno
davidzo@csufresno.edu
559-278-2066

The primary objective of the Watershed Management Experiential Learning for USDA Careers project is to measurably increase the awareness, retention, and graduation rate of qualified underrepresented California State University (CSU) students, leading towards USDA career attainment. This USDA/NIFA Regional Collaboration project was awarded to CSU's Water Resources and Policy Initiatives (WRPI) and is managed by the Water Resources Institute at California State University, San Bernardino. It is a collaboration between the fourteen Hispanic Serving Institution CSU campuses.

The strategic goal of this project is to measurably increase student research skills that ensure our national forests and private working lands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient to climate change, while simultaneously enhancing the sustainability of the Nation's water resources.

This project provides funding for 50 paid Watershed Management Internships per year for a total of 200 internships over four years. The internships provide an experiential approach to learning in the field of watershed management, which helps students gain real-world experience in natural resource protection while developing new knowledge, skills, and abilities in problem-solving from a watershed perspective. The total salary paid to each Watershed Management Intern is \$4,500. The project also provides up to \$560 per student for the purchase of approved supplies and materials and mileage reimbursement. Competitive interns may be eligible for \$40,000 scholarships in furtherance of their Doctorate-level degree in a natural resources or water related discipline.

California State University Graduate Students
Biology

Name: *Walter Kyle Griffiths*
Campus: California State University Fresno **Rank:** First
Year Graduate Student Major(s)/Degree(s): Biology BA in
Natural Sciences, MA in
Creative Inquiry, MFA in Creative Inquiry

Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014

Internship: San Joaquin River Invasive Predator Study: My project will describe predation potential of invasive piscivores in an altered habitat in the San Joaquin River, CA.

Skill Sets: Laboratory and Field Techniques, Literature Search, & Statistics.



Narrative: I am interested in ichthyology and community ecology and I have extensive experience managing projects.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS

Contact Info: wgriffiths@csufresno.edu

Name: *Elayna Ann Bryant*
Campus: California State University San Marcos
Rank: Third year graduate student
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Biology emphasis in Ecology, M.S. in
Biology
Expected Graduation Date: December/2013

Internship: Characterization of urban runoff treatment ponds within San Dieguito River Park (SDRP).

Skill Sets: GIS, GPS, Experimental Design & Statistical Analysis with R, Biological Data Analysis, Linear Models, Principles of Ecology, Landscape Ecology, Genetics, Conservation Biology, Research Method, Vertebrate Biology, & Animal Physiology.



I aspire to work with a USDA agency as a wildlife biologist. I am extremely passionate about wildlife monitoring, habitat restoration, and educational outreach programs.

USDA Agency of Interest: Wildlife Biologist

Contact Info: bryan011@csusm.edu

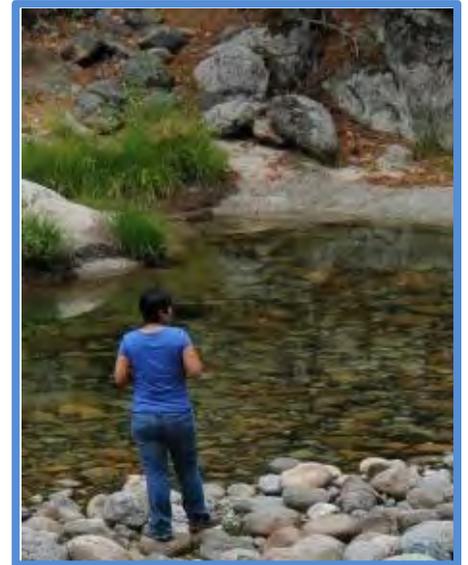
Name: *Zarela R. Guerrero*
Campus: California State University San Marcos **Rank:**
Second Year Graduate Student
Major(s)/Degree(s): A.A. in Chemistry, B.S. in Biology with a
second major in Anthropology, M.S. in Biology
Expected Graduation Date: December 2013

Internship: From shrub lands to avocados: Effects of land use and land cover change on soil carbon storage and fertility in Southern California.

Skill Sets: I have ample experience in ecological research skills, like collecting samples in the field, processing and analyzing samples in lab using lab equipment as well as computers.

My sense of curiosity is really high. The area that interests me the most is the impact that human activities have on the environment. My plan is to find a job for the Forest Service, once I graduate. It is my desire to serve my country by researching environmental issues.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: Zarela.Guerrero@gmail.com



Name: *Shelley Mae Lawrence*
Campus: California State University San
Marcos
Rank: Second Year Graduate Student
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Biology B.S. Biology,
concentration ecology
Minor: Chemistry
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013

Internship: Winter Characterization of Urban Runoff Water Treatment Ponds in San Dieguito River Park.

Skill Sets: GIS, advance statistics using R, Microsoft Word and Excel, CHNS analyzer, California flora and fauna identification, soil, water and vegetation field sampling.

My main career goal is to conduct ecological research.

USDA Agency of Interest: ARS and USFS
Contact Info: Lawre018@cougars.csusm.edu



California State University Graduate Students _____
Coastal and Watershed Science and Policy

Name: *Emily C. Beck*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: First year graduate
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Coastal Watershed Science and Policy
Expected Graduation Date: 5/2014



Internship: Tidal marsh restoration through the beneficial reuse of sediment.

Skill Sets: Wetland science, wetland delineation, R, GIS, water quality testing, plant propagation.

I hope to build a career in coastal ecosystem policy, management and conservation. I would like to work with either the Natural Resource Conservation Service or the Forest Service.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS, USFS

Contact Info: ebeck@csumb.edu

Name: *Scott G. Blanco*
Campus: California State University, Monterey Bay
Rank: Second year graduate student
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Coastal Watershed Science and Policy, B.S. in Molecular Environmental Biology
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014



Internship: Monitoring cyanobacterial harmful algal blooms and toxic potential in Pinto Lake using molecular biology methods.

Skill Sets: Software: ArcGIS, ERDAS, R, HEC-RAS/HMS, MS Office Laboratory: Flow injection analysis, total organic carbon, pathogen enumeration, microscopy, polymerase chain reaction, chlorophyll, ELISA toxin determination

I aim to apply environmental science and policy education and experience to effectively produce high quality, policy-relevant research.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS

Contact Info: sblanco@csumb.edu

Name: *Brittani Diane Bohlke*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Second Year Graduate Student
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Environmental Biology (University of Wisconsin) M.S. in Coastal and Watershed Science and Policy
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013



Internship: Environmental Compliance Tasks and Management Plan Preparation for Marina Coast Water District.

Skill Sets: Microsoft Word/Excel/PowerPoint, GPS unit, ArcGIS 10.0 software, Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS), R programming language, LaTeX document preparation system, STELLA Modeling and Simulation Software, Hydrologic Engineering Centers Hydrologic Modeling System (HEC-HMS) and River Analysis System (HEC-RAS), High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC), Gas Chromatography, Spectrophotometry, Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).

A potential career track through the USDA involves protection of water resources and water quality through a scientific position with the Natural Resources Conservation Service or the Forest Service.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: Brittani488@gmail.com

Name: *Cherie Nicole Crawford*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Second year graduate student
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Marine Biology; M.S. Coastal and Watershed Science and Policy, watershed emphasis
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013



Internship: Applied science to inform conservation and restoration of a threatened habitat type, the ecotone between salt marshes and adjacent uplands.

Skill Sets: Soil sample analysis, plant propagation, GIS, Word, Excel, various statistical programs

After I graduate from my program at CSUMB, I would like to obtain a job with the NRCS.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: ccrawford@csumb.edu

Name: *Christina Michelle David*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Graduate student, 2nd year
Major(s)/Degree(s): Coastal and Watershed Science & Policy
Master's
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2013



Internship: Woodchip bioreactors as an agricultural BMP for nitrate removal: Monitoring internal dynamics for optimization of this tool.

Skill Sets: GIS, R Statistical Package, grant writing, running specialized lab machinery (Total Carbon Analyzer, Shimadzu Gas Chromatograph), lots of field work experience including with endangered species.

After acquiring my Master's degree, I hope to find work that relates to such pressing local and regional environmental issues as groundwater depletion and contamination from practices such as fracking and agricultural pollutants. I am most interested in working for the NRCS, of the USDA agencies. I enjoy trying new things, spending time with loved ones, reading, anything involving the outdoors, and most sports.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: cdavid@csumb.edu

Name: *Megan Elizabeth Gehrke*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay **Rank:**
Graduate Student – First Year
Major(s)/Degree(s): Coastal & Watershed Science and Policy
(M.S.) – Watershed Science Emphasis
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2014



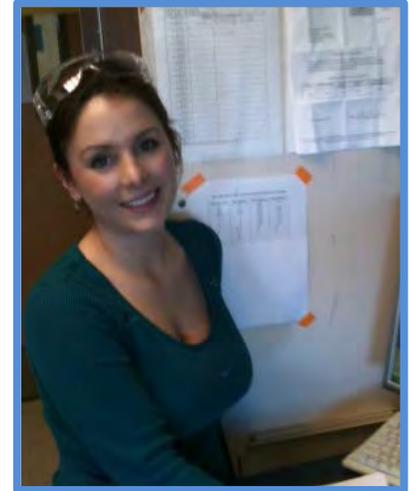
Internship: Data analysis for Central Coast Water Quality Preservation, Inc.

Skill Sets: R, GIS, field experience (field measurements, sampling, quality assurance, data entry, calibration and use of water quality monitoring equipment), lab experience (data analysis, sample preparation, basic chemistry, Kjeldahl digestions).

I am most interested in working on land use and water quality issues throughout my future career, especially issues related to agriculture.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS, USFS
Contact Info: megangehrke@gmail.com

Name: *Shaelyn Marion Hession*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Third Year Graduate Student
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Environmental Science, Technology and Policy, December 2009 M.S. in Coastal and Watershed Science & Policy, Watershed Science Emphasis
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013



Internship: Nitrous Oxide Emissions from Aquatic Systems.

Skill Sets: Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, ArcMap, and R. Experienced with ERDAS Imagine, HEC-RAS, and HEC-HMS. Practical field experience, including operation of a variety of technical equipment. Applied laboratory skills, including good laboratory practices.

My professional interests are in natural resource conservation and water quality. When I graduate I will be seeking a position with government agencies, including the USDA. I value public service and a holistic approach that integrates multiple methodologies for addressing social and environmental issues.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS , NRCS
Contact Info: shession@csumb.edu

Name: *Gwen Joelle Miller*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay **Rank:** Second Year Graduate Student
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Coastal & Watershed Science and Policy
Expected Graduation Date: June 2014



Internship: Analyzing nitrate removal from agriculturally polluted water using the Molera Treatment Wetland.

Skill Sets: Use of a Total Organic Carbon Analyzer, Hydrolab and Lachat. Research design skills, data organization skills and use of the R- statistical program.

I am interested in habitat restoration and use of treatment wetlands to improve water quality. I am particularly interested in the land/ocean interface and finding ways to reduce pollution runoff into the ocean.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS NRCS
Contact Info: gmiller@csumb.edu

Name: *Colin Lawrence Nicol*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Third Year Grad Student
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. Coastal and Watershed Science
and Policy
Expected Graduation Date: December 2012

Internship: Steelhead habitat improvement project.

Skill Sets: GIS, ERDAS Imagine, R, Microsoft Office, Stella Modeling, Land surveying, water quality monitoring, stream gage installation and maintenance.

I am working to complete my Masters in Watershed Science, with hopes of moving on to a job as a hydrologist or geomorphologist.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: colinlnicol@gmail.com



Name: *Pauline Frances Perkins*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Second Year Graduate
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S.-Coastal and Watershed Science
& Policy
Expected Graduation Date: 5/2013

Internship: Best Management Practices in a small urban watershed, Pacific Grove, CA.

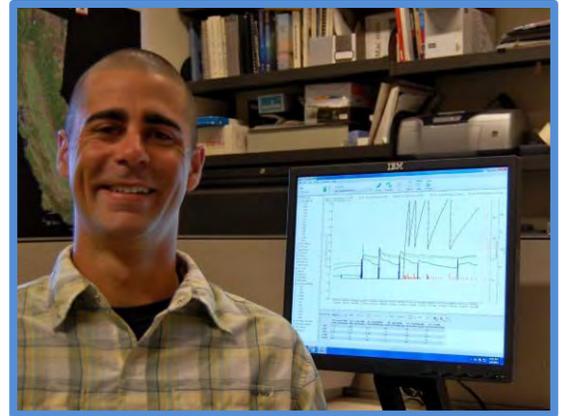
Skill Sets: Experienced with computer programs such as Excel, Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, ArcGIS, Stella, HEC-RAS/HMS and R Statistical Software. Stream flow monitoring (flow measurements with FlowMate, suspended sediment, and bed load) Surveying with prism and total station. Data management and organization Environmental education Certified intermediate mapping and GIS coursework by Trimble. Professional background in various outdoor skills (orienteering, canoeing, fishing, firearm safety, etc.).

My career objective is to understand human impacts well enough to assess and improve conditions in impaired watersheds, while sharing knowledge gained with the surrounding community.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS, USFS
Contact Info: pfperkin@gmail.com



Name: *Kirk Matthew Post*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Second year graduate student
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Coastal and Watershed Science and Policy; Undergraduate: Environmental Science and Policy (CSU Long Beach)
Minor: Geology
Expected Graduation Date: 05/18/2013



Internship: Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA).

Skill Sets: ESRI ArcGIS10.1, HEC-RAS, HEC-HMS, Datatrac3, ECHO2 Utilities, R-Statistical computing environment, Microsoft Excel, PowerPoint, Stella, Tetracam Pixel Wrench2, Master and Research Diving Certified, skiff operating experience, backcountry and marine field work experience.

I am currently pursuing a career in agriculture related applied sciences including irrigation management, groundwater contamination and biophysical modeling.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: kpost@csumb.edu

Name: *Julianne Rhodes*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Coastal and Watershed Science and Policy Masters Candidate
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Coastal and Watershed B.S. Geology San Diego State University, 1987
Minor: German
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014



Internship: Carmel River Lagoon Water Quality Monitoring - Water Resources Assistant.

Skill Sets: Experienced in obtaining water quality depth profiles via YSI meter and Hydrolab, measuring flow via a Sontek flowtracker, collecting grab samples and performing laboratory analyses, and for producing monthly reports with graphics and a qualitative summary to be released to stakeholders.

My goal in pursuing a career with the USDA is to facilitate a two-way connection between science and policy.

USDA Agency of Interest: FS & NRCS
Contact Info: jrhodes@csumb.edu

Name: *Amber Lee Schat*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: graduate student
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Coastal and Watershed Science
and Policy
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014



Internship: The Project will refine critical conservation planning tools by defining metrics to measure and evaluate, and thereby reduce, the negative effects of storm water in a specific watershed.

Skill Sets: I have working knowledge of GIS, and GPS hardware and software, statistical computing and analysis in R, Excel, JEdit, and Komodo, and basic wet chemistry constituent sampling methods and processing skills. I am also comfortable analyzing sediment and water chemistry data and writing technical reports. I have strong verbal and written communication skills and pride myself on my ability to connect with people of different backgrounds and opinions.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: aschat@csumb.edu

Name: *Aimee Elizabeth Teaby*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: First year graduate
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S.-Watershed Science and
Policy
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014



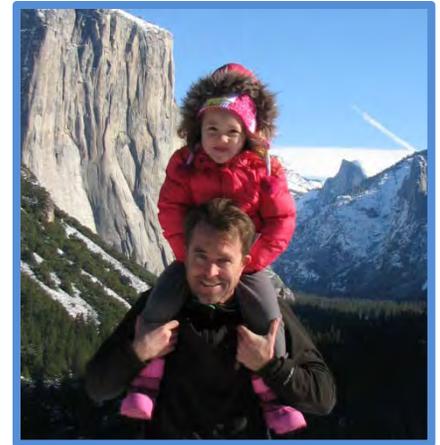
Internship: Using the NASA-CASA ecosystem model coupled with a hydrologic routing algorithm called HYDRA to support water management decision-making within Yosemite National Park.

Skill Sets: Hydrological and climate data processing and analysis; GIS; GPS (Garmin, Trimble, RTK); Microsoft Word & Excel; R (programming language); hydrological field equipment; maintenance of stream gages and weather stations; water quality sampling and processing; survey equipment (total station, level).

I would like to be a part of a cohesive and eclectic resource-based think tank focused on improving water resource management through innovative and sustainable methods.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: ateaby@csumb.edu

Name: *John Urness*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: First Year Graduate Student
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Coastal and Watershed Science and Policy B.A. Environmental Studies
Minor: Certificate in Energy Management and Design
Expected Graduation Date: 6/2014



Internship: Calfire Preplanning GIS Mapping Project.

Skill Sets: Computer related: R and Python programming. GIS. Advanced information technology experience including server virtualization and network design and configuration.

I am looking for long term employment with the forest service in the area of watershed management.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS **Contact Info:** jurnes@gmail.com

California State University Graduate Students Ecology and Sustainability

Name: *Felicia Christina De La Torre*
Campus: California State University, Stanislaus
Rank: Second Year Grad
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Ecology and Sustainability
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2013



Internship: Biodiversity, Abundance, and Breeding Success of Amphibians in San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties, California.

Skill Sets: GPS skills, fieldwork techniques and handling experience with some animals, Computer skills - webpage design, Some Java and HTML experience, GIS using ARCVIEW, Microsoft programs (e.g. Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Access, and Publisher), Statistics Programs (e.g. PC-Ord, EcoMeth, Piface).

After I graduate with my Masters in Ecology and Sustainability, I hope to gain a career in which I will be able to work hands on with animals and contribute to research in areas within the United States that have gaps in data.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: fdelatorre@csustan.edu

California State University Graduate Students _____
Engineering

Name: *Jaideep Chowdhury* (no photo)
Campus: California State University FRESNO
Rank: Second Year Grad
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Electrical Engineering
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013

Internship: USDA Water Management Internship Program.

Skill Sets: MS Office, Programming Skills, Soil Testing Labs

USDA Agency of Interest:

Contact Info: Jaideep10@mail.fresnostate.edu

California State University Graduate Students _____
Environmental Science

Name: *Sk Asad Al Mamun*
Campus: California State University LA
Rank: Second year grad
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S-Environmental
Science (Engineering Option)
Expected Graduation Date: 10/2013

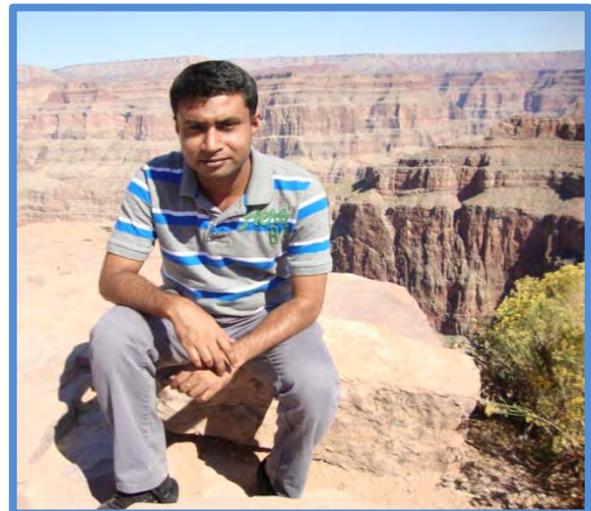
Internship: "Lower Santa Ana River Restoration with Enhanced Water Quality".

Skill Sets: Laboratory analysis of water quality; ArcInfo; HEC-RAS simulation Model for surface water analysis; GMS for Ground water Analysis; Microsoft Office.

I want to devote myself in fresh water research. My hobby is traveling.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS

Contact Info: asad_es@yahoo.com.com



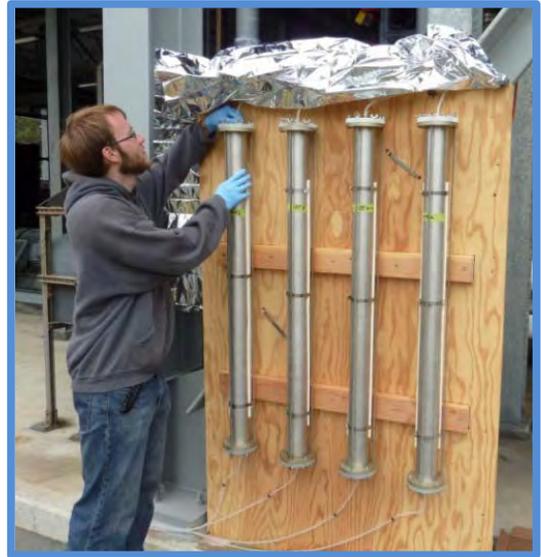
Name: *Shane Donovan Keefauver*
Campus: California State University of Monterey Bay
Rank: 2nd year graduate student
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S. in Environmental Science
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013

Internship: Carmel River Lagoon Water Augmentation Project.

Skill Sets: GIS, modeling, proficient using Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, experience using survey equipment, data entry, remote sensing, and I type 84 words per minute.

I aspire to have a successful career in water quality management and/or GIS related fields.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS , NRCS, and RMA
Contact Info: skeefauv@gmail.com



California State University Graduate Students Geographic Information Systems/Geography

Name: *Christopher Michael Diaz* (no photo)
Campus: California State University, Northridge
Rank: First year Graduate Program
Major(s)/Degree(s): Geographic Information Systems/Geography A.A. in Geography,
B.A. in Geography
Minor: Geographic Information Systems
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2014

Internship: Southern California Coastal Wetlands Research Project.

Skill Sets: Developed advanced skills in digitizing and the application of topology. Edited and error checked stream drainage networks for wetlands mapping project. Learned to delineate wetlands using the US Fish and Wildlife Service protocols. Developed skills in aerial photo interpretation. Applied database management protocol to newly created datasets. Performed basic editing tasks on ArcGIS databases.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: Christopher.diaz.492@my.csun.edu

Name: *Raymond Mark Lee*
Campus: San Diego State University
Rank: Second year M.S. student
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.S.-Geography, with a concentration in Watershed Science (hold B.S.-Managerial Economics, with a concentration in Environmental and Resource Economics; B.A. in Philosophy)
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013



Internship: Thermal dynamics in a chronically eutrophied drinking water reservoir.

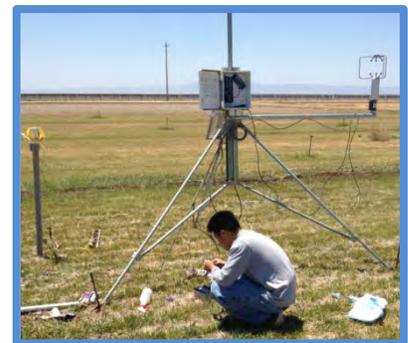
Skill Sets: Computer programming using R, SAS and MS Excel; hydrological modeling, remote sensing analyses and map digitizing using CE-QUAL-W2, BASINS, ERDAS, ENVI and ArcGIS; field skills, such as land surveying, stream channel surveying and storm water sampling.

My research objective is to contribute new insights to the cycling of nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, in terrestrial ecosystems as they are affected by human activities like motor vehicle usage, land management and climate warming.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: ramalee420@gmail.com

California State University Graduate Students _____ Industrial Technology

Name: *My Viet Dang*
Campus: California State University Fresno
Rank: Second-year Graduate
Major(s)/Degree(s): Industrial Technology Master of Science
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2012



Internship: Automation of Micro-met systems to evaluate crop evapotranspiration: To fully automate micro-met stations measuring Evaporation and Transpiration (ET) by implementing techniques that will automatically post process ET data.

Skill Sets: Troubleshooting industrial electronic systems, managing Data Acquisition Systems, Visual Basic programming, Data collection, and Statistical analysis.

USDA Agency of Interest: ARS FS NRCS
Contact Info: mvdang@mail.fresnostate.edu

California State University Graduate Students _____
Landscape Architecture and Conservation Zoology

Name: *Tiernan Zane Doyle*
Campus: California State Polytechnic University
Pomona
Rank: Third Year grad.
Major(s)/Degree(s): M.A.Landscape Architecture,
M.A. Conservation Zoology, M.A. Classics,
B.A. Classics
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2013



Internship: Watershed Management Intern for the US Forest Service.

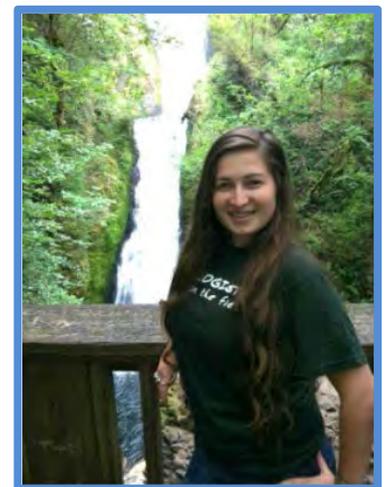
Skill Sets: GIS, AutoCAD, 3D Studio Max, Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office

I am incredibly passionate about optimizing watershed health through conserving ecological networks and restoring hydrologic processes.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFA **Contact Info:** tiernan.doyle@gmail.com

California State University Under Graduate Students _____
Biology

Name: *LaTeasha Naté Edelman*
Campus: California State University San Marcos
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S Biological Sciences, Ecology
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2013



Internship: From shrublands to avocados and oranges: Effects of land use and land cover change on soil carbon storage and fertility in Southern California.

Skill Sets: Microsoft Word and Excel, CHN analyzer, autoanalyzer, field sampling of soil and vegetation, standard soil and vegetation analysis, undergoing GIS training

USDA Agency of Interest: ARS and USFS
Contact Info: Teasha.Edelman@gmail.com

Name: *Eden Marie Gonzalez*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Recently graduated in December 2012
Major(s)/Degree(s): Biology B.S. in Biology
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2012
Email: egonzalez@csumb.edu

Internship: Biomolecular Characterization of
Agronomical Traits in Agricultural Crops.

Skill Sets: Experienced in aquarium plumbing and filtration system maintenance, able to follow instructions and complete tasks under little supervision, Microsoft Excel, Access, Word, and Power Point proficient, experienced in routine office work as well as data entry procedures, GIS/GPS, DNA extraction, PCR, aseptic techniques, taxonomy.

Although I am comfortable working in a lab setting, I would like to pursue a career in field biology, specifically working with fish as a fish biologist with the Forest Service.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS

Contact info:



Name: *Cloe Suzanne Hentz*
Campus: California State University San Marcos
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Biology, molecular cellular
biology concentration
Minor: Chemistry
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013

Internship: Changes in Net N Mineralization and Microbial
Biomass with added N Deposition in Semi-Arid Shrublands.

Skill Sets: Microsoft Word and Excel, soil and vegetation field sampling, soil pH analysis, centrifuge, soil extraction and analysis, soil moisture analysis, LI-6200 CO₂ analyzer, leaf area meter, SDS-PAGE gel electrophoresis, tracking and scat analysis, and ethology.

I am currently an undergrad at California State University San Marcos, majoring in biology with a concentration in molecular cellular biology and a minor in chemistry. I entered the university knowing I wanted to major in biology in hopes to later go to Veterinary Medicine school.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS ARS

Contact Info: hentz001@cougars.csusm.edu



Name: *Kenneth Norberg*
Campus: California State University
Monterey Bay Rank:
Senior

Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Biology
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013

Internship: Fisheries aide intern for the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

Skill Sets: Fish capture, aquaculture, endangered species handling, use of electro-shock backpack, sein netting, distribution of medication, habitat creation, animal feeding, and facility maintenance.



I am most interested in working in the field to make the environment a richer and fuller place for animals and humans.

left to right: Nets - Mark ckeBer and Casey Lanier, Electro-shock Backpack: Matt Lyons, Bucket: Kenneth Norberg

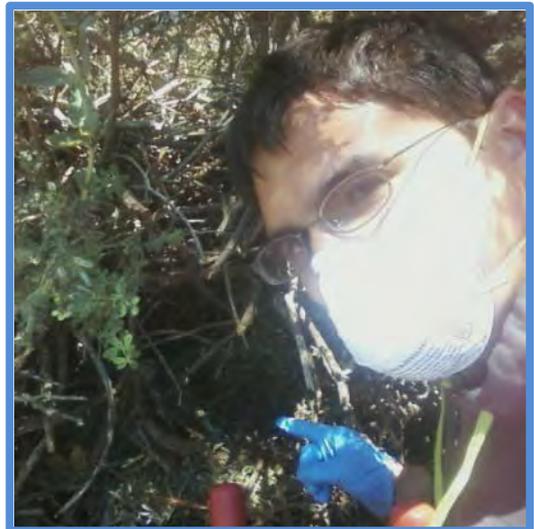
USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: knorberg@csumb.edu

Name: *Daniel Robert Ontiveros*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): Biology B.S.
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013

Internship: Working with Denise Duffy & Associates, I opened, maintained, checked, and removed traps and silt nets in order to study breeding population and movement of California Tiger Salamanders in Carmel Valley.

Skill Sets: Trap set up and maintenance, GPS mapping, and a developing knowledge of local plants and animals.

I would love to work with studying and protecting threatened species of plants and animals in a similar way to what I have been doing in my internship. Fieldwork that will help understand how to protect something like the CTS while still allowing development in appropriate ways has interested me greatly over the past year.



USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: Dontiveros@csumb.edu

Name: *Camille Marie Sierra*
Campus: California State University Monterey
Bay Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): Biology B.S.
Expected Graduation Date: 05/18/13

Internship: This internship composed of assisting field staff with site visits to farms and ranches.

Skill Sets: Skill set includes Intermediate Mapping and GIS Certification, knowledgeable in Microsoft software, California Boater Education Certificate, proficient in transects, and organizing educational public outreach programs.



The career goal I am interested in is working for the NRCS as a soil conservationist. I aspire towards teaching others about conservation and continuously expanding my knowledge of new ways to do so.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: csierra@csumb.edu

Name: *Felicia Ann Chiu Tacliad*
Campus: California State University San Marcos
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Biology
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013

Internship: Project: Effects of Experimental Nitrogen Deposition on the Population Dynamics of Nitrogen Cycling in the Southern California Shrublands.

Skill Sets: Aliquot techniques, Agar plate preparation, PCR analysis, culturing E. Coli, Microbial soil DNA extraction; Wetting solution preparation; Splenocyte harvestation, Pipette techniques, Spectrophotometer analysis, NanoDrop spectrophotometer analysis, Microscope techniques. Computer Skills: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Minitab.



I aspire to learn more about the agricultural impact on global sustainability and I hope to spread my knowledge to underdeveloped countries.

USDA Agency of Interest: USDA ARS
Contact Info: tacli002@cougars.csusm.edu

California State University Under Graduate Students
Computer Science

Name: *Carlos Fernando Almaguer*
Campus: California State University San Bernardino
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Computer Engineering, B.S. in Computer Science
Minor: Applied Physics, Math
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2013



Internship: 2012-Present Aerial Photo Project . Digitizing aerial photographs, creating metadata and captioning the pictures so that they can be uploaded to a website.

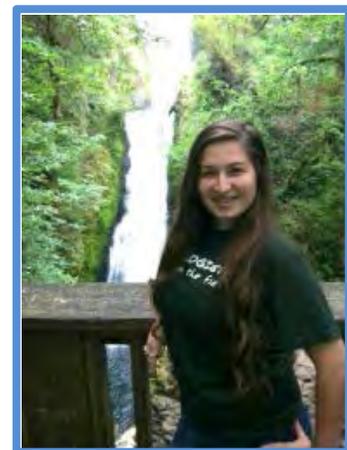
Skill Sets: GIS, Excel, C++ Programming

In the current USDA internship I designed a procedure to automatically caption a photograph using by simply writing to it an unique code, the code then tags the picture with all relevant information, such as Geographic location, Date taken, Flight Number, Scale etc. This project will result in a database of easily accessible images that can be viewed by researchers and stakeholders.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS and other agencies
Contact Info: cfrp1990@gmail.com

California State University Under Graduate Students
Ecology

Name: *LaTeasha Naté Edelman*
Campus: California State University San Marcos
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S Biological Sciences, Ecology
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2013
USDA Agency of Interest: ARS USFS
Contact Info: Teasha.Edelman@gmail.com



**Complete biographical data can be found under
"Biology"**

California State University Under Graduate Students
Engineering

Name: *Richard Wayne Alcala Jr.*
Campus: California State Polytechnic University Pomona
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. Civil Engineering,
Emphasis: Environmental (In
Progress)
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014

Internship: Title: Assessing the Lateral Migration of Snow Slide Canyon Creek within the Crystal Lake Campground.

Skill Sets: Knowledge of AutoCad, Microstation, Arc GIS, and C# programming language. Capable to use a total station instrument.

Within the USDA I hope to pursue a career as a hydrologist in the Natural Resource Conservation Service to help better our natural water resources. I hope to conduct research that uses computer-modeling software to help better manage rivers. Some of my hobbies are biking, hiking, and working out to keep fit. Interesting fact about myself is I love exploring and going on random nature walks.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: rwalcala@csupomona.edu



Name: *Carlos Fernando Almaguer*
Campus: California State University San Bernardino
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Computer Engineering, B.S. in
Computer Science
Minor: Applied Physics, Math
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2013
USDA Agency of Interest: USFS and other agencies
Contact Info: cfrp1990@gmail.com

**Complete biographical data is found under
“Computer Science”**



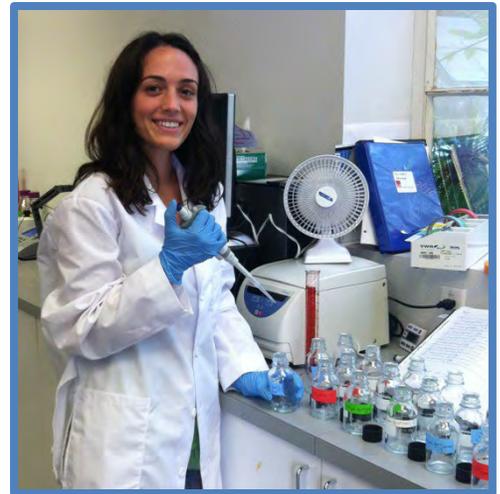
Name: *Kelsey Lynna Beyer*
Campus: San Diego State University
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Environmental Engineering
B.A. in German
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2013

Internship: Anaerobic Digestion of Fats, Oils and Greases for Enhanced Biogas Production.

Skill Sets: AutoCAD, GIS, MS Office, Adobe Illustrator

My aim during this project and future projects is to acquire valuable experience in real-life environmental issues.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: kjbeyer@gmail.com



Name: *Francisco Javier Diaz*
Campus: California State University, Fresno
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S Civil Engineering
Minor: Mathematics
Expected Graduation Date: 04/2014

Internship: Tulare Lake Basin, Disadvantaged Community Study.

Skill Sets: Microsoft Office: Proficient in Word, Excel, and PowerPoint Bilingual: Fluent in English and Spanish Proficient in AutoCAD Interpersonal Skills



I was always fond of civil engineering, even before I knew what it was. As a child I would play for hours building Lego structures and digging small trenches in the dirt for small towns that I would use for my toy cars. I am now currently a student at Fresno State University pursuing my Bachelors degree in Civil Engineering. When I graduate I hope to continue my education in a postgraduate program, which focuses on structures. I have always been fascinated by building and bridge design and it is something that I wish to pursue in the future. On the other hand, engineering is much more than one specific field. Civil Engineers should be well-rounded individuals with knowledge in all areas of infrastructure to help assist communities and their needs. I don't know where my engineering journey will lead me, so I plan on making the best of the opportunities presented to me.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: f_diaz21@yahoo.com

Name: *Issa El Haddad*
Campus: San Diego State University
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Civil Engineering
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014

Internship: Investigating the Toxicity of Silver Ions to Chronically Exposed Nitrifying Bacteria.

Skill Sets: Prepare growth media, inoculate cells, pipet, design and set up experiments, pay attention to detail and time limits, analyze data (using Microsoft Excel and Visual MINTEQ), give presentations, and write reports.

I aspire to work as a water resources engineer with the USDA Forest Service. My interests are water and wastewater treatment, and perhaps developing solutions to water shortage problems.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: ielhaddad0519@gmail.com



Name: *Rachelle Nadine Huber*
Campus: San Diego State University
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Environmental Engineering
Minor: Associates in Math, Physics, and Science
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2013

Internship: The name of the project is Anaerobic Treatment of Restaurant Waste and FOGs.

Skill Sets: This project has taught me to design my own experiment to collect data and information. Lab skills; Measuring TS, TDS, VSS, Alkalinity, COD, pH, Carbon %, and theoretical gas production. Other skill computer programs I have worked with are GIS, Word, and Excel.

This coming year, I am hoping to take all the research and data gathered and test it in a small onsite project at a wastewater treatment plant.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: rnhuber5@gmail.com



Name: *Issac Lee*
Campus: California State University Fresno
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Civil Engineering B.A. in Economics (2006, UCSD)
Expected Graduation Date: May, 2014

Internship: Optimization of water retention basin with the use of hydrologic and hydraulic analysis. Implementation of HEC RAS (HEC II) and HEC HMS (HEC I) for optimization.

Skill Sets: HEC RAS, HEC HMS, GIS (ArcMap), WMS, and general computer applications.

My interest is in the preservation and development of our natural resources. Mainly, the development and preservation of water usage.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS, NRCS, RD & FAS)
Contact Info: issaclee11@mail.fresnostate.edu



Name: *Sean Seiki Leverance*
Campus: California State University Northridge
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. Mechanical Engineering
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2014

Internship: "Increasing the Efficiency of Wind Turbines Using a Self-Actuated, Self-Controlled Surface Roughness Mechanism" - The goal of this exploratory study is to determine the effect that change of surface roughness using ferroelectric materials has on flow characteristics. If the wall shear stress can be reduced, then increased energy efficiency could be attained.

Skill Sets: COMSOL

Once I graduate with my B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, I plan to build a career working with renewable energy applications, such as pursuing my PhD in Mechanical Engineering with an emphasis in Renewable Energy.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS & Conservation District/RD
Contact Info: sean.leverance.76@my.csun.edu



California State University Under Graduate Students
Environmental Science

Name: *Luis Carlos De La Torre*
Campus: San Diego State University
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. In Environmental Science emphasis in Watershed Science
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2012



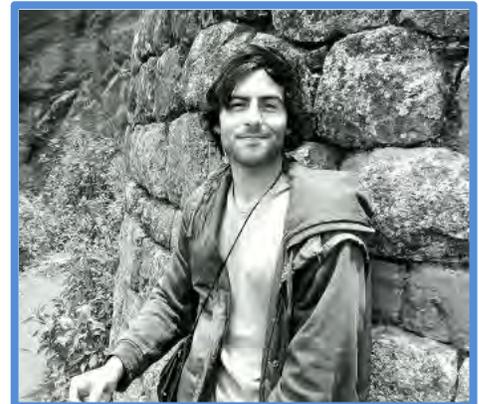
Internship: Water quality and quantity during low flow in urbanized watersheds.

Skill Sets: Proficient with Excel, ArcGIS, ERDAS Imagine, ENVI 4.8, IDRISI Andes, and experienced in R and Map Window/BASINS.

My goal is to achieve a Masters degree in Watershed Science from SDSU.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: luisdelatorre89@gmail.com

Name: *Dwayne Bowland Franco*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Environmental Science Technology and Policy, Concentration in Watershed Systems.
Minor: Biology
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013



Internship: Changes and Future For Pitch Canker Infested Monterey Pines at Asilomar Forest Watershed.

Skill Sets: Microsoft Office, R statistical programming, ArcGIS and GPS certification by ESRI. Expertise in using geologic survey equipment such as auto-levels, rotating lasers, and survey rods.

As an environmental science technology and policy major with a concentration in watershed systems and a minor in biology, I have a keen interest for interdisciplinary problem solving through collaborative efforts.

USDA Agency of Interest: USDA ARS
Contact Info: dwfranco@csumb.edu

Name: *Allison Marie Nunes*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Sophomore
Major(s)/Degree(s): Environmental Studies B.S.
Minor: Biology
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2015

Internship: My internship project is at the Santa Lucia Conservancy located in Carmel, CA.

Skill Sets: Using GIS computer mapping software Using transects for quantitative floristic monitoring Using vegetation mapping techniques Using wildlife survey equipment Using Microsoft computer programs (Excel, PowerPoint, Word)

My future career goals are to work as a field biologist, learning more about plants and organisms, in order to help preserve and restore them.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS NRCS
Contact Info: anunes4@yahoo.com



Name: *Gloria Stephanie Ramirez*
Campus: California State University Channel Islands
Rank: Senior, Undergraduate
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Environmental Science and Resource Management with an emphasis in Environmental Science
Expected Graduation Date: May 18, 2013

Internship: Watershed Monitoring & Stewardship Intern.

Skill Sets: Systems Skills: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, GIS. Language Skills: English native speaker, Spanish native speaker.

The future plans that I have is that after graduation, I will get a job working with an agency that works in water management or water quality.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: gloria.ramirez545@myci.csuci.edu



Name: *Lauren Ann Sommers*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Environmental Science
Technology and Policy, B.S. in Mathematics
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2015

Internship: Groundwater Occurrence and Characterization Study” for the City of Monterey.

Skill Sets: ArcGIS, R statistical software, Microsoft Office: Word, Power point, Excel.



Through an amazing faculty and the one-on-one interactions with my professors and peers, I have expanded my interest in mathematics and watershed science, and dramatically improved my study skills.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: Lsommers@csumb.edu

California State University Under Graduate Students _____ **Geographic Information Systems/Geography**

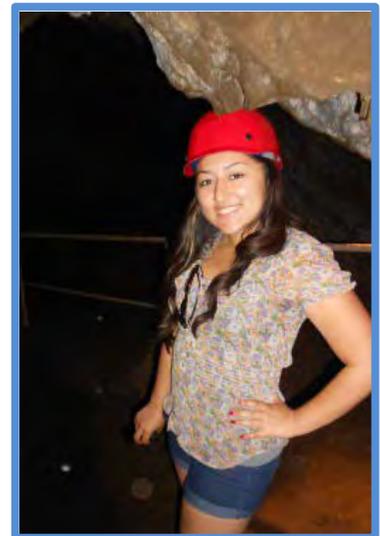
Name: *Julianna Aguilar*
Campus: California State University Stanislaus
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): BA Geography
Minor: Environmental and Resource Studies
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2014

Internship: Tuolumne Trust Outreach Central Valley Program.

Skill Sets: ArcGIS 10.1 skills, GPS skills, Microsoft skills, Excel skills, Photoshop skills.

I intend on furthering my academic career until reaching my goal of obtaining a Ph.D. In my future I see myself working for the USDA Forest Services Agency using GIS technologies to map out trends and help restore ecological environments. I enjoy being outdoors and speaking to people about our environment.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: Jaguilar11@csustan.edu



Name: *Pedro Chacon*
Campus: California State University Stanislaus
Rank: Junior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.A. Geography
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2014



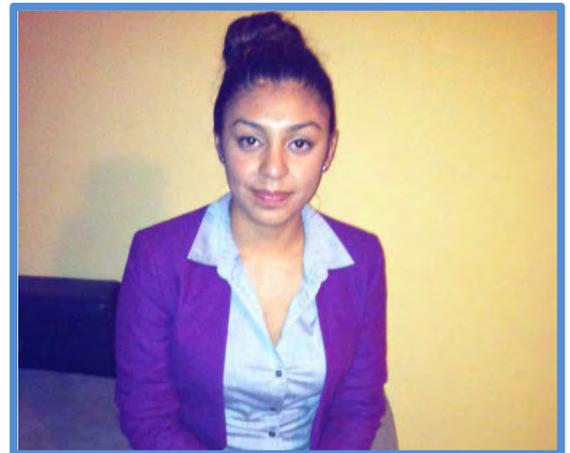
Internship: I will be working with local communities in promoting watershed impotence. Educating the importance of the Tuolumne River and getting people to be more active in keeping it clean and being more involved on it.

Skill Sets: GPS skills, Mechanical inclined, basic computer skills.

My goal is to work for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. I would love to work around soils and do research on it.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: pchacon@csustan.edu

Name: *Sharon De Leon*
Campus: California State University Northridge
Rank: Junior, undergraduate
Major(s)/Degree(s): Geography: Geographic Information Science
Expected Graduation Date: May 2014



Internship: I am currently working on the orthorectification process of historical pictures for Mugu Lagoon.

Skill Sets: ArcGIS 10 (ArcMap and ArcCatalog), proficient with basic editing, data management, and analysis with GIS. Familiarity with a variety of GIS data formats (raster and vector), proficient with wetland classification systems including Cowardin and California State Hydrogeomorphic classifications, Geostatistical, Familiarity with Model Builder, Spatial Analyst and 3D Analyst, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), experience with ERDAS Imagine 2011, Bilingual (Spanish and English)

I want to obtain my degree in GIS and then pursue a graduate degree.

USDA Agency of Interest: NRCS
Contact Info: sharon.deleon.667@my.csun.edu

Name: *Aldo Garcia*
Campus: California State University, Stanislaus
Rank: Senior
Major: B.A. in Geography
Minor: Geology
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013



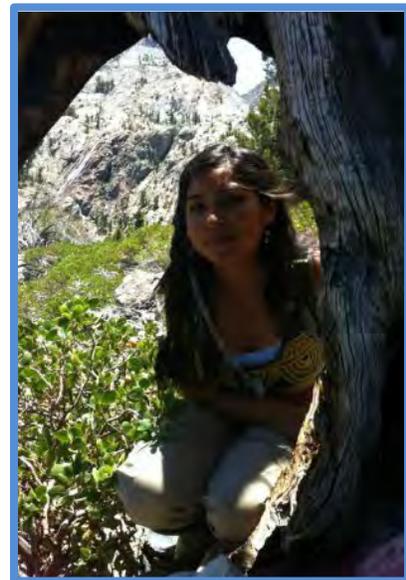
Internship: Title: Geospatial Analysis of the Pattern of Floodplain, Geomorphology, Land Use, and Riparian Vegetation in the Tuolumne River Watershed.

Skill Sets: I am familiar with ArcGIS version 10.1, Quantum GIS version 1.8.0, Microsoft Excel 2010, Microsoft Word 2010, and Microsoft PowerPoint 2010. I am able to use a GPS receiver and paper maps for navigational and research purposes.

I would like to work with the natural flora and fauna of the National Forest in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. I am interested in working solo or with others in various project that aid in the management of the forest.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: guy7bmwm5@hotmail.com agarcia44@csustan.edu

Name: *Marianne Elizabeth Jara*
Campus: California State University Northridge
Rank: Senior
Major(s) BA in Geographic Information Science/Geography
Expected Graduation Date: May 2013



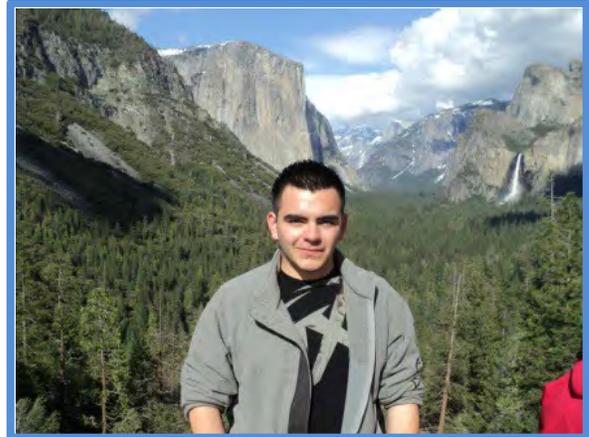
Internship: Working with GIS data on water basins in California.

Skill Sets: Proficient in ArcGIS 10, ERDAS, Microsoft Excel, experiments with open-source GIS applications.

I like to hike, camp, swim, go boating, kayak, and learn other water sports. I enjoy being outdoors altogether. I love to learn botany and biogeography in my spare time.

Contact Info: mariannejara13@gmail.com

Name: *Jesus Villarreal Lopez*
Campus: California State University San Diego State
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): Geography with emphasis
in methods of geographical analysis
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013



Internship: The Watershed Needs Assessment in collaboration with the Forest Service.

Skill Sets: Proficient with ESRI ArcMap, ArcScene, ArcGlobe, GPS, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint Basic understanding of Processing, Ability to create maps using ArcGIS and other software tools, In-depth knowledge of GIS design concepts and database structure. Fluent in Spanish with a basic understanding of French.

I aspire to work as a GIS analyst for the Forestry Service to restore and conserve watershed services while encouraging sustainable living practices for future generations to come. I like to play soccer, tennis, fish, camp, hike, and travel, but my absolute favorite thing to do is work on cars.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: Jesus.lopez07.jl@gmail.com

Name: *Michael Bettencourt Machado*
Campus: California State University Stanislaus
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.A. Geography
Minor: Geology
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013



Internship: Hydro-Geomorphic Characteristics of the Central Sierra Nevada Watershed: the Merced, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne Rivers.

Skill Sets: ArcGIS 10.1, soil sampling, performing simply river analysis, using on data sources to conduct research.

On my free time I enjoy reading, learning, and conducting or taking part in studies. For the USDA, I want to be a Hydrologic Technician.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: mmachado6@csustan.edu

Name: *Tanisha Jean Martin-Chiles*
Campus: San Diego State University
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): Geography and Sociology B.A.
Minor: Political Science
Expected Graduation Date: 12/2003

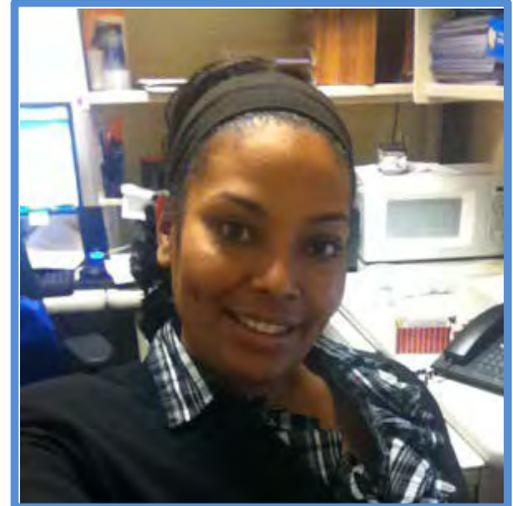
Internship: NCRS-Soil Conservation Within San Diego County.

Skill Sets: I am experienced in GIS software (e.g. ArcGIS, GPS, Global Navigation Systems); Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook); Adobe Photoshop; Electronic Text Scanning (document scan to pdf, jpg, and tiff. files).

I am passionate about conservation, because if we don't care about what we do have, then we will lose it all to greed and ignorance. I plan on doing lots of research in the category of conservationism that will have impacts within communities as well as on a global scale. I have taken numerous classes that discuss conservation and watershed analysis.

USDA Agencies of Interest: ERS USFS NRCS APHIS

Contact Info: Tanishajmartin@gmail.com



Name: *Oleta Joy Piecuch*
Campus: California State University Stanislaus
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.A. Geography A.A. Liberal Studies
Minor: Environmental and Resource Studies
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014

Internship: Hydro-Geomorphic Characteristics of the Central Sierra Nevada Watershed: the Merced, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne River. CSU San Bernardino, Watershed Management Internship.

Skill Sets: GIS, Cartography, Remote Sensing, Urban Planning, Soil Sampling.

I have an interest in assisting research concerning watershed management, irrigation management, natural resource, agricultural management, remote sensing data analysis, and enter site and inventory information into databases and onto GIS maps.

USDA Agency of Interest: ARS and USFS

Contact Info: opiecuchkiliveros@csustan.edu



California State University Under Graduate Students Geology

Name: *Steffany Fierro Aguilar*
Campus: California State University Fresno
Rank: Junior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. In Geology
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2014

Internship: USDA Watershed Management Internship.

Skill Sets: I am currently enrolled in a GIS course to gain knowledge of the program, so that I can apply it to my project. I am familiar with excel, and Flownetz.

I hope to gain experience throughout my educational career through research. I will be applying to graduate schools this fall, and plan to receive a Ph.D in Geology.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: aguilar.steffany@yahoo.com



Name: *Emmanuel Garcia*
Campus: California State University Bakersfield
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. Geology
Expected Graduation Date 06/2013

Internship: CSUB San Joaquin Valley Paleoriver Discharge Record Acquire a record of Sierran River discharge into the San Joaquin Valley over the past 10,000 years.

Skill Sets: Desalination of lake sediment samples via dilution, determination of total inorganic carbon content via acidification followed by carbon coulometry, physical grain-size measurement via laser particle size analysis, correlation of resultant lake sediment proxy estimates to regional records. Proficient in Microsoft Excel and Word. Basic C++ knowledge (2 introductory courses).

Upon receiving my B.S. in geology from CSUB I will apply to be admitted into their Master's program in geology.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: egarcia_1988@live.com



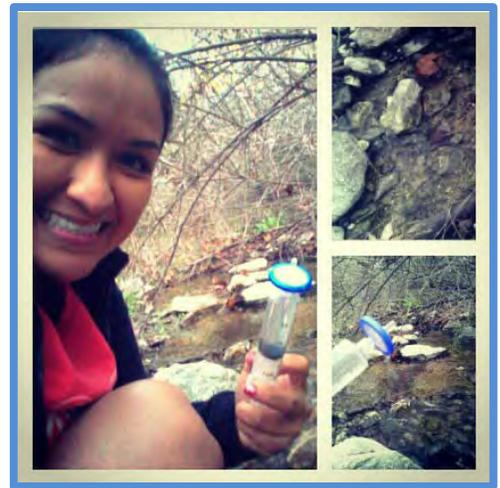
Name: *Jazmin Gonzalez*
Campus: California State Polytechnic University,
Pomona
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S Geological Sciences;
Environmental Resources
Minor: Geography
Expected Graduation Date: Summer 2013

Internship: Water Quality of Thompson's Creek Watershed in Claremont, CA.

Skill Sets: ArcMap 10 GIS software, Adobe Illustrator, Microsoft Office, Seismic Refraction experience, water sampling experience, Brunton compass experience, experience using pH, flow and electrical conductivity meters.

My long term career goal is to be a hydro-geologist. Short term goals are to work in the environmental industry working with water quality and water sampling of drinking water, natural waters, groundwater and even waste-water. The USDA Agency of interest to me is the U.S Forest Service.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: jpgonzalez@csupomona.edu



Name: *Kelsey Ann Padilla*
Campus: California State University Bakersfield
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Geology
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2013

Internship: CSU Bakersfield Sierra River Discharge.

Skill Sets: 1. Sampling and handling sediment cores. 2. Laboratory geochemical analyses that impact paleolake-level estimates 3. Maintenance and trouble-shooting of carbon coulometer, particle size analyzer, and elemental analyzer. 4. Numerical and statistical analyses of laboratory data. 5. Poster and oral presentation skills.

My future goals have been shaped by several experiences within the geology program. I have completed the field portion of the geology curriculum at Southern Utah University.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: kelpad91@aol.com



Name: *Logan Reed Prosser*
Campus: California State University Bakersfield
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. In Geology
Expected Graduation Date: 6/2013

Internship: Determining Paleolake Levels of Tulare Lake Through Geochemical and Sedimentary Analysis.

Skill Sets: Throughout my internship with the WRI, I've learned how to prep and examine core samples for levels of total inorganic carbon with the use of a carbon coulometer, as well as trenching lake sediments for correlation. I also have skills in GIS, Petra, Photoshop, and other Office programs.

My plan for the future is to get my master's degree in Geology.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: LProsser1337@gmail.com



Name: *Cristina Rivas*
Campus: California State University Bakersfield
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Geology
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2013

Internship: CSUB San Joaquin Valley Paleoriver Discharge Record.

Skill Sets: Knowledge of computer programs Petra, Microsoft Word, Excel, & Powerpoint. Knowledge of lab equipment such as Malvern Mastersizer 2000, x-ray diffractometer, centrifuge, and a controlled atmosphere glove box.

I'm interested in becoming a geologist for the Forest Service. My plan is to work on obtaining my Masters in Geology in the next two years, preferably with a focus in sedimentology. I enjoy the outdoors and reading.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: cristi61882@sbcglobal.net



Name: *James Mark Wilson*
Campus: California State University Bakersfield
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Geology, B.S. in Psychology In Progress
Minor: Statistics
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014



Internship: CSUB San Joaquin Valley Paleoriver Discharge

Skill Sets: Desalination of lake sediment samples via dilution, determination of total inorganic carbon content via acidification followed by carbon coulometry, physical grain-size measurement via laser particle size analysis, correlation of resultant lake sediment proxy estimates to regional records.

Within the next year and a half, I plan to devote my time at CSU Bakersfield to learn more about the geological sciences, participate in research, and graduate with a BS in Geology and a BS in Psychology.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: j2wilson730@gmail.com

California State University Under Graduate Students Health Science

Name: *Brittany Lauren Garcia*
Campus: California State University San Bernardino
Rank: Junior
Major(s)/Degree(s): Health Science-Public Health Education
Minor: Psychology
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014



Internship: CSUSB Water Resources Institute Aerial Photo Project.

Skill Sets: Computer Skills: Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) Prezi Presentation Software Adobe Photoshop CS6 Photo Mechanic Text Wrangler

USDA Agency of Interest: CNPP, FNS, FSIS
Contact Info: garcb321@coyote.csusb.edu

Name: *Michelle Maria Saltis*
Campus: California State University San Bernardino
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Environmental Health Science
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2013



Internship: Water resources institute watershed management internship.

Skill Sets: The skills I have obtained are the ability to analyze and collect data articulately. I communicate effectively. I work well with others and I am able to stay focused in any circumstance. I am open minded and always willing to collaborate and share ideas with others.

My goal for myself is to obtain a registered environmental health specialist certification. I enjoy many extra curriculum activities such as sports and arts.

USDA Agency of Interest: I am still researching the opportunities that are available in my career field.

Contact Info: msaltis35@hotmail.com

California State University Under Graduate Students Hydrogeology

Name: *David Anthony*
Campus: San Diego State University
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): HydroGeology
Expected Graduation Date: 5/2014



Internship: Watershed discharge and its effect on coastal erosion.

Skill Sets: X-ray diffraction, minerals in Thin Section; Beach profiling, Excel data analysis.

Currently working toward serving the USDA Forest Service as a Hydrogeologist I enjoy hiking, reading and writing. I also enjoy poetry, especially with good Turkish coffee and rainy weather.

USDA Agency of Interest: USFS

Contact Info: davidsmailman@yahoo.com

California State University Under Graduate Students Industrial Technology

Name: *Angela Moua*
Campus: California State University Fresno
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Industrial Technology
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2013



Internship: Tomato mOasis

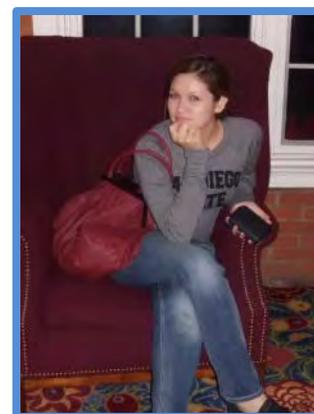
I am open to any USDA Agency jobs. The more I learn and am able to gain new skills is my primary goal. A little bit about me is I am an open minded person. I believe in treat others the way you would want to be treated.

USDA Agency of Interest I do not have a preference, but is open to any offer or openings. Any new experience is an additional knowledge added into my list of skills.

Contact Info: angelamoua88@yahoo.com

California State University Under Graduate Students Mathematics

Name: *Elizabeth Fletes*
Campus: San Diego State University- IV Campus
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.A Mathematics (Single Subject) A.S
Mathematics A.A University Stud-Science/Math
Emphasis
Expected Graduation Date: 08/2013



Internship: CSU/WRI Watershed Management Internship

Skill Sets: -Computer experience using Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Matlab, FATHOM, Geometer Sketch Pad, Maple -Fluently Speak, Read, and Write English and Spanish: Bilingual

USDA Agency of Interest: ERS

Contact Info: fletes@rohan.sdsu.edu

Name: *Lauren Ann Sommers*
Campus: California State University Monterey Bay
Rank: Senior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Environmental Science
Technology and Policy, B.S. in Mathematics
Expected Graduation Date: 05/2015
USDA Agency of Interest: USFS
Contact Info: Lsommers@csUMB.edu

**Complete biographical data can be found under
“Environmental Science**



California State University Under Graduate Students _____ **Plant Science**

Name: *Geoffrey Munro Hollenbeck*
Campus: California State University Pomona
Rank: Junior
Major(s)/Degree(s): B.S. in Plant Science
Minor: Environmental Health
Expected Graduation Date: 06/2014

Internship: Collection and sampling of both soil and water for testing of pathogens and toxicants in order to identify both problematic and suitable areas on campus for orchard and field production.

Skill Sets: Laboratory skills, computer skills, GIS

I look forward to studying how the environment affects plant health. I am interested in working with fruit and nut crops in California and how they respond to changes in water and soil contents. Organizing and leading projects for the Agricultural Research Service or APHIS would be my ideal job. In my free time, I enjoy nature hikes and identifying plants, insects, and diseases in the field. One day I would like to have an orchard of my own. My first job out of high school was compiling photographs of sheltered animals to create a two hundred page pet adoption magazine.



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Index

- Agribusiness52, 53, 54, 56, 76, 137
 Agricultural Economics133
 Agricultural sciences97
 Agricultural Sciences..... 100, 119, 124
 Agricultural Science38, 57
 Agriculture.... 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 26, 28, 38, 39, 54, 55, 61, 62, 63, 70, 71, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 83, 84, 85, 92, 93, 94, 106, 111, 117, 124, 125, 130, 135, 144
 Agriculture and Community Development- Natural Resource Management38
 Agriculture Science54, 55, 61, 62, 63, 144
 agroecology4, 10
 Agroecology3, 4, 6
 Agronomy..... 24, 56, 60, 65, 97, 100, 105, 115, 116, 117, 123, 125
 ALERT97
 AMP33
 AMS47, 53, 56, 144, 145, 146
 Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service72, 75
 Animal Science. 48, 53, 57, 58, 72, 73, 75, 79, 80, 82, 83, 84, 86, 89, 108, 136, 144, 145, 146
 Anthropology.....9, 40, 88, 149
 APHIS 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 35, 47, 51, 55, 57, 58, 60, 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 73, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 82, 86, 87, 88, 89, 91, 96, 99, 136, 144, 145, 146, 176, 183, 184
 Applied Mathematics.....73
 Applied Physics165, 166
 Aquatic Ecology43
 ARC.....25
 ARS .. 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 47, 51, 52, 57, 60, 64, 65, 66, 68, 69, 86, 96, 110, 119, 124, 125, 128, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 144, 146, 149, 160, 161, 162, 164, 165, 170, 176, 183
 Associate of Science Degree44
 AVIS.....91
 BGREEN - BuildinG a Regional Energy and Educational Network: A Partnership to Integrate Efforts and Collaboration to Sahpe Tomorrow's Hispanic Sustainable Energy Leaders 128
 BIO67
 Biochemistry..... 20, 64, 72, 73, 107, 112, 143
 Biological Science11, 14, 52, 110
 Biological Sciences..... 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 161, 165
 BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES-
 BIOPHARMACEUTICAL15
 biologist tech45
 Biology ... 1, 2, 3, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 32, 33, 38, 45, 51, 59, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 77, 81, 82, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 94, 95, 98, 99, 100, 102, 103, 105, 106, 107, 112, 116, 119, 122, 126, 136, 148, 149, 151, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 170, 171
 BIOLOGY22, 24, 25
 Biomedical..... 106, 107, 116, 118
 Biomedical Sciences.....106, 107
 Biomedics126
 Biopharmaceutical Sciences12, 15, 16
 Biotechnology. 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 25, 63, 64, 94, 109, 110, 111, 120
 BLM37, 38
 California State University Project Page147
 Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion..... 14
 Chemical Engineering 109, 113, 122, 132
 Chemistry . 1, 3, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 50, 93, 106, 109, 113, 114, 118, 119, 121, 124, 125, 127, 130, 143, 149, 162
 Civil Engineering 30, 40, 95, 113, 120, 133, 137, 138, 166, 167, 168, 169
 CNPP10, 12, 64, 83, 180
 Coastal & Watershed Science.....152, 153
 Coastal and Watershed Science 2, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157
 Coastal Watershed Science.....150
 Computer Engineering.....165
 Computer Science.....2, 39, 135, 165, 166
 Conservation Zoology2, 161
 Creative Inquiry.....148
 Criminal Justice1, 3, 28
 Crop Protection..... 100, 111, 119
 ecology 26, 32, 96, 98, 102, 103, 104, 148, 149
 Ecology. 2, 23, 31, 33, 38, 59, 98, 102, 115, 148, 157, 161, 165
 Ecology and Sustainability157
 Economic Development131
 Economics131, 133, 160, 169
 EHS115
 Electrical Engineering85, 138, 142, 158
 Engineering.... 2, 50, 71, 93, 120, 129, 130, 131, 132, 134, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 151, 158, 165, 166, 169
 Environmental and Resource Studies172, 176
 Environmental Biology.....4, 150, 151
 Environmental Engineering50, 120, 141, 167, 168
 Environmental Health34, 115, 123, 181, 183
 Environmental Science 1, 2, 9, 40, 77, 90, 91, 103, 104, 123, 129, 130, 155, 158, 159, 170, 171, 172, 183
 Environmental Science, Technology153
 Environmental Sciences ..4, 33, 34, 96, 101, 105, 129
 Environmental Sciences101
 Environmental Studies. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 74, 157, 171
 Environmental Technology22, 25, 115
 ERS.....176, 182, 184

FAS.....	28, 138, 169	Mechanical Engineering	169
FATE Food Safety and Agroterrorism Training:		Mechanical Technology In Agriculture.....	117
Educating Our Future Workforce.....	70	methods of geographical analysis.....	175
Fire & Range Tech.....	40	Microbiology	11, 21, 23, 25, 96, 98, 107, 112, 119, 127
Fire Science	41	Molecular Environmental Biology	150
Fish Biologist.....	31	MSEIP	116
Fish, Wildlife, & Conservation Ecology	44	NAL.....	64
Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Ecology.....	31	NASS.....	140
Florida International University Project Page.....	3	Natural Resource Management.....	45
Florida-Caribbean Consortium for Agriculture		Natural Resources Conservation Service	85, 101, 104, 151, 173
Education and Hispanic Workforce Development		Natural Science.....	30
(FCCAgE)	4	Natural Sciences	94, 148
FNS.....	4, 17, 64, 72, 73, 83, 92, 180	NCRS.....	6, 138, 139, 176
Food Science and Technology.....	110	New Mexico State University Project Page.....	29
Foreign Agricultural Service	9	New Mexico/Puerto Rico Natural Resource Career	
Forest Management	35, 36, 39, 42, 45	Track (NRCT) Program	29
Forest Service ...	30, 31, 32, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 59, 83, 94, 95, 103, 104, 149, 150, 151, 161, 162, 168, 175, 178, 179, 181	NIFA.....	4, 5, 6, 47, 72, 93, 129, 130
Forestry	30, 34, 35, 36, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 94, 95, 104, 105, 175	NRCS..	5, 7, 10, 12, 16, 35, 37, 38, 47, 50, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 69, 74, 75, 76, 79, 80, 85, 86, 87, 89, 91, 103, 111, 115, 117, 119, 121, 125, 137, 139, 140, 141, 143, 144, 145, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 159, 160, 163, 164, 166, 167, 169, 171, 173, 176, 184
Forestry Technician	30, 34, 39, 94, 105	NRCT ...	30, 31, 32, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, 43, 45, 46, 96
FS	64, 66, 155, 160	Nutrition	14, 22, 25, 27, 72, 74, 78, 81, 83, 87, 92
FSA.....	10, 82, 86	OEPNU.....	142
FSIS	4, 28, 70, 72, 82, 180	Plant and Soil Science	49, 51, 55, 56, 59, 60, 65, 136, 137, 145
General Agricultural Sciences	108	Plant and Soil Sciences.....	49, 50, 59, 63
General Agriculture	60, 75, 124	Plant Science	2, 183
General Studies in Science	89	Pre Medicine.....	91
Geographic Information Science	78, 173, 174	Pre-Dent.....	67
Geographic Information Systems ..	2, 36, 43, 159, 172	PRENRD	123
Geography	2, 74, 96, 104, 159, 160, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 178, 184	Pre-Veterinarian Studies.....	18
Geological Sciences.....	36, 178	Psychology	17, 180
Geology	2, 30, 36, 46, 97, 155, 174, 175, 177, 178, 179, 180	Public Health Education	180
Health Science	2, 180	Ranch Management	56
Hispanic Studies	48	Range aid technician.....	95
History	9, 35, 97	Range science	37
Horticulture	7, 55, 76, 92, 110	Range Science	32, 45
HydroGeology	181	Range Technician	32
Hydrology/Soil Science.....	46	RD	39, 64, 169
Industrial Biotechnology	120	Recreation Tech.....	37
Industrial Chemistry	118, 121, 127	Resource Management	171
Industrial Engineering	129, 139, 141, 142, 143	REU	97, 104, 143
Industrial Technology.....	160, 182	RMA	140, 159
Information Engineering.....	39	Science/System Administrator.....	88
Invasive Plant Research Laboratory	9	SNAP.....	81
IPRL	11	social anthropology.....	101
Land Minerals Tech.....	36	Sociology	2, 176, 184
Landscape Architecture	2, 161	Soil Conservation	90, 123, 176
Life Science	46	Soil Sciences.....	59, 136
livestock industries	97	Soils.....	98, 111, 125
livestock production	37		
Managerial Economics	160		
Math.....	165, 166, 168, 182		
Mathematics	2, 131, 135, 140, 167, 172, 182, 183		

Spanish	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 22, 23, 27, 35, 40, 41, 75, 81, 85, 87, 89, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 131, 167, 171, 173, 175, 182
STEP UP to USDA Career Success; Science, Technology and Environmental Programs for Undergraduate Preparation to USDA Career Success	47
Surveying and Topography	113
Texas A&M University-Kingsville Project Page	47
Texas AgriLife Research & Extension	54
Texas State University Project Page	70
The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) Program Page	128
Timber-Prep	42
University of Puerto Rico Project Page	93
UPRM Center for Education and Training in Agriculture and Related Sciences (CETARS)	93, 106
USDA Natural Resource	33
USFA	8, 161
USFS	6, 7, 8, 10, 23, 28, 30, 43, 51, 59, 105, 148, 149, 150, 152, 153, 154, 155, 157, 158, 159, 161, 162, 163, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 183, 184
vegetation crew	45
Watershed Management Experiential Learning	147
Watershed Science	152, 153, 154, 156, 160, 170
WIC	81
Wilderness Crew	37
Wilderness Ranger	84, 85, 95, 103
Wilderness/Trail Crew	46
Wildland Fire	35
Wildlife Biology	87, 90
Wildlife Management	32, 46, 104
Wildlife Recreational Entrepreneurship	52
Wildlife Science	35, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45
Wildlife Sciences	31
Wildlife Services	8, 35, 123