

Zunilda S. Valdez

P.O. Box 4321

Rio Grande, Puerto Rico 00123

Home Phone: (787) 999- 9999 / Cell Phone: (787)000- 0000

E-mail: zunilda_valdes@hotmail.com

Education:

August 2003 – Present, Sophomore, Environmental Sciences,
School of Science, Technology
Universidad Metropolitana, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Courses completed in Science:

Computer Literacy and Lab. (COSC 111), Introduction to Mathematics and Lab. (MATH 140),
Pre – Calculus 1: Algebra and Trigonometry and Lab. (MATH 151), Pre – Calculus 2: Algebra and
Trigonometry and Lab. (MATH 152), General Biology 1 (BIO 203), General Biology 2 (BIO 204)

Courses in Progress:

Analytical and Geometrical Calculus 1 and Lab. (MATH 221), Introduction to Environmental
Sciences (ENSC 101), Introduction to Oceanography (OCEA 101)

Credits Earned: 73 GPA on a 4.0 Scale: 3.52

Awards:

- 2007, Second Prize in the Environmental Sciences Scientific Fair, AIDIS of Puerto Rico
- 2003-2006, Model Institutions for Excellence Scholarship
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Research Experience:

- Fall 2004, Spring 2005, “*Comparative Study of the Growth Curves of the C. xerosis and E. coli Bacteria in Medium Containing Nanometric cobalt ferrite,*” Research Mentors: Dr. Javier Avalos, Omayra I. Rivera, Universidad Metropolitana, Puerto Rico
- Fall 2004, Spring 2005, “*Study of Arsenic Content in Water Reservoir and the Food Supply in Puerto Rico,*” Research Mentors: Dr. José Centeno, Dr. Juan F. Arratia, Universidad Metropolitana, Puerto Rico
- Fall 2004, Spring 2005, “*Comparative Study of Light-Pollution in Puerto Rico and its effects on Eretmochelys imbricate and Dermochelys coriacea,*” Research Mentors: Dr. Javier Avalos, Triana Merced, Universidad Metropolitana, Puerto Rico
- Summer 2004, “*Characterization of human polymerase η mutants at the conserved Y52 and S62 residues,*” Research Mentors: Dr. Scott D. McCulloch, Dr. Mercedes E. Arana, Dr. Thomas E. Kunkel, National Institute of Environmental Health Science, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.
- Fall 2003, Spring-Fall 2004, Spring 2005, “*Studies in the Cavenary and Karsts Systems of Puerto Rico,*” Research Mentor: Dr. Manuel Acevedo, Universidad Metropolitana, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- Spring 2003, “*Contamination of the Waters in the Island of Vieques, Puerto Rico,*” Research Mentor: Prof. Jeanette Rivera, Eastern Adventist Academy, Rio Grande, Puerto Rico

Research Presentations:

- Fall 2004, “*Characterization of human polymerase η mutants at the conserved Y52 and S62 residues,*” XV Undergraduate Research Symposium 2004, Universidad Metropolitana, Puerto Rico.
- Summer 2004, “*Characterization of human polymerase η mutants at the conserved Y52 and S62 residues,*” Summers of Discovery Poster Session 2004, National Institute of Environmental Health Science, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina
- Spring 2003, “*Contamination of the Waters in the Island of Vieques, Puerto Rico*” Rio Grande, Rio Piedras, and Fajardo, Puerto Rico

Conferences/Workshops Attended:**MIE Friday Meetings**

- September 9, 2005, Principles of Dynamics Centrifuge Modeling, Speaker: Dr. Hesham Dief, Fulbright Scholar (Please add all Friday meeting conferences you have attended)
- XIX Undergraduate Research Symposium 2008, Normandie Hotel, Isla Verde, Puerto Rico
- September 2007, Nanotechnology and Nanoscience Workshops, Tropimar Resort, San Juan.
- XVII Undergraduate Research Symposium 2007, Normandie Hotel, Isla Verde, Puerto Rico
- Research Workshop 2003, Dr. Osvaldo Cox

Volunteer Work:

- Beach Cleanups
- Orientations to Elementary and High School Students About Conservation and Natural Resources
- Serve as a mentor to High School students in Scientific Fairs preparations

Extracurricular Activities:

- ATANI Environmental Student Organization
- Field Trips with the Environmental Science Research group

Language Skills:

- Fully Bilingual in English and Spanish

Computer Skills:

- Expert level in Internet searching and web page management
- Proficient level in Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint and Microsoft Excel
- Use of ArcExplorer for GIS data distribution

Hobbies:

- Reading

References:

- Dr. Juan F. Arratia
Principal Investigator, M.I.E. Project Director,
Universidad Metropolitana, Puerto Rico
(787) 766- 1717 Ext. 6000, 6123
E-mail: um_jarratia@mail.suagm.edu
- Jacqueline Guzmán
Scholarships and Internships
Universidad Metropolitana,
San Juan, Puerto Rico
(787) 766- 1717 Ext. 6006