

ALEXANDRA D. SIMMONS N.
Curriculum Vitae / January 2026

Department of Biology, University of St Thomas, Houston, Texas 77006
Office: 713.942.5058 / Fax: 713.942.3460 / Email: simmonad@stthom.edu

EDUCATION

- ☞ Jun 2006-Jul 2008, **Postdoctoral Fellow, Human Molecular Genetics**
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA
Under the direction of Dr Jim Lupski (BCM) I studied disease causing genomic rearrangements in humans. My focus was primarily on Nephronophthisis, an early onset kidney disorder caused by deletion of the *NPHP1* gene on chromosome 2q13, and Ichthyosis, a skin condition caused by deletion of a segment on chromosome Xp22.

- ☞ Sep 2001-Feb 2005, **PhD, Human Population Genetics**
Venezuelan Institute of Scientific Studies (IVIC), Caracas, Venezuela
Thesis: Admixture estimates using blood groups (ABO, Rh) and 9 STR markers in the Northern Central and Central Western regions of Venezuela

- ☞ Oct 1994-Oct 1999, **Bachelor in Education (Major: Biological Sciences)**
Andres Bello Catholic University, Caracas, Venezuela
Ranking in graduating class: 1st

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- ☞ Fall 2008 – Present. **Professor (Tenured)**, Biology Department, University of Saint Thomas (UST), Houston, Texas, USA. Academic and Pre-Health Advisor.
 - Fall 2024. Interim Chair of the Biology Department.
 - Fall 2025 – Present. Chair of the Biology Department. JAMP Faculty Director.

- ☞ Frequently taught courses: **Genetics** (BIOL 3321), **Genetics Lab** (BIOL 3121), **General Biology Lab I** (BIOL 1151), **General Biology Lab I** (BIOL 1151), **General Biology Lab II** (BIOL 1152), and **Cells, Genes and Molecules** (BIOL 4336).
 - Other courses I have taught include: General Biology I (BIOL 1351), General Biology II (BIOL 1352), Ecosystems, Society and Health (BIOL 1422, non-majors Biology), Junior/Senior Seminar (BIOL 3111), Freshman Symposium (UNIV 1111).
 - Special topics: International Health Experience (BIOL 4393, Study abroad to Costa Rica), Human Molecular Biology and Genetics (MCTM 5321, MS in Clinical Translation Management).

- ☞ 2020 – 2023. **Cullen Trust / Harry K. and Albert K. Smith Endowed Chair**. University of St Thomas, Houston TX.

- ☞ 2019, 2021, 2022 (24 h session) **Master's level course: Molecular Diagnostics in the Clinic and in Research** (*Magíster en Diagnóstico Molecular para su Aplicación en el Laboratorio Clínico e Investigación*). Vicerrectoría de Investigación y Postgrado, Dirección de Postgrado, Universidad de Santo Tomás, Santiago,

Chile. Course name: Bases Moleculares y Diagnóstico de Enfermedades Genéticas / **Molecular Foundations and Diagnosis of Genetic Diseases.**

- ☞ Aug 2011 (24 h) **Graduate level course: Use of Molecular Biology Techniques in the Clinical Laboratory** (*Postítulo: Técnicas de Biología Molecular para la Aplicación en el Laboratorio Clínico*), Escuela de Tecnología Médica (School of Medical Technology), Universidad de Santo Tomás, Santiago, Chile.
- ☞ June-July 2008, **General Chemistry I Instructor** (Summer Semester). Houston Community College (Southeast), Houston, Texas, USA.
- ☞ 1997-2001, **General Biology and General Chemistry Teacher**. High schools in Caracas, Venezuela.

PUBLICATIONS

- ☞ Taylor R, Williams A, Bigler A, Marin S, Sequeira C, Rizk G, Lichtarge O, Ribes-Zamora A, Marciano DC, Simmons AD (2025). Directed evolution of chromoprotein tinselpurple in a course-based undergraduate research experience improves scientific proficiency. EDULEARN25 Proceedings (ISBN: 978-84-09-74218-9), pp. 2669-2678, Palma de Mallorca, Spain.
- ☞ Simmons AD (2025). Introductory Genetics: A Primer for the Flipped Classroom (1st Ed). Cognella. ISBN 979-8-8233-1597-5.
- ☞ Ribes-Zamora A, Simmons A (2022). Reimagining an undergraduate Genetics Laboratory: using bioinformatic tools and 3D printing to study the COVID virus in an online environment. EDULEARN22 Proceedings (ISBN: 978-84-09-42484-9), pp. 1598-1603, Palma de Mallorca, Spain.
- ☞ Nam E, Ribes-Zamora A, Simmons A, Amin S, Villares G, Bagnall RA, Rosell R, Larios-Sanz M (2018). Comprehensive inclusion of an active and inquiry-based curriculum increases retention and persistence in Biology. EDULEARN18 Proceedings (ISBN: 978-84-09-02709-5), pp.5457-5464, Barcelona, Spain.
- ☞ Ribes-Zamora A, Baenziger EJ, Foss KB, Simmons AD (2015). Orchid DNA-barcoding: A method to teach an inquiry-based, Undergraduate Genetics Laboratory. ICERI2015 Proceedings (ISBN: 978-84-608-2657-6), pp.6919-6925, Seville, Spain.
- ☞ Simmons AD, Nguyen TKT, Follis JL, Ribes-Zamora A (2014). Using a PyMOL activity to reinforce the connection between genotype and phenotype in an undergraduate Genetics Laboratory. PLOS One 9(12):e114257.
- ☞ Simmons A, Larios-Sanz M, Amin S, Rosell R (2014). Using mini-reports to teach scientific writing to biology students. Am Biol Teach 76(8):545.
- ☞ Ribes-Zamora A, Amin S, Simmons-N A, Larios-Sanz M, Rosell R (2013). Bringing research into introductory laboratory courses. EDULEARN13 Proceedings (ISBN: 978-84-616-3822-2), pp. 5913-5918, Barcelona, Spain.
- ☞ Simmons AD (2012). Principles and strategies to identify causal gens and susceptibility factors (Principios y estrategias para identificar genes causales de enfermedades y factores de susceptibilidad). In M. Depix Garcia (Ed.), Foundations and applications of molecular biology techniques in the laboratory (Fundamentos y Aplicaciones de Técnicas de Biología Molecular en el Laboratorio). Chile: Ediciones Universidad Santo Tomás. ISBN 978 956 7946-18-1.
- ☞ Simmons AD, Carvalho CM, Lupski JR. R (2012). "What have studies of genomic disorders taught us about our genome?". Methods Mol Biol 838:1.

- ☞ Liu P, Erez A, Sceenath Nagamani SC, Bi W, Carvalho CMB, Simmons A, *et al.* (2011). Copy number gain at Xp22.31 includes complex duplication rearrangements and recurrent triplicatons. *Hum Molec Genet* 20(10):1975.
- ☞ Larios-Sanz M, Simmons AD, Bagnall RA, Rosell RC (2011). Implementation of a service-learning module in medical microbiology and cell biology classes at an undergraduate liberal arts university. *J Microb & Biol Edu* 12(1).
- ☞ Simmons A, Rodriguez-Arroyo G, Rodriguez-Larralde A (2007). Admixture estimates based on ABO, Rh and nine STR in two Venezuelan regions. *Ann Hum Biol* 34(1):56.

GRANTS AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

- ☞ **THECB Accelerate Implementation Grant and US Department of Education Title V Grant:**
Faculty Ambassador: Completed training to use Watermark AVISO, Student Success and Engagement System (Summer 2023)
- ☞ **UST STARS Program: Support, Train, Advise, Retain, Systematize** (US Department of Education STEM Grant, Award Number P031C160188):
 - STEM Undergraduate Research Leader (2021-2022): Using a bioinformatic approach to study chromosomal breakpoints in SRY-Positive 46,XX testicular disorder of sex development (MIM# 400045)
 - STEM Undergraduate Research Leader (2019-2020): Phylogenetic relationship between *Restrepia* orchid species
 - STEM Undergraduate Research Leader (2018-2019): Phylogenetic relationship between *Restrepia* orchid species
 - STEM Undergraduate Research Leader (2017-2018): SNP-mapping of trembler mutation in the MCW230 strain of *C. elegans*
 - STEM Development of Online Teaching Module (2017-2018): Correct use of the InGenius3 System by GeneSys for UV gel image capture.
- ☞ **2016, HHMI - USE Inclusive Excellence Grants 2018** [not selected for full proposal]
The core team was made up of the following members: Dr Rosell, Dr Flagg, and Dr Larios. Pre-proposal was submitted in December of 2016.
- ☞ **2016, Charity Guild of Catholic Women, Children's Charity Grant** [\$23,000.00, funded]
Grant written together with Dr Gabriel Villares, Dr Albert Ribes, Dr Richa Chandra, Dr Javoris Hollingsworth to sponsor a STEM Summer Camp for underprivileged 6th graders (Biology) and high school students (Chemistry).
- ☞ **2015, HHMI - USE Inclusive Excellence Grants 2017** [not selected for full proposal].
The core team was made up of Dr Nam, Dr Chandra, Dr Flag, Dr Rosell and myself. Pre-proposal was submitted in November of 2015.
- ☞ **2014, FDC Conference/Travel Award** [\$2,128.73, funded]
Grant provided by the Faculty Development Committee of the University of St Thomas to travel and attend the 2014 American Society of Human Genetics conference in San Francisco.
- ☞ **2014, 'St Thomas Aquinas International Exchange Program' Grant (STAIEP)** [\$18,881, not funded]
Grant written conjointly with Dr Albert Ribes, Dr Fabio Labra and Dr Rodrigo Moreno to support a collaborative research project between UST-Houston and UST-Chile to study, through DNA-barcoding, the biodiversity of a specific region in the Chilean coastal fjords. STAIEP is sponsored by the International Council for the Universities of St. Thomas (ICUSTA) and the Angelicum Foundation (Chile).

- ☞ 2014, **FDC Research/Writing Grant** [\$3,320, funded]

Grant was written with Dr Ted Baenziger for the Faculty Development Committee of the University of St Thomas to continue research on DNA-barcoding project of the phylogenetic relationship between *Gongora* species of orchids.
- ☞ 2013, **FDC Conference/Travel Award** [\$500, funded]

Grant provided by the Faculty Development Committee of the University of St Thomas to travel and attend the 2012 American Society of Human Genetics conference in San Francisco.
- ☞ 2011, **Teaching Enhancement Grant (TEG) / UST** [~\$1,300, funded]

Grant to promote excellence in teaching and learning. Funds were used to attend the 2011 TBL Meeting (Las Vegas, USA). Grant supported by the center for Faculty Excellence, University of St Thomas, Texas, USA.
- ☞ 2009, **Concurso de Proyectos de Investigación, Creación y Desarrollo de la Docencia** [~\$2,900, funded]

“Evaluación de la citología de aspirado de aguja fina y la identificación de marcadores genéticos para el diagnóstico de hígado graso en bovinos” (Study of cytological samples obtained by fine needle aspiration and identification of genetic markers for the diagnosis of fatty liver in cattle). Meléndez Retamal P, Fry M, Simmons A, Rios Phillips C.

Grant awarded to pursue a joint research project with professors of UST Chile and the College of Veterinary Medicine (University of Tennessee). The project studied fatty liver disease in cattle. Sponsored by the *Dirección Nacional de Investigación y Postgrado. Chile*.
- ☞ 2007, **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA)** [funded]

Research Training Grant (2007) sponsored by the Department of Molecular and Human Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA and the NIH.
- ☞ Sep 2001-Feb 2005, **FONACIT Scholarship** [~\$48,000, funded]

Doctoral Training Grant sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology of Venezuela.

MEETINGS/CONFERENCES: PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

- ☞ Johnson R, Rizes-Zamora A, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Phylogenetics of Seven *Restrepia* Orchid Species (2024). UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Najarro M, Richard N, Simmons AD. Oral presentation: Intron 22 Inversion, a major cause of severe Hemophilia A (2024). UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Varghese N, Burris E, Simmons AD. Oral presentation: Marfan Syndrome (2024). UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Pham M, Lopez P, Simmons AD. Oral presentation: Potential Molecular Mechanisms of Fragile X Syndrome (2024). UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Johnson R, Simmons AD. Oral presentation: The molecular basis, diagnosis and treatment of Diamond-Blackfan Anemia (2024). UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Rodriguez GJ, Simmons A. Oral presentation: The molecular genetics of retinoblastoma (2023). UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Phan K, Simmons AD. Oral presentation: Duchenne muscular dystrophy (2023). UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.

- ✎ Ribes-Zamora A, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Reimagining an undergraduate Genetics Laboratory: using bioinformatic tools and 3D printing to study the COVID virus in an online environment (2022). EDULEARN22, Palma de Mallorca, Spain.
- ✎ Taylor R, Henderson J, LaForce M, Soebianto S, Pham K, Mathai K, Nguyen G, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Snip-SNP mapping of a trembler *C. elegans* mutant with undergraduate students. 23rd International *C. elegans* Conference (online, 2021).
- ✎ Taylor R, Henderson J, LaForce M, Soebianto S, Pham K, Mathai K, Nguyen G, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Snip-SNP mapping of a trembler *C. elegans* mutant. 2021 UST Research Symposium (online), Texas, USA.
- ✎ Taylor R, Soebianto S, Mathai K, Nguyen G, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Snip-SNP Mapping of a Trembler *C. elegans* Mutant. The 2018 ABRCMS/ASM Conference. Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.
- ✎ Guardado C, Rodriguez O, Foss K, Ludovic D, Ribadeneyra C, Trivino C, Baenziger E, Ribes-Zamora A, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Phylogenetic Classification of *Gongora* Species (*Orchidaceae*) Based on DNA Barcode Regions *matK*, *rpoB*, *rpoC1*, and *trnH-psbA*. Abstract for poster presentation, *The FASEB Journal*, 30, 572-3, 2016 ASMBMB Meeting, San Diego, California, USA.
- ✎ Nguyen S, Nguyen G, Tran T, Kral J, Dodge J, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Restriction mapping of a 'trembler' mutation of *C. elegans*. 2016 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ✎ Nguyen TK, Simmons AD, Ribes-Zamora A. Poster presentation: Exploring the impact of the Genetics Laboratory on students' overall understanding of Genetics. 2016 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ✎ Foss KB, Guardado C, Rodriguez O, Baenziger EJ, Ribes-Zamora A, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Phylogenetic placement of *Gongora* species (*Orchidaceae*) relative to other orchid subfamilies using DNA barcode regions *matK*, *rpoB*, *rpoC1*, and *trnH-psbA*. 2016 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ✎ Foss KB, Guardado C, Rodriguez O, Baenziger EJ, Ribes-Zamora A, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Phylogenetic classification of *Gongora* species (*Orchidaceae*) using DNA barcode regions *matK*, *rpoB*, *rpoC1*, and *trnH-psbA*. 2016 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ✎ Ribes-Zamora A, Baenziger EJ, Foss KB, Simmons AD. Virtual presentation: Orchid DNA-barcoding: A method to teach an inquiry-based, Undergraduate Genetics Laboratory. 8th International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation (ICERI) 2015, Seville, Spain.
- ✎ Simmons AD, Ribes-Zamora A, Amin S, Larios-Sanz, Rosell RC. Poster presentation: Integration of undergraduate research into multiple laboratories of the UST biology curriculum. 2015 GRC-UBER, Lewiston, Maine, USA.
- ✎ Ribadeneyra C, Foss K, Guardado C, Rodriguez O, Angulo-Ludovic D, Trivino C, Baenziger E, Ribes-Zamora A, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Phylogenetic Analysis of the *Orchidaceae* Genus *Gongora* Based on Four Barcode Regions. 2015 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ✎ Maccato E, Meis-Kindblom M, Merta H, Nguyen L, Pinell A, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Restriction mapping of a 'trembler' mutation in *C. elegans*. 2015 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
 - ✓ Also presented at Annual Research IRACDA Symposium 2015, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA
- ✎ Burnham A, Cosme M, Ray A, Rivera A, Yanez PL, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Correlating Metabolic-related Genes to Fatty Liver Disease in Cattle. 2015 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ✎ Ribes-Zamora A, Nguyen TKT, Simmons AD. Poster presentation: Using a PyMOL activity to reinforce the connection between genotype and phenotype in an undergraduate genetics laboratory. 2014 ASHG Conference, San Diego, California, USA.
- ✎ Simmons AD, Ribadeneyra C, Foss K, Baenziger EJ, Ribes-Zamora A. Poster presentation: Orchid DNA-Barcoding: a guided research project for undergraduate genetics students. 2014 ASHG Conference, San Diego, California, USA.

- ☞ Harirah R, Maccato E, Meis-Kindblom M, Merta H, Nguyen L, Pinell A, Simmons A. Poster presentation: Restriction mapping of a 'trembler' mutation in *C. elegans*. 2014 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
 - ✓ Also presented at Annual Research IRACDA Symposium 2014, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Browne T, Burnham A, Cosme M, Ray A, Rivera A, Yanez PL, Simmons A. Poster presentation: Correlating Metabolic-related Genes to Fatty Liver Disease in Cattle. Abstract for poster presentation, 2014 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Trivino C, Rodriguez O, Foss K, Ludovic D, Ribadeneyra C, Ribes-Zamora A, Baenziger T, Simmons A. Poster presentation: Phylogenetic Analysis of the Orchidaceae Genus *Gongora* based on Four Barcode Regions, Biology - Alexandra Simmons N, Ted Baenziger, Albert Ribes-Zamora. 2014 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Ribes-Zamora A, Amin S, Simmons-Nout A, Larios-Sanz M, Rosell R (2013). Poster presentation: Bringing research into laboratory courses. EDULEARN13, 5th International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies. Barcelona, Spain.
- ☞ Harirah R, Maccato E, Meis-Kindblom M, Merta H, Nguyen L, Pinell A, Simmons A. Poster presentation: SNP-mapping of trembler mutation in *C. Elegans*. 2013 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
 - ✓ Also presented at Annual Research IRACDA Symposium 2013, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Ahmed A, Hodges L, Little A, Kontrimas A, Simmons A. Poster presentation: Correlating polymorphisms of bovine milk-protein-related gene *STAT5* with short tandem repeats (STRs). 2012 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
 - ✓ Also presented at Annual Research IRACDA Symposium 2012, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Zalamea J, Rios-Phillips C, Simmons A. Poster presentation: Correlating polymorphisms of fatty liver disease related genes with STR alleles in cows. 2012 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
 - ✓ Also presented at Annual Research IRACDA Symposium 2012, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Hong M, Tran R, Simmons A. Poster presentation: Correlating polymorphisms of milk fat and protein related gene (*ANXA9*) with STR alleles in cows. 2012 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Zalamea J, Jamelleh A, Bean V, Hetemi J, Hong M, Peltier A, Tran R, Simmons A. Poster presentation: Correlating polymorphisms of milk fat and protein related genes (*ANXA9*, *DGAT1*, *CSN1S1*, *STAT5A*) with STR alleles in cows. 2011 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Camacho A, Foulkes A, Meier-Marquis JA, Hahn PD, Larios-Sanz M, Simmons A. Poster presentation: International intercollegiate evolution opinion survey. 2010 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Zalamea J, Honrado L, Pozo A, Simmons A. Poster presentation: Correlating polymorphisms of milk fat related genes (*ANXA9*, *DGAT1*) with associated STR alleles. 2010 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Liu P, Cheung SW, Bi W, Carvalho CMB, Simmons AD., Eng, A.P., Cooper, M.L., Patel, A., Roeder, E.R., Berg, J.S., Shinawi, M., Lupski, J.R. Poster presentation: Copy number gain at Xp22.31. 2010 Genomic Disorders Meeting, Hinxton, UK.
- ☞ Ade-Fosudo S, Gonzalez E, Honrado L, Lodhra R, Pozo A, Rocha K, Yarzagaray Y, Simmons A. Poster presentation: Hepatic Lipidosis in Dairy Cows: Comparison of the *PEMT* protein. 2009 UST Research Symposium, Texas, USA.
- ☞ Simmons A, Lupski JR (2008) Poster presentation: Rearrangements in the 2q13 locus involving the *NPHP1* gene. Genomic Disorders 2008, Hinxton, UK.
- ☞ Simmons A, Lupski JR (2008) Poster presentation: Delineation of the Genomic Structure of the Human 2q13 Region and its variation. Annual Molecular and Human Genetics Departmental Retreat, Galveston, Texas, USA.

- ✎ Simmons A, Rodríguez-Larralde A. (2006) Poster presentation: Genetic diversity analysis of a Venezuelan population sample. IX Congreso de la Asociación Latinoamericana de Antropología Biológica (ALAB), Ouro Preto, Brasil.
- ✎ Figuera C, Rodríguez-Larralde A, Simmons A, Castro de Guerra D. (2006) Poster presentation: Identification of the founder mitochondrial haplotype groups in Lara State (Venezuela). IX Congreso de la Asociación Latinoamericana de Antropología Biológica (ALAB), Ouro Preto, Brasil.
- ✎ Simmons A, Rodríguez-Larralde A. 2005. Poster presentation: Estimate of admixture in Venezuela's Western Central Region using blood groups (ABO, Rh) and 9 STR markers. XXXIV Congreso Argentino de Genética, Trelew, Argentina.
- ✎ Rodríguez de Arroyo G, Rodríguez Larralde A, Simmons A. 2005. Poster presentation: Comparative study of STR allelic frequencies in two Venezuelan Regions using a multivariate approach. IX Congreso Venezolano de Genética, Hospital de Clínicas Caracas, Venezuela.
- ✎ Simmons A, Rodríguez-Larralde A. 2005. Poster presentation: Description of a new allele for system D16S539, found in an individual born in Lara State (Venezuela). IX Congreso Venezolano de Genética, Hospital de Clínicas Caracas, Venezuela.
- ✎ Simmons A, Rodríguez-Larralde A. 2004. Poster presentation: Estimate of admixture in Venezuela's Central Northern Region using blood groups (ABO, Rh) and 9 STR markers. VIII Congreso de la Asociación Latinoamericana de Antropología Biológica (ALAB), Caracas, Universidad Central de Venezuela.

INVITED SEMMINARS, TALKS & WORKSHOPS

- ✎ **UT Southwestern Medical Center Career Development Seminar (Online, July 2024)**
Presentation title: Applying for a faculty position at a PUI: Insights from a search committee member.
- ✎ **Schull Institute Annual Conference and Scholars Program (UST, March 2018)**
Presentation title: Research in our Undergraduate Biology Program.
- ✎ **Spring Resume and CV Preparation Workshop for HPAC (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)**
Presentation title: Undergraduate students are given tips and advice on how to prepare a professional Resume and *Curriculum vitae*.
- ✎ **Panelist for Junior Faculty Luncheon (UST, April 2016)**
Panelist: Preparing your Tenure Packet at UST. I participated as a guest panelist in the Spring Junior Faculty Luncheon in the Little Art Gallery at UST. Panel was hosted by Richa Chandra (Chemistry) and Serena Flores (Education).
- ✎ **Life Enrichment of Houston (LEoH, 2014)**
Subject: Dr Jill Dewey and I were invited to give a talk regarding the structure and function of DNA, as well as its uses in medicine, agriculture, forensics and ancestry.
- ✎ **President's Faculty Research and Scholarship Colloquium (UST, 2014)**
Title: "Incorporating new teaching strategies in Genetics".
- ✎ **IRACDA Workshop Series (BCM, 2012)**
Subject: Planning your teaching experience to collect publishable data and improve scientific teaching. I co-taught this workshop with Dr. Ribes-Zamora to post-docs of the IRCADA program at Baylor College of Medicine regarding how to publish science education papers.

☞ **Lecturer Exchange Program (IEC/ICUSTA, 2010)**

Title: "*Desórdenes genómicos y lo que nos han enseñado sobre nuestro genoma*". Universidad de Santo Tomás, Santiago, Chile.

☞ **Friends of Doherty Library Lecture Series (2010)**

Title: "What genomic disorders studies have taught us about our genome". University of St Thomas, Houston, Texas.

☞ **VII Veterinary Sciences Research Symposium (2005)**

Title: "Genomics and its application to the veterinarian sciences. Perspectives in Venezuela". *Universidad Centroccidental Lisandro Alvarado* (Lisandro Alvarado Central-Western University), Barquisimeto, Venezuela.

☞ **VI Biological Sciences Conference (2003)**

Title: "The Human Genome Project". *Universidad Católica Andrés Bello*, (Andres Bello Catholic University), Caracas, Venezuela.

☞ **II Biological Sciences Conference (1999)**

Title: "Elaboration of a Teaching Manual for Simple Inorganic Chemistry Experiments". *Universidad Católica Andrés Bello* (Andres Bello Catholic University), Caracas, Venezuela.

ATTENDED MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS AND WEBBINARS

☞ **2025 TAAHP Conference** (March 6-8). Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, Dallas, Texas, USA.

☞ **2024 Addressing Challenges in Teaching (ACT) Workshop** (July 1 – 25) hosted by the National Institute on Scientific Teaching (NIST). Online workshop. Theme: Building student ownership of the learning experience

☞ **2024 TAAHP Conference** (February 29 – March 2). Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, El Paso, Texas, USA.

☞ **2023 FALCoN with Jenny Knight: National Institute on Scientific Teaching** (September 22). Stimulating metacognition and self-regulated learning in Genetics students. Online.

☞ **2023 TAAHP Conference** (February 2–4). Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, UTRGV, McAllen, Texas, USA.

☞ **2022 BREWMOR: Bridging Research and Education with Model Organisms** (July 25th). Virtual Meeting.

☞ **2022 TAAHP Conference** (February 3-5). Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, San Antonio, Texas, USA.

☞ **2021 TAAHP Online Forum** (February 3-4). Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting.

☞ **2020 REMOTE: The Connected Faculty Summit** (July 13-14). Hosted by Arizona State University.

☞ **2020 TAAHP Conference** (February 7–9). Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, Galveston, Texas, USA.

☞ **2019 ICUSTA Biennial Conference** (May 22-24). Hosted by University of St Thomas, Houston.

☞ **2019 ASHG Annual Meeting** (15-19 October). American Society of Human Genetics. Houston, Texas, USA.

- ☞ **2019 Coaching Workshop** (March 2019). Taught by Coaching Specialist, Debra Gerardi, RN, MPH, JD, PCC. Sponsored by UST's STEM Success Center, US Department of Education STEM Grant. UST, Houston, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2019 TAAHP Conference** (February 7–9). 50th Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, Lubbock, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2018 Coaching Skills to Support STEM & Nursing Student Success** (May 2018). Taught by Coaching Specialist, Debra Gerardi, RN, MPH, JD, PCC. Sponsored by UST's STEM Success Center, US Department of Education STEM Grant. UST, Houston, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2018 Científicos Latinx Seminar** (May 2018). Sponsored by UST's STEM Success Center, US Department of Education STEM Grant. UST, Houston, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2018 Experimental Biology/ASBMB Conference** (April 21-25), San Diego, California, USA.
- ☞ **2018 TAAHP Conference** (January 31 – February 3). 49th Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, Texas A&M Science Center Medical School, College Station, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2017 TAAHP Conference** (February 8-11). 48th Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, UT Houston School of Dentistry and McGovern School of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2015 Faculty Media Training Workshop** (February 20). Hosted by MarCom, UST, Houston, TX, USA.
- ☞ **2015 HSI STEM Grant Assessment Workshop on Student Learning Outcomes and Rubric Scoring Guide** (August), Hosted by Siobhan Fleming, the Associate Vice President of Institutional Assessment & Effectiveness, UST, Houston, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2014 ASHG Annual Meeting** (October 18-22). American Society of Human Genetics. San Diego, California, USA.
 - Undergraduate Faculty Genetics Education Workshop (8 hours): Ethical issues in the whole genome era.
 - Presented two posters (see above).
- ☞ **2014 MOOC on Epigenetic Control of Gene Expression** (8 weeks, completed with distinction). Department of Medical Biology, University of Melbourne, Australia.
- ☞ **2014 NSTA National Conference** (April 2-5). Boston, Massachusetts, USA.
- ☞ **2014 CUR Meeting** (March 28-30). Integrating undergraduate research into the curriculum institute. Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida.
- ☞ **2014 TAAHP Conference** (February 13-15). 45th Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, Houston, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2013 TAAHP Conference** (February 7-9). 44th Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, El Paso, Texas, USA.
 - New Advisor's Workshop (1 hour)
 - Experienced Advisor's Workshop (1 hour)
- ☞ **2012 Ellison Medical Foundation Colloquium on the Biology of Aging** (August 8-10). Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA.
- ☞ **2012 ASHG Annual Meeting** (November 6-10). American Society of Human Genetics. San Francisco, California, USA.
 - Undergraduate Faculty Genetics Education Workshop (8 hours): Next generation and whole exome sequencing.
- ☞ **2012 MBL Special Topics Course: Molecular Biology of Aging** (July 22nd to August 11th, 120+ hours). Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA.

- ☞ **2012 TAAHP Conference** (February 9-11). 43rd Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, El Paso, Texas, USA.
 - New Advisor's Workshop (1 hour)
- ☞ **2012. Webinar "Academic Competencies: Preparing for MCAT²⁰¹⁵ and Beyond"** (February 2nd, 1.5 hours). Presented by the National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (NAAHP) and the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).
- ☞ **2011. NSF Day** (November 14th, 8 hours). Texas A&M University, Commerce, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2011. Seminar "Presenting Yourself Virtually: An Introduction to an Online Portfolio"** (October 4th, 1.5 hours). UST, Houston, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2011. Webinar "Get the Most Out of i>clicker2: Best Practices for Using Alphanumeric Entry"** (September 15th, 1.5 hours). Presented by i>Clicker.
- ☞ **2011 POGIL South Central Regional Meeting** (June 28-30). Washington University, St Louis, Missouri, USA.
- ☞ **2011 TBL Annual Conference** (March 2-4). 10th Annual Team-based Learning Collaborative Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.
 - Creating Modules Workshop (3 hours)
- ☞ **2011 TAAHP Conference** (February 10-12). 42nd Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, Galveston, Texas, USA.
 - New Advisors' Workshop (1 hour)
- ☞ **2011. Workshop on "Cooperative Learning"** (February 8th, 1.5 hours). Organized by the Center for Faculty Excellence, UST, Houston, Texas, USA.
- ☞ **2010 TBL Annual Conference** (March 3-5). 9th Annual Team-based Learning Collaborative Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.
 - TBL 101 Workshop (3 hours)
- ☞ **2010 TAAHP Conference** (February 11-13). 41st Annual Texas Association of Advisors for the Health Professions Meeting, Lubbock, Texas, USA.
 - New Advisors' Workshop (1 hour)
- ☞ **2005. Medical Genetics** (40 hours). I Escuela Latino Americana de Genética Humana y Médica. Latin American Network of Human Genetics (RELAGH). Caxias do Sul, Brazil.
- ☞ **2004. Extraction of DNA from hair and saliva** (9 hours). I.V.I.C, Human Genetics Laboratory, Caracas, Venezuela.
- ☞ **2003. Sequencing Analysis Tools** (40 horas). Fundación IDEA (IDEA Foundation), Caracas, Venezuela.
- ☞ **2000. International Baccalaureate Program** (16 hours). Instituto de Educación Activa, (Institute of Active Education), Valencia, Venezuela.
- ☞ **1999. Discipline Control and Group Dynamics** (10 hours). *Universidad Católica Andrés Bello* (Andres Bello Catholic University), Caracas, Venezuela.
- ☞ **1997. CPR - First Aid** (16 hours). *Defensa Civil y Fundaincendios* (Civil Defense and Fire Foundation), Caracas, Venezuela.

REVIEWED ARTICLES AND TEXTBOOKS

- ☞ Manuscript ID ABT-2016-0038 "From Biology Students to Scientists: Authentic Research Experience in an Undergraduate Genetics Laboratory using the model organism, *Paramecium*." for American Biology Teacher (June, 2016).
- ☞ I was an invited reviewer for a several chapters of the Pierce *Genetics Essentials* textbook (2nd Edition, ISBN: 1-4292-9516-3). I also reviewed Pearson's *MasteringGenetics* online assessment tool.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

- ☞ Jan-Dec 2005, **DNA Sequencing and Paternity Testing**, Technician. CeSAAN Laboratory, IVIC, Caracas, Venezuela.

OTHER INTERESTS: Flamenco (Spanish dance)

- ☞ 2010 – Present: Freelance flamenco instructor and performer. Director and choreographer of *Hierro Forjado/Taller Flamenco*, Houston, USA.
- ☞ 2008-2010: Co-Director of *Soniquete Flamenco Dance Company*, Houston, USA.
- ☞ 2006-2007: Member of *La Escencia Flamenca* Dance Company, Houston, USA.
- ☞ 1993-2006: Flamenco instructor and member of the Professional Dance Company. Tatiana Reyna Dance Academy, Caracas, Venezuela.