

SAUL J. FLORES

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EDUCATION

University of Maryland, College Park
Doctor of Philosophy, Biochemistry

(In Progress)
Advanced to Candidacy May 2025

University of Maryland, College Park
Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry and Biological Sciences

Aug. 2018 – May 2022

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant | *University of Maryland, College Park*
Supervisor: Dr. Myles Poulin | Dept. of Chemistry & Biochemistry

Aug. 2024 – Present

Graduate Research Assistant | *University of Maryland, College Park*
Supervisor: Dr. Yanxin Liu | Dept. of Chemistry & Biochemistry

Dec. 2022 – Aug. 2024

Undergraduate Researcher | *University of Maryland, College Park*
Supervisor: Dr. Osvaldo Gutierrez | Dept. of Chemistry & Biochemistry

Jan. 2021 – May 2022

Research Intern | *National Institutes of Health, Bethesda*
Supervisor: Dr. Avindra Nath | Institute of Neurological Disorders & Stroke

Jun. 2018 – Sep. 2019

TEACHING & ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

Graduate & Undergraduate Teaching Assistant | *University of Maryland, College Park*
Courses Taught: *BCHM477, CHEM232, BSCI170, BSCI171*

Aug. 2020 – Present

Graduate Administrative Assistant | *University of Maryland, College Park*
Program Lead: *La Familia Peer Mentoring Program*

May 2022 – Present

Instructor & Mentor | *InspiraSTEM (El Salvador)*
Workshop: *Practical Computational Biochemistry: Macromolecular Modeling & Analysis*

May 2025 – Present

SELECTED SCHOLARLY PROJECTS

Pedebos, C.; da Silva Tarouco, D.; Ligabue-Braun, R.; **Flores, S. J.**; Arantes, P. Cloud-Bind: A Cloud-Based Platform for Accessible Large-Scale Molecular Docking and Ligand Pose Evaluation. In preparation.

Di Tomassi, I.; **Flores, S. J.**; Scales, E.; Rich, A.; Flores, J. P.; Arnett, M.; Boufidis, D.; Davis, B.; Finn, A.; Rader Groves, A.; Patel, D.; Lando, A.; Dant, C. The Scientist Network for Advancing Policy (SNAP): Building Infrastructure for Early-Career Scientists in Policy and Public Engagement. In preparation.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

Structural and Functional Insights into Nfr-Mediated Polysaccharide Synthesis in E. coli Biofilms
ACS Fall 2025; SACNAS NDiSTEM 2025; InspiraSTEM 2026 (Upcoming)

C-H Activation in Iron-Catalyzed Ortho Homoallylation of Aromatic Ketones with Methylenecyclopropanes
McNair Conference 2021; USM LSAMP Research Symposium 2021

Modulating HERV-K Transcripts Increases Susceptibility to Chemotherapeutic Drugs in AT/RT Cells
NIH Summer Poster Day 2019

Ouabain Treatment Reduces HERV-K Transcript Expression via Increased Methylation
NIH Summer Poster Day 2018

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, & HONORS

SACNAS C.O.L.O.R. Scholar (2025) • ACS Bridge Career Conference Scholar (2025) • Ronald E. McNair Summer Research Fellowship (2025) • ACS Graduate Leaders Scholar (2024) • Ronald E. McNair Graduate Fellowship (2022) • UMD Latine Carolina Rojas-Bahr Award (2022) • Parmar Family Endowed Scholarship (2022) • NIH NINDS Exceptional Summer Intern Award (2019)

LEADERSHIP, MENTORING & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

SNAP Liaison, Science Policy Group (UMD) | Member (2025 – Present)
Scientist Network for Advancing Policy (SNAP)-UMD representative to AAAS Annual Meeting 2026 (Upcoming)

La Familia Peer Mentoring Program (UMD) | 2019 – Present
President (2021 – 2022); Treasurer (2020 – 2021); Peer Mentor (2019 – 2020)

SACNAS | Member (2019 – Present), UMD Chapter Treasurer (2025 – Present)
Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science

Terps in Space (SSEP Mission 15b) | 2021 – 2022
Competition Finalist, Proposal: “Blood Storage for Deep Space Exploration”

American Chemical Society | Member (2020 – Present), UMD Student Chapter Officer (2020 – 2022)
Chemical Society of Washington Public Affairs Committee (2025 – Present)

ASBMB UMD | Member (2020 – Present), UMD Chapter Vice President (2020 – 2022)
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

American Association for the Advancement of Science (Member, 2025 – Present) • Biophysical Society (Member, 2023 – Present) • UMD Chemistry Graduate Student Organization (Event Planning Committee, 2025 – Present) • Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science • American Chemical Society • American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology • Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (Member, 2020 – Present) • UMD Graduate School Society of Fellows (Member, 2022 – Present)