

Thursday, May 9, 2002

## **Graduate student receives travel grant**

By Jeff Samoray, OU Web Writer

Amelita Sanchez, a master's student in biology, received a travel grant in conjunction with the Endocrine Society's annual scientific conference, **ENDO 2002**. Sanchez will join thousands of other researchers, clinicians, clinical investigators, students, fellows, post docs and other professionals from around the world to hear about the latest advancements in the field of endocrinology from June 19-22 in San Francisco.

"I was shocked when I received the e-mail informing me I received a grant," Sanchez said. "It will help with my travel expenses, and since the meeting is in San Francisco this year, it helps a great deal."

Sanchez previously attended four ENDO annual meetings. At ENDO 2002, she will display a poster presentation entitled, "Hormonal Regulation of Steroid Receptors, p53 and v-Src in Breast Cancer Cells." Sanchez is first author of the presentation. Her co-authors include Narine Mirijanian, graduate student in biology; Allison Douglass, undergraduate biology student; and Sumit Dinda, post doctorate lecturer in biology. Mirijanian and Dinda also will attend ENDO 2002 and assist Sanchez with the poster presentation.

"The annual meeting is a really nice platform to see the work of other people in the field," Sanchez said. "We get to see a lot of research from other universities and get to meet other research scientists. We also are able to learn about the latest products and equipment from the pharmaceutical manufacturers. It's a really nice way to learn what's current in the research and what's being applied. We can implement some ideas in our own work and keep the undergraduates up-to-date as well as showcase our own work."

While she finishes writing her master's thesis, Sanchez works as the lab manager of the Biochemistry and Molecular Endocrinology Lab in OU's **Department of Biological Sciences**. She and her colleagues currently are using biochemical, cellular and molecular techniques to study how hormones affect different proteins in breast cancer.

"Our goal is to find ways to use anti-cancer agents in the treatment of breast cancer," Sanchez said.

Sanchez also is the recipient of a Graduate Student Research Grant funded by Oakland University for her project entitled, "Hormonal Regulation of Oncogene, v-Src, in Breast Cancer Cells."

## SUMMARY

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