

Holgado Presents at SACNAS National Conference

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Dr. Andrea Holgado, associate professor and chair of the Department of Biological Sciences at Southwestern Oklahoma State University, recently presented at the national conference of the Society for Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS).

The conference was held in Los Angeles and the theme was “Creativity, Vision, & Drive: Towards Full Representation in STEM.”

Holgado’s presentation was “Regulating membrane trafficking in worms.”

In brief, membrane trafficking is the process involving the synthesis and sorting of cellular materials including hormones, enzymes, neurotransmitters and receptors. Membrane trafficking defects underlie diseases like cancer, neurodegenerative and vascular disorders.

Other invited speakers were Dr. Victor Faundez, professor, Emory University; and Dr. Gregorio Valdez, assistant professor, Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine. In the session, Holgado, Faundez and Valdez discussed the research and how their findings help scientists understand human diseases.