

# GENESIS CHONG

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I am a fourth-year graduate student at UCR, passionate about the bee health. Through my long way relationship with beekeepers working in Panama, I've realized how deficient is the situation in the apiculture field. That was my number one motivation to apply for the Ph.D. fellowship from the Panamanian government to study the bee health. My number one priority is to work along with the beekeepers as a group, using our knowledge and expertise to pursue the opportunity to find novel solutions to improve the bee's health to help beekeepers and industries.

## EXPERIENCE

JANUARY\DECEMBER- 2017

**ASSITANT RESEARCH LABORATORY**, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF PANAMA, IDIAP

Testing biomolecular techniques to improve the cattle testing for farmer at a national level.

2014 – 2016

**ASSISTANT RESEARCH LABORATORY**, INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, INDICASAT-AIP

A private investigation that was looking for biocontrol to improve the agricultural defense practices as a solution to mitigate diseases and pest.

## EDUCATION

PRESENT

**PH. D IN ENTOMOLOGY**, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA RIVERSIDE

Topic of doctoral thesis: "Immune system of the different races of honey bees"

OCTOBER 2014

**DEGREE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY**, LATIN UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA

Topic of the degree thesis: "hygienic behaviors of leaf cutter ants"

DECEMBER 2009

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, LETTERS AND COMMERCIAL EXPERT**, PANAMANIAN CHINESE CULTURAL CENTER. SUN -YAT SEN INSTITUTE

## INTERSHIP \ PROJECTS

2018

**FIELD WORK ASSISTANT**, INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, INDICASAT-AIP

Monitoring bee hives from different regions of Panama to gain a better understanding/perspective of daily beekeeping problems. To be able to focus in a problem at the time to look for scientific solutions.

2015

**LABORATORY TECHNICIAN**, INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, INDICASAT-AIP \ SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, STRI

Conducted microbiological experiments to gain information and test the scientific process in the project “The evolutionary origins of social insect pheromones queen”, led by Callum Kingwell doctoral student at Cornell University.

2014

**LABORATORY TECHNICIAN**, INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, INDICASAT-AIP \ SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, STRI

Conducted experiments to gain information and test the scientific process. Looking for biocontrol against leaf cutter ants that have a negative effect on agricultural practices.

2013

**LABORATORY TECHNICIAN**, EXPERT - LAB

Performing experiments to test the quality control of water, environment, and food.

2012

**LABORATORY STUDENT TECHNICIAN**, LATINA UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA

Designing and conducting experiment to extract antimicrobials peptides from shrimp. “Chitosan Collection and Application from Shrimp Exoskeleton”.

2011 – 2012

**LABORATORY TECHNICIAN**, SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, STRI

Conducting different biomolecular experiments for the different laboratories part of the Molecular Biology Laboratory (MMUL) to develop data bases and gaining expertise in research practices.

## OUTREACH AND ACTIVITIES

- Beekeeping Congress in Santiago, Panama 2015
- Agriculture workshop talk “Conocer la distribución, abundancia y role ecológico de las abejas nativas y promover un cambio de comportamiento agresivo de las *Apis mellifera scutelata* en P Panamá” Santiago, Panama 2018
- Mentoring high school and bachelor students related with apiculture in Panama
- Meetings with beekeepers in Panama to brainstorm about problems. 2017/2018
- Beekeeping assistance to low-income people
- CIBER workshop, Riverside California 2018
- Annual Insect Fair in Riverside California 2018/2019
- Seminar day talk “Killer Bees as Future Breeding Stock for Panamanian Beekeepers” Riverside California 2019
- Emerbee’s UCR cafe opening, Riverside California 2019
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) committee
- DEI panel for the virtual insect fair 2021
- Woman’s mentorship program Spring 2021, one mentee
- Woman’s mentorship program Fall 2021, three mentees
- Mentoring a bachelor students related with honey bee health in Panama
- Mentoring a bachelor student related with honey bee nutrition in Panama
- Coloss Varroa task participation
- Coloss workshop for a sustainable breeding program
- Coloss workshop for a controlling honey bee threats
- Outreach in the Coachella Valley at Mecca Library

