Saul Sotomayor Leyton

La Paz – Bolivia
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Education

04/2018 – 04/2022 **PhD.**, *University of Tokyo*, Tokyo - Japan, Title: "Characterization of CID7 in boron dependent mRNA degradation in *Arabidopsis thaliana*"
Advisor: Prof. Toru Fujiwara

08/2013 – 12/2015 **MSc.**, *University of Florida*, Gainesville, Florida - USA, Title: "Elucidating functional roles of the fern glutaredoxin, PvGrx5: Subcellular localization and involvement in oxidative stress tolerance"
Advisor: Prof. Bala Rathinasabapathi

01/2001 – 12/2009 **Bachelor**, *"Mayor de San Andres" University*, La Paz - Bolivia, Title: "Foundations for the direct and indirect somatic embryogenesis in *Oncidium excavatum* (*Orchidaceae*)"
Advisor: Ing. Jorge A. N. Quezada Portugal.

Working Experience

04/2021 – 03/2022 **Research assistant**, *University of Tokyo*, Laboratory of Prof. Fujiwara

07/2016 – 12/2017 **Associate researcher**, *Mayor de San Andres University*, Department of Plant Biotechnology

06/2015 – 12/2015 **Research assistant**, *University of Florida*, Laboratory of Prof. Rathinasabapathi

10/2012 – 12/2012 **Consultant**, *Mayor de San Andres University*, Project: *In situ* conservation of cacao (*Theobroma cacao*) genetic diversity as a mean to reduce the vulnerability of farmers against climate change in the tropical region of north La Paz

06/2010 – 12/2010 **Consultant**, *Mayor de San Andres University*, Project: Therapeutic and cosmetic products of native plant species from Bolivia – Foundations for their biotechnological production (Part III)

10/2006 – 12/2006 **Teaching assistant**, *Mayor de San Andres University*, Subject: Plant Physiology and Eco-physiology

02/2004 – 05/2004 **Teaching assistant**, *Mayor de San Andres University*, Subject: Laboratory of Cell Biology

09/2004 – 12/2004 **Teaching assistant**, *Mayor de San Andres University*, Subject: Laboratory of Biochemistry I

Courses and Congress

03/2024 - 07/2024 **Participant**, *"Academic and pedagogical organization of the classroom"', Certificate Course on Higher Education*, *CEPIES - Mayor de San Andres University*, La Paz, Bolivia

03/2023 **Co-author**, *"Identification of genes involved in boron-dependent mRNA degradation of the boron transporter NIP5:1 in* Arabidosis thaliana", *Poster at the 64th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society of Plant Physiologists*, Sendai, Japan

08/2016 **Co-Author**, *"Subcellular Localization of Fern Glutaredoxin PvGrx5 in Transgenic* Arabidopsis thaliana", *Oral Session-Undergraduate Student 2 at the Annual Conference American Society of Horticultural Science*, Atlanta, Georgia

05/2015 **Speaker**, *Plant Cellular and Molecular Biology Workshop*, Daytona Beach, Florida

05/2014 **Attendant**, *Plant Cellular and Molecular Biology Workshop*, Daytona Beach, Florida

Awards

04/2018–03/2021 **MEXT Scholarship**, *MEXT Program–Bolivia*, Awarded to conduct PhD. studies

04/2017–03/2018 **MEXT Scholarship**, *MEXT Program–Bolivia*, Awarded as a Research student

08/2013–08/2015 **Fulbright Scholarship**, *Fulbright Commission – Bolivia*, Awarded to conduct MSc. studies

08/2013–05/2014 **Grinter Fellowship**, *University of Florida*, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences

Languages

Spanish Native

English Proficient

Japanese Basic *Basic listening comprehension*

Skills

Computer

Operating Systems: GNU/Linux (Debian-based), MS-Windows

Programming Languages: R (Competent), Bash (Competent), Python (Competent), CSS/HTML (Basic)

Others: Emacs, LaTeX 2$_\varepsilon$

Bioinformatics: Customization of analysis pipelines for high-throughput sequencing data using R, Python, Bash

Bench laboratory

Protein: Design and construction of expression vectors aimed at protein purification and activity assay

General: Cloning, Plant transformation (agrobacterium-mediated)

Academic Interests

Bioremediation and biofortification: Genetic modification aimed at the controlled expression of transporter genes at the tissue/cell level

Signal perception in plants: Basic research of signal perception and transduction

Bioinformatics: High-throughput data analysis integrating different data sets (*e.g.* Transcriptomics, genome re-sequencing). Data visualization