



# Biosphere

## The Weekly Bulletin of Biology

**Biology Colloquium (Friday 2 PM in CR 5125)**

Dr. Maria Elena Zavala  
*CSUN, Biology*

*“Development of Roots, People, and Institutions”*

### **2017 SACNAS opens applications for travel scholarships**

Applications for travel scholarships to attend the 2017 SACNAS, The National Diversity in STEM Conference (October 19-21 in Salt Lake City, Utah) will open on March 14. The scholarship will cover registration, round-trip flights and lodging at the conference. For further information on eligibility, and to apply, visit the [2017 SACNAS website](#).

### **Special Seminar on the biology of apoptosis**

**Dr. Rheem Medh** will present “*To Live or Die: Decisions a Cell Has to Make*” and discuss advances from her lab in our understanding of how regulated cell death (apoptosis) is controlled in cancer cells. The seminar will take place in CR5126, on Thursday, March 9.

### **VARJAM 2017**

Academic Technology proudly announces VARJAM 2017, a campus-wide student competition to design an immersive experience using Virtual and Augmented Reality (VAR). The VAR field “represents one of the most exciting and promising emerging technologies, continuously offering new opportunities for students to learn skills that will help them succeed in tomorrow's jobs” says **Dr. Deone Zell**, Associate VP of Academic Technology, adding that VAR progress requires “creative, entrepreneurial, technical, storytelling, artistic, and even navigational skills, to create tools with applications in business, health care, entertainment, education, engineering and beyond”. There will be a kick-off event on March 3. Students can learn more and apply at <http://www.csun.edu/varjam>.

### **A special talk by a MacArthur Fellow @ CSUN**

The Microbiology Student Association (MSA) will host a special seminar by **Dr. Dianne Newman** (California Institute of Technology), who has been recently named MacArthur Fellow. Dr. Newman will present “The importance of growing slowly: roles for redox-active ‘antibiotics’ in microbial survival and development”, on *Thursday, March 2nd @ 11:00AM, USU – Pasadena Room.*