

MEET THE

# Biology Undergraduate Peer Advisors AY 2021-22



Feel free to connect with the peer advisors to get a student's perspective regarding the Undergraduate Program in the Biological Sciences.

**Meetings can be set up one of two ways:**

1.) See profiles below for individual contact information & Office Hours

2.) Send Email to the Peer Advisor General Email Address (will forward to all advisors): [peeradvisorsay2021-22@uofr.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:peeradvisorsay2021-22@uofr.onmicrosoft.com)



## Antony Alvarado '22

**Major:** BS Biochemistry

**Minor:** Student Art

**Email:** [aalvara7@u.rochester.edu](mailto:aalvara7@u.rochester.edu)

**Request advising appointments by email**

**Advising Week (11/8-11/12) Office Hours by Zoom:** M/T/R 2:30-5 pm and W/F from 10:30 am-5 pm

**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9739579303?pwd=eUc3UnRTYmt1eGFVWVythL1RQSnNrZz09>

**Origins:** "Born and raised in Los Angeles, California, by a Guatemalan mother."

**Teaching Assistant Experience:** "I TA'd for General Chemistry CHM131 during the Fall 2019 semester."

**Extracurricular Activities:** "I am involved in campus ministry with the Agape Christian Fellowship (ACF), first-year programming with the D'Lions organization, expanding my photo skills with UR Photography club, and painting radiation masks for pediatric cancers patients with URMC Strong Art."

**What do you love about the UR and/or A Recommendation for Things to Do or Food to try While in Rochester:**

"I love the flexibility in my course schedules and the multitude of student group niches available throughout and off-campus. When the weather permits kayaking on the Genesee is great or riding your bike along the Genesee & Erie Canal trails is very fun too. As a Westcoast person, I am always in awe of Fall and enjoy photographing the spectacular colors of the season."



## Syed Arsalan Ghani '22 (Take-5)

**Major I:** Computational Biology

**Major II:** Psychology

**Email:** [sghani@u.rochester.edu](mailto:sghani@u.rochester.edu)

**Office Hours Fall 21 by Zoom:** Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm

**Zoom Link:** <https://rochester.zoom.us/my/arsghani>

**Origins:** "I am from Karachi, Pakistan but lived in Virginia and Bosnia & Herzegovina before attending UR!"

**Teaching Assistant Experience:** "I have previously TA-ed BIOL 219 with Dr. Bickel, and am currently the TA for BIOL 198p with Dr. Michael Clark. Aside from that I TA CSC 161, STAT 212, BCSC 111, PSYC 181."

**Extracurricular Activities:** "I am an associate justice on the All-Campus Judicial Council, sort of the Supreme Court at UR, and I am also a voting member on the Board of Academic Honesty. In addition I am the Resident Advisor for Brooks Crossing!"

**Study Abroad Activities:** N/A

**What do you love about the UR and/or A Recommendation for Things to Do or Food to try While in Rochester:** "I absolutely love PRR at UR in Rush Rhees library. However, I think everyone should try to go to the Neighbourhood of the Arts in downtown Rochester."



## Federico Sanchez '22

**Major I:** Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

**Major II:** Psychology

**Email:** [fsanche5@u.rochester.edu](mailto:fsanche5@u.rochester.edu)

**Request advising appointments by email**

**Origins:** Born in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, where I lived until attending UR

**Teaching Assistant Experience:** BIOL111/113 Lab - Instructor Robert Minckley, Spring 2021

**Extracurricular Activities:** "I am a Resident Advisor, I am also an undergraduate researcher at the Uy Lab, where through a Research and Innovation Grant I have studied the relationship between relatedness, intercolonial distance, and aggression in weaver ants; and am currently studying the barriers to cross-infection from a local parasite to an invasive species of paper wasp."

I have also participated in the artwork selection process for LOGOS art and literature journal on campus. When back home, I also like to participate in sea turtle rescue camps."

**Study Abroad Activities:** "I was accepted to the Galapagos Study Abroad semester, unfortunately, canceled due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. Before college, I participated in the Latin American Leadership Academy's leadership Bootcamp in Medellín, Colombia, alongside participants from Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Brazil, Venezuela, and Mexico."

**What do you love about the UR and/or A Recommendation for Things to Do or Food to try While in Rochester:** "I love how much people are willing to support each other academically and in many other ways! If you can, I recommend walking the trails around campus or hopping on a bike and exploring the city. Don't miss the Memorial Art Gallery, Highland Park, Park Ave., or supporting business in the 19th Ward!"



## Muskaan Vasandani '22

**Major:** BS Molecular Genetics

**Minor:** Chemistry

**Email:** [mvasanda@u.rochester.edu](mailto:mvasanda@u.rochester.edu)

**Office Hours Fall 21 by Zoom:** Friday's 2 - 4 pm

**Zoom Link:** <https://rochester.zoom.us/j/4169325357>

**Origins:** Pune, India

**Teaching Assistant Experience:** "I have been a TA for multiple classes since my sophomore year, including CHM 132 (spring 2020), MTH 161(fall 2019), Biochemistry(spring 2021), and genetics(summer 2021). I was also a CETL tutor for two years."

**Extracurricular Activities:** "I am a columnist for Campus times and I love writing my column every week, "Muskaan's musings." I was also an EcoRep my freshman year. I am currently on the iGEM team for U of R (not extracurricular technically, but just as much fun).I also volunteer for StrongArt occasionally, a student team that paints radiation masks for little kids fighting cancer. I do paint a lot in general too."

**Study Abroad Activities:** "Sadly no:!"

**What do you love about the UR and/or A Recommendation for Things to Do or Food to try While in Rochester:** "I love the numerous local cafes in downtown Rochester, and the hiking and running trails in and around the city. I also like going to the public market a lot!"