

**RETIREES OF THE YEAR AWARD  
FOR FACULTY**

**2022**

**ZULEYMA TANG-MARTINEZ, PH.D.**

Zuleyma Tang-Martinez retired as a Professor of Biology in 2014. Since retirement she has remained active with the UMSL Biology Department, frequently attending Biology faculty meetings, participating in almost all department seminars, and serving on all faculty searches. She continues to be an active participant in the weekly Animal Behavior Discussion Group (ABDG), which she started in 1976, and which is now attended by faculty and students from several local institutions.



Additionally, Zuleyma also serves as one of UMSL's two delegates to the Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS), based in the USA and Costa Rica. The OTS is an international consortium of universities with programs in tropical biology.

Zuleyma has continued to publish since she retired. In 2014, Zuleyma and Dr. Ken Yasukawa (of Beloit College) published a co-edited book, *Animal Behavior: How and Why Animals do the Things they Do – Vol. 1* (published by Prager). Between 2014 and 2020, she also published seven peer-reviewed papers pertaining to various aspects of animal behavior. One of these papers, published in the *Journal of Sex Research* was an invited annual review and resulted in Zuleyma being featured in a BBC article on sex roles.

In addition to her publications, Zuleyma has been active in the Animal Behavior Society (ABS), holding various offices since retirement. During 2020-2021, Zuleyma has been especially active in organizing and implementing a new ABS mentoring program for students and animal behavior and their advisors at Latin America institutions.

Zuleyma's professional and scholarly service affects science more broadly, and not only the discipline of animal behavior. In 2018, she served as a panelist for the National Science Foundation to evaluate NSF programs and advise regarding improvements to NSF performance. She also has been an NSF panelist for grant proposal reviews, and additionally, continues to review 2 to 3 papers a year for national or international scientific journals. She has presented invited seminars on minorities in science, diversity and the complexity of human sexual development, and the importance of mentoring.

Civically, Zuleyma has also made significant contributions. She has served on the Older Adult Commission of St. Louis County since 2016. Until the pandemic, she was an active volunteer with the Alzheimer's Association of St. Louis, and also serves on the research ethics

committee of the Washington University Medical School's Knight Alzheimer's Disease Research Center.

Finally, Zuleyma has been very involved in community engagements regarding public policy, including being the co-founder in December 2016 of a pro-democracy and human rights group in St. Louis: Momentum: Missouri Moving Forward.

Perhaps just as important as the myriad of ways and areas in which Zuleyma has been very active during her retirement, is that she brings her heart, enthusiasm, passion and deep knowledge to all these involvements. She is often writing papers, drafting documents, and sending or responding to emails from colleagues, students, and others throughout the day.

It is for these reasons that Zuleyma Tang-Martinez has been selected as the Faculty Retiree of the Year for 2022. She serves as an example of scholarly productivity and civic engagement well into retirement.