

Valerie Gomez

vag002@ucsd.edu

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego In Progress
Doctor of Philosophy, Education

California State University, Long Beach May 2017
Master of Science, Counseling, Option in Student Development in Higher Education

University of California, Los Angeles June 2013
Bachelor of Arts, Anthropology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Transfer Counselor and Coordinator June 2017 – Present
Transfer Student Hub, University of California, Irvine

- Market, coordinate, and implement various programs, initiatives, and services that promote transfer students' academic attainment, professional development, graduate school readiness, and timely degree completion.
- Provide one-on-one guidance to current and prospective transfer students regarding academic policies, procedures, academic and personal needs, and provide referrals to university and community resources.
- Coordinate the first and second year transfer experience programs and serve as a personal guide to 75 transfer students in the programs. Conduct ongoing academic assessment and implement interventions when needed.
- Create and facilitate various workshops for transfer students that help students transition to university life.
- Conduct presentations for community college students and coordinate community college campus visits to UCI.
- Lead and collaborate with campus and community partners on transfer student outreach. Promote and communicate with students, staff, and faculty about current and new initiatives.
- Co-lead Goals in Action with Counseling Center psychologists, a five week series, for students on academic probation. Support students understand their strengths and how to develop strategies for academic success.

Undocumented Student Programs

- Developed and coordinate the Dream Scholars Plus program, an academic and social support program that promotes the holistic development of undocumented students, in collaboration with the UCI DREAM Center.
- Meet with 60 program participants on a quarterly basis to provide one-on-one guidance and academic support.
- Lead a year-long university affairs course for first-year undocumented students in the Dream Scholars Plus program. Develop the curriculum, create supplemental materials, and provide one-on-one guidance to students.
- Coordinate the Dream Scholars Plus peer mentorship program. Identify potential mentors, oversee mentor/mentee matching process and match an average of 30 first-year and second-year undocumented students with mentors.
- Coordinate relevant and timely programming and events by collaborating with campus and community partners.
- Design and implement assessment tools that capture the needs of students and use the data to inform practice.
- Hire, train, supervise, and evaluate 10 student staff and peer mentors. Meet with student staff on a bi-weekly basis and provide students with professional development opportunities.
- Manage an annual budget of \$30,000 for undocumented student and transfer student programming.

Student Development Fellow October 2015 – June 2017
Dream Success Center, California State University, Long Beach

- Provided and advocated for academic and professional support services that increased the success, retention, and graduation of undocumented students at CSULB.
- Coordinated the Dream.US Scholars program. Coordinated events and met with a cohort of 20 undocumented students who were recipients of the Dream.US Scholarship to provide academic and professional advising.
- Developed and implemented a robust training program for faculty and staff seeking to support undocumented students as allies. Delivered successful training to approximately 50 faculty and staff.

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- Developed programs and workshops that incorporated student learning outcomes, implemented surveys, and analyzed data in order to develop reports. Utilized findings to inform future programs based on student needs.
- Represented the Dream Success Center at various campus and community events. Provided information about services to current students, prospective applicants, and community members.

Workforce Specialist

August 2016 – June 2017

YouthSource Center, Los Angeles Harbor College

- Coordinated the YouthSource Center internship program, liaised with multiple campus programs to establish internship opportunities for students at the campus library, facilities management, and bookstore.
- Placed approximately 8-10 youth per semester at internship sites based on professional interests and availability. Maintained constant communication with site supervisors, collected timesheets, and processed stipend payments.
- Met with students to provide professional development opportunities and to help develop relevant career goals.

Career Guidance Counselor Assistant

September 2014 – February 2016

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, Los Angeles Harbor College

- Developed and hosted engaging orientation workshops for new eligible students who were primarily low-income, first-generation and/or educationally disadvantaged.
- Coordinated individual and group advising sessions for students regarding academic, professional, and personal matters and provided referrals to college and community services when necessary.
- Designed, implemented and evaluated the Career Readiness Series, which included cover letter, resume, and interview skills workshops.

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

Gomez, V. & Perez Huber, L. (2019). Examining racist nativist microaggressions on DACAmented college students in the Trump era. *California Journal of Politics and Policy*, 11(2), 1-16.

Gomez, V. & Barragan Santoyo, A. M. (2019). DREAM Scholars: A First-Year Seminar for the Holistic Development of Undocumented Students. General conference presentation, National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education, Portland, OR.

Gomez, V. (2018). Dreaming Big with Dream Scholars. General conference presentation, California College Personnel Spring Institute, Los Angeles, CA.

Gomez, V. & Lozano, C. (2017). Learning through Narratives: Contemporary Experiences of Undocumented Students. General conference presentation, NASPA Western Regional Conference, Honolulu, HI.

Gomez, V. (2017). La Lucha Sigue: Undocumented Students Challenging Anti-Immigrant Discourses (Master's thesis). California State University, Long Beach. Long Beach, CA.

HONORS & AWARDS

Strategic Enhancement of Excellence through Diversity (SEED) Fellowship, UCSD	2019
Staff Appreciation and Recognition Award, UCI	2018/2019
Graduate Dean's List for the College of Education, CSULB	2017
President's Commission on the Status of Women, research Grant, CSULB	2017
Associated Students, Inc., Student Research Grant, CSULB	2016
Student Development Fellowship, CSULB	2015
Chancellor's Service Award, UCLA	2013