

Ester Kim

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OBJECTIVE: To serve as a positive support system to a diverse student population pursuing higher education opportunities at community colleges, and to utilize my educational and experiential background as a first-generation college student of color to motivate students to proactively seek after their personal, educational, and professional endeavors.

EDUCATION

California State University, Long Beach Fall 2018 – Spring 2021

- M.S. in Counseling, Option in Student Development in Higher Education

University of California, Irvine Fall 2014 – Winter 2017

- Bachelor of Art in Psychology & Social Behavior
- Bachelor of Art in Criminology, Law & Society

Cypress College Fall 2010 – Spring 2014

- Associate of Art in Psychology

WORK EXPERIENCE

Student Success Coach June 2020 - Current

Long Beach City College | Long Beach, CA

- Case managing over 500/+ first-year college students via one-a-one student check-ins over the phone, email, Zoom, Cranium Café and Starfish
- Facilitating student and academic success workshops
- Co-leading a student success club, called Aspire for first-year college students with the purpose of increasing students' sense of belonging, retention and persistence rates
- Shadowing counseling appointments during educational plan developments, career exploration, assistance with transfer requirements, etc.

Counseling Intern & Student Success Coach June 2020 – Current

Santa Ana College | Santa Ana, CA

- Case managing over 150/+ first-time college students and assisting them make appointments with counselors to create their educational plan
- Shadowing a Santa Ana College Counselor during counseling and teaching appointments
- Collaborating with SAC's administrators, staff, and faculty on STEM Cap Month for the purposes of introducing students to various career options and academic fields related to STEM

Graduate Intern September 2019 – June 2020

Long Beach City College | Long Beach, CA

- Further developed the Early College Pathways Partnership Ambassadors Program to increase student retention and persistence rates utilizing a peer mentorship model
- Streamlined student caseload management via monthly progress reports and one-a-one check-ins via phone, email and in-person meetings
- Created weekly newsletter with academic success strategies, and important announcements, such as campus events, deadlines, campus resources, etc.
- Outreached to high schools in the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) to recruit prospective program participants

UCI Summer Session Events & Marketing Clerk

March 2018 – September 2018

University of California, Irvine | Irvine, CA

- Co-led 2 campus wide student focused community development events with over 600 participants
- Supervised 10-20 student workers during campus wide events and international airport pickup events
- Created marketing materials utilizing Cava Design
- Built partnerships with local businesses to offer students summer deals (promotional discounts), such as The Habit, Essentia Water, Chipotle, Del Taco, among others

UCI Summer Session Student Affairs Specialist

March 2017 – January 2018

University of California, Irvine | Irvine, CA

- Strategically planned outreach efforts to increase enrollment of first-year transfer students
- Trained 4 student mentors to assist first-year transfer students successfully transition and acclimate to the campus via competence trainings, team building activities, and bi-weekly one-a-one check-ins
- Resolved student issues and followed up with escalated requests in a timely manner, such as issues related to enrollment, financial aid, housing and course credit(s)

Peer Educator for the First Generation First Quarter Program

January 2016 – June 2016

University of California, Irvine | Irvine, CA

- Assisted with the development of an eight-week curriculum aimed at assisting first generation college students transition into UCI—topics included: financial aid, information about UCI's student support services, stress management, academic toolkit, social capital, among others
- Assisted with programmatic outreach, student engagement activities, workshops and events

Peer Educator for the Transfer Center

September 2015 – September 2016

University of California, Irvine | Irvine, CA

- Informally advised newly admitted transfer students about campus resources and helped them acclimate to the campus via weekly email reminders about campus resources
- Facilitated educational workshops on stress and money management

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

September 2015 – June 2016

University of California, Irvine | Irvine, CA

- Administered and gathered qualitative data via focus groups on faculty's perspectives about their role as educators, researchers, and student mentors
- Analyzed transcripts and submitted weekly reports with interpretation of findings, such as revised codes for frequently used terminology
- Results: Faculty desire to support students often clashes with institutional expectations to focus on their research.

Research Assistant

March 2015 – May 2016

University of California, Irvine | Irvine, CA

- Conducted open-ended surveys on how people's attitudes, motivations and behaviors impact conversations about race during interracial and intraracial interactions
- Results: participants who matched on their written and verbal accounts of racial discrimination reported higher levels of perceived racial discrimination and racial socialization. Additionally, those who interacted with same race individuals (i.e. Black or African American) were more likely to divulge experiences of racial discrimination
- Co-presented study findings at the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) Symposium at UC Irvine