

# Cella Stowitts

cellachungstowitts@gmail.com | 415-912-6069

## EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Class of June 2016

Critical Gender Studies and Ethnic Studies Double Major Major GPAs: 3.85 and 3.98, respectively

## WORK EXPERIENCE

*South Puget Sound Community College*

*Office Assistant 3*

*[November 2019-February 2020]*

South Puget Sound Community College's mission is to support student success in postsecondary academic transfer and workforce education that responds to the needs of the South Sound region. SPSCC was named a top 50 community college by College Choice and has been listed several times as one of the nation's 150 best community colleges by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program.

- Worked within the President's Office Suite and reported directly to the Director of Finance and Scholarships while maintaining a high level of discretion and professionalism.
- Coordinated directly with executive administrators and department leads in cross-departmental logistics and planning efforts to execute the SPSCC Foundation transition into the Dr. Angela Bowen Center. Project delivered
- Provided adaptable, rapid, solutions-oriented executive-level support for the SPSCC Foundation Executive Director, Development Director, and Director of Finance and Scholarships as needed
- Innovated and implemented new spending reports and processes to curb redundant spending and inventory resources accurately including tracking forms,
- Information Management
- Assisted at SPSCC Foundation weekend and after-hours events with logistics, photography, donor relations, and day-of troubleshooting

*Reality Changers*

*Volunteer Coordinator and Bonus Room Coach [July 2016-July 2017]*

Reality Changers is a non-profit powerhouse inspiring over 1,000 students in San Diego and Orange County to overcome poverty and crime to become first generation college graduates. To date, Reality Changers students have earned over \$100,000,000 in scholarships and awards.

- Oversaw over 100 volunteer mentors on a weekly basis, matching each individually to best fit student learning needs and each Achievement Coach's leadership style
- Redesigned the volunteer onboarding process: cut orientation times by 60-75%, created a new Volunteer Handbook, improved volunteer recruitment by at least 25% for every event
- Successfully advocated for and developed new Reality Changers volunteer and retention funding
- Created and conducted weekly, semester annual, and event-specific evaluations for volunteers and produced reports to establish institutional tracking of recruitment, engagement, and retention
- Innovated volunteer appreciation and retention initiatives such as tutor appreciation events, banquets, awards, and tutor office hours to maximize experience and address deltas efficiently
- Managed a database of over 1000 volunteers and handled all intake and processing of volunteer paperwork, digitized and organized a backlog of over 17 years of documents and applications

*UCSD SPACES*

*APSA RISE Intern [June 2015-June 2016]*

The Student Promoted Access Center for Education and Service is a bastion for student-initiated collaborations aimed at achieving greater educational access and equity.

- Served as UCSD's Asian and Pacific Islander Student Alliance (APSA) Retention In Solidarity and Empowerment (RISE) Coordinator
- Designed multiple social justice-focused board retreats to increase fluency in APSA Board Members regarding topics such as -isms, anti-blackness, heterosexism, cissexism, and social justice praxis
- Redesigned the mentorship program to better implement mentor support and retention with a record number of 40 regular participants at every quarterly event
- A founding member of the Betterment of SPACES Committee (BOSC) and advocated for improved

student retention, institutional accountability, and infrastructural development including dialogue with upper UCSD administration, the development of initiatives for 4 new full-time staff, and innovation of a new social justice Practicum as a condition of SPACES student employment to address educational disparities within cohorts

***UCSD Cross-Cultural Center***

***Social Justice Educator [September 2014-June 2015]***

The Cross-Cultural Center is a community space at UCSD focused on empowering and supporting students, faculty, and staff through social justice-minded programming and resources. Their vision is to implement proactive initiatives to foster retention and diversity on campus.

- Worked closely with professional staff and the Social Justice Educator (SJE) team to develop and facilitate over 30 workshops, reaching over 300 students all over San Diego county
- Collaborated with UCSD Student Affirmative Action Committee core organizations to enrich high school conferences for high school student outreach, education, and empowerment
- Planned and held quarterly SJE Presents programs to engage UCSD community in current issues such as API representation in media and anti-blackness
- Created a database of workshops and resources for future SJE interns

***SPACES Summer Summit***

***Residential Advisor [June 2014-September 2014]***

The SPACES Summer Summit program serves 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders from historically underrepresented and under-resourced San Diego high schools to empower them to speak their truths and access greater success in higher education.

- Designed curriculum in two months for the Summer Summit program including daily agendas, college preparation and student empowerment workshops, and peer-to-peer counseling and retention components
- Trained as a state mandated reporter and in peer counseling, conflict management, and mentorship
- Residential advisor to a suite of 10 students
- Planned and implemented suite meetings on topics such as identity politics, intersectionality, and mental health

***Center for Reproductive Rights***

***Undergraduate Intern [March 2014-June 2014]***

The Center for Reproductive Rights is one of the most powerful voices in the fight for reproductive access both at internationally and at home.

- The first and singular Undergraduate Intern accepted at the CRR Government Relations Office in Washington, D.C.
- Attended coalition meetings with CRR partner organizations regularly for strategy and organizing
- Gathered and analyzed anti-choice rhetoric from Congressional and Senate documents
- Compiled research on pro-choice politicians in preparation for partnership discussions for the Women's Health Protection Act
- Accompanied meetings with staff and Congressmembers and Senators for pro-choice legislative strategy

***Scripps Institution of Oceanography***

***Development Assistant [July 2013-March 2014]***

Scripps Institution of Oceanography is one of the oldest and most prestigious centers for ocean, earth and atmospheric science research, education, and public service in the world

- Responsible for supporting all needs for the Development Department including event planning, preparation, and constituent research and data compilation
- Worked closely with executive staff to assist in fostering and maintaining donor relations
- Provided secretarial and reception services as the sole front desk support. Responsible for all communication between development staff, department staff, and donors
- All projects delivered on schedule and under budget

### ***Next Generation Scholars***

### ***Teaching Assistant [July 2012-August 2012]***

Next Generation Scholars is a competitive non-profit college access organization geared towards highly motivated low-income youth.

- Worked as the Teaching Assistant in *The Sociology of Gender Justice* course at the Next Generation Scholars Summer Academy.
- Graded student assignments, essays, and tests; collaborated with NGS staff to create the most creative and intersectional lesson plans possible for the students.
- Lectured on gendered processes such as the construction of gender, accessibility of resources, identity politics, and policy.
- Held office hours and worked extensively both in one-on-one and group settings with students to polish essays, increase understanding of complex theories, and to foster fluency of critical discourse.

### ***John Muir College***

### ***Orientation Leader [March 2012-September 2012]***

The John Muir College Orientation Leader program is designed to enable peer-to-peer support for incoming JMC freshman and prioritizes culturally sensitive and inclusive leadership training.

- Trained to respond to a spectrum of social and interpersonal situations through culturally sensitive workshops with Psychology professionals and curriculum based on real crises from the past.
- Facilitated five orientation sessions with over fifty Muir freshmen in both 48-hour and 12-hour sessions. Worked cross-culturally with students from a spectrum of social, economic, and cultural backgrounds.

## **ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

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- Strong interpersonal skills, especially in working with diverse students, faculty, staff, and administration
- Deep familiarity with intersectional social justice praxis with theoretical coursework to support
- Extensive experience with facilitating and designing educational and empowering spaces
- Served as the Gender and Sexuality Coordinator and Political Access and Awareness Coordinator for APSA 2015-2016
- A member for the Coalition for Critical Asian American Studies (CCAAS), advocated for causes such as the creation of an Asian Pacific Islander Middle Eastern Desi American (APIMEDA) resource center at UCSD, the creation of Critical Asian American Studies as a minor and major, increased development of new and improved APIMEDA faculty lines, and increased employment of culturally competent APIMEDA psychological care providers at UCSD
- Served as one of three UCSD students on the hiring committee for the APIMEDA Program Manager position, contributed to job card creation for this position
- A founding member of the Betterment of SPACES Committee (BoSC), a student group internal to SPACES focused on solutions for increased retention of students and staff as well as improving workplace climate. Worked in collaboration with UCSD upper administration on job card creation, institutional development, and communication.
- Exceptionally confident in written and oral communication skills
- Offered the 10,000 Degrees 2016-2018 Fellowship for college advising and educational equity work in Marin County, a region with one of the highest educational equity gaps in the country
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite including Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Publisher, and Outlook
- Experience working in a hospital environment, HIPAA regulations and patient confidentiality
  - Volunteer at Kaiser Permanente Terra Linda [2008-2009]
    - Patient discharge
    - Lab specimen delivery
  - Outpatient Physical Therapy Intern at Sutter Health Terra Linda [2009]
    - Infection control

- Therapy assistance
- Administrative assistance and patient record organization
- Wound Care Intern at Kaiser Permanente Terra Linda [2010-2011]
  - Patient care observation and minor assistance
  - Infection control

## **FACILITATION TOPICS**

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- Allyship: the Dos and Don'ts
- Deconstructing Disney's Mulan
- Social Justice Fundamentals and Primer
- United Farm Workers Movement
- Filipino Cross-Coalitionial Solidarity with the UFW
- Comedy of Color
- Cultural Appropriation: What Not to Wear
- UCSD Student Activist Tradition and Student Empowerment
- Blackish and Fresh Off the Boat: POC Representation in Media
- Mental Health in AAPI Communities
- The Natural Hair Movement and the Politics of Black Hair
- Social Identity
- Cycle of Socialization
- Privilege Primer
- -Isms and Intersectionality
- Anti-blackness in API Communities

Excellent references available upon request.