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I am excited to be writing about the opportunity to work as an Academic Advisor at Oregon State University. I gained my undergraduate from the College of Public Health and Human Sciences and would love the opportunity to return to the College in a professional role. My background includes three years working at the Career Development Center and also working as an instructor at both LBCC and OSU. I really love working with and helping students succeed academically, professionally and in their personal life at OSU.

I remember well how nervous I was coming to OSU from out of state and wondering what my experience would be like. Finding the College of Public Health and Human Sciences felt like finding a new home. I was struck by the kindness of all the faculty, staff and students I interacted with. I feel that my time in the College would help me excel in this role. Besides being a student, I also served as the student representative on the faculty led Health Management Policy Board which worked to shape the overall curriculum of our program. A major portion of this position is academic advising and I feel my deep understanding of the courses and curriculum would allow me to tailor students schedules to allow them to graduate on time and create a balanced schedule.

When I graduated I worked at Legacy Health System as an intern helping to increase their business partnerships with minority owned vendors. During my time in Portland I realized that working with students and academia was what I truly enjoyed the most. This led me to come back and gain my master’s degree in the College of Engineering. As a graduate student I worked as a Teaching Assistant at OSU and as an Instructor in the Diagnostic Imaging Program at LBCC. My research focused on software for distance education and I began to take business classes related to innovation. I decided to pursue an MBA and was fortunate to work as a Graduate Assistant at the Career Development Center. My time at the Career Development Center allowed me to gain many skills that would be directly applicable to this role. I was involved with planning and running events, working with students and employers and worked with the Dean of Student Life on a lot of data gathering and assessment.

The mission of the Office of Student Success is to help students achieve their unique academic and professional goals. If selected for this role I would work hard to help students succeed while at OSU and also to help them succeed later in life by finding a career path that is right for them. I would also want to connect with the other faculty and staff getting to know everyone and learning more about the important research being conducted in the Department. I hope that I am able to speak more in person about my background and interest in this role.

Thanks for your time,   
David Vasquez