Mel Avina-Beltran

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EDUCATION

University of California, Davis | Davis, CA
Bachelor of Science, Applied Mathematics, May 2022
Minor in Electrical Engineering

WORK EXPERIENCE

STEM Program | Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, CA
Tutor, Summer 2018 - Spring 2019
- Assisted students with math, ranging from Elementary Algebra to Differential and Integral Calculus, in academic environments, such as classrooms and laboratories
- Recommended textbooks, software, and learning materials to complement tutoring

Peer Mentor, Summer 2018 - Spring 2019
- Met with and provided feedback to students using positive reinforcement techniques to encourage, motivate, and build confidence in students
- Created and facilitated Women of Color in STEM meetings, workshops, and panels to create community, resources and opportunities for underrepresented students

Graphic Designer and Desktop Publisher, Summer 2018 - Spring 2019
- Prepared illustrations and other multimedia, discussing them with supervisor and making necessary changes before publishing material

Proficia Engineering | Daniel's Place, Santa Monica, CA
Web Development Instructor, Spring 2018
- Developed and lead 8-week Front-End Web Development Program for transitional age, housing insecure youth
- Facilitated a safe, supportive, and engaging environment that welcomed the various needs and learning styles of students to meet the end goal of creating a personal website

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Laboratory of Embedded Machines and Ubiquitous Robots | UCLA, Westwood, CA
Electrical Engineering Research Intern, Summer 2019
- Presented at undergraduate research poster sessions and symposiums to gain experience in communicating to academic and non-academic audiences using diagrams, videos, and accessible language
- Collaborated with mechanical team to integrate mechanical, electrical and software components onto initial robotic paper boat prototype through weekly check-ins
- Constructed observational research study utilizing A4 paper, slide and dial widgets, and a user-friendly GUI, capable of testing Kindergarteners creativity and efficiency

Proficia Engineering | Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator, Los Angeles, CA
Electrical Engineering Intern, Summer 2018
- Hands on experience with rapid prototyping platforms such as Raspberry Pi and Arduino for face detection and tracking using OpenCV, Python, and pan/tilt mounts

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

CALESS (Chicano and Latino Engineers and Scientists Society) | UCD, Davis, CA
Dedicated Member, Fall 2019
- Attended a variety of CALESS related club meetings and workshops, including scholarship application workshop, study jams, and mixers
- Volunteered as STEM Cafe tutor in Math, Computer Science and Engineering, hosted by the UC Davis Women's Resources and Research Center

Golden State Solar Racing | UCLA,Westwood, CA
Electrical Engineering Team Lead, Spring 2018 - Summer 2018
- Contributed to project progression for battery, battery protection, solar array and telemetry teams by designing and spot-welding electric battery to efficiently harvest and store energy
- Consistently met with team members to build relationships, set expectations, and when necessary, facilitate conflict resolution

SMC Progressive Student Union | Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, CA
Vice-President, Fall 2016 - Fall 2017
- Assisted President with preparing for advertising, hosting and presenting political and social justice related workshops at SMC
- Served as voting student representative on Gender Equity and Social Justice Center committee, responsible for securing $500,000 from AS Funds, in addition to drafting Senate Resolution and other informational material

AWARDS AND HONORS

LGBTQ Youth Scholarship
Latino Equality Alliance, 2019
- Supports LGBTQ+ and allies who have demonstrated a commitment to advancing the mission of the LEA and the LGBT movement.

Community College Scholarship Program Recipient
Point Foundation, 2019
- Supports LGBTQ leaders in their growth as student activists so that they can continue to inspire change in their communities both before and after transferring.

STEM Edison Scholarship
STEM Program at Santa Monica College, 2017
- Awarded to students with high Summer Research Internship participation, STEM Course Completion, and excellent efforts.