

# RIGO MARQUEZ

- Innovative leader and educator with over 20 years of experience in advancing equity, inclusion, and systemic change through transformative program development, strategic leadership, and community engagement.
- Strategist, skilled in developing impactful initiatives, fostering cross-sector partnerships, and driving organizational growth to empower underrepresented and marginalized communities.
- Experience leading large-scale initiatives that address systemic inequities, mobilize diverse coalitions, and empower underrepresented communities.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Lecturer and Lead

July 2023 - present

Center for Community Engagement, UCLA

- Develop and teaching engagement models at the intersections of community, transformational leadership, social change theory and social impact research.
- Over 300 people take my courses a year focused on supporting social impact projects with 35+ community-based organizations across Los Angeles.

### Director

Sept. 2022 - July. 2023

Centers for Transformation, Retention, Equity and Empowerment, CalPoly Pomona

- Developed and restructured all learning and development programs for six culture and identity centers impacting 50+ employees and 5k in person yearly participants.
- Created learning & development frameworks centering identity, culture and learning for all units and departments to enhance collaborations and community impact.
- Built partnerships and collaborations across university departments and programs to create opportunities for students to engage in integrative learning projects at the nexus of race, identity, culture, empowerment, social justice and transformation.

### Integrative Learning Fellow

Jan. 2022-Aug. 2022

Associate Vice Provost for Integrative Learning, Stanford University

- Designed and implemented a DEI-focused leadership academy for senior leadership and administrators, equipping them with tools to embed equity and anti-oppressive frameworks into design thinking, research operation processes and data analytics.
- Developed resources for student leaders in organizing, movement-building and intergenerational coalition development.
- Enhanced the university's cultural housing programs by designing assessment tools that amplified student voices and experiences

### Associate Director of Academic Programs and Community Engaged Learning

July 2017 - April 2022

Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity, Stanford University

- Directed, led, managed 1M+ budget and supported all aspects of growth and strategic leadership for six units, 30+ ongoing social action projects with regional and global partners—350+ community stakeholders interfaced and supported under leadership.
- Collaborated with university executive leadership to develop, launch and integrate a DEI centered training and learning curriculum to be administered to 15K+ employees across university.
- Designed individual learning plans for 100+ interdisciplinary researchers working on social action projects utilizing discourse and sentiment analysis, A/B testing, contextual inquiry and theory of change models.
- Increased number of community-engaged learning opportunities by 50% and secured over \$250k in new funds yearly to support growth.

- Collaborated with County of Santa Clara to host first statewide gathering of Latina/o(x) LGBT family community organizations with \$100k raised to cover expenses for 120 families attending event.

### **Fellow and Research in Residence**

June 2019 - June 2020

Provost and Vice Provost of Academic Affairs, Mills College

- Collaborated with university interdisciplinary leadership group that fostered developing social justice-oriented research and a critical analysis towards the development of future education programs that centered a social change framework.
- Focused on supporting existing programs that challenged traditional forms of research, leadership mobilization and created opportunities to create social action research and development models.

### **Director of Community Engaged Learning**

July 2017-July 2018

Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University

- Developed 10 new partnerships with community organizations in the Bay Area engaged in transformative social impact work centered on race, identity and community capacity building.
- Supported 15 university leaders to develop partnerships with community focused organizations with the goal of developing collaborative and mutually beneficial social impact projects.

### **Faculty Fellow and Researcher**

June 2015 - June 2017

Teachers College, Columbia University

- Provided guidance and support to members of graduate school of education community on issues related to gender, race, and sexuality in education
- Collaborated with leaders to develop new protocols for collecting graduate student insights on motivation, identity and learning across school.
- Designed and taught courses for educators and community leaders interested in developing social change strategies in their schools, organizations and leadership teams.

### **Faculty Fellow and Researcher**

June 2014 - June 2015

School of Education, University of San Francisco

- Designed usability study to gain insights into stakeholder understandings of concepts and issues related to race, gender and sexuality within multiple social learning environments.
- Developed recruitment, selection and coaching strategies for 40+ education professionals working with community stakeholders to develop 30 projects with 20+ community organizations in Bay Area.

### **Instructor and Program Lead**

Sept. 2010 - June 2014

Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program, UCLA and CSUDH

- Led recruitment, selection and coaching strategies for 40+ students yearly working with various community stakeholders across Los Angeles to social impact projects.
- Developed research courses to prepare undergraduate students to engage in community focused action-oriented research projects and programs
- Organized annual symposium bringing faculty, students and community partners, faculty, and university guests to learn about the work conducted during the year.

### **Associate Director**

Sept. 2008 - June 2012

Educational Concepts Group, Inglewood, CA

- Worked with teachers, school administration and parents to create programs and services to support over 100 students a year with special needs across Los Angeles County Public Schools.

- Managed different special education service providers (counselors, speech therapist, RSP teachers) across 10 charter schools in Los Angeles.
- Wrote reports and grants to secure funding streams from California Dept. of Education and annual contracts with school districts.

### **Instructor and Program Manager**

Sept. 2006 - June 2008

Center for Minorities in Science and Engineering, University of Maryland

- Supervised a teaching team of three educators providing students cross perspective to STREAM learning concepts.
- Worked with teachers, school administration and parents to create programs and services to support
- Provided weekly instruction on college access and persistence to over 40 high school students
- Conducted leadership training and supervised 10 undergraduate students.
- Maintained relationships with high school and community partners in Prince George County.

### **Community Organizer**

June 2005-January 2007

Bienestar Human Services, Los Angeles, CA

- Bienestar is a community-based health care and social services organization in the Greater Los Angeles area, including full service medical care, HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention, sexual health, mental health services, substance use counseling and medication assisted treatment.
- Served as inaugural community organizer to build capacity and awareness on different policy issues impacting vulnerable Latina/o(x) populations

## **LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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### **Manager of Programs and Services**

2024 – February 2025

Project Safe Spaces, Los Angeles, CA

Project Safe Spaces provides accessible, inclusive, and affirming counseling and support services to marginalized youth particularly within the LGBTQ community. In my role I support, oversee and provide guidance and mentorship to professionals leading the centers programs and services.

### **Board of Directors**

2018- 2023

GLBT Historical Society, San Francisco, CA

The GLBT Historical Society collects, preserves, exhibits, and makes accessible to the public materials and knowledge to support and promote understanding of LGBTQ history, culture and arts in all their diversity. Invited board members provide strategic leadership, direction and fundraising for historical society.

### **IDEAL Staff Advisory Committee**

2020 – 2022

Office of the President and Provost, Stanford University

The Committee guided the strategic direction of the Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity in a Learning Environment university wide initiative that proposes programs and initiatives to further diversity and inclusion at Stanford. Committee members represent schools and units across campus and partner with the IDEAL project team to prioritize efforts and advance issues and recommendations to Executive Leadership

### **Leadership Institute Development Committee**

2008- 2022

Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Project, Sacramento CA

The Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Project, Inc. (CLYLP) was founded in 1982 with the primary purpose of preparing students to participate in California's economic, social, and political development. CLYLP is guided by the overall theme "California's Future Leaders," and its programs emphasize the importance of culture, community, college, and careers.

### **John Gardner Public Service Fellowship Committee**

2019-2022

[Stanford University, Haas Center for Public Service](#)

Stanford and the University of California, Berkeley, established the John Gardner Public Service Fellowship Program in 1985 to enable graduating seniors and co-terms to work with a distinguished government or nonprofit leader and to engage in compelling work in their chosen field with exposure at the highest levels. As a committee member, select the yearly cohort of students whose work engages in innovative and cutting-edge practices focused on government and public entities.

### **Board of Directors**

2010- 2020

[The NIA Foundation, Inglewood, CA](#)

Provided leadership to the education foundation focused on empowering youth of color who live in Inglewood, CA through leadership, mentorship, and programming. An Invited board member providing strategic visioning and fund development streams.

### **LGBT/Queer Working Group**

2009- 2011

[School of Education and Information Studies, UCLA](#)

Group to design a curriculum for Teacher Education Program that would be inclusive of the schooling experiences of lgbt, queer youth students, teachers, and families. Recommendations were implemented in core courses.

## **TEACHING**

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[University of California, Los Angeles](#)

*UCLA Center for Community Engagement, Honors Collegium and School of Education*

Engaging Los Angeles	2023, 2024, 2025
Introduction to Community Based Research	2023, 2024, 2025
Perspectives on Civic Engagement and Social Justice	2023, 2024, 2025
Exploring Social Change: Lens of Community Organizing and Social Movements	2023, 2024, 2025
LGBT Issues in Education and the Law	2013, 2014
Research Methodologies in the Humanities and Social Sciences	2012-2014
Race, Class, Gender and Education Inequity	2011

[Stanford University](#)

*Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity*

CSRE Graduate Student Research Seminar	2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
CSRE Honors Senior Seminar	2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Internship for Public Service	2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Approaching Research in the Community: Design and Methods	2019, 2020, 2021
My Journey: Conversations on Race and Ethnicity	2018, 2019, 2020
Solidarity and Racial Justice	2019, 2020
Introduction to Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity	2019
Introduction to Campus and Labor Organizing	2019

Teachers College, Columbia University  
Department of Curriculum and Teaching  
Critical Race Theory and Intersectionality  
Queer of Color Critique and Education Praxis

2017  
2018

School of Education, University of San Francisco  
Department of Leadership Studies & Department of International and Multicultural Education  
The Politics of Gender and Sexuality in US Schools  
Critical Race Theory and Praxis

2014  
2015

California State University, Dominguez Hills  
University Core  
Research, Writing and Design

2012, 2013, 2014

## EDUCATION

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PhD in Education (Urban Schooling)  
School of Education and Information Studies  
University of California, Los Angeles

MA in Education, Leadership and Policy Studies  
University of Maryland, College Park

BA in Sociology & Critical Gender Studies  
University of California, San Diego

AA in Liberal Studies  
Santa Monica College

## COMPETENCIES, SKILLS AND IMPACT

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Community Organizing and Mobilization—Strategic Program Development—Coalition Building and Partnership Development—Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Advocacy—Fundraising and Resource Development—Intergenerational Leadership Development—Data Analysis (SQL, Nvivo, SAS, SPSS)—Scoping & Prioritization—Mixed Methodologist— Scoping & Prioritization—Eight academic publications --175+ citations of findings—Supervised 250+ social action oriented researchers—100+ community partnerships—75+ professional presentations—20+ independent research awards/grants (500K+)