

Dear Enrollment and Student Services Search Committee,

It is with great enthusiasm that I submit my application for the Director of Multicultural Student Services position at the Western Washington University. I believe my solid academic background and advanced degrees in multicultural and diversity education combined with my professional higher education teaching, mentoring, and leadership working experience as a faculty and student affairs professional will make me a strong candidate for this position.

As indicated in my enclosed Résumé, I received my Ph.D. degree in Multicultural Education from University of Washington-Seattle. I have a demonstrated commitment to social justice, educational equity and quality, and educational access and success for historically underrepresented students. My academic expertise and research interests concentrate on multicultural and diversity education, student success and wellbeing, and student identity development. Having extensive knowledge and academic training in multicultural education and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, I actively publish my research on academic journals and conference proceedings, as well as frequently present on major national and international conferences to elevate current research and scholarship in creating inclusive and supportive community for both undergraduate and graduate students in higher education.

While my research aims to advance current scholarships on student development and academic achievement, my teaching supports students to enact these researches and practices. While worked as an adjunct professor at School of Educational Studies at University of Washington-Bothell (UWB), I designed and taught educational programs and workshops on multicultural and social justice education, advised undergraduate and graduate students from multicultural backgrounds, designed educational trainings and provided ED&I consulting services for the school and university, mentored teacher candidates for diverse school districts, lead the diversify recruitment for faculty and students, supported academic and financial services for first-generation and historically marginalized students, as well as collaboratively worked with multiple school districts to enhance the quality development of educational programs, academic outreach, student services, community engagement, and improve positive campus climate at UWB.

In addition to my expertise in researching and teaching, my professional experience as the Associate Director of Department of Multicultural Services at Texas A&M University-College Station which providing multiple educational and developmental services for underrepresented and underserved racial and ethnic populations would be an asset for the university community. In this senior administrative role, I oversee and coordinate Diversity Education Trainings and Intercultural Engagement and Education Programs as well as lead on Student Success Initiatives offer to university campus that foster inclusive learning environments for all students and promote student success through academic support, development education, student development training, counseling and advising, and mentoring. I am experienced in implementing campus wide diversity educational trainings and student service initiatives. I chair the Campus Climate Grant Committee and experienced in grant application for diversity initiatives. In addition to my solid experience in Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and intergroup trainings and education, I also direct the NASPA Undergraduate Fellows Program to increase the number of historically disenfranchised and underrepresented professionals in higher education. With the emphasis of this position being on intersectional advocacy, advisory, education, and support for multicultural students, faculty, and staff in creating an inclusive and welcoming campus environment, my research expertise, skill set, professional experience, and passion are deeply rooted in the success of these tasks. I have a demonstrated record of leadership work experience in student success and multicultural affairs in higher education, experienced in advising and mentoring students from historically marginalized and diverse groups, and obtained a strong record multicultural student services and student success program development, assessment, and implementation.

Utilizing my academic background in diversity and inclusion, relationship building strengths, and executing mindset allows for me to move fluidly through large-scale processes while effectively communicating and critically reflecting on experience. As an international and multicultural educator and strategic thinker, I am experienced in designing, directing, and delivering intercultural engagement, anti-racism and social justice education programs and student success initiatives through intersectional lenses to support students' academic and professional experience and success.

Coming from an international, multicultural, and multilingual background, I work to support and advocate for inclusive excellence initiatives and student services in every fact of my professional and personal being through supervision, programming, educating, mentorship, and visibility. Through working with international, first-generation, undocumented and multicultural students and student leaders, I design and develop programs and first year experience courses and orientation events that support diverse students' cultural and identity development, student wellness, and academic success. I actively work with students, student organizations, faculty, staff, academic departments, student affairs units, and school districts with focus on student success and retention. I create detailed maps of multicultural and social justice education for students from diverse backgrounds, facilitate their self-discovery, and assist them realize their full potential.

In summary, I believe that I have the requisite research, teaching, and professional working skills to be a qualified candidate for this position. I am eager to both showcase and further enhance my own abilities and I believe this position offers an incredible opportunity to do so to fulfill my commitment and passion of supporting students from multicultural and historically underrepresented groups to success in their collegiate experience. I look forward to hearing from you. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding my candidacy.

Thank you so much for reading my application. I appreciate your consideration and I eagerly await the possibility of discussing this position further.

Sincerely,

Huanshu Yuan, Ph.D.
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Texas A&M University, College Station, TX