Angel Esiquio Ruiz
– CAMP Scholar 2015

“Remember that you are all here for a reason and you all have every single right to be here and don’t let anyone tell you different.”

Graduated in the Spring of 2019 with a B.S. in Psychology, meet our new Recruiter and Outreach Coordinator, Angel Esiquio Ruiz. Angel was in the CAMP Cohort of 2015-2016 that provided him with numerous opportunities during his undergraduate experience, such as leadership conferences, the ability to find a family away from home and the opportunity to give back by being a CAMP Peer Ambassador. Outside of CAMP, he was involved with Meso American Student Association and was a Resident Assistant during his last year, where he learned crisis responses and how to connect and support students from diverse background. Angel is pursuing his Master’s Degree in College Student Services Administration and is hoping to build on his foundational knowledge of supporting students from underrepresented communities. During his time with CAMP, Angel will be recruiting students from 30+ schools for the incoming CAMP Cohorts and CAMP Scholar Internship. Some words of advice from Angel is to bring your family along with you on your educational journey – we come from collectivists families and our strength and motivation comes from our family, but it is time we start relying more on them in our tough times because at the end of the day, they will always want what is best for us.
Tania Mendoza –
CAMP Scholar 2017

Tania Mendoza is a 3rd year student studying Public Health with an option in Pre-Nursing. During the summer, she completed a two-week study abroad program, Information & Global Social Justice in Ferrara, Italy. During her time in Italy, she stayed with a host family that was extremely welcoming and nurturing. When asked what her favorite part of the experience was, she said the cultural immersion to Italian food, the language, and the lifestyles. Tania picked this study abroad program because social justice has always been something she is passionate about. She knew this would be a great opportunity to learn more about public health, politics and culture. Her main goal is to become a Public Health Nurse which will involve a lot of traveling, which was her main desire with this program – to explore a healthcare system in a completely new country. Tania grew up in a country with the highest obesity rates in the world and visiting one of the thinnest and healthiest countries was an eye-opening experience for her. For her project, she observed how way of life, eating habits, and activity levels have an impact on health. She has a great desire to improve health in the most vulnerable communities through public health interventions. After completing this program, she has gained a better sense of how types of lifestyles and culture can all have a tremendous impact on health and one’s life expectancy. This was an opportunity Tania never thought would be possible. She hopes to encourage others to not allow barriers to get in the way and go for the goals they have always dreamed of.

January
Marneli P.
Hugo M.

February
Lizbet L.
Yajaira M.
Diana S.
Gisselle O.
German J.

March
Jorge C.
Rodrigo P.
Marco Olivera –
CAMP Scholar 2009

“He who has a why to live, can bear almost any how.”
– Friedrich Nietzsche

Marco Olivera was a double major in Construction Engineering Management and Innovation Management when he graduated in 2014. He was in the CAMP Cohort of 2009-2010. During his time at OSU, Marco was involved in intramural sports, the Ford Family Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, Elementary/Middle School Tutor, Tam of Construction Volunteers, AGC, Reno Competition and Construction for Change. Currently, Marco is working as a project manager and estimator for a construction company in Portland. His position is very entrepreneurial – he works with his clients during preconstruction phases of work, which could sometimes be years before the project even breaks down. Then continues to work with them until the client has the finished building turned over to them. Depending on the size of the project, this can be anywhere from 12 weeks to 2 years. Like many of the students in CAMP, Marco was the first in his family to attend college. Marco always told himself to have a “Why” during his time in college – his “why” that truly pushed him during his darkest hours was to be a good role model for his 5 younger sisters and countless younger cousins. Many of the things he has accomplished have been over the last 10 years and can not let those who follow in his footsteps know that our socioeconomic position growing up is no reason to give up on striving for something that may currently seem unimaginable or impossible. Marco wants everyone to find their why, if they don’t already have one, be a part of your community, give back and help others when you can and never stop learning.

Upcoming Events

April 8 – Welcome Back Carne Asada (Cancelled)
May 13– Mentor Tie Dye Night (Cancelled)
June 6 – CAMP Recognition Ceremony (Cancelled)
Amas’ Updates

For me, it seems the winter term left as fast as it came. Also, winter term brought us very good news as well as somber news. The great news was this year’s cohort for the first time ever, increased the overall term GPA from 2.97 end of fall to 3.16 end of winter, fourteen students made the OSU honor roll. No other cohort in past years had increase their overall term GPA. Now, the challenge is to surpass the winter GPA. Other good news is we have received updates from students joining post graduate programs, for example, Miguel Paniagua has been accepted at the University of Washington’s Doctor of Physical Therapy program, Saray Valdez Hernandez at Oregon State’s Ocean, Earth, and Atmosphere PhD program, Aaron Lachino has been accepted to OHSU’s nursing program, and Daisy Altamirano will start her MBA at Southern Oregon University. The last piece of good news for CAMP is receiving the highest number of applicants for next year. Over 60 complete applications were reviewed and 37 have been accepted. This has also been one of the highest number of applications that were reviewed by our CAMP Application Review Committee. The not so good news for us is not being to serve all the students who have applied. We’ll be working on referring non accepted students to other programs such as the EOP and TRIO SSS programs. Perhaps the biggest impact in the delivery of our services, has been due to the COVID-19. COVID-19 started impacting us at the end of winter program. Now, for the remainder of the year, all of our events have been cancelled, mentoring and tutoring are being delivered via Zoom as well as academic counseling. We continue to work and support as much as we can given the situation in front of us. So far our students continue to be focused and adapt to this new reality. We hope the current situation is temporary, and that we’re back to face to face services in fall. I appreciate my staff for their hard work and students for not giving up their higher education dreams. For sure, we’ll celebrate our accomplishments once this is over.

CAMP Activities – USHLI

CAMP Scholars travel to Chicago, IL to attend the United State Hispanic Leadership Institute National Conference