

Student Equity & Engagement Programs Centers for Equity & Social Justice

Mitzi Ojendis Hernandez

Submitted by Gabriella Gandall

I would like to nominate Mitzi Ojendis Hernandez for Outstanding Student of the Year. Not only is Mitzi an outstanding student, she is inspiring to be around and always shows up for those who need it. Mitzi truly has it all, while balancing 2 jobs and a full-time class schedule, she has a student-centered approach to her advocacy and care for our SBCC students. Along with her working here in the CESJ and out in the Santa Barbara community, Mitzi is also the president of the Sociology Club, where she has led the club to host panels with SBCC Sociology professors, resume workshops, and other SBCC community building activities. Mitzi's drive for social justice has shined a light in our centers, and I have witnessed firsthand the joy she brings to our students who come through our doors everyday. She is someone who stands out in the way they help others, and is able to gracefully manage all she has on her plate, which is incredibly admirable. She makes the CESJ what we have always hoped it to be: welcoming. Mitzi embodies the SBCC and CESJ mission of safety, accessibility, care, compassion, and love. Thank you for considering Mitzi for this award!