

Telling Our EOP Stories

February 2013

40 years of service



Proud to be **EOP**



The Educational Opportunity Program kicked off their first Proud to be EOP Campaign this semester. The campaign allowed students to submit an essay expressing their experiences regarding the EOP program. Here is what some alumni and students had to say.



CARMEN AVILA

"I am extremely thankful for not only the financial assistance but for the services I have received. With the assistance of my EOP counselor and peer mentor, I was taught the necessary tools needed to succeed at Fresno State. I have since received both a bachelor's and master's degree from Fresno State. As I reflect, I acknowledge that my academic achievements would not have been possible without the support of my EOP family. EOP has played a critical role in not only my academic achievements but also in my professional development. Knowing the magnitude of benefits EOP has to offer, I urge that all EOP students take advantage of the services offered to them. It is up to you, the student, to do your part and meet with your EOP counselor and peer mentors. Thank you EOP for allowing me the opportunity to achieve a higher education. Once EOP, always EOP!"



VERONICA DUENAS

"My EOP counselor and mentor offer me plenty of support and help. I meet up with my peer mentor more than twice per semester. Sometimes I email them to see how they are doing or ask questions or when I am having a bad day and just need someone to talk to. I know they are there for me. My EOP mentor is very helpful and I am pretty sure that the other EOP staff members are as helpful, as my EOP mentor. I am proud to be an EOP student because I get great advice, support and help in order to be on track with school. EOP has many advantages that other students do not receive at Fresno State."



MAIXHAO THAO

"One main experience and what I'm most thankful for EOP is Summer Bridge. Summer Bridge has helped me with my math remediation, communicating with others as in a college class, learning how to form arguments in an essay and last but not least, I made a family bond with Summer Bridge friends. From being in EOP, I'm thankful that I had a first time experience in college. I have learned about different resources from my counselor and my peer mentors and I can say that I am proud to be an EOP student getting help and access around campus."



MARIA OROZCO-BARAJAS

"As a second year student at Fresno State, there are many experiences and important people who have helped me cope with the challenge of being a first-generation college student. The Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) here at Fresno State has been a major factor that contributed to my current and overall development as a person and as a student. EOP has just offered me so many opportunities to help me with the many challenges that college brings. Each and every one of these opportunities has helped me in one way or the other, but everything has been of great benefit to me. After much reflection, all I can say is that I am proud to be an EOP student not only because of the great people that I have met along this educational journey, but also because of the financial aid that EOP has offered me. This grant has helped me with the many college-related expenses that I have. EOP is a very engaging program that cares about their students' lives and success."



LATASHA JONES

"The ongoing support, guidance and mentorship have truly shaped my life. The workshops helped me deal with stress in healthier ways, money management, utilizing tutoring services and many more that continues to guide me in my older adult life... I credit EOP for their overwhelming support of many disadvantaged students that I can relate to. I was able to utilize EOP to move myself from unemployment, low income housing and no insurance to employment, home ownership of several properties and now I have healthcare insurance... The whispers of the EOP staff have played an important part of my life, still. I am currently in Graduate school and look forward to using my expanded knowledge to help others reach their goals."



Delma Garcia

Photos not available

DELMA GARCIA

"EOP made a difference in my life, it brought me some very good friends that I still have today, forty-two years later. It brought me people in my life who have made me a better person, a better citizen, and a better counselor, because they encouraged me to go out and make a difference. Lastly, EOP gave me the opportunity to pass it forward, and the pleasure of working with and becoming a mentor and friend to so many students. I run into some of them now and then, and it gives me great joy to see that they are out there, passing it forward. Thank you EOP!"