

Name: Fnann Keflezighi
Working Title: Assistant Dean of Student Affairs
Payroll Title: STDT LIFE DEV SPEC 3

The Council of Assistant Deans of Student Affairs (CADSA) in the Undergraduate Colleges is proud to nominate Fnann Keflezighi, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs for Thurgood Marshall College, for the Exemplary Staff Employee of the Year award. From her time in Upward Bound to Residential Life and now as Assistant Dean, Fnann's extraordinary service and commitment to community and inclusive excellence for UC San Diego has been far reaching and broad in scope. Many look to her expertise working with underrepresented first-generation, low-income and students of color. She advocates for social justice work, identity development and inclusion for all students. Much of her work centers around improving the outcomes for our Black and African diaspora students as well as other underserved and underrepresented populations. To do this, she serves on committees that build relationships and partnerships across campus; all of this she completes in addition to her role as Assistant Dean.

Currently, Fnann holds a position on the UC San Diego Black Alumni Council and empowers and connects alumni, students, faculty and staff through networking, professional development and scholarship opportunities. She works to create meaningful connections of support well beyond students' undergraduate experiences. The Black Alumni Council works tirelessly to increase enrollments of Black students through a commitment to fundraising for the Black Alumni Scholarship Fund. Additionally, as a member of the Black Experience Committee, she helps to identify barriers members of the Black community encounter on campus and creates support structures for them. With the assistance of colleagues within the Council of Assistant Deans, she drafted opportunities to create a culture of care, inclusion and retention for these students.

Fnann was also instrumental to the creation of the mission, vision, and core values of the Restorative Justice committee. The intentionality, emphasis on antiracism, and acknowledgement of our occupation of Kumeyaay ancestral lands has brought committee discussion and work to another level of community healing and restoration. She sits on the Restorative Justice Committee and advances the importance of community care and community healing. Using the principles of restorative justice, Fnann employs a tone of empathy, equity and justice from her individual conduct meetings to disagreements within student organizations to the larger, systemic divides that impact outcomes for our underrepresented and underserved students. Other notable contributions include participating on the NAHM (Native American Heritage Month) celebration program support workgroup and continuing involvement with the BSU/BSA in the creation of a pro-Black mentality for the university.

Within Marshall College, Fnann lectures in TMC 1 and TMC 2 on the topic of "Understanding Yourself & Others: Valuing a Multicultural Campus." In these lectures, Fnann helps students recognize and examine their background, experiences values, assumptions and identify principles for working effectively and respectfully with others. These curricular experiences help students translate their learning to recognize implicit bias and commit to making personal goals to name ways they too can create a more equitable society.

Finally, Fnann's dedication to relationship building with colleagues and students alike must be mentioned. Fnann breaks down barriers to build bridges and relationships across many different departments. Her impact and support can be felt in all of these spaces. She strives to cultivate a healthy dedication to social justice while stressing the necessity and importance of self-care to do justice work. She is a role model to many - both students and professionals alike. As representatives of the Colleges, we enthusiastically submit this nomination for our colleague and friend.

Thank you for your consideration,
The Council of Assistant Deans of Student Affairs, UC San Diego Undergraduate Colleges