

**Margaret Rattanachane** (Principal)  
Blank Assistant 3  
Academic Affairs: Education Studies

Margaret's devotion, passion, and commitment to Education Studies in two areas: Building Relationships/Partnerships and Extraordinary Service to the Community.

Margaret is the Program & Faculty Assistant in the Department of Education Studies (EDS). She serves as a program assistant to the faculty, and provides administrative support to the department chair, chief admin officer, and fiscal/HR areas. Margaret's duties are varied and broadreaching, involving the minutiae of processing hundreds of forms and requests each quarter for faculty and students, yet she takes this on with boundless energy and enthusiasm. She is the rare combination and gift of being incredibly organized, productive, creative, intentional, and strategic, yet accessible, approachable, never too busy for you. Described as a role model, "she brings people together, and she prioritizes issues of social justice and consciousness raising, which are fundamental to EDS's mission of transforming education. To me, she is the voice of what's going on in the EDS community. She keeps everyone up to speed. Plus, her humor and joy is infectious, and she's just straight up a badass!"

Margaret's fingerprints are indelibly a part of every aspect of EDS's programs and operations, supporting the research and teaching of faculty, postdocs, staff, and students while also engaging alumni. "Mimi" as she is affectionately called, is often referred as the heart and pulse of EDS, as she keeps us all beating together in the right direction. But I think it's just as accurate to describe her as the eyes, ears, and voice for all the "good works" that occur in Pepper Canyon Hall.

Margaret's involvement in various program and areas within EDS has served as a catalyst for creating and strengthening significant partnerships, collaborations, and relationships at UC San Diego and beyond. Margaret has played an impactful role in strengthening collaboration between EDS and Career Services, including tirelessly organizing career fairs in 2016 and 2017 which led to hiring and placement of many M.Ed. students in their first teaching jobs.

Margaret contributed to recognition of the many cooperating teachers throughout San Diego County who mentor UCSD student teachers and tutors through initiating a more efficient process for stipend payments. Margaret has brought energy and creativity to organizing a variety of events for students, faculty and community members at venues including a Community/Family Day at Chicano Park in Barrio Logan and the San Diego Museum of Art.

Over the last two years, Margaret has coordinated and hosted week long visits by graduate students studying bilingual education from Blanquerna University in Spain, essentially developing and fortifying the beginning stages of an international exchange partnership between EDS and Blanquerna's School of Education. Margaret is a critical point person for EDS's partnership with UCSD's Center for Gender Equity & Health, serving as a bridge for communicating, promoting, and engaging both communities in a dialogue that is facilitating broader awareness about research focusing on sexual assault and harassment. Margaret serves as EDS's ad hoc communications and marketing director, managing communications that go out to the broader campus via our social network platforms, website, and email list serve. She is a rep on the Division of Social Sciences Communications Council helping to strategize and develop a cohesive communications strategy for departments within the division.

Margaret's passion for UC San Diego and EDS is a natural expression for her own commitment to issues of diversity, equity, access, and social justice. Her role in many campus initiatives result in greater engagement from faculty, staff, students, and alumni. She is truly a Triton Ambassador! In her own words, "UC San Diego has given me the ability to make an impact in many ways. As an alumna, I embrace Triton pride in everything I do. Giving back allows me to stay connected to programs that support our students, research and community." Margaret is active in Staff Association, contributing to developing awareness of the benefits of participating in this association and helps coordinates events. Margaret serves as the Staff Chair for the Faculty and Staff Giving Council, coordinating outreach, and communicating to groups about the importance of giving back to UC San Diego.

Margaret actively supports programs and activities of the African American Studies Minor and the Black History Month Scholarship Brunch that occurs each February by giving her time helping prepare and organize the event.

In addition, Margaret has connected with alumni building formal and informal networks, engaging them along with faculty in attending lectures and participating in virtual reading groups as well as in performing community service as part of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day activities.

These are just a few examples of the collaborative spirit and dedication of a very special individual. We are so lucky to have her in EDS and we hope that she can be more widely recognized and honored with this award and distinction.