

KAREN ARCOS

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EDUCATION

University of California, Irvine 06/20-Present
PhD in Psychology (Cognitive Neuroscience)

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow Present

- Recognizes and supports two thousand outstanding graduate students nationwide for a research-based doctoral program in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 05/15
B.A., Psychology and Spanish Minor
Dean's List (Cumulative GPA 3.73/4.0)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA 09/15-Present
Visual Perception and Neuroimaging Lab
Principal Investigator: Emily Grossman, Ph.D.

- Design a short-term memory and a working memory experiment to clarify whether the blind continue exhibiting superior memory relative to the sighted

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 11/13-05/15
Research Assistant, Psychology Department,
Principal Investigator: Kimberle Kelly, Ph.D.

- Analyze inferential statistics regarding actual vs predicted teacher performance to ultimately increase student standardized test performance in Chemistry and Astronomy

Research Assistant, Culture and Mental Health Lab, 03/13-05/14
Principal Investigator: Steven Lopez, Ph.D.

- Evaluated acculturation and socialization's impact on Mexican-Americans with Schizophrenia and their families to identify contextual factors that may affect them

PRESENTATIONS

CSULA Charter College of Education, Los Angeles, CA 09/16

- Presented to teachers of the visually impaired in *Assistive Technology for Individuals with Visual Impairments* course; discussed firsthand academic experiences accessing digital texts as a person with a visual impairment

American Evaluation Association 11/15

Chicago, IL

- "What Teachers Know: Relationships of teacher competencies around content knowledge, metacognition, and student prior knowledge to student performance in science"

USC Undergraduate Symposium for Scholarly and Creative Works 04/15

Los Angeles, CA

- "Teachers Think Too: The Relationship of Teacher Metacognition to Student Learning"

USC Latino Student Empowerment Conference 01/15

Los Angeles, CA

- "Teachers Think Too: The Relationship of Teacher Metacognition to Student Learning"

USC McNair Scholars Summer Institute Symposium, Los Angeles, CA 07/14

- "Teachers Think Too: The Effect of Metacognition on Teacher Performance"

Western Psychological Association Convention, Portland, OR 04/14

- "Exploring Acculturation's Role in Mexican-origin Families Caring for Relatives with Schizophrenia"

USC Rossier School of Education, Los Angeles, CA 11/14

- Presented to graduate students in *Student Disability Issues in Higher Education* course; discussed firsthand academic and daily life experiences as a person with a visual impairment

EMPLOYMENT

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 06/15-08/15

Research Assistant, Gould School of Law,
Principal Investigator: Heidi Rummel, J.D.

- Coded twenty-five youth offender parole hearing transcripts as part of the Post-Conviction Justice Project
- Research investigated the effectiveness of California Senate Bill 260 on releasing youth offenders from state prisons

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Survive or Thrive Support Group, Los Angeles, CA 03/12-Present

Group Leader

- Co-founded a support group by and for students with disabilities and their families
- Organize workshops and social events; mentor participants; and address parental concerns to change society's expectations of people with disabilities

Blind Childrens Center, Los Angeles, CA 01/03-Present

Junior Mentor

- Discuss experiences with parents of children who are visually impaired, mentor children on the use of specialized equipment, and fundraise via internet and in-person requests

QuestBridge, Palo Alto, CA

Quest Ambassador 08/16-09/16

- Telephoned fifty-six high school seniors nationwide to inform them about the QuesttBridge National College Match program for high-achieving, low-income students
- Discussed personal experiences as a former matched applicant and answered program, application, and eligibility questions

Essay Coach 05/16

- Read personal statements from five high school juniors of low-income background.
- Provided written grammatical and personalized feedback

Quest Ambassador 09/15

- Telephoned fifty high school seniors nationwide to inform them about the QuesttBridge National College Match program for high-achieving, low-income students
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Essay Coach 05/15

Read personal statements from ten high school juniors of low-income background.

- Provided written grammatical and personalized feedback

College Counselor 05/14-12/14

- Advised one minority high school student to facilitate the college application process
- Incorporated personal experiences into monthly dialogues, informed student about additional financial resources, and corrected written statements

Lime Connect Fellow, New York, NY 07/13-05/14

- Leadership and Development program for students with disabilities

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 08/13-05/14

Residential Student Government Recognition Chair, Parkside Apartments

- Wrote monthly statements at the regional or national level to recognize Residential Education faculty, organizations, and students
- Organized and implemented events for residents

HONORS AND AWARDS

University of California, Irvine (UCI), Irvine, CA 03/16

Gordon Hein Scholarship

- One legally blind student of strong academic standing receiving support toward graduate study

University of Southern California (USC), Los Angeles, CA 05/15

Discovery Scholar Prize

- One of ten undergraduates receiving recognition and support toward graduate study for contributions in research or creative work

Order of Troy

- Honors graduating students for outstanding leadership, volunteerism, and commitment to USC and the community

University of Rochester, Rochester, NY

09/14

Graduate Visitation program participant

- One of fifteen McNair scholars selected nationwide for a fully-funded visit of both the campus and its Brain and Cognitive Sciences Ph.D. program faculty.

USC Latino Alumni Association

Dr. John R. Hubbard Recognition Award nominee

11/2014

- Recognizes an outstanding Latino undergraduate senior for academic excellence, community service, and extracurricular involvement

USC

McNair Scholar

2013-2014

Psychology Honors Program

2014-2015

QuestBridge National College Match Award

2010

USC Latino Alumni Association

Academic Achievement Award

2012-Present

SKILLS

- Spanish bilingual and bicultural fluency
- Read and write English and Spanish Braille, as well as convert both to print

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Western Psychological Association 2014-15
- Psi Chi Honors Society 2013-Present