

Statement from UCSB Academic Senate

Mario Guerrero Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award

Mr. Guerrero is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Political Science, where he has been a graduate student since 2006. Upon starting his studies at UCSB “[h]e immediately distinguished himself in the classroom,” according to one of his professors.

A professor of his notes, “Mario really reaches students. I hear this from students in my office. And I see it in our teaching evaluations. They praise him across the board...but are especially thankful for his availability and the way he welcomes students.” And another of his professors describes Mario in the following way, “He is flourishing as a scholar; he is a leader among his peers; and as a teacher, he is remarkably gifted.”

Several of his supporters commented on the great lengths to which Mario goes to convey the material to his classes. One student commented on the extensive material found on his course website, including “ten YouTube videos he made himself showing us how to generate statistics and graphs in SPSS that we needed for our final papers. This detailed website is a demonstration of how devoted Mario is to his students’ success.”

One student praises Mr. Guerrero, stating, “Mario exemplifies exactly what a teaching assistant should be: brilliant, patient, creative, honest, critical, and the list can go on.”