Katya Armistead, Ed.D. - Biography

Dr. Armistead is a student-focused administrator with 29 years of experience and currently serves as the Assistant Vice Chancellor and Dean of Student Life (AVC/DOS) at UC Santa Barbara. In her campus leadership role, Katya demonstrates broad concern for issues that pertain to the quality of student life of UCSB students (especially outside of the classroom); facilitates problem solving and crisis response; promotes inclusion in the campus community and equitable access to UCSB learning environment by students of all identities; and liaises between students and University administration by listening broadly to student input and representing student perspectives and interests. She is a member of the Vice Chancellor's Student Affairs Executive Leadership Team and the Chancellor's Senior Officers group, as well as a member of the UC system-wide AVC/DOS workgroup.

And as an executive manager in the Division of Student Affairs, Katya serves as for 10 Student Affairs departments and several special projects, services, and other initiatives. Her portfolio includes Campus Advocacy Resources and Education (CARE), Career Services, the Dean of Students Office, First Year and Graduate Student Initiatives, the Multi-Cultural Center, the Office of Student Life, Orientation Programs and Parent Services, the Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity, Veteran and Military Services, and Women, Gender and Sexual Equity. In addition, she is primarily responsible for campus protests and demonstrations, campus crisis response, campus compliance in areas of policy related to sexual violence response, voter registration efforts, campus-based elections compliance, and federal and state mandates impacting student life, including safety issues in the neighboring Isla Vista community.

Katya’s student affairs career began in Admissions, where she developed a strong reputation for building strong bonds with students and helping them to achieve their academic and leadership goals, especially through support of student-led campus organizations and initiatives. This strength ultimately led to her appointment in the Dean of Students Office in 2007.

Katya completed her master's degree in college counseling and student development at Azusa Pacific University. And, in 2012, she received her doctorate (Ed.D.) in educational leadership from a joint program between UCSB and Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. She is a trained facilitator for The Leadership Challenge Workshop® (a research-based, behavioral leadership development framework), teaches a leadership course in the UCSB Gevirtz Graduate School of Education, and works on special projects, especially around campus climate and diversity.

Dr. Katya Armistead lives with her partner in Santa Barbara where she is an active volunteer and board member in non-profit organizations. Her two sons have gone on to pursue degrees at the CSU and UC. When she isn't on campus, she enjoys early-morning walks, reading, and dining out.