

The White Wizard

-Our Gandalf: Daniel Ocampo-



Bid for Hallenbeck Service Award
University of California, Berkeley

Presented at No Frills 2004
University of California, Berkeley



Daniel Roderic Ocampo. A legend. A wizard that has dedicated his career to make a difference in the lives of students “at an institution that values student development, student empowerment, diversity and social responsibility.” He is the best teacher and guide to us the hobbits trying to improve the life qualities in the residence halls. He is wise and sincere, and he always shows us the light that will guide us to not only the safe place, but also the better place.

It all started in the City of San Francisco...



The Beginning of the Wizard's Work

UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Dan's involvement with residential student life began in 1984 through his involvement as a member of the **NACURH 1985 Conference Bid Committee**. Early in his career in higher learning, he recognized the importance of leadership and service, both of which could be expanded through involvement with NACURH.

Although USF did not win the bid that year, Dan was not disenchanted with the organization. He took a greater leadership role as the **National Communications Coordinator for the 1984-1985** school year. His exceptional dedication was recognized as PACURH NCC of the Month in December of 1984 and again in April of 1985.

In 1985 he took the experiences he gained in 1984 and built on them as a member of the **NACURH 1986 Conference Bid Committee**. His energy and dedication helped USF win the bid and Dan served as the **Assistant Chairperson and the NBD Liaison at NACURH '86**. Not only was he serving the region through his leadership role as conference staff. He was also serving as a member of the National Board of Directors for the 1985-1986 term.

During his time as an undergraduate, he increased the reach of the **National Residence Hall Honorary** by serving as a **Charter Member for both USF and Cornell University**.



The Traveling Wizard

Building a Career as Professional Staff

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, LA CROSSE

After leaving USF, Dan continued his dedication to residential life at the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse where he worked on his masters degree. He brought the knowledge and experience of NACURH '86 in serving as **advisor for the NACURH '88 Publicity Committee**. At La Crosse, he also served as Graduate Practicum in the Student Activities Office in 1988, and in the Student Development Office in 1989. In 1989 he also served students as the Assistant Residence Hall Director of Coate Hall.

BOSTON COLLEGE

Having a full background in residential student life, Dan continued on to Boston College where he was a member of the Design Committee for new residence halls in 1991, and a **co-chair for the ACUHO-I 1992 Pre and Post Conference Committee**. Dan was also involved in many other activities which marked him as a leader in residential life, from **Chairing the JASPA 1990 Student Personnel Committee** to serving as a member of the Housing Lottery Review Committee in 1992.

From July 1990 to July 1993, Dan was a member of the Residential Freshman Year Experience Task Force for ACUHO-I. From July 1991 to July 1993, he was also a member of the Multicultural Affairs Committee for the same organization, exemplifying his dedication to student diversity.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, COLLEGE AT ROCKPORT

From 1992 to 1994, Dan served the residents at the State University of New York, College at Rockport as the Resident Director of Morgan and Neff Halls. He was responsible for the development of a co-educational community of 200 transfer and international students. Dan supervised eight Resident Assistants and seven night desk attendants. He also co-taught a class for Resident Assistants entitled “Achieving Helping Relationships in College Residence Halls”.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

From 1994 to 1996, Dan moved from the State University of New York to Cornell University and served as the Residence Hall Director of Baker Court. In this position, he provided for a community of over 450 residents in a five building complex. He managed a staff of one Program Assistant, eleven Resident Advisors, and one Office Assistant. Dan also served as the Advisor of the RHC and coordinated the formulation of a working hall council constitution.

In 1996, he took on the position of Assistant Director of Community Development in the Cornell University Department of Campus Life. In this role, he had direct responsibility for the training, supervision and evaluation of five professional Residence Hall Directors and provided program direction for a residential area of 1500. He also developed and implemented all **counseling and outreach programs** and activities congruent with the community development mission. In continuing great student leadership, he served as the chair of the Residence Hall Student Government Programs Standing Committee and continued his role as the **primary advisor to the Residence Hall Association**.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Dan came to us at the University of California, Berkeley in July of 2000 as an Area Director of Residential and Family Living in the Residential and Student Services Programs. In this position, he has direct responsibility for the training, supervision, and evaluation of six professional Resident Directors and the provision of program direction for 3200 residents. His responsibilities also include indirect supervision and training of one Assistant

Resident Director, six Program Assistants, thirty Resident Advisors, three Program Advisors, and thirteen Security Coordinators. Dan also took on the role of **Advisor of the Residence Hall Assembly** at UC Berkeley and helped the organization grow tremendously in the two years that he has been with us. He monitors the RHA and Hall Assembly budgets of over \$300,000, and is responsible for an Area budget in excess of \$26,000.

Every time I have ever needed help, Dan has been there. As President this year there were a lot of times when I was stressed out because of uncontrollable variables or unforeseen events- but I made it through because Dan was always there with a word of advice when I needed it. Dan gave me much more than just advice however. He served with a rational mind, and with a clear sense of what was needed in our RHA, both at the school level and the region and national level. Even as he did so much in helping me, Dan has never made decisions for me- he always says it is my decision in the end. I truly appreciated that he trusted my judgment.

Not only has Dan been a wonderful advisor to me, he has been an amazing friend as well. My staff and I tell him stories about our personal lives, and share gossip and information with him. He is very personal, and I feel that I could ask his advice on almost anything. Dan always has jokes to share and a smile on his face. Since last year, our RHA has come very far- and I think that more than a little of that success can be attributed to our wonderful, supportive advisor “Danny” Ocampo.

-Aiwa Shirako, President '01-'02

Dan's been one of those people that always provides a knowing voice into any discussions. It can be a simple sentence and it will spark an idea that had never been considered. His experience has been extremely helpful in developing NRHH as well as RHA through his guidance and leading the chapters into good directions. Dan never thinks to take charge of an organization as his own. He will do as his title asks, he advises when needed and will let the students under his charge be prodded and prompted to a working solution.

-James Park, NRHH President '03-'04

Dan is the role model of a great advisor. He does not dictate what the organization should do, but rather gives both sides of a story to better guide the staff through decision-making. He shows willingness to listen to people's concerns, and offers advice. He often encourages us to do what we feel is right, and at the same time keep us from straying from the right path. Whenever we need help, he is there for us, using available resources and knowledge around him in order to better aid us. Dan is definitely a great example of what an advisor should be.

-Stephanie Huang, Administrative Director '03-'04

Dan Ocampo is truly a unique advisor. When I think of Dan, I think of someone who can do it all. He guides us to make good, well thought out decisions and has helped us to learn from our mistakes and grow together as a staff. Whenever I have tough problems or am stressed out, Dan is someone that I turn to. I can always rely on him for wise, thoughtful advice. No individual is more deserving of the Hallenbeck award.

-Tera Nakata, Programs Director '03-'04

Dan Ocampo is the highest quality kind of advisor. When he advises he doesn't tell you what to do. Instead, he gives you all the information you need, and by asking well-thought questions, he leads you to come up with your own set of possible consequences followed by each different decision. And it seems like he never rests. He is always helping someone, advising someone. A true volunteer, with a true wise mind, Dan Ocampo the Godfather has shown me the way!

-Daniel Chen, NCC '03-'04

Through various positions of leadership in residential life, Dan has grown to become a strong individual with the leadership skills to command the respect of all those who work with him. He is dedicated in his path of service to the residential community and the community in which he lives, which can be seen through his involvement as a volunteer for AIDS Rochester, Inc. in 1993 and as a member of the AIDS Memorial Choir in the American College Personnel Association from 1997 to 2001.



Honors from the Wizard Council

Recognition

For his exceptional service to his region and to NACURH, he was awarded:

- **PACURH Silver Pin Service Award**
- **NACURH Gold Pin Service Award**
- **RHAC Advisor of the Year** by the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse for 1988-'89
- **RHC Advisor of the Year** by Boston College in 1990-'9
- **Hallenbeck Award** by PACURH 2002 and PACURH 2003

He is also a member of:

- **NACURH Alumni Association**
- **the Outstanding College Students of America**
- **the Outstanding Young Men of America**

Dan has also presented many programs, ranging from “Diversity: Attitudes and Stereotypes” (SUNY Brockport RA Conference) to “The Card Party” (NEACURH Conference, Ithaca College). He received a **Top Five Program** award at the 1997 NEACURH Conference and a **Top Ten Program** award at the 2001 PACURH Conference.



Dan's continued service to improving residential life has earned the respect and admiration of the students and administrators that have had the privilege of working with him. As the advisor to the RHA of the University of California, Berkeley, many have felt the energy he displays for the governing body of the residential governments. Dan is an inspiration to the executive board and assembly alike. Just like Gandalf provided both support and protection to those around him, Dan has been able to execute both roles as an experienced leader can. He has not only been an invaluable resource for the board, but also has a keen awareness of the needs of individuals, making him the embodiment of the title of 'advisor'.





THE WRINKLES ON GANDALF'S FACE

Years of Dedicated Service: A Timeline of Magic

University of San Francisco: Bachelor of Arts, Psychology (May 1987)

- 1984 Member, NACURH '85 Bid Committee
- 1984-'85 National Communications Coordinator
 PACURH December and April NCC of the Month
 Member, NACURH '86 Bid Committee
- 1985 Assistant Chairperson/NBD Liaison, NACURH '86**
 Member, National Board of Directors

University of Wisconsin, La Cross: Master of Science in Education, College Student Personnel (May 1989)

- 1987-'88 Advisor, NACURH '88 Publicity Committee
- 1988 Graduate Practicum, Student Activities Office
- 1989 Graduate Practicum, Student Development Office
- 1987-1989 Assistant Residence Hall Director, Coate Hall

Boston College (1989-1992)

- 1990 Chair, JASPA '90 Student Personnel Committee
- 1991 Member, Design Committee for New Residence Halls
- 1990-'92 **Co-chair, ACUHO-I Pre and Post Conference Committee**
- 1989-'92 Member, Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Committee
- 1990-'92 Member, BC Pride (Prejudice Reduction Training)
- 1991-'92 Member, Housing Lottery Review Committee

Association of College and University Housing Officers-International

- 1990-'93 Member, Residential Freshman Year Experience Task Force
- 1991-'93 Member, Multicultural Affairs Committee

State University of New York-College at Brockport (1992-1994)

- Fall 1992 Instructor, EDC 302:
- Fall 1993 Office of Residential life, Department of Counselor
- Spring 1994 Education; taught 3 unit RA class
- 1992-'93 Member, RACE Team Committee
- 1992-'93 Member, Ad hoc Committee for a Just Community
- 1992-'94 Resident Director, Morgan/Neff Hall

AIDS Rochester, Inc.

- 1993 Volunteer, Buddy Program
- Volunteer, Daily Bread Program

Cornell University (1994-2000)

- 1994-'96 Residence Hall Director, Baker Court
- 1996-'00 Assistant Director, Community Development

American College Personnel Association

- 1997-'01 Member, AIDS Memorial Choir

University of California, Berkeley (2000 to present)

- 2000-present Area Director, Residential Family Living
- RHA Advisor
- PACURH 2002 Bid Team Advisor
- PACURH 2003 Bid Team Advisor
- No Frills 2004 Bid Team Advisor
- No Frills 2004 Conference Advisor