

**Profile of
Jaclyn Esqueda**

**Programs Manager, Engineering, Mathematics and Science Student Success Programs, UW-Platteville
2018 Regents Academic Staff Excellence Award Individual Recipient**

Highlights from nomination materials:

- Has worked for more than five years within the Student Success Programs area of UW-Platteville's College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science (EMS); initially hired to help implement a \$900,000 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to expand science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) initiatives.
- Oversees EMS Student Success Programs, which accomplished the following outcomes in 2015-16: nearly 25,000 student contacts (a 25% increase from the year before); more than 1,000 mostly freshman and high-risk students attending 2,500 advising appointments; more than 3,300 K-12 students learning about STEM through hands-on activities she developed, and in many cases, facilitated.
- Helped establish and now maintains the Center for Projects, Opportunities, Instruction, Networking and Teamwork (CenterPOINT), and continues to manage the space and the student staff who help make the space an integral part of student success and retention; connects CenterPOINT with campus partners such as the Math Learning Center, Academic Success Program, the Admissions Office, and the Office of Multicultural Student Services; in 2016-17, CenterPOINT had 15,904 visits from 1,068 unique visitors; students that use CenterPOINT are retained at a higher rate (86.6% compared to 73.7%) and have a higher grade point average than students who do not use its services.
- Co-Principal Investigator on a second NSF STEM project, the Lois Cooper Scholars Program, which aims to increase the number of distinguished underrepresented STEM graduates from UW-Platteville; helped write the grant proposal and manage the more than 200 application proposals for the grant.
- Supports College of EMS students through academic advising.
- Active in STEM youth outreach, coordinating the EMS Expo, the college's largest outreach event with more than 1,600 participants, as well as the Explore Engineering high school summer camp.
- Supports staff development; established an interactive student staff performance evaluation as part of their learning experience; engages student staff in weekly meetings and provides semester-based retreats for students.
- Advisor for the Pioneer Pantry student organization and developed Pioneer Provisions, an on-campus food pantry dedicated to combating food insecurity among college students; since opening in March 2017, the pantry has seen more than 900 visits from nearly 300 unique users.
- Capacity-building efforts in the Women in EMS Program (now known as EMS Student Success Programs) have been recognized by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, the Women in Engineering Pro-Active Network, the Women's Transportation Network, and the UW System Women and Science Program.

In Jaclyn Esqueda's own words:

- "I feel strongly that the contributions I've made and the success I've had are due to having a great team of people around me. Because of the collaborative, helping culture of our campus, I've been able to develop effective interdepartmental partnerships that better serve students."

In the words of colleagues:

- "Anyone who knows Jaclyn would describe her as professional, organized, committed to excellence, never afraid to try something new, and having non-stop energy."
—D. Joanne Wilson, *Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor, Office of Academic Affairs, UW-Platteville*
- "The success of these programs is largely due to Jaclyn's attention to detail, careful planning, strong work ethic, and ability to implement programs that positively impact students."
—Tammy J. Salmon-Stephens, *Director, College of EMS Student Success Programs, UW-Platteville*