Telling Our EOP Stories
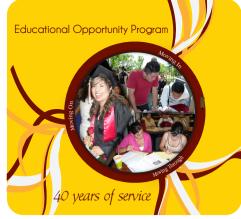
Making Your Mark
EOP Peer Mentor Spotlight: Briggette Gonzalez

by Linda Vang

The National Center for Student Leadership (NCSL) Conference was held this year in Maimi, Florida from November 3rd through November 6th. Three Fresno State student leaders received the opportunity to attend this event. Briggette Gonzalez, an EOP student and current EOP Peer Mentor, was one of the three that was selected to participate in this national conference. During this conference, student leaders from various parts of the world converged for a week of incredible growth and development. Workshops were held which focused on developing and enhancing leadership skills and techniques. Briggette described her experience as "eye-opening" and stated that her experience attending this conference reminded her of her favorite quote, "What mark do you want to leave in this world?"

As a member of the Fresno State Leadership Council as well, Briggette has a strong passion for helping others find their footing and encouraging them to make their mark. Briggette stated, "Sometimes you have to believe in others until they believe in themselves." As a student leader, Briggette enforces this mentality on a daily basis by staying positive, reaching out to students, and helping students realize their capabilities.

Like many, Briggette entered college with the mindset of simply obtaining a degree. Her attitude towards education changed when she took the initiative to break away from her comfort zone and studied in Chile for five weeks. Briggette explained that it was challenging to step out of her comfort zone, but said "You have to learn to be uncomfortable to become comfortable." Briggette encourages students to, "start engaging in conversations that matter, to step outside of your comfort zones, and begin thinking about the mark you want to make." Briggette is an excellent role model for others and truly exemplifies student leadership in EOP and on our campus.