

April 2, 2020

Hello William & Mary Students,

I hope this week has been good or is getting better for you as we adjust to this new reality. My name is Roxana Aguirre, I am the new Assistant Director of the Center for Student Diversity. I was looking forward to connecting with each of you in person, but unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 crisis, this was not possible. I know over the last few weeks, we have been feeling a variety of emotions, so I wanted to write this letter both to introduce myself but also to let you know I am here to support each of you in whatever way I can.

At this point, you might be thinking, how am I supposed to talk to someone who I do not know? I understand how you may feel, so let me tell you a little about myself. I am a First-Generation Latina who was born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas. I received my Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Texas Christian University and my Master of Education in Higher Education from the University of North Texas. I am passionate about ensuring all students have equal access to an education in which they are supported, engaged, and welcomed to be their true and authentic selves.

My experience as a First-Generation Latina student at a Predominantly White Institution (PWI) opened my eyes to diversity, equity, and inclusion work and the importance of this work in our educational system. The administrators, faculty, and staff I met during my educational journey were and are, to this day, my village. They taught me the importance of supporting ALL students so they can thrive and grow into the best version of themselves. I choose my career in Higher Education to continue to support students as I was and to continue to grow and develop the work of diversity on collegiate campuses, as those who came before me.

When I am not working, I enjoy traveling to new places and learning about new cultures. I am excited to join the William & Mary family and this adventure in my new home Virginia. I look forward to connecting with each of you and learning about ways I can support and contribute my knowledge. If you would like to connect, you can reach me at 757-221-2155 or email me at raguirre@wm.edu.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing from you.

With Gratitude,

Roxana Aguirre
Assistant Director
Center for Student Diversity
William and Mary
757-221-2155
raguirre@wm.edu

