Isabel Perez-Yanez, Lecturer in the Departments of Social Work and Sociology & Social Services, Passed Away January 16, 2018

Isabel Perez-Yanez, lecturer in the Departments of Social Work and Sociology & Social Services, passed away January 16, 2018. She has taught for several years in both departments as well as periodically in University Extension. She received her master’s degree in public health education from the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Carl Stempel, Chair of the Department of Sociology and Social Services, offers the following comments about Ms. Perez-Yanez: “Isabel started teaching in Sociology and Social Services in Fall 2014. Isabel taught courses on our social services side: Intro to Social Services, Social Policy, Human Behavior in the Social Environment, Alcohol and Drug Abuse. Many of Isabel’s students feel a special connection with her because she mentored them and helped shape their professional goals. They know she cared deeply about their success and growth.”

The Chair of the Department of Social Work, Dr. Rose Wong, relates this about Ms. Perez-Yanez: “She was first hired in the Social Work Department in Winter 2005, and has been a lecturer ever since then in our graduate program. She has taught all of our Master of Social Work courses, principally in the full-time MSW program on the Hayward campus and sometimes in the part-time MSW program at the Oakland Center. Here is a sampling of some of the other courses she has taught: Race, Gender, and Inequality; Human Behavior and Social Environment I & II; Social Welfare Policy: History and Philosophy; Generalist Practice I & III; Assessment and Treatment of Substance Abuse; Legal Issues in Social Work Practice; Family Violence Across the Lifespan.”

Here are some comments from a close colleague of hers: “Isabel enjoyed meeting with her students after class very much, and would often freely share her concerns with her students. She built lasting, deep relationships with them and was truly committed and dedicated to their education. She was also involved in many community projects with The Latino Commission and Terra Firma, which focuses on substance abuse treatment and educational programs. She worked as a community activist for Latinos in the 70’s. She was a well-known consultant presenting on issues from domestic violence to substance abuse. In the last approximately six years, she has taught for the College of San Mateo, Dept. of Sociology, in the area of Alcohol and Other Drugs. I’d like to emphasize that Isabel Yanez was very, very dedicated and committed to our students and has the respect of all of us in a special and rare way.”

Prof. Yanez’s family has scheduled funeral services as follows:

Memorial Service – Monday, 6 pm, January 29, 2018
Victory Outreach Heart Church
354 B Street
Hayward, CA 94541

Burial Ceremony – Tuesday, 11am, January 30, 2018
Victory Outreach Heart Church
354 B Street
Hayward, CA 94541

A reception will follow the burial ceremony.

The following site has been provided by the family: https://www.gofundme.com/in-memory-of-Isabel-perez-yanez

A campus memorial is also being planned and details will be forthcoming.

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