



## CURRICULUM VITAE

# Rebecca James, M.A.

Department of Communication  
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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Rebecca (Rebe; she/her/hers) is currently a Ph.D. student, assistant instructor, and communication specialist at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her research focuses on resiliency, social support, and dark side communication. She approaches research from an interdisciplinary perspective, primarily drawing from Health Communication and Interpersonal Communication. Rebe is also interested in topics that intersect race, gender, and class. Special topics of interest for her include preventative health care, reproductive rights, conflict management, community resiliency, and Media Studies. She plans to utilize her knowledge, research and teaching to play a key role in the movement towards educational equity for any organization she is a part of.

## EDUCATION

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- Ph.D. University of California, Santa Barbara** - *Communication*  
SEPTEMBER 2021 - JUNE 2025  
Focal Areas: Interpersonal Communication, Health Communication
- M.A. San Diego State University** - *Communication*  
AUGUST 2019 - MAY 2021  
Focal Areas: Interpersonal Communication, Health Communication
- B.A. California State University, San Marcos** - *Communication*  
AUGUST 2018 - MAY 2019  
Focal Areas: Organizational Communication, Critical/Cultural Studies, Rhetoric
- A.A. Southwestern College, Chula Vista** - *Communication, Business Marketing*  
AUGUST 2013 - DECEMBER 2017  
Focal Areas: Business and Marketing, Critical/Cultural Studies

## RESEARCH MANUSCRIPTS

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### *Manuscripts in Review*

Floyd, K., Ray, C. D., **James, R.**, & Anderson, A. Loneliness Predicts Greater Compassion Towards Those Facing Oppression and Illness.

**James, R.** Native Spanish Speakers' Perceptions of Support Messages Received in Spanish and English.

*Manuscripts in Preparation*

- James, R.**, Anderson, A., Spitzberg, B. Dog-Whistle Rhetoric: An Evaluation of How Racially-Explicit Rhetoric Helped Trump Galvanize the Republican Base.
- James, R.** Machine or Mannequin: Preliminary Analysis on Gendered Coding and Implications in Computer-Mediated Communication (CMC).
- James, R.** Flexicution: Rhetorical Criticism of Biracial Perspectives and Implications in Logic's Work.
- James, R.** Knowing Me, Knowing You: A State of Social Support Literature.
- James, R.,** McDonald, G., & Anderson, A. I Can't Get No Relational Satisfaction: COVID-19 Impacts on Relational Satisfaction.

*Manuscripts in Progress*

- James, R.** Rolling in the Deep: Assessing Social Support and Resiliency Through Mentor/Mentee Communication.
- James, R.** Sorry Seems to Be the Hardest Word: The Trials and Tribulations of Interpersonal Communication and Apologies as a Form of Social Support.
- James, R.,** & Anderson, A. Some Kind of Disaster: Reframing Resilience to Include Communication Compartmentalization.
- James, R.** You Can Go Your Own Way: Social Exchange Theory and the Perceived Negative Obstruction in the Termination of Relationships.
- James, R.** My Loneliness is Killing Me: The Theory of Resilience and Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19).
- James, R.** When Enough is Enough: Exploring the Termination of Support in Relationships.

**PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS**

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- James, R.** (2020, November). Campus Well Newsletter. Available at: <https://sdsu.campuswell.com/>
- James, R.** (2020, April). Scared of the Dark: Racial Discourse in *Spider-Man: Into the Spiderverse*. *In Media Res*. Available at: <http://mediacommons.org/imr/content/scared-dark-racial-discourse-%E2%80%9Cspider-man-spiderverse%E2%80%9D>
- James, R.** (2020, April). The Reality of Inequity in Virtual Learning. *State @ Home*. Available at <https://sdsuathome.wordpress.com/2020/04/02/the-reality-of-inequity-virtual-learning/>
- James, R.** (2020, March). Love in the Time of Corona. *State @ Home*. Available at <https://sdsuathome.wordpress.com/2020/03/30/love-in-the-time-of-corona-a-quarantined-glog/>
- James, R.** (2019, December). Ain't No Passing Craze: Racialized Representations in Disney's Animated Films. *In Media Res*. Available at: <http://mediacommons.org/imr/content/aint-no-passing-craze-racialized-representations-disney's-animated-films-0>.
- Holling, M. A., & **James, R.** (2019, May). *COMMUnique*, 6(1). Department of Communication, California State University San Marcos, San Marcos, CA. Available at: <https://csusm.edu/communication/communique.html>

**COMPETITIVELY SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

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- Floyd, K., Ray, C. D., **James, R.**, & Anderson, A. Loneliness predicts greater compassion towards those facing oppression and illness. (Awarded Top Paper; Accepted at WSCA, February 2022).

- James, R.** Knowing Me, Knowing You: A State of Social Support Literature. (Accepted at WSCA, February 2022).
- James, R.,** McDonald, G., & Anderson, A. I Can't Get No Relational Satisfaction: COVID-19 Impacts on Relational Satisfaction. (Accepted at WSCA, February 2022).
- James, R.** Friends on the Other Side: Rhetorical Critique of Black Women in Disney's "The Princess and the Frog." (Accepted at NCA, November 2020).
- James, R.** Scared of the Dark: Cultural Discourse and Racial Justice in "Spider-Man: Into the Spideverse." (Accepted at NCA, November 2020).
- James, R.** Machine or Mannequin: Preliminary Analysis on Gendered Coding and Implications in Computer-Mediated Communication (CMC). (Accepted at NCA, November 2020).
- James, R.** Flexicution: Rhetorical Criticism of Biracial Perspectives and Implications in Logic's Work. (Accepted at WSCA, February 2020).
- James, R.** *Somebody* to Love? Analysis of Artificial Intelligence and Gender/Sex. (Accepted at PCA, April 2020).
- James, R.** Re-aWOKE-ning a Princess: Rhetorical Critique of Modern Day Feminism in Disney's Media. (Accepted at WSSA, April 2020).
- James, R.** Into the Void: Analysis of Genre Criticism in Heavy Metal Music. (Accepted at PCA, April 2020).

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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#### Courses Taught: Teaching Assistant at UCSB

- COMM 111: Nonverbal Communication (Hybrid)
- COMM 89: Communication Theory (Hybrid)

#### Courses Taught: Teaching Assistant at SDSU

- COMM 103: Oral Communication (SDSU; face-to-face; online)
- PSFA 280: Adaptation to the U.S. Academic Culture (SDSU; online)
- PSFA 350: International Studies (SDSU; online)
- PSFA 501: Upper Division Study Abroad I (SDSU; online)
- COMM 421: Health Communication and Community-Based Service Learning (SDSU; face-to-face; online)

#### PARTICIPATION IN PEDAGOGICAL TRAININGS

- *LGBTQ+ Ally Training*, San Diego State University (Fall 2019)
- Facilitator Persuasive Speech Workshop (Fall 2020)

#### Additional Teaching Experience:

- St. Patrick's Catholic School (San Diego, CA; Fall 2018, Spring 2019)
- Anza Elementary, San Diego (San Diego, CA; August 2014 - June 2018)

### PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

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- James, R.** (2020, December). I Can't Get No Relational Satisfaction: COVID-19 Impacts on Relational Satisfaction. (Organized through the School of Communication).
- James, R.** (2020, December). Social Support: Navigating Academia During Difficult Times. (Organized through Professional Studies and Fine Arts | SDSU).
- James, R.** (2020, November). International Community Hour: Highlighting Cultures and Co-Cultures from Around the World. (Organized through Society of Communication and Leadership).
- James, R.** (2020, April). Scared of the Dark: Cultural Discourse and Racial Justice in "Spider-Man: Into the Spideverse." (Organized through the School of Communication).

**James, R.** (2019, November). "Overcoming Obstacles in Higher Education": The power of feminist mentorship in the field of communication. Organization for Research on Women and Organizational Communication (Organized through Lambda Pi Eta).

**James, R.** (2019, October). Dia de Los Muertos: Presentation and Analysis on the Day of the Dead Meaning and Cultural Significance. (Organized through Society of Communication and Leadership).

### CERTIFICATES

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ECRT (Economic Crisis Response Team) Advocate Training through the Latinx Resource Center, Spring 2021

Social Your Media: How to Enlist, Engage and Activate Your Audience, Ohio State University | The Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery, February 2021

SACNAS | Advancing Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science, December 2020

ECRT (Economic Crisis Response Team) Advocate Training, Fall 2020

Certificate in Safe Zone Training and Allyship in Higher Education, November 2019

### UNIVERSITY EMPLOYMENT

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**COMM 111: Nonverbal Communication**, University of California, Santa Barbara — *Teacher Assistant*

JANUARY 2022 - MARCH 2022 (Winter 2022 Quarter)

- Taught students about the transmission of messages or signals through a nonverbal platform such as eye contact, facial expressions, gestures, posture, and body language.
- Research lessons include the use of social cues, kinesics, distance (proxemics) and physical environments/appearance, voice (paralanguage), and touch (haptics).
- Provided introductory lessons on the use of time (chronemics) and eye contact and the actions of looking while talking and listening, frequency of glances, patterns of fixation, pupil dilation, and blink rate (oculesics).

**Mentoring Program Supervisor**, Department of Communication UCSB - *Mentoring Program Graduate Student Director*

SEPTEMBER 2021 - PRESENT

- Manage and support other program staff, manage ongoing mentor and mentee recruitment plans, including presentations to targeted organizations and key community events.
- Recruit, screen, train, match, support matches. Includes meetings with both mentors and students.
- Monitor match activities and provide risk management through regular telephone and in-person contact.
- Keep accurate records and document activities and contacts with mentors and the mentees and their families.
- Adhere to all program policies and procedures as written and update as needed; Complete other duties and activities as needed.
- Maintain best practices and stay informed about current research on mentoring and youth development.

**COMM 89: Theories of Communication**, University of California, Santa Barbara — *Teacher Assistant*

SEPTEMBER 2021 - DECEMBER 2021 (Fall 2021 Quarter)

- An introduction to major theories and theoretical influences in the field of communication.
- Theories are examined in the areas of verbal and nonverbal messages, cognition and persuasion, and the contexts of interpersonal, intercultural, small group, organizational, and mass communication.

**Health Communication | Well-Being and Health Promotion**, San Diego State University —*Communication, Marketing, and Health Communication Specialist*

AUGUST 2020 - MAY 2021

- Utilized communication research by leveraging skills in digital health communication marketing both campus and community-wide.
- Created and implemented health campaigns during COVID-19 regarding the pandemic mandates, vaccines, testing sites, and resources.
- Designed and lead health campaigns regarding well-being and health for students, faculty, and community members.
- Redesigned the brand marketing for Well-Being and Health Promotion, which were then adopted and used campus-wide.
- Created and designed communication plans and guides for Well-Being and Health Promotion division.

**Latinx Resource Center**, San Diego State University — *Communication Specialist*

JANUARY 2021 - PRESENT

- Develop and implement a communication strategy that includes media outreach and social media content creation in both English and Spanish.
- Research and write press releases, and content for the center website, infographics, blogs, and newsletters.
- Arrange and coordinate press conferences, and plan events.
- Work with key internal role-players to brainstorm content ideas, in line with the company's strategy and in support of various brand initiatives.

**PSFA 501: Upper Division Study Abroad I; PSFA 350: Adaptation to the U.S. Academic Culture; PSFA 280: International Studies | Professional Studies and Fine Arts (PSFA)**, San Diego State University —*Teacher Assistant*

AUGUST 2020 - PRESENT

- Assisted Dr. Mei Zhong in changing the course to meet the students' needs during the pandemic.
- Committed to promoting International opportunities that result in positive academic, personal, and professional growth.
- Participated in day-to-day development by reviewing and analyzing user contributions and makes revisions as needed.

**Education Specialist**, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa — *Social Computing Application and Design Researcher*

APRIL 2020 - SEPTEMBER 2020

- Participated in funded research of writing and analysis in support of the continued development and long-term sustainability of mathematics learning material for the state of Hawai'i.
- Works with the PI, Affiliate Researcher, and the NKH2 team to solve problems and takes the lead in implementing solutions as needed.
- Creates, reviews, and rewrites material to make NKH2 teaching guides more accessible to users.
- Writes reports, manuscripts, and publications both independently and collaboratively with the international NKH2 team.
- Collaborates with others to plan workshops by following project guidelines.
- Serves as an instructor for workshops and leads in the planning process.

**Researcher**, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Department of Disability Studies — *Social Computing Application and Design Researcher*

APRIL 2020 - SEPTEMBER 2020

- Assisted with the implementation of federally funded projects designed to provide intervention services to middle school teachers and students in predominantly Native Hawaiian communities; duties including, but not limited to, the following;

- Supported the development, design, and maintenance of a social learning platform including, but not limited to, online training modules, websites, and online communities.
- Participated in project documentation including preparing manuscripts, reports, research publications, proposals, and other educational and outreach materials.
- Assisted with the evaluation and publication of project outcomes and with other assigned activities related to project publication, dissemination, and evaluation.

**Research and Data Analyst**, San Diego State University — *Assistant Researcher, Student Research, Outreach, and Career Center*

FEBRUARY 2020 - OCTOBER 2020

- Collect and store data on logistics, linguistics, and other factors.
- Brings technical expertise to ensure the quality and accuracy of that data.
- Process, design, and present in ways to help people, businesses, and organizations make better decisions.
- Build surveys using Campus Labs and Qualtrics.

**Communication 421: Health Communication and Community-Based Service Learning**, San Diego State University — *Teacher Assistant at San Diego State University and Universidad Autónoma de Baja California*

JANUARY 2020 - MAY 2020

- Actively engaged in the well-being of students at San Diego State and UABC.
- Experience in curricular choices to classroom management, assessment strategies, choices of presentation, and pacing that address different learners and language barriers.
- Created lesson plans, learning materials, and teacher guides.

**Rhetorical Studies in the School of Communication**, San Diego State University — *Assistant Researcher, Communication Studies*

DECEMBER 2019 - MAY 2020

- In charge of collecting research work and data to develop further analyses.
- Proficiency in standard MS Office software products, including Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Adobe, and ability to learn additional software products.
- Mastery of English grammar, punctuation, and spelling to coordinate and perform the editing and proofreading of all communication materials.

**Communication 103**, San Diego State University — *Lecturer in Oral Communication*

AUGUST 2018 - PRESENT

- Excellent writing and editorial skills, communication skills, and attention to detail.
- Experience in teaching, preparing, and submitting manuscripts for publications and grant proposals.
- Created lesson plans, learning materials, and teacher guides.
- Demonstrated ability to prioritize, plan and organize tasks, and ability to work with minimum supervision.
- Critical thinker and a team player but with the ability to work independently.

**Communication Department**, California State University, San Marcos — *Research Assistant in Border Rhetoric and Bilingual Communication*

AUGUST 2018 - MAY 2019

- Conducted literature reviews; Analyzed and interpreted data.
- Prepared materials for submission to granting agencies and foundations.
- Proficient in APA, Chicago, and MLA format.

## UNIVERSITY INTERNSHIPS AND PROJECTS

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**Human Communication Laboratory | The Center for Communication, Health, & the Public Good,**  
San Diego State University — *Research Assistant in Health Communication*

AUGUST 2019 - MAY 2020

- Researching instances when people attempt (and often fail) to effectively communicate emotional support to loved ones who have been diagnosed with cancer.
- Statistical and analytical skills; Collect and store data to assist in process, design, and presenting research
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Maintain strong working relations and communication with internal and external fields.

**Communicate Love WB&HP | February 10 - 17th, 2021**

Creator of marketing health campaigns, in conjunction with SDSU's Well-being and Health Promotion, centered on mental health and maintaining relationships whilst social distancing during COVID-19 quarantine mandates.

**Love Your Heart at Home SDSU + LiveWell San Diego | February 8 - 14th, 2021**

Creator of marketing health campaigns, in conjunction with SDSU's Well-being and Health Promotion and LiveWell San Diego's promotional material, focused on heart health issues regarding high blood pressure, healthy lifestyles, and preventive care.

**“Nad & Tad’s Excellent Adventure” Testicular Health Campaign | November 1st - November 30, 2020**

Creator of marketing health campaigns, in conjunction with SDSU's Well-being and Health Promotion and Nad & Tad promotional material, focused on men's health issues regarding testicular cancer and preventive care.

**SDSU “Rock the Vote” | August 19th - November 3, 2020**

Content Creator and health advisor for COVID-19 guidelines and regulations in conjunction with voting paraphernalia.

**SDSU Undocuweek | October 26th - November 2, 2020**

Coordinator for a week of learning, empowerment, and community building centered on undocumented students.

**Swinging into the “New Now” | October 19th - October 23, 2020**

Marketing coordinator for campus-wide events (SDSU) promoting healthy behaviors and practices during COVID-19 pandemic and quarantine.

## AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

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William Snavely Endowed Scholarship (Fall 2019).

California State University, San Marcos Magna Cum Laude (2018) - Graduated with a 3.7+ Grade Point Average.

CSUSM Dean's List (2018) - Awarded for 3.5+ Grade Point Average.

Juliette Gordon Low Legacy Award (2017) - Youngest recipient; awarded for services in GSUSA organization.

Southwestern College Dean's List (2017) - Awarded for 3.5+ Grade Point Average.

Democratic National Scholarship (2015) - Awarded for activism work and commitment to social justice.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AFFILIATIONS, & SERVICE

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Graduate Affairs Communication Chair for Department of Communication | University of California, Santa Barbara (January 2022 - Present)

Ad Hoc Reviewer | Communication Research Reports (January 2022)

MANA de San Diego | A National Latina Association (February 2021 - Present)

SACNAS | Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science  
(December 2020 - Present)

President of the Associated Students of San Diego State University | College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts Council Charter (May 2020 - May 2021)

- Official representative of the Council; liaison to all other campuses College Councils.
- Chair Council and Council Executive Committee meetings; ex-officio member of all Council Standing Committees.

President of A.S. University Council Academic Affairs Board PSFA (May 2020 - May 2021)

- Worked in cooperation with the Chief Executive Officer and/or Chief Operating Officer on University-wide issues that affect PSFA.
- Work directly with the Executive Vice President in all matters pertaining to the Inspiration Luncheon.

Interim SoCal President, Social Media Coordinator, International Liaison (May 2020 - May 2021)

- Research Coordination.
- Project Management.
- Program Evaluation.
- Grant Proposal Development.

Tau Sigma National Honor Society | San Diego State University Chapter 184  
(August 2019 - Present).

SoCal First-Year Liaison (Fall 2019 - Spring 2020).

Communication Department Intern (Spring 2019).

CommUnique Newsletter Editor (Spring 2019).

Tau Sigma National Honor Society | California State University, San Marcos (Spring 2019 - Present).

Lambda Pi Eta National Communication Honor Society (Fall 2018 - Present).

Vice President of CSUSM Communication Society (Spring 2019).

Girl Scouts U.S.A | National Delegate (Fall 2014 - Fall 2016).

Girl Scouts U.S.A | Troop Leader #5007 (Fall 2013 - Fall 2016).

Girl Scouts U.S.A | International Ambassador for the United States (Fall 2008 - Spring 2013).

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Internal Communication Specialist**, Seattle, Washington (Remote) - The Pokémon Company

International | NOVEMBER 2021 - PRESENT

- Experienced in establishing an internal communications strategy in conjunction with senior managers.
- Planned, edited, and wrote content for a variety of internal communications mediums, such as a staff intranet, monthly magazine, regular email bulletins, content layouts.
- Designed messages/scripts from senior executives for presentations to employees in written and spoken form.
- Implemented internal communications messages consistently across all mediums for different departments of the organization and among external communication channels.



- Skilled at creating and managing internal communication responses to crisis situations that affect organizational perception and reputation.

**Grey Matter Marketing**, Santa Barbara - Digital Communication and Marketing Specialist

JULY 2021 - OCTOBER 2021 (Contractor)

- Working knowledge of branding, web analytics, project management, strategy, database management, and email communications.
- Experienced in print, digital media, and current on new communications tactics such as online media and metrics.
- Familiar with Adobe Creative Suite products, specifically Photoshop, InDesign, and Illustrator.

**Pigment**, North Park, San Diego — *Plant Specialist + Merchandiser*

MARCH 2017 - APRIL 2018

- Cultivator of top-selling products - creating daily content; constant creations of arrangements - Strong sales background and multiple 5-star reviews on Yelp.
- Experience running workshops, events, and large crowds.
- Build strong relationships with key clients and partners and participate in customer engagement activities.
- Maintain strong working relations and communication with internal and external customers; Team player, organized, adaptable and dependable.

**Cafe Madeleine**, San Diego — *Communication + Digital Marketing*

FEBRUARY 2016 - MAY 2017

- Level-headed problem solver with a professional service-oriented attitude.
- Basic understanding of marketing concepts.
- Managed emails, comments, and reviews; coordinated distribution of electronic marketing campaigns.
- Created daily content (creating events, layouts, and editing photos).
- Researched popular trends and implemented them into the business's social media presence.
- Built strong relationships with key clients and partners and participate in customer engagement activities.

**Sephora**, Chula Vista — *Merchandiser*

SEPTEMBER 2015 - MARCH 2016

- Creative merchandising designer; in charge of product design and layouts.
- Extensive knowledge of makeup and brands; Excellent attention to detail and ability to multitask in a fast-paced environment.
- Self-motivated with a strong work ethic; dedicated to quality, quantity, and timeliness of results. Able to handle sensitive information with a high degree of confidentiality

**Mission Federal Credit Union**, Telegraph Canyon — *Bank Teller*

DECEMBER 2015 - JULY 2016

- Advised clients with financial matters concerning savings, loans, taxes, and investments.
- Assessed clients' financial standing, offering bank programs in accordance with their needs.
- Complied with institution's rules and regulations, as well as pertinent federal and state laws.

**Jamba Juice**, Greater San Diego Area — *Store Manager, Franchise and Corporate Liaison*

FEBRUARY 2014 - JULY 2016

- Worked as a supervisor, then a store manager, for both franchise and corporate stores.
- Followed health and food guidelines for handling and safety.
- Managed large teams and organized ordering and employee scheduling.
- Experience in human resources and payroll.

**VONS**, Bonita — *Deli Clerk*

MARCH 2012 - FEBRUARY 2014

- Helped customers locate, select, and buy products in grocery and deli stores
- Responded to customer queries related to product and pricing, distribute product samples and package the purchased items
- Stocked and organized the displays.

## REFERENCES

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Dr. Colter Ray, Assistant Professor at Louisiana State University

[cdray@sdsu.edu](mailto:cdray@sdsu.edu)

(713) 824-1690

Dr. Brian Spitzberg, Professor at San Diego State University

[spitz@sdsu.edu](mailto:spitz@sdsu.edu)

Dr. Rachel Record, Professor at San Diego State University

[rrecord@sdsu.edu](mailto:rrecord@sdsu.edu)

Dr. James Tarbox, Director of Career Services at Stanford University

[jjtarbox@alumni.psu.edu](mailto:jjtarbox@alumni.psu.edu)

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