

Teresa Maria Linda Scholz

BIOGRAPHY

Teresa Maria Linda Scholz (Ph.D., University of Colorado, Boulder) is Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer at UC Santa Cruz. Dr. Scholz is a first-generation U.S. American and was a first-generation college student, raised in Guatemala and the United States. As a scholar-practitioner and Chief Diversity Officer, she is committed to identifying discursive and material counterhegemonic practices in social justice education. She is also interested in leading a campus through the process of exploring and understanding power differentials, the connection between voice, victimhood, and agency, and the role that we all play in challenging, preventing, and resisting different forms of oppression. She underscores the importance of a campus needing to work together to co-create and co-sustain a healthy climate that centers antiracist practices. Dr. Scholz has also completed a certificate in mindful facilitation. She utilizes her academic training in Communication Studies, Women's Studies and Latin American Studies along with the facilitation skills she has developed, to enhance her pedagogical practices, campus trainings, professional and educational development workshops and discussions that address oppression, privilege, and power. Workshops she has designed and delivered are focused on Microaggressions, Communicating Across Differences, Communication, and Perception. Courses she has taught include Rhetoric of Race, Rhetoric of Class, Gender Communication and the Body, Critical Intercultural Communication, Persuasion, and Argumentation. Dr. Scholz has also been recognized for her service and teaching with awards including: Arts Advocate Award (Arts Division, UCSC, 2020); Outstanding Minority Achievement Recognition Award for Outstanding Faculty Member (EIU, 2015); Achievement and Contribution Award in Service (EIU, 2014); Student's Distinguished Professor Award (EIU, 2013); Master Teacher and Faculty of the Year (Front Range Community College, 2002-2003).