

OLIVER E. BLANCO

(281)217-4915 olivereblanco@gmail.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/oliverblanco>

SUMMARY

Results-driven business professional with 18+ years of experience in higher education, skilled in relationship building, operational management, and cross-functional collaboration. Bilingual in Spanish and recognized for being dependable, adaptable, and highly organized, with a creative and energetic approach to leadership and problem-solving. Adept at navigating complex organizations and committed to integrity, strategic planning, and measurable outcomes.

EXPERIENCE

C.T. Bauer College of Business, University of Houston, Houston, TX September 2007-Present Assistant Director of Employer Relations, Rockwell Career Center (February 2020-Present)

- Foster over 2,300 employer relationships between employers, students, alumni, faculty, corporate relations, and fellow staff with positive employment outcomes.
- Motivate team to expand new employment opportunities to the largest undergraduate business program in Texas having ~8,000 total students with ~1,000 graduate MBA and MS candidates with proactive, innovative, and effective services to one of the most diverse US universities.
- Promote Bauer MBA, MS, and BBA talent to employers, professional associations in Greater Houston, and nationwide increasing the value of Bauer through several communication outlets to over 10,000 employer contacts.
- Plan and manage coordination of two large bi-annual Career Fairs, several Pre-Recruiting Mixers, Professional Finance Planning Interview Days, MBA/MS Mixers, Communications/Marketing Fairs, Volunteer Fairs, and a plethora of Information Sessions/Tables/Special events increasing revenue for the college, and employment outcomes for students hovering at 97% placement.
- Collaborate with Directors, Recruiting Managers, Career Counselors, Academic Advisors, Student Affairs, and student workers expanding brand awareness for the college.
- Manage employers' expectations and outcomes, partnered with Rockwell Career Center's (RCC) Advisory Board on new ideas and trends, i.e., Bauer faculty informed on career service trends specifically to Bauer College.

Senior Career Development Specialist (March 2014-February 2020)

- Designed and implemented career programming/orientations to educate MBA, MS and Bauer alumni covering career development. Conducted job search activities to small and large groups.
- Served as liaison between employers, faculty, administrators, and alumni to suggest and promote placement activities.
- Connected and coached employers and students on recruiting practices and increased employment placement with a 90% knowledge rate to boost college's rankings.
- Created and managed bi-weekly newsletters for 1000+ graduate students and Bauer faculty to encourage networking opportunities, employment leads and employer engagement.

- Sanctioned RCC with the Pride Partner status from University Career Services and launched LGBTQIA+ resources online supporting continued inclusive services.

MBA Career Development Specialist (June 2013-March 2014)

- Affiliated with Career Services and Employer Alliance (CSEA) to enhance Bauer's visibility with similar business schools and to bring new ideas and programming to the college.
- Co-Presented "Linking International Student with Alumni" to the CSEA 2014 Global Conference on developing a Global Alumni Council to address the growing needs of resources for international students to help land employment.
- Restructured MBA/MS incoming orientation to include RCC services, career-related topics and influenced engaged group discussions.
- Enlisted surrounding universities including Rice, University of St. Thomas, Tulane, Texas A&M, University of Texas, Texas Southern University to diverse organizations like Prospanica (formerly NSHMBA), and National Black MBA Association, and lead conference attendees on career accelerator programs.

Career Counselor (September 2007-June 2013)

- Managed career coaching, and job placement services to undergraduates and alumni, prepared monthly status reports; recommended and implemented improvements to career services.
- Partnered with Bauer undergraduate business programs academic advisors to present to incoming freshman, transfer students on the importance of internships, networking, and engagement.
- Co-instructed mandatory career related GENB course to large class sections of ~900 undergraduate students each semester.
- Counseled over 3,000 business students regarding career selection, job searches, and internships, and coached career search techniques, resume preparation, interviewing strategies, networking, and recruiting schedules annually.
- Conducted workshops, seminars, orientations on career preparation, interview skills and job search techniques during 1:1 advising, student organization meetings, and invited by many faculty for classroom lectures resulting with a 93% satisfactory rating.
- Collaborated with University Career Services and other on-campus/off-campus offices and organizations to provide students with varied resources and information.
- Implemented and evaluated monthly newsletter for over 4,000 business undergraduate students.
- Inspired entire RCC staff to become Cougar Ally certified from the LGBTQ+ Resource Center to help bring awareness and safety for all LGBTQ+ students at Bauer.
- Advised and presented to Bauer student organizations including SHRM, AMA, SPO, HBSA resulting stronger student leaders on and off campus.

Houston Independent School District, Houston, TX

February 2003-August 2007

Human Resources Employment Counselor/Recruiter

- Communicated to job applicants seeking new careers and screened numerous applicants daily for largest school district in Texas, eighth largest in the nation.
- Delivered benefits, community engagement, and the Alternative Certification Program presentations to entire Human Resources team, district employees over 10,000, and to surrounding and global communities.
- Interacted and supplied strategies and recommendations for recruitment efforts statewide.

- Verified all certifications, licenses and personal information of all applicants and in-district personnel.
- Authenticated over 1000 permits and credential documents to State Board for Educator Certification/Texas Education Agency.

EDUCATION

University of Houston – Downtown, Houston, Texas
Master of Arts in Nonprofit Management, December 2025

University of Houston, Houston, Texas
Bachelor of Arts in Theatre

HONORS, AWARDS, CERTIFICATES, TRAINING

Certificate in Leadership and Strategic Planning, December 2025
The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, April 2025
Franklin Convey’s 7 Habits for Managers, February 2022
Catalyst Discovering the Different Communications Styles, March 2021
Catalyst Exploring Leadership, February 2021
Crucial Learning: Crucial Conversations, December 2017
The Birkman Method Certification, May 2015
Leadership Architect 101, Lominger International, A Korn/Ferry Company, May 2013
Voices 360 Certification, Korn/Ferry International, May 2013
viaEDGE Certification, Korn/Ferry International, May 2013
Emerging Leaders Program, Southern Association of Colleges and Employers, July 2012
ALLY Cougar Training, UH LGBTIA+ Resource Center, Spring 2010
Excellence in Leadership Outstanding Staff Member, Bauer College, Leadership & Ethics, April 2009
Bauer T.E.D. (Tremendous Employee Dedication) Award, Bauer College, March 2009
Strengths Advocate, The Gallup Organization, October 2008
NACE Career Coaching Intensive, National Association of Colleges and Employers, April 2008
StrengthsQuest Educator, Clifton StrengthsFinder, The Gallup Organization, March 2008

COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

University of Houston Staff Council 2023
SoACE New Member Committee 2021-2024
Hispanic Business Student Organization Faculty/Staff Advisor 2020-2022
OUT for Education Youth Scholarship Selection Committee 2013-2021
H.E.A.R.T. Program 2017-2019
Houston Food Bank 2012-2013
Trees for Houston 2010-2011
Unhinged Productions Board of Directors President 2006-2008
Houston Hispanic Forum 2000-2019
Houston LULAC National Educational Service Centers, Inc. 2000-2019