



Mike Pierce

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OUT at UCSF IN our communities

Mike has been a UCSF employee since 1994 and OUT for 29 years. Mike serves the missions of UCSF as Administrative Assistant III in the Department of Neurosurgery, where he is often the first point of contact for BASIC, striving

to make everyone feel welcome. The support and coordination he provides his team and the clinic staff serves the research, patient care, and education components of UCSF's mission.

What he likes about working at UCSF:

I find that as the only administrative support (besides the Division Manager) for all the SFGH Neurosurgery attending physicians, there is never a dull moment in my job. I appreciate the diverse faculty, staff, student and patient populations.

How Mike is OUT, IN the UCSF Community:

Everyone in my unit knows that I attended and competed in the Gay Games in Chicago last year. With Shane Snowdon, I also coordinated some self-defense seminars at UCSF.

How Mike is OUT, IN the community:

I am an active member and instructor with Triangle Martial Arts Association,

and have led many self-defense seminars for the community; in addition, the association's logo includes a pink triangle, which makes it very visibly "out" at martial arts tournaments and seminars. I am a board member and trainer with Castro Community on Patrol, and have assisted the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence with Pink Saturday.

What he considers his most OUTstanding, INcredible achievement:

I assisted with the formation of Castro Community on Patrol and helped train its volunteers.

Mike's cultural heritage:

I identify as a Mexican-American gay/queer man, and my cultural heritage also includes my maternal Teutonic roots.

His role models:

Among others, my role models include Ken Craig, the driving force behind Triangle Martial Arts Association, who is a patient, community-minded and productive martial arts instructor.

How Mike would change UCSF to improve the quality of life for LGBT people:

I would ensure that all the vital programs offered to the community were funded in perpetuity.

How he would change the LGBT community:

I would like people to be able to disagree and have meaningful discourse without it degenerating into infighting and bickering. I wish more folks could really embrace the concept of diversity.

UCSF LGBT Visibility Project

The UCSF Visibility Project aims to increase visibility of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender communities at UCSF by profiling faculty, staff, and students who work to support UCSF's mission of patient care, education and research. For podcasts and more information, visit <http://www.ucsf.edu/cge/lgbtr/visibility.htm>