



Nicholas Shigeru Sakurai

Outstanding Social Justice Practice Award, 2016

***University of Maryland, Director of Leadership Initiatives,
LGBT Equity Center, 2010-Present***

Nick Sakurai has seventeen years of involvement in LGBTQ+ and intersectional social justice movement building. Nick lives in Washington, D.C. and serves as Director of Leadership Initiatives in the LGBT Equity Center at the University of Maryland, has previously worked in LGBTQ+ centers at the University of Illinois and at American University, and worked as Director of the LGBT Student Empowerment Project for U.S. Student Association, a national advocacy group. Nick views higher education as an arena for developing long term, sustainable, critically conscious, and loving



leadership for LGBTQ+ social justice that centers trans and gender variant people, racial and economic justice, internationalism and immigrant/refugee rights, educating against Islamophobia, and human rights across the board. Nick has also served as a consultant to a variety of universities, international development organizations, and national Asian American and Pacific Islander non-profits. Nick has an M.A. in International Training and Education from American University and an International M.B.A. from IE Business School in Madrid, Spain.

