



**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE (SDMC)**

**ACADEMIC SENATE (AS)**

**September 29, 2025**

**Room MC 211 A/B**

**2:20PM – 4:20PM**

**MEETING AGENDA**

**DRAFT**

- I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME** by Academic Senate President Mary Gwin:  
Parliamentarian – TBD /Timekeeper – TBD/Speaker Coordinator – TBD
- II. APPROVAL OF DRAFT AGENDA:**
- III. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**  
**A. Associated Student Government (ASG):** President & Student Trustee Jeremiah Palomino/ASG Vice President Cornor Alexander Jr  
**B. Classified Professionals:** President Ayana Woods/Vice President Alison Mona
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** 3 Minutes Maximum for Each Speakers
- V. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES:** September 15, 2025
- VI. GUEST:**  
**A. Dean Cynthia Rico & Dean Leticia Diaz – SDMC Student Equity Plan:**  
[Mesa Equity Plan and Executive Summary 2025 - 2028 .pdf](#)
- VII. REPORTS:**  
**A. Committee Reports:** 3:15PM  
1. Senate Executive Committees:  
a. *Academic Affairs (AA) Committee:* Chair Dave "DAS" Odasso (1 Minute)  
b. *Professional Advancement Committee (PAC):* Chair Danica Moore(1 Minute)  
c. *Committee of Chairs (COC):* Chair of Chairs Ian Duckles (1 Minute)  
d. *Curriculum Review Committee (CRC):* Faculty Co-Chair Justin Estep (2 Minutes)  
e. *Program Review Steering Committee (PRSC):* Faculty Co-Chair Eliza Rabinovich (1 Minute)  
f. *The Committee for Diversity Action, Inclusion & Equity (CDAIE):* Chair Edeama Jonah (5 Minutes)  
g. *SDMC AS Task Force on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI):* Chair Ryan/Mongelluzzo (1 Minute)  
h. *Other Committee Reports:* Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) Michelle Rodriguez (1 Minute)  
2. Senate Executive Officer Reports:  
a. *Vice President:* Veronica Gerace (3 Minutes)  
b. *Secretary:* Katlin Choi (1 Minute)  
c. *Treasurer:* Thekima Mayasa (2 Minutes)  
d. *Senator at Large #1:* Ryan Mongelluzzo (1 Minute)  
e. *Senator at Large #2:* Vacant  
f. *CTE Liaison:* Vacant  
g. *Immediate Past President:* Andrew Hoffman (1 Minute)  
h. *President:* Mary Gwin (10 Minutes)
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS:** 3:45PM  
**A. Resolution 2025.9.1 - Supporting Strong Workforce:** Russell/Wait
- IX. OLD BUSINESS:**
- XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**  
**A.** SDMC Chancellor Greg Smith 2025-2026 Forum – Tuesday (September 30, 2025) from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room MC 211 A/B([LINK](#)).  
**B.** The next SDMC Academic Senate meeting is October 13, 2025 from 2:20PM – 4:20PM in Room MC 211 A/B.  
**C.** The next Academic Affairs Committee meeting is October 20, 2025) from 4:15PM – 5:30PM in Room A 117.  
**D.** The next Committee of Chairs (CoC) meeting is October 8, 2025 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room MC 211 A/B.  
**E.** The next Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) meeting is October 2, 2025 @ 2:15PM in Room LRC 435.  
**F.** The next SDMC AS Exec meeting is October 6, 2025 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room A 117.  
**G.** The next Professional Advancement Committee meeting is October 1, 2025 @ 2:30PM in Room A117.
- X. ADJOURNMENT:**



**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE (SDMC)**

**ACADEMIC SENATE (AS)**

**September 15, 2025**

**Room MC 211 A/B**

**2:20PM – 4:20PM**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**2<sup>nd</sup> DRAFT**

**Present:**

Academic Senate President Mary Gwin, Carlynne Allbee, Henry Browne, Jennifer Cost, Nellie Dougherty, Ian Duckles, Justin Estep, Erin Evans, Jennifer Frost Moreno, Veronica Gerace, James Hinton, Andrew Hoffman, Alex Holowicki, Geoff Johnson, Dante Jones, Jesse Keller, Wendell Kling, Mariam Kushkaki, Sam Lee, David Lizarraga, Thekima Mayasa, Ryan Mongelluzzo, Danica Moore, Roger "Rusty" Nichols, Mychal Odom, Miriam Pacheco, Scott Plambek, Anthony Reuss, Michelle Rodriguez, Jessica Sardo, Scott Suarez (Proxy to R. Mongelluzzo @ 4:02PM), Ngoc "Kim" Tran, Richard Unis, Louis Valenzuela, Karen Wait, Michael Williams and Guests District Director of Legal Services Ljubisa Kostic and Professors Christina Crosby and Irena Stojimirovic

**Absent:**

Isaac Arguelles-Ibarra (Excused), Edeama Onwuchekwa Jonah, Dave "Das" Odasso (Excused) and Laura Maki

**I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME** by Academic Senate President Mary Gwin @ 2:25PM.

Parliamentarian – TBD /Timekeeper – TBD/Speaker Coordinator – TBD

**II. APPROVAL OF DRAFT AGENDA:**

Move to Approve:

**M/S**

Johnson/Nichols

**UNANIMOUS**

**III. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:** None

**A. Associated Student Government (ASG):** ASG President/Student Trustee Jeremiah Palomino

**B. Classified Professionals:** President Ayana Woods/Vice President Alison Mona

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**A. Irena Stojimirovic:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ELSf1rrMJ2I>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9QJ5czdinOE>

**B. Jennifer Frost Moreno:**

**C. Geoff Johnson:**

**V. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES:** May 19, 2025

Move to Approve:

**M/S**

Moore/Hoffman

**25 Approve`**

**10 Abstain**

Duckles

Estep

Kling

Lizarraga

Nichols

Pacheco

Sardo

Unis

Valenzuela

Williams

## VI. QUEST:

### A. District Director of Legal Services & Equal Employment Opportunities Ljubisa Kostic:

1. Brown Act Presentation: Microsoft PowerPoint - The Brown Act - Refresher Training (Mesa College 09.15.2025)

### B. SDMC President Ashanti Hands:

1. Accreditation Reaffirmation:
  - a. We will submit our information to the ACCJC on September 22, 2025.
  - b. ACCJC Representatives will conduct an onsite visit on October 27, 2025.
  - c. Thank you to SDMC AS Immediate Past President Andrew Hoffman for his work on SDMC's reaffirmation efforts.
2. Second SDMC Baccalaureate Degree - Physical Therapy Program:
  - a. The approval is currently conditional due to a challenge of duplication from the California State University (CSU) system.
    - Our degree program does not prepare doctors like the current CSU degree program.
3. Project Mesa 2030:
  - a. We are continuing our work on Mesa 2030.
4. Prop. HH Projects:
  - a. We are holding kick off events for our Prop. HH projects for Athletics and Performing Arts.
  - b. We are dreaming big.
  - c. We have plans to build a new performance arts center next to the current Student Services building (I400).
  - d. We are planning to build a parking structure in the parking lot that is in front of the I300 and I400 buildings.
5. Our Chancellor has the goal of covering the tuition for all our district's Students through the Promise Program.
6. We want to make funding available to pay our Students who receive unpaid internships for completing their internships.
7. We have guests on campus today to review our application for \$250,000.00 in funding for Adult Learners.
8. We are working to meet the current moment on behalf of our Students especially in light of the of federal funding cuts.
9. I look forward to working with SDMC AS President Mary Gwin and the current SDMC AS Exec Committee.

## VII. REPORTS:

### A. Committee Reports:

1. Senate Executive Committees:
  - a. *Academic Affairs (AA) Committee:* Chair Dave "DAS" Odasso (No Report)
  - b. *Professional Advancement Committee (PAC):* Chair Danica Moore
    - Danica Moore provided a report.
  - c. *Committee of Chairs (COC):* Chair of Chairs Ian Duckles (No Report)
  - d. *Curriculum Review Committee (CRC):* Faculty Co-Chair Justin Estep  
As reported by Justin Estep:  
"CRC is having their third meeting on Thursday.  
I will send the Active but not Offered course list to Chairs.  
Neurodiagnostic Technology is being discontinued (there are no jobs, no students, and no faculty).  
Catalog meets 9/23."
  - e. *Program Review Steering Committee (PRSC):* Faculty Co-Chair (TBA) No Report
  - f. *The Committee for Diversity Action, Inclusion & Equity (CDAIE):* Chair Edeama Jonah: No Report  
[Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion | College Initiatives | San Diego Mesa College](#)
  - g. *SDMC AS Task Force on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI):* Chair Ryan/Mongelluzzo
    - Ryan Mongelluzzo provided a report.

- h. *Other Committee Reports:* Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) Michelle Rodriguez  
As reported by Michelle Rodriguez:  
"The ESC's first meeting was held on 9/5 at 2pm via zoom. We had 8 people in attendance.  
Goals so far for the semester:
- 3 year update of the Environmental Sustainability Survey - Update and deliver the during the spring semester
  - LEAF program - Leadership and Environmental Action for the Future
    - Develop marketing materials for the spring
    - Deliver workshop during Catalyst to help bring a few courses over the finish line
  - Apply for a MIP intern to work on various Climate Action Plan goals
  - Work with TerraMesa on student projects"
    - District Committee on Sustainability met on 8/29.
  - Focus on recycling and waste contract
  - Continued membership in Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
    - Send a representative to the Mesa 2030 meetings"

2. Senate Executive Officer Reports:

- a. *Vice President:* Veronica Gerace

As reported by Veronica Gerace"

"A call for committee participation was sent out last week highlighting committees that need faculty participation. Please consider serving. If a faculty is interested in serving on a committee, they should contact the chair of that committee to learn details about when the committee meets, requirements, needs, etc. The committee chair would then send the names of prospective members to me, as the Vice President of the Academic Senate and Chair of the Committee on Committees. This helps to avoid double efforts or the committee chair not being aware of interest in their committee. The Committee on Committees then reviews the proposals for things like committee composition and informs that committee chair of the decision. The committee chair would then inform prospective committee members.

I hope to feature one committee each month when the monthly call for service goes out. If you have a committee that you would like to have featured, please let me know by the first of the month."

- b. *Secretary:* Vacant  
c. *Treasurer:* Thekima Mayasa
  - Thekima Mayasa provided a report.d. *Senator at Large 1:* Ryan Mongelluzzo (No Report)  
e. *Senator at Large 2:* Vacant  
f. *CTE Liaison:* Vacant  
g. *Immediate Past President:* Andrew Hoffman (No Report)  
h. *President:* Mary Gwin

- As reported by Mary Gwin:  
"Mary Gwin gave a brief report indicating that the retreat went well and that there are free speech areas on campus. The campus map with free speech areas indicated is linked." ([LINK](#))
- Guest Speaker Liability Waiver: [LINK](#)

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:** None

**IX.**

**X. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Resolution 2025.5.1 – Professional Development Funding:** Crosby (Second Reading)  
Updated September 15, 2025

Move to Approve:  
M/S

Moore/Allbee

**34 Approve**  
Suarez  
(Proxy to Mongelluzzo)  
**1 Abstain**  
Estep

**B. District GE Task Force:** Estep (Second Reading)

Move to Approve:  
M/S

Brown/Moore

**33 Approve**  
Suarez  
Proxy to Mongelluzzo  
**2 Abstain**  
Holowicki  
Rodriguez

**XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A.** SDCCD Chancellor Greg Smith 2025-2026 Forum – Tuesday (September 30, 2025) 2:30PM – 4:00PM (Room MC 211 A/B). ([LINK](#)).
- B.** The next SDMC Academic Senate meeting is September 29, 2025 from 2:20PM – 4:20PM in Room MC 211 A/B.
- C.** The next Academic Affairs Committee meeting is September 22, 2025) from 4:15PM – 5:30PM in Room A 117.
- D.** The next Committee of Chairs (CoC) meeting is September 24, 2025 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room MC 211 A/B.
- E.** The next Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) meeting is September 18, 2025 @ 2:15PM in Room LRC 435.
- F.** The next SDMC AS Exec meeting is September 22, 2025 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room A 117.
- G.** The next Professional Advancement Committee meeting is September 17, 2025 @ 2:30PM in Room A117.

**XI. MEETING EXTENSION:**

Move to Extend the Meeting 5 (Five) Additional Minutes:  
M/S

Mayasa/Johnson

**UNANIMOUS**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT @ 4:25PM.**

Move to Adjourn:  
M/S

Albee/Johnson

**UNANIMOUS**

Submitted by Sue Saetia

Approved by the SDMC AS:



**Resolution 2025.9.1: Support of Career Services:** Rachel Russell/Karen Wait (Updated 09/23/2025)

Move:

Second:

**Whereas**, San Diego Mesa College commits to supporting student equity and excellence,<sup>1</sup> and the breadth of career services currently offered to students requires sustained investment in programs that provide equitable access to career exploration and preparation throughout their academic journey<sup>2</sup> and recent statewide reductions in California Community Colleges' Strong Workforce Program funding have resulted in a 25% reduction of SWP funding for Mesa,<sup>3,4</sup> therefore significantly affecting Mesa's ability to sustain essential career services programs, including the Career Peer Ambassadors, Mesa College Health and Wellness Community Clinic, Mesa Impactship Program, and Work-Based Learning Faculty Liaisons;<sup>5</sup> and

**Whereas**, the Career Peer Ambassadors play a crucial role in expanding the reach of Career Services by providing peer-to-peer support, particularly among first-generation and underrepresented students;<sup>6</sup> and students who received Career Counseling between 2021-23 had a 5% higher course success rate than students who did not receive counseling;<sup>7</sup>

**Whereas**, the Mesa College Health and Wellness Community Clinic provides Allied Health students from medical assisting, physical therapy assistant (PTA), and dental assistant programs with hands-on experiential learning opportunities prior to beginning clinical rotations; and the Clinic offers Physical Therapy and Dental health care services at a significantly reduced cost for adults and children who are uninsured or underinsured in our San Diego Community;<sup>8</sup> and has been recognized by the district;<sup>9</sup> and

**Whereas**, the Mesa Impactship Program (MIP) is an innovative, equity driving workforce development initiative that connects underserved students across all programs with paid, credit-earning internships, and comprehensive career support;<sup>10</sup>

**Whereas**, Mesa's Work-Based Learning (WBL) Liaison Program leads the district in ensuring that career preparation is woven into the fabric of academic life through dedicated academic school liaisons, strategic employer partnerships, and integrated experiential learning;<sup>11</sup> and students who participated in WBL activities had higher success and completion rates than students who did not;<sup>12</sup> and

**Be it Resolved**, that the San Diego Mesa College Academic Senate urges the administration to prioritize sustained support and resources for the Career Peer Ambassadors, the Mesa Impactship Program, the Community Clinic, and Work-Based Learning Liaison programs;

**Be it further Resolved**, that the San Diego Mesa College Academic Senate urges the administration to engage in transparent and inclusive budgetary planning that clearly outlines funding priorities and aligns with strategic plan objectives. This planning should actively uphold and prioritize existing high-impact, equity-driven programs in its decision-making processes

If you have any problems accessing the links below, please reach out to Rachel Russell [rrussell@sdccd.edu](mailto:rrussell@sdccd.edu).

**Notes**

1. [San Diego Mesa College's Mission, Vision, & Values](#)
2. Such programs directly align with [Mesa 2030 Strategic Plan](#) and [2022-2025 Student Equity Plan](#), specifically the Completion Objective 2 to "*develop cross-functional teams that support student success and integrate career and transfer counseling*," as well as the Pathways and Partnerships Objective 3 to "*increase community engagement, experiential learning, integrated career planning, and workforce training*."
3. [SDCCD Spring 2025 Action Item Update: Districtwide SWP Discussion & Planning](#)
4. In 2024–2025, the State Legislature approved a \$305 million reduction to SWP funding over the next five years. This results in a decrease of approximately \$10.5 million for SDCCD (\$7.6M Local, \$2.9M Regional), with Mesa College experiencing a nearly 25% reduction. [Strong Workforce Program Call to Action](#), October 2024
5. Presentation to SDCCD Leadership, "[San Diego & Imperial Counties Community Colleges Regional Strong Workforce](#)", November 21, 2024.
6. In 2024-25, Career Peer Ambassadors hosted 355 appointments for resume and cover letter writing, interview preparation appointments, job board assistance; and 32.1% of students who attended appointments identify as Hispanic/Latine and 8.2% identify as Black/African American. [Career Peer Ambassador Program Report, 2018-2025](#)
7. In 2021-23, students who received career counseling had a 79% course success rate and a 2.98 GPA. Students who did not receive career counseling had a 74% success rate and a 2.73 GPA. [Mesa College Career Counseling Student Services Outcomes Data Dashboard](#)
8. In 2024-25, the community clinic served 720 dental appointments and 122 physical therapy patients, totaling over \$100,000 in pro bono services and over 500 hours of hands-on student training.
9. [Mesa College clinic a 'win-win' for community, students](#), SDCCD Newsroom, August 21, 2024.
10. MIP supports 150-200 students per semester of whom over 51% identify as Black/African American or Hispanic/ Latine and over 70% are Pell Grant recipients
11. In 2023-24 this program supported 452 courses and 921 sections that provided WBL activities to 11,481 students, ranging from guest speakers, informational interviews, and classroom projects, doubling the previous year's engagement. [SDCCD Work Based Learning Dashboard](#)
12. Students who participated in WBL activities had higher success (77.5%) and completion (90.8%) rates than students who did not (75%, 89.2%) [SDCCD Work Based Learning Dashboard](#)

Presented to the Academic Senate: September 29, 2025

Approved by the Academic Senate: