

PROGRESS *and* PROFILES



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2010 - 2011



CONTENTS

Message from the President	1	A Year in Review.....	12-13
2011: A Pattern of Progress	3	Community Connections.....	15
College Life	5	Proposition S&N.....	17
Scholarship, Excellence & Innovation.....	7	Olympian Gold	19
Destination Mesa	9	Classified Success	21
Kudos & Accolades.....	11	Mesa at a Glance	23



Pamela T. Luster, Ed.D.
President



Tim McGrath, J.D.
Vice President,
Instruction



Brian Stockert
Interim Vice President,
Student Services



Ronald E. Ballesteros-Perez
Vice President,
Administrative Services

WE ARE *Mesa*

For California community colleges, the 2010-2011 fiscal year has been defined by unprecedented budget cuts and fiscal constraints. This unusual experience has given San Diego Mesa College the opportunity to examine why we exist, how we can improve what we do, and how we can best serve our students.

We have had to prioritize resources, cutting the amount we spend and reducing the services we offer. We did this while striving to serve more and more students who are choosing to enrich their lives and opportunities through higher education. We have made substantial progress by continuing to focus on our mission: to inspire and enable student success in an environment that is strengthened by diversity, is responsive to our communities and fosters scholarship, leadership and responsibility.

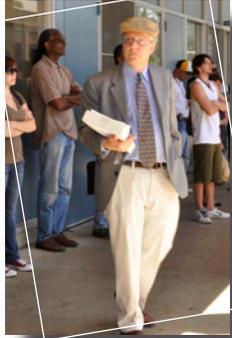
In January, Mesa’s accreditation as a valued educational institution was reaffirmed by the Accreditation for the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges. As a college, we moved beyond planning as an exercise to planning as an integrated process. This integration will serve Mesa College and our community over the long term by engaging the college in a continuous and reflective assessment of instruction and services. We will be better able to weather the ups and downs of State resources by aligning our priorities with proven outcomes.

At its core, it is people – our students, faculty and staff – who continue to exemplify and affirm Mesa’s stellar reputation of high academic excellence and student success. This year’s annual report is aptly titled *Progress and Profiles*. We are pleased to share with you our accomplishments and invite you to meet the people of Mesa College.

I am honored to serve as the sixth president of San Diego Mesa College. I join the college and community with an open heart and open mind, ready to learn and lead.

Sincerely,
Dr. Pamela T. Luster, President

MESSAGE FROM
THE PRESIDENT



STOP EDUCATION BUDGET CUTS

Dear Republican
The budget cut
greatly I have
family. It is
throughout in
high school
Mesa comp
who is wor
pay for, in
summer
cuts I
I now
in my
plan
over

After graduating high school I decided
to work instead of going to college. I did
not know at the time that the
chance was if I got educated I
would be a full time employee to
live on my own so I had
to be very hard because
but I am determined to
what it takes. Now my
challenge almost makes

Subject: Budget Cuts

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to let you know how the budget cuts have affected me as a community college instructor. In all honesty, the cuts have not changed much in my life. I still and have been for the past 7 years not had any security in my job. Budget cuts threaten to cut my position this is nothing new because as a part timer for San Diego Mesa College, Grossmont College of the University of Phoenix, (working more than a full-time professor) I get laid off twice. Seven years teaching in the same place with 14 layoffs is a situation that creates budget cuts. Perhaps, the budget cuts will force me to go work for private institutions. grateful that I am not abused by my employers as I have been as a contingency institutions.

The budget cuts, while destroying many students chances of a timely education, damages not merely individuals. The entire society will feel the repercussions. Thousands of Californians will not have access to vital training. Our education system doing a shameful job with quality, now financial communities face an inept populace.

Budget cuts will create again a divide between rich and poor. Essentially, the cuts as you must see, will result in the displacement of residents. The handicap may never be removed and the remedy must be an overwhelming cultural shift in our communities. As stands, those who make the decisions and everyone of us.

While I am no expert on budget matters, my hope that we experience a cultural shift. If we don't start soon, the pain will force others to put education 1st. Let's address education pragmatically.

Thank you for your time

More than 500 faculty, staff and students showed up to add their voices to a TEACH-in SPEAK-out on the impact of State budget cuts on community colleges. The brainchild of faculty members Jennifer Cost, Rob Fremland, Jonathan McLeod and the Academic Senate, the event expanded to include participation from Associated Student Government, the AFT and the Mesa Classified Senate. Speakers included Chancellor Constance M. Carroll, Trustee Peter Zschiesche, Interim President Elizabeth Armstrong, faculty, and the many students who stepped up to the microphone to tell touching and personal stories about how the budget crisis and resulting class cuts are affecting their lives and future. Students took the time to pen their stories as well. Shown here are a few of the letters students wrote to state legislators.

In the year past, San Diego Mesa College — along with all segments of higher education in California and the nation — has had to deal with the most serious budget cuts in its history. We have also been challenged to deal with the business of continuing to teach, to keep our classes open and available, and to plan for our future and the future of our students and the communities we serve. Throughout, Mesa College has remained true to its mission, vision and values, and put students first. Here is a progress report.

Budget

After a long and arduous process, the California budget process came to an end in late June, resulting in the budget cuts of \$1.7 billion from higher education on top of the deep 2009-10 cuts. For those that work and study at community colleges, it means further shortages of classes and classroom seats, and increased tuition fees. Mesa College has done an impressive job of forecasting budget outcomes, planning for various scenarios, maintaining a strong financial position with adequate reserves, being prudent and efficient in our expenditures and operations, and keeping true to our core mission and principles. This approach will continue to serve us well as the economy continues the slow process of improvement.

Accreditation Reaffirmed

At its meeting in January, 2011, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges unanimously reaffirmed the accredited standing of San Diego Mesa College. Based on a comprehensive evaluation, the Commission recognized the strengths of the college and took action to reaffirm accreditation, with a requirement to complete a follow-up report. That report was submitted in March and was reviewed and accepted by the Commission in June. The report can be viewed at www.sdmesa.edu/accreditation.

Strategic Planning

This past year saw the culmination of a college-wide, integrated improvement process led by the Strategic Planning Committee. The resulting product is an aligned structure that links overall institutional planning with planning at the program level, and the creation of a new Institutional Planning Manual. On May 3, 2011, President's Cabinet approved the creation of a new committee, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness. At the same meeting, Professor Donald Abbott was commended on his work in authoring the manual. www.sdmesa.edu/strategic-planning/.



When former Marine sniper Richard Gilbert found himself uncomfortable approaching the Muslim Student Association information booth, he talked about it with Edward Higuera, a buddy at the Student Veterans Union. Their frustration led to discussions with students Huda Dosii and Noorsaba Bahramzi, and Project Unity was born. The barrier-breaking project designed to bring together Muslims, veterans and other diverse groups may be the first of its kind anywhere. The group's March blood drive benefited troops on the battlefield and patients at Naval Medical Center San Diego. "Working on the Project Unity blood drive has had a tremendous impact on my life," said Huda. "My perspectives have changed... not only have I learned more about the veterans, I've also learned more about myself." Search "Mesa College Project Unity" on YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ksK7Apv6J3I&feature=youtube_gdata_player> to watch their video.

Among the commendations that San Diego Mesa College received in its January 2011 accreditation report was the following: “The College is commended for the student services leadership in the development of a program that provides opportunities for expanding student participation in college governance and club activities.” It was a noteworthy achievement for the enthusiastic members of the Student Affairs department, headed by Dean Ashanti Hands. “It is wonderful to be acknowledged by the Commission,” she said, “but the real honorees are our students, who are so active, engaged and involved in all aspects of college life.” Here’s a sampling of unique programs and activities offered during the year.

Constitution Day, Mesa Style

Mesa College commemorated Constitution Day with displays at the LRC and the Bookstore, comments by Chancellor Constance M. Carroll, and more. A packed crowd filled the free speech area to watch a debate by the acclaimed Mesa College Olympian Speech and Debate Team on proposed changes to the 14th Amendment. On September 17, the date of the Constitution’s original signing, Congressman Bob Filner led a discussion on Arizona’s new state law regarding undocumented residents and its intersection with the 14th Amendment’s definition of citizenship.

Experiencing Death Saves Lives

More than 250 students participated in the 2010 Death Experience “Drink, Drive, Die” event sponsored by Student Health Services in October. Participants experienced the sequential and severe consequences of drinking and driving and making wrong decisions. Counselors were on hand to talk to students about their personal experiences and how to cope with the deaths of loved ones. Hundreds more students stopped by information and crashed vehicle displays, and to add their personal notes under a sycamore tree in the Quad. One student wrote: “I lost my car. I lost my job. I lost my home. I even lost my leg. But what I lost most of all was the one I loved.”

Celebrating Culture and Diversity

In December, students took Mesa’s commitment to diversity to heart. Cultural Awareness Day offered the campus community an opportunity to taste, see and celebrate our global community through music, live art, and dance. The brainchild of ASG Senator Cherie Deogracias, the event involved hundreds of students and more than 40 campus and community clubs and organizations.





The annual Mesa College Ruth Kern Scholarship Gala is one of the highlights of the school year, bringing together students, family, faculty, and staff for an evening celebrating student success. Behind the scenes of this dinner, dance and awards gala is the generosity of caring people whose legacy is the gift of higher education. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or creating a scholarship, please call 619-388-2699 or visit <http://www.sdmesa.edu/scholarships>. The scholarship gala is named in memory of Ruth Kern, an ardent advocate of the Mesa College Foundation's Scholarship Fund.

Mesa Hosts Ethnic Studies Conference

Sparked by the recent passage of Arizona's House Bill 2281 that bans Ethnic Studies courses at secondary level institutions, the San Diego County Ethnic Studies Consortium held its inaugural conference at Mesa College. Organizers Dr. Cesar Lopez and Thekima Mayasa reported that hundreds attended the two-day event in October that kicked off national Ethnic Studies Week. Sessions included a teach-in and press conference, keynote presentations, workshops and performances.

Excellence in Interior Design

The College's NKBA-accredited Interior Design Program received the Excellence in Education award from the National Kitchen and Bath Association. Professors Mimi Moore and Helene Lindquist accepted the award at the Kitchen and Bath Industry Show and Conference in Las Vegas in April.

Summit Wins League Award

The African American/Latino Male Leadership Summit was among the 2011 League for Innovation award winners. The summit is a pre-collegiate recruitment and outreach program designed to empower and educate this student population while addressing the ever increasing problem of declining college enrollment for this group. Created in 2007 and believed to be the first event of its kind in California, the summit has inspired similar events at other colleges.

Refugee Turns Scholar

Mohamed Musse is a Somali refugee who could barely speak English when he came to the United States in 2005. Five years later, the now 26-year-old Bridges to the Baccalaureate scholar has bested some of the top scientific student minds in the country to win a prestigious national science award for cancer research in biochemistry at the 2010 National Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students. The 2011 honors graduate continued his research during the summer. In the fall, he heads to UCSD where he will major in biochemistry.



A large group of diverse international students at San Diego Mesa College. Many students are making peace signs with their hands. The students are of various ethnicities and are smiling and waving. The background shows green trees and a clear blue sky.

Each year, San Diego Mesa College welcomes approximately one hundred international students representing many countries. When asked why they selected Mesa College, most name college's reputation, and that "it's the best transfer school around." According to program director Ivonne Alvarez, Mesa College has earned itself a world-wide reputation as the college of choice for many students eager to study in the United States. During the 2010-2011 academic year, Mesa College accepted applicants from 21 countries who joined a cohort of more than 297 international students.

Stroll through the Mesa College campus and you'll be greeted by a rainbow of friendly, multicultural faces. Mesa College is proud of its diversified, minority-majority student population of nearly 27,000. What might come as a surprise is that a large number of Olympians are foreign born, studying here as part of a service offered to international students (see left), or on their own. Profiled below are three immigrant professionals, each of whom selected Mesa as their college of choice for its educational excellence, and value.

Noriko Kiyomura had a bachelor's degree in international relations from Daito Bunka University and was working in Japan as a marketing administrator for a global corporation. Even though she spoke English, she had a difficult time communicating with colleagues around the world. "To explain the trends of Japanese markets or business practices in English was challenging," she said. So, the independent 29-year-old saved for five years and applied to Mesa through the college's international student program. She's studying for an accounting degree, but Noriko says she's learning so much more, "I'm learning new ideas from other students, and expanding my cultural and educational horizons."

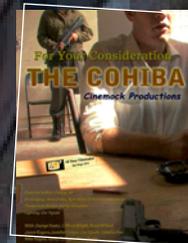
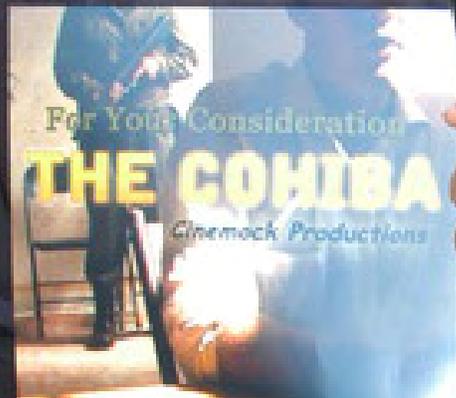
For **Tewodros "Teddy" Wakie**, coming to the US was like winning the lottery. In fact, it was. The forestry professional from Ethiopia was a 2006 recipient of the Diversity Immigrant Visa Program lottery, which grants visas to select individuals from countries with low immigration rates to the US. Teddy wanted to come to America to study GIS, or Geographic Information Systems and, eventually, and to earn an advanced degree. He selected Mesa for the quality reputation of its GIS program, but admits that the relatively inexpensive education costs factored in as well. "With the help of my professors, I've succeeded in achieving what I planned to achieve," says Teddy, who graduated with honors in June.

When Clairemont **Hong Nguyen** resident arrived in the US from Vietnam in 2006 with her new husband, she was already a practicing veterinarian and had even owned a hotel. Like many immigrants, Hong did not speak a word of English. She began taking English classes, first at City College, and later, at Mesa. Those classes led her to enroll in one of the college's most popular career technical programs, Medical Assisting. "I am 46 years old so learning in English and learning a new technical field isn't easy for me," admits Hong. Still she doesn't want to stop learning. "I want to learn the H'mong language, so I can help even more people."



VIDEO
Tools & Knowledge
Extraordinary Products

VIDEO GE
Tools & Knowledge
Extraordinary Products



In summer 2010, Drama Professor George Yé directed a short film featuring Mesa College students for the 48 Hour Film Festival. Shot over the two days of the festival "The Cohiba" took "Best of Fest." Yé received the Honorable Mention, Best Director award. The film was also screened at the Temecula Film Festival and again at the San Diego Asian American Film Festival last fall. "Cohiba," by Cinemock Productions, featured students Kerby Solognier, production designer; Cifford B. Wright, actor; Deepti Kingra, production assistant; Jason Rodger, actor and Gio Tejada, lighting. Click here to view the video: <http://www.studiofilmfest.com/video/the-cohiba>

Photos courtesy of 48 Hour Film Festival.

Excellence is one of ten values of San Diego Mesa College's Mission Statement (see inside back cover). It also drives faculty and staff to be leaders in their respective fields and community interests. Below are recent accomplishments, honors, awards, and activities of members of the Mesa community.

- **Tom Adams**, Mesa College culinary instructor and pastry chef of Lemon Grove Pastry Shoppe, was honored by industry professionals as "2011 Chef of the Year" by the San Diego Chapter of the American Culinary Federation.
- **Dr. Joi Blake**, Dean of Student Development and Matriculation, interned at the nation's capitol in the offices of Dr. Martha Kanter, Under Secretary of Education, to fulfill a requirement of her Doctoral program at SDSU.
- Professor **Alessandra Moctezuma** was appointed to the Arts and Culture Working Group for the San Diego Foundation. She was also the featured writer for Art San Diego's Contemporary Art Fair.
- Professor **Jaye Van Kirk** was part of an international delegation of Psychological Science faculty that visited South Africa in summer 2010 to build collaborations on global educational practices in their field.
- **John Landicho**, Mesa men's volleyball coach, was part of the staff for USA Volleyball's annual men's and youth summer training camp. Landicho and Assistant Coach **Davis Ransom** also served on the coaching staff for the 2010 USA Volleyball High Performance Boys Holiday Training Camp.
- Professor **Carl Luna**, frequently sought-after analyst and commentator, published his novel, *Motherland*, a political thriller set in Russia that was inspired by his time as a Fulbright Scholar in Nizhny Novgorod.
- **Kim Williams**, Mesa alumna and an adjunct instructor in the college's animal health technology program, was appointed to the California Veterinary Medical Board.
- Women's Volleyball Coach **Kim Lester** recorded her 200th victory as a college coach on November 17, 2010.
- Academic Senate President **Cynthia Rico Bravo** was appointed to the California Community Colleges Student Success Task Force to boost completion rates over the next decade.
- **Skyler Dennon**, Financial Aid Work Study Coordinator, debuted his long-awaited theatrical project, "The Adventures of Patty-Cat & Kittle," in a staged reading showcase at the Coronado Playhouse.
- **Barbara Sexton**, professor of art and lead drawing instructor, was a featured artist in the prestigious invitational exhibition curated by Mark-Elliott Lugo at Earl and Birdie Taylor Memorial Library art gallery.

- Future radiologic technicians are pinned after completion of more than 2,000+ hours of practicum.
- A pet iguana loose on campus captures the college's hearts.



- At exactly 10:21 a.m. on Oct. 21, the Mesa College community "dropped, covered, and held on" during the Great California Shakeout.
- Mesa College Theatre Company presents "Strictly a Formality," a riveting production exploring the issues of gender, class and human rights.
- Mesa College hosts its 2010 Accreditation Team Visit.

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

- The music department rolls out its popular, weekly recital hour featuring faculty and local talent.



- Ground is broken and construction begins for the new, one-stop Student Services Center.



- More than 200 veterans, active duty military, dependents and supporters show their colors on Veterans Day.
- The Mesa Diversity Committee hosts "Islamophobia," a panel discussion to raise awareness and reduce discrimination.
- Mesa College Dance Company presents "(in)Fusion."



- Mesa hosts executive chefs of the American Culinary Federation who conducted practice ACF tests for industry professionals and student chefs.

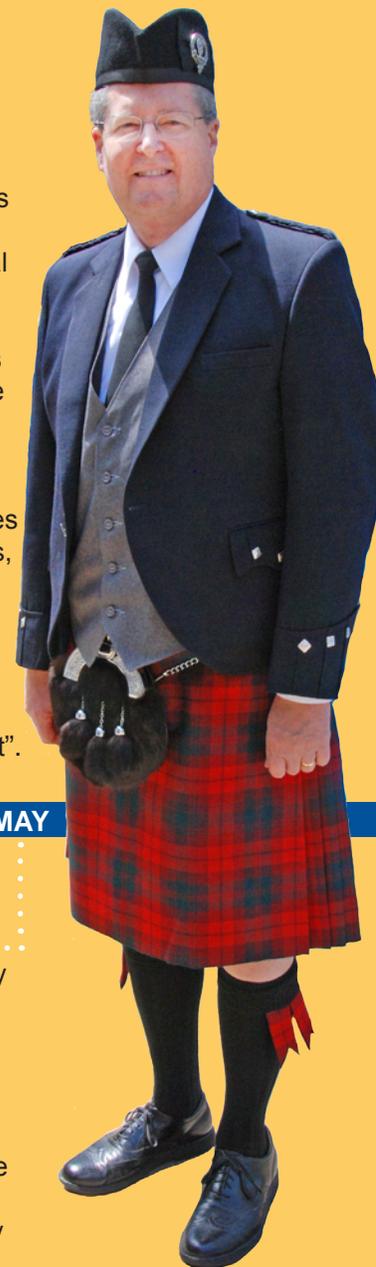


YEAR *in* REVIEW

- The award-winning Mesa College Concert Jazz Band presents its annual holiday showcase.
- Women's basketball games go live, online, courtesy of Coach Michael Hootner.
- Men's Volleyball hosts the USMC Camp Pendleton netters in support of Marines training for the All-Marine Corps Team.
- Black History Month is celebrated with films, lectures, workshops, music and more.
- Mesa is the host college for the National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs Conference, held in San Diego.



- Fashion Students sew up the "deconstruction competition" at the LA Fashion Symposium.
- Strawberry DNA extractions wow the crowd at the San Diego Science Festival at Petco Park.
- Mesa engineering students "Walk on Water" to take the college division title at the annual USD competition.
- Festival of Colors celebrates diversity with performances, food and fun.
- Mesa thespians host a tea party to introduce their production of "The Importance of Being Ernest".



DECEMBER

- An annual tradition, faculty, staff and students take home yet another trophy at San Diego's Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade.



JANUARY

FEBRUARY



- The campus rallies to raise \$2,838 to support the victims of Japan's devastating earthquake and tsunami.
- Women's History Month is celebrated with performances, presentations and discussions.

MARCH

APRIL

- Student artists headline the Mesa Art Gallery exhibition "Raw and Exposed."
- "30 Years in Fashion" is celebrated at the Annual Golden Scissors runway extravaganza.

MAY

- Interim President Elizabeth Armstrong hosts a reception for faculty marking tenure and promotion to rank of professor and associate professor.
- Commencement exercises honor Mesa's 47th graduating class of 853 students who received 1,131 degrees and certificates.



2010-2011



What began as a casual conversation between two “regulars” at a neighborhood Starbucks – Mesa biology professor Kevin Krown and Ellen Stanton of the La Jolla Friends of the Seals – led to a cohort of Mesa students who volunteered over two semesters conducting seal research at Casa Beach. Their research will help to show how human behavior is affecting that of the cove’s pinniped population. “I love the beach, and have always known that I wanted to be a Marine Biologist,” said student Danielle McKelvey. “I’ve learned more in the past few months of research than I have in the entire seven years I’ve lived in San Diego and going to the beach just for fun.”



Being responsive to our communities is a critical component of the San Diego Mesa College mission. Faculty, staff and students take that to heart and support and participate in numerous community projects. Community members also contribute to college life. Industry professionals serve on community advisory committees for academic programs. The SDCCD Citizens Oversight Committee oversees the Propositions S and N construction projects. Community service projects are requirements for numerous academic programs. But for most, it's a volunteer effort responding to and helping those in need.

Mesa's Papá Noel

There's no official Santa Claus at Mesa College, but Language Professor Jeff Berry comes close to children south of the border. Each December, he leads a caravan of cars packed high with toys, clothes and food for impoverished children and their families who live in pueblos and migrant camps south of Ensenada. What started as a missionary trip four years ago has grown into an annual effort supported by the entire Mesa College community. Honors students work as Santa's helpers to organize donations and wrap gifts. Some student elves have even joined him on the journey.

Tecolote TLC

A record number of 200 campus and community volunteers gave some "tender loving care" to neighboring Tecolote Canyon during the fourth annual Canyon Day spring ritual. In May, community members Eloise Battle, Tom Kaye, Donna Frye, and park rangers Janice Lavallo and Tracey Walker were honored for their "rock solid" support of Canyon Day.

Paying it Forward

- Students in Professor Paul Detwiler's marine biology class took top honors at the "Thank You Ocean" video competition. See it at thankyouocean.org/take-action/contests.
- Mesa's Classified Senate sponsored "AniMeals," a holiday drive for the pets of the home-bound elderly or disabled.
- Among other runs and walks, students, staff and athletes joined the enthusiastic Team Mesa for the Aids Walk and Run in September, and again in October for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk.
- Student Ambassadors showed their Olympian spirit at the Linda Vista Multi-Cultural Fair and Parade.
- The Honors Club counted 82 donors at their fall blood drive.



A dedication ceremony for the new Mesa College Design Center, home of the college's Department of Architecture and Environmental Design, was celebrated in May. The project is unique to the campus in that it is a renovation of the 24,000 square foot former Beale Elementary School, which was built in 1954. At \$5.4 million, the project was roughly \$6 million less than new construction might have cost. The *San Diego Union-Tribune* called it "a 24,000-square-foot lesson in sustainability for the school's 700 students in architecture, landscape architecture, interior design and construction management." Interior design scholar Tatiana de Ness calls it pure delight. "It's a pleasure to learn on state-of-the art equipment in an environment so natural.... The atmosphere encourages you to develop your own unique talent and creativity." The complex is pictured at center on page 17.

If you haven't toured the campus lately, you'd be surprised at the transformation of San Diego Mesa College. The college is in the midst of a \$441 million campus expansion, courtesy of San Diego taxpayers and the SDCCD's \$1.55 billion Propositions S and N construction bond program. Since construction began, Mesa has completed 10 projects, including a sweeping east campus improvement project, which included a new entrance, a 1,100-space parking structure and police substation, the Rosa Parks Memorial Transit Center, an upgraded athletic field and track, and the Allied Health Education and Training Facility. Here's an update on construction projects over the last year.

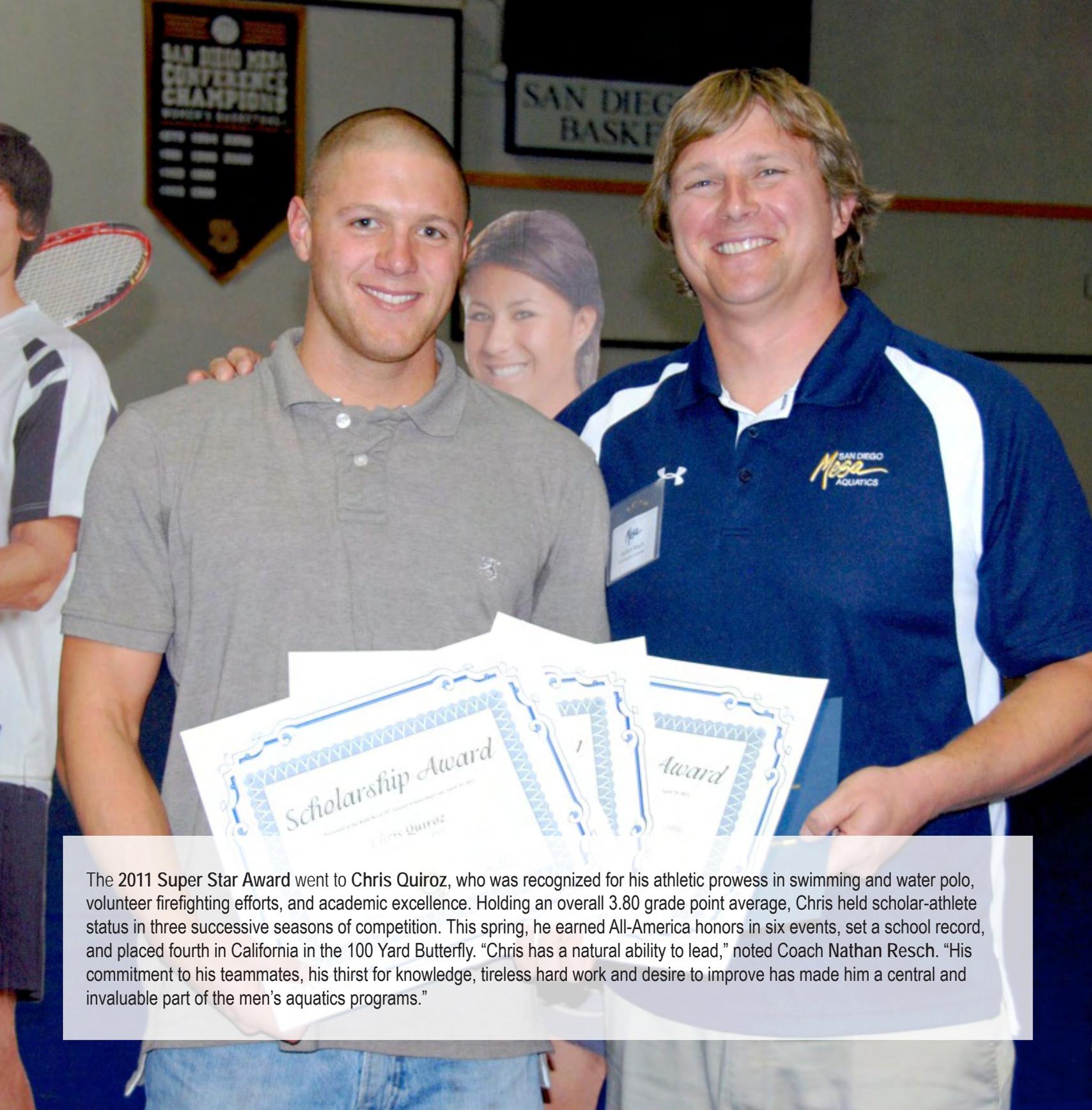
Student Services Center

The 85,000 square foot, \$55.7 million Mesa College Student Services Center (below left) broke ground in September 2010. In April, hundreds gathered to witness a centuries-old Scandinavian tradition called a "topping out" at the construction site, where the campus community joined the construction crew in signing a 45-foot long and 3,300 pound beam. When complete in 2012, the building will include new facilities for student services departments, classrooms, a café, and an express elevator linking the lower parking lot and upper campus. To see the beam being raised, go to: <http://www.youtube.com/user/SDCCDPropsSN?feature=mhum>.

Math and Science Complex

The center of the Mesa College campus has been leveled. Gone are the former F100, F200 and J Buildings, demolished to make way for the construction of the Math+Science Complex (below right). Targeted for completion in 2013, construction of the \$117 million, 200,000 square foot facility will break ground later this year. The new Math+Science Complex will add much needed academic classrooms, offices and laboratories supporting the college's popular math and sciences curricula. Unique in design, the teaching spaces extend beyond the classrooms and into the surrounding landscape to include an outdoor classroom courtyard, geology demonstration courtyard and 100+ species botanical collection.





The 2011 Super Star Award went to Chris Quiroz, who was recognized for his athletic prowess in swimming and water polo, volunteer firefighting efforts, and academic excellence. Holding an overall 3.80 grade point average, Chris held scholar-athlete status in three successive seasons of competition. This spring, he earned All-America honors in six events, set a school record, and placed fourth in California in the 100 Yard Butterfly. "Chris has a natural ability to lead," noted Coach Nathan Resch. "His commitment to his teammates, his thirst for knowledge, tireless hard work and desire to improve has made him a central and invaluable part of the men's aquatics programs."

With 10 men's and 10 women's sports teams, Mesa College has one of the largest competitive community college athletics programs in the region. Nearly 500 student-athletes, competed with honor, integrity and spirit during the 2010-11 school year. They scored four conference titles and made 11 appearances in regional tournaments and at eight State tournaments. During the fall semester, Men's Cross Country and Men's Water Polo secured conference titles in the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference. Women's Cross Country and Women's Soccer both earned spots at regional tournaments, with Women's Cross Country advancing to the State tournament.

Spring sports teams had equal success. Conference titles were awarded to the Men's Track and Field team, and the Men's Tennis squad. Advancing to the regional and State tournaments were the Badminton, Baseball, Women's Tennis, and the Women's and Men's Swim and Dive teams.

Olympian athletes scored high in academics as well. The annual STAR Awards program (see left) recognizes academic achievements, community spirit, and athletic excellence. In 2010-11, many athletes earned GPAs above 3.0. Fourteen athletes earned a perfect 4.0 GPA.



Research shows that colleges and universities across the country need to prepare to respond to critical incidents, emergencies and disasters. In June, the first class of volunteer Olympians completed the FEMA community-based C-CERT training program. Hands-on exercises with fire extinguishers, Automated External Defibrillators and triage took the training beyond textbook and table exercises and into the face of reality. "Mesa College and our neighbors can feel safer with 43 fully trained and C-CERT qualified members who are better prepared and ready to respond to emergencies and disasters," said C-CERT coordinator Charlotta Robertson.



Classified employees are an integral part of Mesa College. Nearly 170 employees serve in numerous positions and capacities, from serving students at the frontline to grounds keeping, to working diligently behind the scenes in laboratories, libraries and more. The work of this diverse group of employees is vital to student success. Through the Classified Senate, these valued employees are actively engaged in college governance and all aspects of campus life.

Classified Staff Development Conference

Nearly 175 district and college employees attended this annual spring event, which has become a cornerstone practice of staff development at Mesa College. Unique to the District, the conference committee is entirely responsible for developing content, scheduling, operations and evaluation. Health and stress reduction was this year's theme. Cafeteria cashier Maria Lopez took the training to heart. She's drinking more water, keeping a journal and has lost nearly 10 pounds since the conference.

Classified Week

Sponsored by Classified Senate, this celebration of the Mesa College classified workforce was loaded with trivia, surprises and prizes, and even a nacho fiesta. Weeklong festivities culminated in the annual service awards presentation. Service award recipients included Michael Gast (30 years), Terri Galusha (35 years) and Catherine Sullivan (40 years).

A Dedicated Employee

An accomplished columnist, a giving volunteer and a friend to many, Stockroom Clerk Jesse Reyes is one of the most popular employees at Mesa College. This year, the retired Navy veteran was named 2011 **Outstanding Classified Employee of the Year**. A week later, he received the president's Unsung Hero Award for his volunteer work. Since 1996, Reyes has penned a column for *The Filipino Press*. He recently filed his 175th column. Ask him about his secret to success and Reyes smiles and softly replies, "Having a goal, being involved in the community, and having the energy and courage to continue."



Among the largest community colleges in California and the nation, **San Diego Mesa College** is a fully accredited, comprehensive two-year college offering more than 170 associate degree and certificate programs. With its robust language, art and music programs and rigorous math and science curricula, Mesa ranks as San Diego's top transfer institution. The college also serves as an important economic catalyst for the region. Its career programs include allied health fields, biopharmaceutical, multimedia, animal health technology, American Sign Language, hospitality, fashion, architecture, interior design, and more. Situated on a sprawling, suburban 104-acre mesa in the geographic center of San Diego, the college's small classes, exemplary student support services, outstanding faculty, and reputation for quality offer an unparalleled academic experience.



MESA COLLEGE 2010-2011 ACTUAL EXPENSES

Category	Adopted	Adjusted	Actuals	Balance
Academic	31,175,236	32,667,772	32,667,772	0
Non-Academic	8,015,916	8,116,919	8,116,919	0
Benefits	10,082,259	10,508,533	10,508,533	0
Supplies/Materials	731,409	512,009	426,816	85,193
Other Operating Expenses	444,005	439,438	388,362	51,076
Capital Outlay	110,285	444,090	380,021	64,069
Totals	\$50,559,110	\$52,688,761	\$52,488,423	\$200,338

STUDENT PROFILE

Founded: 1964

Enrollment: 24,252

Cost: \$36 per credit unit, CA resident

Age:

60% under 24
 18% between 25-29
 12% between 30-39
 9% over 40
 1% unreported

Gender:

53% Female
 47% Male

24% First generation college students
 32% Students receiving financial aid
 3% Students receiving DSPS services
 23% Full time students
 77% Part time students

Ethnicity:

7% African American
 1% American Indian
 15% Asian/Pacific Islander
 5% Filipino
 21% Latino
 38% White
 13% Other/Unreported

Top Five Majors

6,171 Undeclared AA/AS
 2,335 Business Administration
 2,067 Transfer
 1,296 Unclassified Restricted Tech Program
 1,233 Biology

Source: SDCCD Facts on File 2010-2011 Edition, Academic Year 2009-2010.



The *San Diego Mesa College Report to the Community* has been published online since 2006 at www.sdmesa.edu/news. A minimum quantity is printed on 100% recycled paper. To request a printed copy, please call 619-388-2759.

Published by: San Diego Mesa College Communication Services.
Editor: Lina Heil. Photography: Anabel Pulido, Carol Beilstein and Alan Decker. Design: Anabel Pulido

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE

WE ARE *Mesa*

VISION – What we strive to be

San Diego Mesa College shall be a key force in our community to educate our students to shape the future.

MISSION – Why we exist

To inspire and enable student success in an environment that is strengthened by diversity, is responsive to our communities, and fosters scholarship, leadership and responsibility.

VALUES – What we believe in

- Access
- Accountability
- Diversity
- Equity
- Excellence
- Freedom of Expression
- Integrity
- Respect
- Scholarship
- Sustainability

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Equity/Access, Engagement/Retention, Persistence, Success, Institutional Effectiveness

GOALS

- To deliver and support exemplary teaching and learning in the areas of transfer education, associate degrees, career and technical education, certificates, and basic skills.
- To provide a learning environment that maximizes student access and success, and employee well-being.
- To respond to and meet community needs for economic and workforce development.
- To cultivate an environment that embraces and is enhanced by diversity.

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

7250 Mesa College Drive
San Diego, California 92111-4998
619-388-2600
858-627-2600

www.sdmesa.edu
www.facebook.com/sandiegomesacollege

Pamela T. Luster, Ed.D., President
Tim McGrath, Vice President, Instruction
Brian Stockert, Interim Vice President, Student Services
Ronald E. Ballesteros-Perez, Vice President, Administrative Services

The San Diego Community College District includes City College, Mesa College, Miramar College and Continuing Education. The SDCCD is governed by its Board of Trustees. No oral or written representation is binding on the San Diego Community College District without the express approval of the Board of Trustees.

San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees: Mary Graham;
Rich Grosch; Bill Schwandt; Maria Nieto Senour, Ph.D.; Peter Zschiesche,
Constance M. Carroll, Ph.D., Chancellor



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CITY COLLEGE • MESA COLLEGE • MIRAMAR COLLEGE • CONTINUING EDUCATION

