



Annual Report

2021-2022



SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE



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About San Diego Mesa College

2021 -2022

PAMELA T. LUSTER, ED.D.
PRESIDENT



GOVERNANCE LEADERS

JOHN CROCITTI, PH.D.
PRESIDENT
ACADEMIC SENATE



ASHANTI HANDS, ED.D.
VICE PRESIDENT
STUDENT SERVICES



EVA PARRILL
PRESIDENT
CLASSIFIED SENATE



ISABEL O' CONNOR, PH.D.
VICE PRESIDENT
INSTRUCTION



NATALIA TRINH
PRESIDENT
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS



LORENZE LEGASPI
VICE PRESIDENT
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



**PAULA HJORTH-GUSTIN,
ED.D.**
CHAIR OF CHAIRS



San Diego Mesa College is a fully accredited, comprehensive college committed to equity and excellence. We honor our diverse community of students, faculty, professional staff, and administrators who collaborate to foster scholarship, leadership, access, and innovation in an inclusive learning environment. By promoting student learning and achievement that leads to degrees and certificates, transfer, workforce training, and lifelong learning, we empower our students to reach their educational goals and shape their future. Among the largest community colleges in California, Mesa serves 25,000 students per year, 25% of whom are full-time. Mesa offers nearly 200 associate degrees and certificate programs and is one of 15 California community colleges offering a four-year baccalaureate degree. Mesa ranks as San Diego's top transfer institution, is a proud Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), an Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI), and a Military Friendly School, serving nearly 2,500 veterans and their families.



Letter from the President

It has been said that reflection brings learning to life. This annual report allows us to tell our story, make sense of meaningful moments and connect distinct experiences in ways that chronicle our journey to becoming the leading college of equity and excellence. These pages capture experiences that shaped who we are and whom we are becoming as a college community.

This past year, Mesa College centered our efforts on our Roadmap to Mesa2030; our five-year strategic plan that draws from the overarching goals of Mesa 2030, a high-level planning document that outlines our Educational and Facilities vision for the next 10 years. This centering resulted in faculty, classified professionals, students, and administrators breathing life into goals of completion, community, pathways and partnerships, stewardship, and scholarship in innovative and meaningful ways. The efforts resulted in millions of dollars in federal grants serving our Latin/a/e/x, Asian American, Native American Pacific Islander student populations and being recognized for our service to veterans, our athletic accomplishments, our commitment to basic needs, and the creation of new certificates and programs designed for student access to social and economic mobility while strengthening regional economies.

In 2021-22, we leveraged technology, honed our teaching skills with an equity lens, hosted new events designed to engage and retain our students, graduated our 4th class of Health Information Management Bachelors graduates, reduced the cost of textbooks, showcased our World Cultures Art Collection and launched our Health and Wellness Community Clinic.

We also celebrated our Dreamers with the opening of the new Dreamer Center, and laid plans for the new Pride Center. We developed and strengthened our Guided pathways efforts by launching new academic program webpages and developing a student success teams to reinforce the connection between students and their desires as laid out in our Mesa Academic and Career pathways (ACPs).

We did all of this (and so much more) while navigating online and remote workspaces and ramping up for a more robust return to in-person teaching and delivery of services and a reimagining of what a new Mesa College could look like.

In this, my first year as president of San Diego Mesa College, we will shine a light on equity and excellence by elevating our Equity Plan, Enrollment Management, Accreditation, and Guided Pathways. Equity and excellence will continue to be our lens and student success and outcomes will be our focus. We will courageously and passionately pursue our goals through professional learning, humanizing data, and we will do it with a renewed sense of community.

Best,



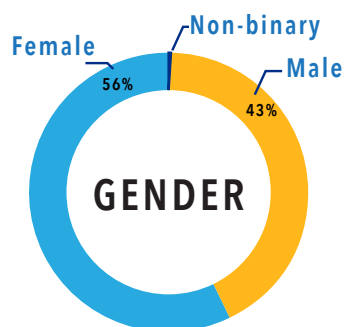
Ashanti T. Hands, Ed.D.

*President
San Diego Mesa College*

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

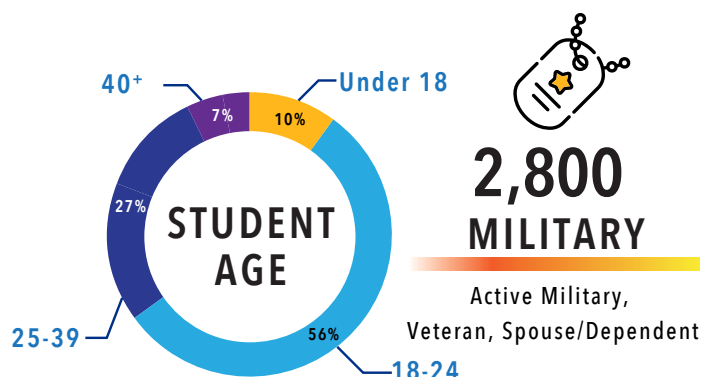


The Leading College of Equity and Excellence



ETHNICITY

Latinx 38.4% • White 30%
 Asian/Pacific Islander 10.6%
 Other/Multi 7.6%
 Black / African American 6.5%
 Filipino 4.6% • Unreported 1.7%
 • Native American <1%



TOP 5 MAJORS



\$46
 Cost per Unit,
 CA Resident



\$18,907,237
 Financial Aid



2,349
 Students Received
 Financial Aid



1,600
 San Diego
 Promise Participants

FINANCIALS

Category	Percentage %	Amount \$
Salaries & Benefits	98.9	65,711,829
Supplies & Materials	0.3	211,551
Services	0.4	286,943
Other	0.3	203,810
		66,414,133

Online Community


San Diego Mesa College www.sdmesa.edu

4,598,640 Total Views

Top viewed webpages




Homepage
1,588,003




Academic Programs
118,631



Counseling
89,342



Courses
78,813



Admissions
62,868



/SanDiegoMesaCollege

 **8,051**
Followers

 **7,774**
Page Likes

 **854**
Shares

 **329,178**
Post Reach

 **36,765**
Post Clicks



@sdmesacollege

 **3,926**
Followers

 **835**
Posts

 **524,300**
Impressions

 **3,318**
Likes

 **854**
Retweets

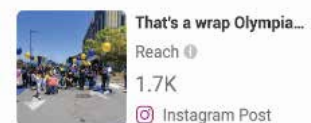


@sdmesacollege

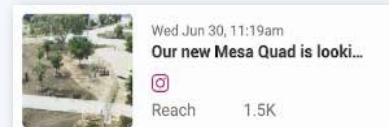
 **3,496**
Followers

 **414,418**
Reach

Top Post



Top Reach



Honoring our Graduates

Class of 2022

For the first time in almost 30 years, Mesa College hosted our 2022 Commencement Ceremony on campus at the Merrill Douglas Stadium. With nearly 750 graduates participating and 3,000 guests and family members in the stands, it was a momentous occasion. The ceremony kicked off with a celebratory drumline and grand processional. Mesa College was proud to honor and celebrate each graduating student.

San Diego Mesa College continues to be one of San Diego's leading transfer institutions, with nearly 700 students earning a Degree for Transfer in 2022.



1,901 Graduates

2,248
Academic
Degrees

228
Graduates with
2 or more Degrees

287
Academic
Certificates

32
Bachelor's
Degrees in H.I.M

82
Valedictorians

631
Graduates
with Honors

17 years old
Youngest
Graduate

74 years old
Oldest Graduate

100+
Graduates with
Veterans Status

100+
Graduates with
Promise Program

26+
Graduates as
International
Students

56
Graduates -
Employees of SDCCD

TOP 5 Transfer Schools for Mesa





Honoring President Pamela T. Luster's Leadership

In June of 2022, Dr. Pamela T. Luster retired as the President of San Diego Mesa College after 11 years. Under her leadership, Mesa successfully launched equity programs, a Bachelor's degree, added multiple academic programs, won multiple athletics titles, integrated Guided Pathways, issued Mesa2030, the College Educational and Facilities Master Plan, and successfully completed the Accreditation process multiple times.

Dr. Luster's vision of equity led to the creation of the Student Success and Equity Department, along with centers dedicated to serving basic needs, dreamers, foster youth, and veterans. As a result of these efforts, Mesa College was named an Equity Champion of Higher Education in 2021 for awarding Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT) to Black and Latinx students, designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI),

a Military Friendly Gold Status College, and recognized multiple times as a Fulbright Top Producing Institution. Additionally, Mesa was the first community college in the San Diego region to be awarded a Department of Education grant as an Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI).



It has been the absolute professional pinnacle and joy of my life to serve as President.

During her time at Mesa College, Dr. Luster served in several positions in local, state and national organizations, including the Chief Executive Officers of California Community

Colleges (CEOCCC) Board, and the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Commission on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Dr. Luster served as board member and President of

the California Community College Athletics Association (CCCAA), and co-chaired the CEOCCC Affordability, Food and Housing Task Force. She served on Governor Newsom's Task force for Basic Needs in Higher Education, and was awarded the 2022 Harry Buttmer Distinguished Administrator Award.

Dr. Luster's legacy at Mesa was to create collaborative and progressive initiatives, and to foster an environment of equity and inclusion for students, faculty staff and classified professionals. This is why San Diego Mesa College is considered as The Leading College of Equity and Excellence.



In Celebration of Equity & Excellence



Honoring the Service of Dr. Pamela T. Luster

Benefiting the Mesa College Resiliency Fund

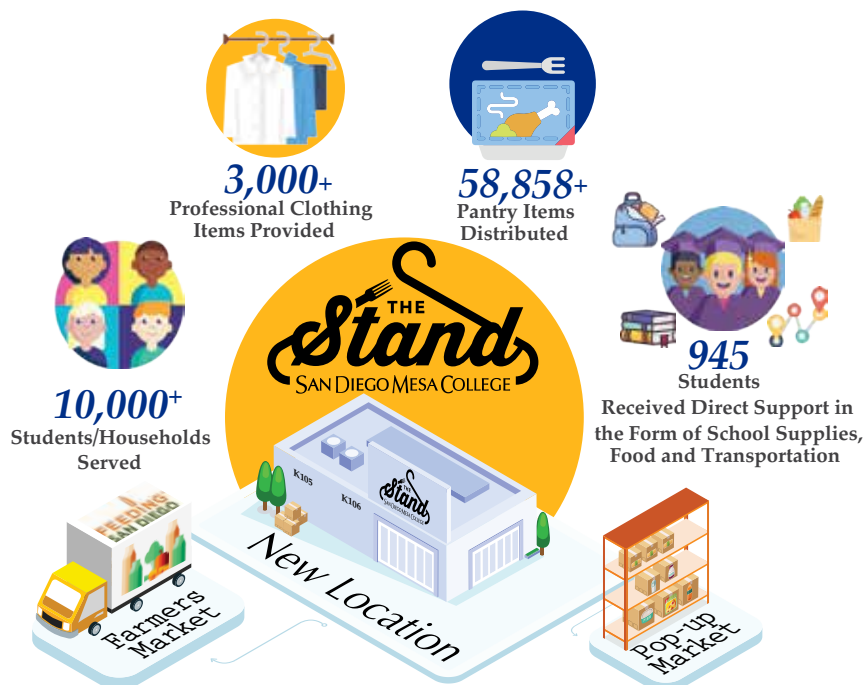
The Mesa College Foundation honored the legacy of Dr. Luster at the **Celebration of Equity and Excellence, Honoring the Retirement of Dr. Pamela T. Luster and Benefiting the Resiliency Fund**, and set a goal to raise \$300,000 to endow the Mesa College Resiliency Fund. It was a memorable and joyful evening that helped us pay tribute to a woman who gave so much to our campus and students. There was an outpouring of love from partners, peers, friends, and family of Dr. Luster – as we gathered together in community in celebration of her leadership. The evening made evident what it means to be a part of the Mesa family.

The Foundation reached several notable goals that evening, including:

- Via live event donations, we raised **\$20,055**
- Maximized a generous **\$20,000** match
- Secured **\$290,000**, and an additional **\$10,000** in pledged multi-year support



Equity is Excellence



Resources Distributed to Students

\$13,262.65

San Diego Mesa
Project Success
emergency grants

\$141,000

CARES Act 2022
Mesa Reorientation
grants

300

individually-packaged
meals (Thanksgiving)

\$5,000

in grocery cards

Students Saved \$3.1+ million
in textbook costs due to
Online Educational Resources (OER)



From its humble beginnings in 2017, The Stand now occupies a central location on campus, adjacent to the new Quad, and across from the Mesa Commons. With over 5,000 sq. feet in the new space dedicated to serving students and meeting their basic needs,

the Stand has been able to increase items and services being provided, such as offering refrigerated and frozen foods, as well as a classroom space dedicated to providing informational seminars regarding community resources. Additionally, in 2021, The Stand hired their first Basic

Needs Counselor/Housing Specialist, as well as Basic Needs Coordinator. The position provides students with direct student support and housing assistance, due to the large portion of students who come to the Stand seeking housing resources.



#RealCollege Basic Needs Summit: Getting Real About Basic Needs as a Fundamental Right

On Friday, February 4, 2022, Mesa College hosted the 2022 #RealCollegeCalifornia Basic Needs Summit, entitled Getting Real About Basic Needs as a Fundamental Right. California Community College students have been under-funded and under-resourced, resulting in disproportionately high levels of food insecurity, homelessness, and poverty. The 2022 conference addressed questions such

as: How are we going to ensure that our students are housed and fed? How can we convince policymakers and change agents that food, housing, and meeting basic needs are fundamental rights for everyone? How are we implementing changes within our own institutions? How can we become better at addressing this critical moral dilemma?

Mesa highlighted our efforts towards meeting student's basic needs. The

highlights focused on The Stand Resource Center. We hosted a Student Voices Panel to give attendees an opportunity to hear from current community college students across California about their experiences, thoughts and ideas regarding basic needs and resources. Attendees were able to learn how we can collectively continue to support our students - now - and into the future.



Mesa College Selected as Partner by Generation Hope in Support of Parenting College Students

San Diego Mesa College was named as part of the second cohort of higher education institutions participating in the Generation Hope FamilyU program. Through FamilyU, participating colleges will be able to support student parents so they can complete their programs and graduate. Student parents account for 1 in 5 undergraduate college students nationwide, however, their odds of college completion are far lower. Despite having higher GPAs than students without children, parenting students

are ten times less likely to graduate due to inadequate support systems. Mesa was chosen in part due to having an existing supportive and dedicated team that can initiate and implement strategies to better serve our student parents, along with the readiness to engage in intervention designed to build and refine institutional competencies to improve student parent success. Mesa is currently gathering information from students about their respective needs and will implement supportive activities in the coming year.



Mesa College named a 2021 Equity Champion of Higher Education

Mesa College was named a 2021 Equity Champion of Higher Education by the Campaign for College Opportunity for awarding Associate Degrees for Transfer (ADT) to Black and Latinx students, due to our actions to intentionally ensure that Black

and Latinx students who have a transfer goal earn an ADT. Mesa is recognized as having a high proportion of degree or transfer seeking Black and Latinx students who received an ADT in the 2019 - 2020 academic year.



Mesa College received \$5M grant for Hispanic STEM Education



Mesa College was among 33 California Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) that received a \$5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to increase equity among Hispanic and Latinx students pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) degrees. The funding was announced on September 17, 2021 as a five-year grant, and each college will receive \$1 million a year for five years.

Mesa College will use the Title III STEM funding for their project, STEM E3: Equity, Excellence and Éxito (Success), a grant proposal to reduce equity gaps and increase the academic success, retention, graduation, and transfer rates of Hispanic and low-income students in STEM. The grant focuses on STEM student support, improved STEM orientation, and professional learning that improves the quality of academic

instruction through an equity lens. Proposed activities include developing free online homework software, scaling up a peer mentor program, designing studio classrooms, curriculum redesign, and equity-based professional learning.

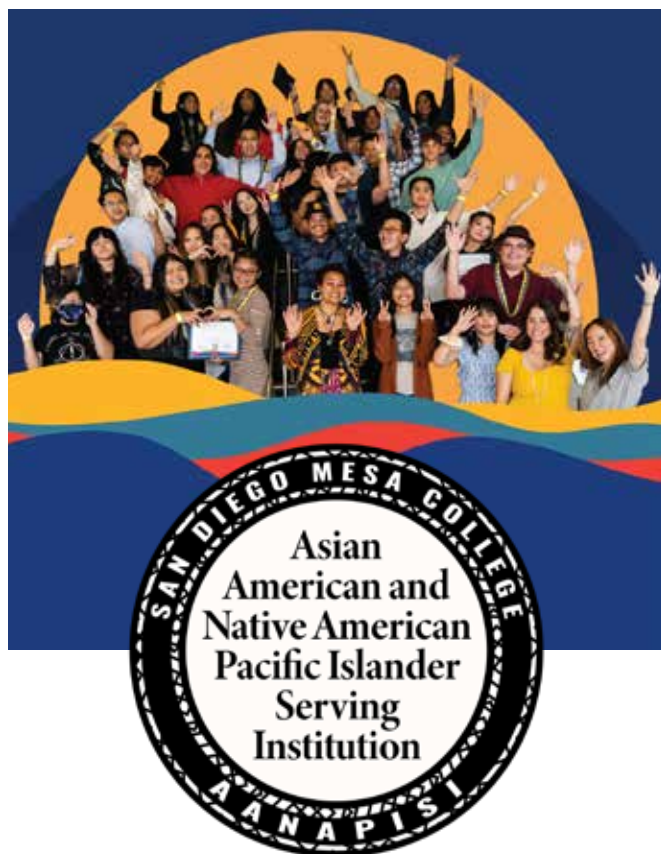
*Mesa College Debuts New
Dreamer Resource Center*



In December of 2021, San Diego Mesa College held the Grand Opening of our new Dreamer Resource Center, a center devoted to providing resources, support, and advocacy for students that identify as Undocumented, AB540, Dreamer, and DACA. The Mesa Borderless Scholars program currently serves over 450 students, and the Dreamer Resource Center is designed to provide a safe and welcoming environment. Services provided include personal, career, and academic counseling; on-campus support services such as workshops and events; and community resources including free legal services.

“Mesa has been looking forward to opening this Center for a long time,” stated Leticia Diaz, Director of EOPS at Mesa College. “This space was created by students for students.”





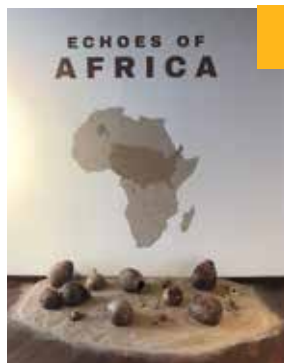
Mesa College was the 1st Community College in the Region to be Awarded an AANAPISI Grant

In the fall of 2021, San Diego Mesa College was awarded an Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI) Title III, Part F Grant by the United States Department of Education for the project, “Equity, Empathy, & Excellence: Uplifting and Transforming Campus Culture through a Kapwa Lens”. This five-year, \$1.5 million grant will ensure services and resources are available to the Asian American Native American Pacific Islander (AANAPI) student population to promote academic success and strengthen institutional

capacity. The purpose of AANAPISI designation is to provide Mesa College the opportunity to improve the academic attainment of AAPI, Native American, or similar identities, and low-income students. Being an AANAPISI means Mesa can be a reflection of our students, their cultures, values, and life experiences. It guides the direction of the college and how we go about the work that we do. Every student deserves to feel connected and safe on campus and to have access to programs and services to successfully reach their goals.

Echoes of Africa

Celebrating our World Cultures Art Collection



In June 2022, the World Arts Council of the San Diego Mesa College Foundation and the Friends of the Central Library hosted a reception for the Echoes of Africa Art exhibition that ran at the downtown San Diego Public Library from June - August 2022. Echoes of Africa celebrated the material culture of Africa and the Diaspora, and reconnected historical artifacts with contemporary artistic practices.

Embedded in each piece is the connection between African and

African American identity which is often underrepresented in the diaspora. This reconnection of ancestors and their descendants is captured in the pieces produced by contemporary artists coupled with African artifacts. The exhibition celebrated classical and contemporary artistic traditions in metal, pigment, wood, ceramics, beadwork, and textiles. Local artists were invited to respond to the materials, symbolism, and creative process expressed in African art housed in the Mesa College World Cultures

Art Collection. This interaction provided an opportunity for an artistic exchange resulting in artwork that echoes the creative impulse and cultural heritage embodied in African and African American art and culture.

The exhibition was curated by Dr. Denise Rogers and featured work by Angie Jennings, Christopher Lloyd Tucker, Maxx Moses, Andrea Chung, and Jermaine Adeshola Williams.

ATHLETICS ACHIEVEMENTS



San Diego Mesa College humbly accepted the Chet DeVore Trophy for the third year in a row, celebrating the most decorated athletics department in the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference.

Mesa had multiple teams in the state top-10 finishers, including our Men's Track and Field Team (2nd in State) and our California Community College Athletics Association State Champion Men's Cross Country team.



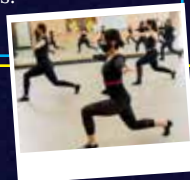
Mesa Health and Wellness Coaching Certificate was approved and Mesa welcomed the first cohort of students in the fall of 2022.



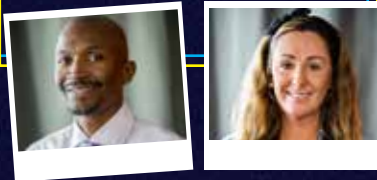
Mesa student-athletes increased from approximately 500 to 600+, and courses served the needs of our student-athletes, proven by robust enrollments and growing interest in face-to-face courses.



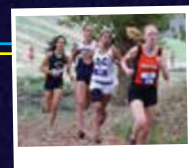
Dance and Exercise Science lab courses returned to campus and students showed that they appreciate Mesa's mix of modalities.



Mesa recently welcomed two new full-time faculty members in the areas of Men's Basketball and Women's Softball.



Mesa College earned 8 Pacific Coast Athletic Conference team champions and dozens of PCAC individual champions.



PCAC CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

GO
RUN

GO
SDMESA



SOCIALMEDIA

The San Diego Mesa Men's and Women's Cross Country Program hosted the PCAC Cross Country Championships at their home course at NTC Park in Liberty Station. The conference schools included Cuyamaca, Southwestern, San Diego City College, and Imperial Valley College. Both Mesa College men and women squads swept the individual and team titles.

The Women placed first with 20 points and all five women earned all-conference honors finishing in the top 12 (The top 15 finishers earn all-conference honors). This is the women's first conference title since 2015. The Men finished first with 18 points and 12 men were all conference. The Men have won three straight conference championships.

San Diego Mesa College Women's Soccer Team Wins 2021 Conference Title

For the 7th time in the past 8 years, the San Diego Mesa Women's Soccer team has captured the PCAC conference championship. The team went undefeated in league play with a record of 12-0-1 and amassed 54 goals and only gave up 6 goals in conference play.



SDMesa.edu

Advancing + Expanding Career Education and Opportunities

In 2021-22, Mesa's Career Education program added new and revised awards including: Culinary Management, Meat and Seafood Processing, Baking and Pastry, 3D Modeling and Animation, Video Game Development, Visual Communication, Fashion Merchandising, Information Computer Technologies Foundations, and Software Engineering Foundations.

Mesa's Retail Management Certificate program continues to grow through unique partnerships with Sprouts and Smart & Final to provide additional training to their potential managers.

Information Computer Technologies (ICT) launched into new partnerships with Point Loma High School and Kearny High School.

The Fashion program held its first-ever in-person screening of their virtual fashion show and launched a new partnership with the Japanese Friendship Garden with the Kimonos Reimagined project and show.

Work Based Learning



**Hosted 300
appointments
& events**

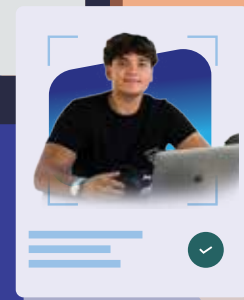
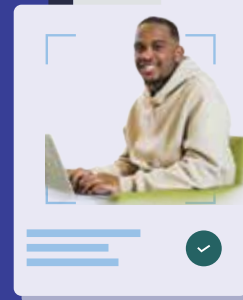
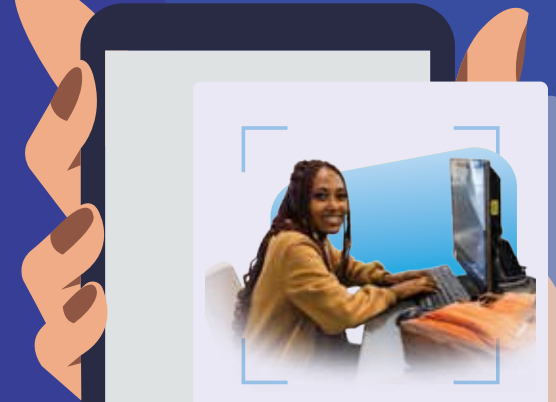
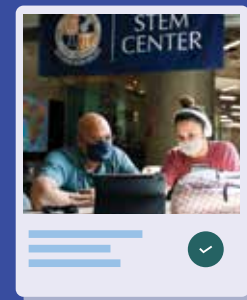
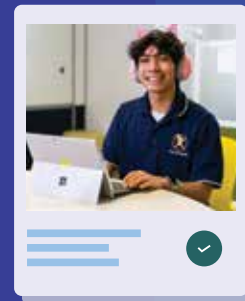
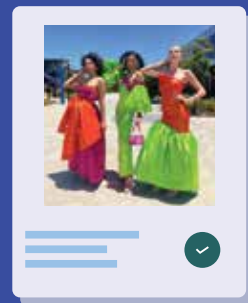
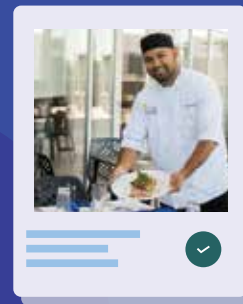


**Partnered with
151 faculty
members**

In Spring 2022, the Mesa Career Center and Work-Based Learning team co-led the implementation of Handshake, a new district-wide job board to support students' career successes.

Expanded opportunities through the new Perkins internship program offered more several grants, programs, and projects.

- Advancing San Diego
- Kapwa
- Puente
- Honors Program
- STEM
- Arts and Languages
- Humanities



Handshake × SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

www.sdmesa.edu/Handshake

Mesa Pathways

Professional Learning

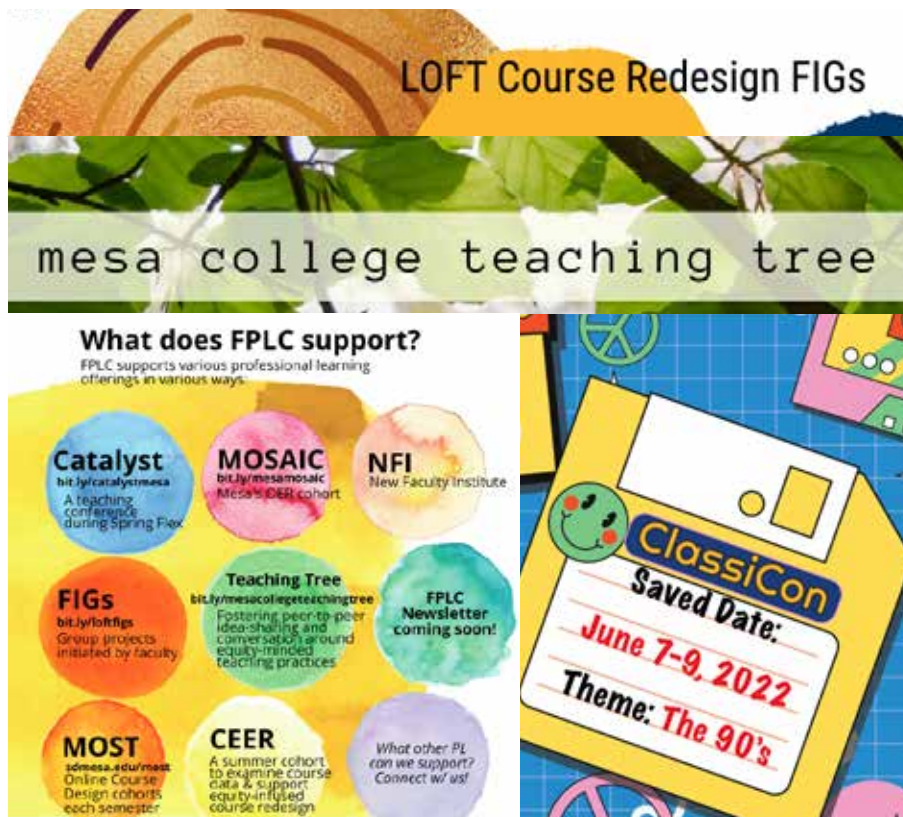


The Mesa Pathways Committee and workgroups continued to build the structure necessary to ensure that students have clarity in understanding the opportunities available to them. Workgroups are providing well-defined processes for smooth student onboarding, and data-informed structures to students throughout their journey, and equitable and culturally relevant learning experiences that prepare students to transfer and/or enter the workforce.

- Mesa's Academic and Career Pathways (ACPs) have been established
- Faculty and staff developed program maps
- Office of Communications redesigned academic program webpages using a Pathways lens
- Our first Student Success Teams pilot launched in Fall 2022
- In summer of 2022, faculty participated in the Curriculum Equity & Excellence Review (CEER)
- The Mesa Pathways Fellows, in collaboration with Institutional Effectiveness Office, completed the Black Student Experience Study
- Conducted projects including: Fellows Outreach Team, Student Leadership Summit, Student Stories, a TikTok Campaign, and other social media promotions
- Establishment of pathways with the College of Continuing Education and Credit for Prior Learning

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE | LOFT

In Professional Learning, Mesa launched the Mesa Online Support Team (MOST) with facilitators representing the academic schools at the college. MOST worked with the Pathways Fellows to provide support for students in online courses and for 30 faculty who teach online. The Teaching Tree was active as a weekly online get together and online depository of shared teaching ideas and lessons. In Summer 2022, the LOFT offered our second CEER, Curriculum Equity and Excellence Review intensive program (CEER), where faculty examined and revised curriculum with an equity and anti-racist lens. Mesa's annual CLASSiCon, the Classified Professional 3-day campus-wide conference returned to in-person modality. Mesa Librarians continued to offer Reference appointments and Information Literacy for students.



MESA 2030 GOALS Framework for Long-term Planning

Equity + Excellence



Mesa College Strategic Plan

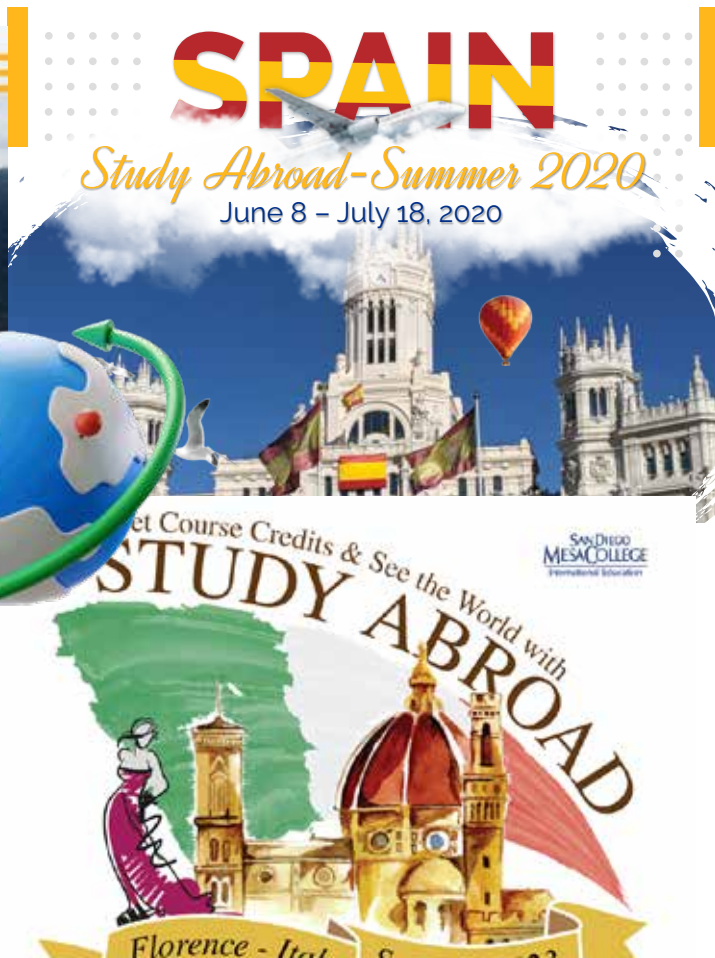
Roadmap to Mesa2030

The Mesa2030 comprehensive plan is a high-level planning document that outlines our Educational and Facilities vision for the next 10 years. Mesa2030 sets the long-term visionary goals and the Roadmap to Mesa2030

identifies priorities and strategic objectives for the first 5 years of the Mesa2030 plan. Our annual Program Review Process will be the place individual units and departments will connect their work to the Strategic Objectives and Mesa2030 Goals.

During the 2021-22 academic year, the Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Committee developed systems to begin implementing the strategic objectives, tracking progress, measuring efficacy.

- Began the development of Mesa's Climate Action Plan
- Began review of instruments to inform our Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Audit/Scorecard.
- Implemented retention pilot for Disproportionate Impact of Asian American Pacific Islander students that combined courses and support services. The results will support the pilot of our Student Success Teams.
- Explored new pathways with feeder high schools that will focus on certificate completion and Career and Technical Education pathways with the goal of reaching students historically underrepresented in the program.
- Budget Allocation Recommendation Committee has increased discussion/learning around the following topics - Accreditation Standard III Resources, San Diego Community College District Preliminary Budget, Governor's State May Revision Budget.
- The Stand is continuing to expand the scope of services to become a holistic resource and support center for students.
- Instructional and counseling faculty completed program maps which will be uploaded onto the website by Fall 2022.
- Academic and Career Pathways and respective icons have been finalized and descriptions developed. Academic and Career Pathways will be uploaded onto the website by Fall 2022.
- Student Success Team Workgroup has been working to develop a pilot for first year students.
- The LOFT has been intentionally connecting and curating Professional Learning offerings that infuses race conscious, culturally relevant, and equity focused activities.



Mesa College Recognized Among Top 20 in Nation for Study Abroad

In 2021-22, San Diego Mesa College was recognized by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs as one of the Fulbright Top Producing Institutions for having produced a high number of Gilman scholarship recipients over the past twenty years amongst colleges awarding associate degrees.

Thirty students from Mesa College have received Gilman awards since 2001, placing them among the top 20 nationally for community colleges. Throughout its twenty-year history, the Department of State's Gilman Program has reshaped study abroad to make it more accessible and inclusive for American students by providing scholarships to outstanding U.S. undergraduate students who, due to financial constraints, might not otherwise participate. Along

with other top-ranked institutions, Mesa College was recognized for their support of equity, diversity, and accessibility in study abroad for American students through the Gilman Program.

"Studying internationally opens a wide array of opportunities for our students, and helps to broaden their access to rich, unique and long-lasting learning",
Leslie Shimazaki, Dean, Arts and Languages.

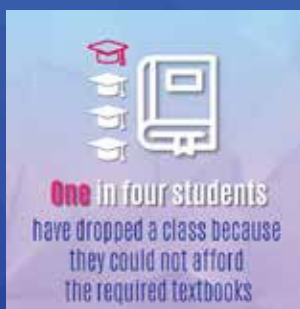
San Diego Mesa College was a Top Producer in the Associates Degree category, and is included in a list of more than 125 U.S. higher education institutions that sent the most Fulbright U.S. Students and U.S. Scholars abroad in academic year 2021-2022.

Mesa College Foundation

For many of Mesa's hardworking students who are making it on their own, there is no lifeline upon which they can call when life throws them the unexpected. Surviving on such tight margins means that when an unforeseen expense pops up, the only available choice is to drop out of college to focus on immediate needs.

Mesa College and the Mesa College Foundation believe that the resiliency and hard work of our students should be rewarded, and shouldn't come at the cost of a college education. That's why we created the Resiliency Fund, which provides emergency grants and loans of \$50-\$500 to our most financially vulnerable students so that they may overcome financial setbacks without dropping out.

The San Diego Mesa College Foundation exists to put a college education within reach for students who are working hard to build a better future.



The 29th Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony 2022

Mesa College was proud to welcome our student awardees and their families back to campus for the Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony. In 2022, the Mesa College Foundation provided over \$131,559 in scholarships to nearly 150 students.



The Mesa College Foundation

2021-22 Mesa College Foundation Board of Directors Howard Eskew, President • Elizabeth Armstrong, Vice President • Dr. Veronica Gerace, Secretary
Ricky Hirschi, Treasurer • Lisa Cole-Jones • Zulma Duran • Dr. Ashanti Hands • Dr. Madeleine Hinkes
Lorenze Legaspi • Dr. Pamela Luster • Jeff Marston • Aviva McPherron • Dr. Isabel O'Connor
Dr. Denise Rogers • Alexander Szeto • Tara Yousefi

Advisory Staff Jennifer N. Kearns • Krista Stellmacher

Enriched through Arts

The Foundation's World Arts Council showcased our World Cultures Artwork Collection via online showcases and in-person exhibits. In May 2022, the Council hosted an evening fundraising event at the Lerach Estate. Over 75 patrons enjoyed a lively evening with food, entertainment and exciting bidding opportunities, all to raise money for the collection and exhibition at the San Diego Public Library in June 2022. The auction raised over \$10,000 to support the Collection.



Mesa Alumnus Gifted Business Acceleration Funds

In 2021, Mesa College Culinary Arts alumnus Inno Pamaran was gifted business acceleration funds by the Mesa College Foundation via an Innovation Grant provided to Culinary Arts. Culinary Arts professors had kept in touch with Pamaran, and were aware that he was facing challenges in scaling his businesses. Both of his companies, provide creations sold in restaurants around San Diego County, including locations in Spring Valley and National City. Pamaran shared that he was unable

to get his special dough made in large enough quantities to keep up with demand because he was doing everything by hand. Mesa professors knew that their program could help by using Foundation funds to purchase a 20 quart mixer and proof box, the two pieces of equipment required to move the businesses to the next level. Professors Whitfield and Fitzgerald worked with Pamaran to enter a cooking competition for the National Chef's Roll, and he won the grand prize.



Invested in
Innovation

10
Innovative campus
projects supporting
student success

\$20,000
Secured in support of
creative solutions

3,517
Students served

YEAR IN REVIEW 2021



**Mesa Celebrates
the Holidays Together**



**Hoover High School Students
Take Mesa Campus Tour**



**Mesa College Hosts
Weekly Jazz Concerts**



**Mesa College Theater
Company Presents
Scene Snippets**



**Ludicrous Tales:
A Topsy Turvy Quartet**
San Diego Mesa College Art Gallery



**Olympians Becoming
Olympians**
Mesa College Sends Athlete and
Coach to Tokyo Olympics



2021

YEAR IN REVIEW 2022



Winter CRUISE Prepares Incoming Students for their First Semester



Mesa College Celebrates the Birthday of Civil Rights Activist Rosa Parks



Gracia Molina de Pick Feminist Lecture Series Back at Mesa College



San Diego Mesa College Hosts Jumpstart Event for First Time Students



San Diego Mesa College hosts Mesa College Research Conference (MCRC)



Mesa Offers California's First Board-Approved Community College-Based Health and Wellness Coaching Certificate



2022

Mesa Alumni

Mesa College Alumni Network

sdmesa.edu/Alumni

The Office of Communications continues to support the development of the Mesa College Alumni Network, whose goal is to connect alumni with each other and their alma mater – Mesa College. Alumni are welcomed and encouraged to stay connected to Mesa College through campus events, news, affinity groups, and by engaging with the Mesa College Foundation. With the support of the Foundation and the Office of

Communications, Mesa established an “Alumni Network” in 2019, and began communications and alumni engagement efforts. Through social media and a robust email campaign, Mesa initially reached out to over 50,000 Mesa Alumni, over 500 have requested to be reconnected to Mesa. The College and the Foundation will be working on expanding the Alumni Network by adding more opportunities for engagement.



Mesa College Foundation Board Director Alex Szeto Receives 2021 HENAAC Award

Great Minds in STEM (GMiS) awarded Alexander Szeto of Northrop Grumman and a Mesa College alumnus and Foundation Board Member, a 2021 Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference (HENAAC) Award for Community Service at the GMiS 33rd Annual Conference held in October 2021.

At Northrop Grumman, Mr. Szeto leads a team overseeing the full engineering life cycle of special test equipment for the F-35 Raptor program – a team that includes senior

engineers and technical fellows. He volunteers thousands of hours to coach, mentor, and fundraise for STEM- and education-related initiatives, which includes serving as a Public Director on the Mesa College Foundation board.

Mr. Szeto's Board membership activities have directly assisted the Mesa College Foundation in raising hundreds of thousands of dollars annually for scholarships, direct aid, grants and other services that directly benefit thousands of Mesa College students annually.

Awards & Achievements

Mesa Faculty member K. Lee Steidel Wins 2021 Advancing Real Estate Education Award



The California Community Colleges Real Estate Education Center presented the 2021 Advancing Real Estate Education Award to K. Lee Steidel. With over fifteen years of community college teaching experience, Lee has served as an adjunct faculty member at Mesa College, San Diego City College and Fullerton College. While an adjunct professor, Lee has advanced program development initiatives typically reserved for contract faculty. These projects

have included implementing, evaluating, and achieving departmental goals as Program Review Lead Writer; chairing Real Estate Advisory Committees; expanding and revising curriculum; developing course outlines of record; presenting faculty training educational technology workshops; launching Real Estate Career Expos and curating real estate jobs boards by industry sector to connect students with real estate internships and employers.



- In May 2022, Mesa College held the soft opening of the Mesa College Community Clinic, which offers free physical therapy and dental services to members of the community. The clinic is a learning environment in which students engage in client treatment situations while enrolled in an Allied Health program at Mesa College to prepare for employment in the healthcare field.

- Mesa College Tutoring and Computing received 3-levels of certification from the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) and certification in online tutoring from the Association of Colleges for Tutoring and Learning Assistance (ACTLA). Senior Tutor Raine Porter was also named the CRLA National Tutor of the Year.



- Geography Professor Dr. Waverly Ray was awarded grants for ASCCC OER to co-create a World Geography textbooks and a partnership grant with SDSU on a USDA Sustainable Foods Futures for student internships.
- The San Diego Mesa College chapter of Psi Beta was recognized at the 2022 Western Psychological Association Psi Beta as an award winner for outstanding research.

Awards and Recognition



Mesa College Recognized in Two Categories for the Prestigious 2022 Bellwether Awards

In November 2021, The Bellwether College Consortium announced San Diego Mesa College on its list of 30 community colleges selected as 2022 finalists for the highly coveted Bellwether Awards. The Bellwether Awards are widely regarded as one of the nation's most competitive and prestigious recognition for community colleges. Bellwether finalists represent leading community colleges whose outstanding and innovative programs and

practices were selected among competitive submissions as exemplary. Mesa College's submission titled, "The Journey to Completion" was judged a Top 10 Bellwether Finalist in the category of Instructional Programs & Services. Additionally, Mesa2030, Mesa's Strategic and Educational Plan, was judged as a finalist in the Planning, Governance, and Finance category as a program that improves efficiency and effectiveness in the community college.



Mesa College Earns Military Friendly Gold Status

In March 2022, San Diego Mesa College was awarded Gold status for the 2022-2023 school year from the Military Friendly® Company. Mesa was previously awarded the Silver status for the 2020-2021 school year. Over 1,800 schools participated in the

2022-2023 survey, and 282 were selected for "Gold" award status for their leading practices, outcomes, and effective programs. Of the Gold status colleges, only ten are in California, and Mesa is one of three in San Diego.



Mesa College Participates in the Military Articulation Program (MAP)

Mesa was chosen to participate in the MAP, which allows student veterans to maximize academic credits for prior learning acquired through their military service. MAP is an online system that matches college courses to American Council on Education (ACE) Military Guide recommendations.

Once Mesa College is fully integrated into the cloud-based system, students with military experience will be able to upload their joint services transcripts into MAP and find out which credits they can receive for courses they took and occupations they held while in the military.

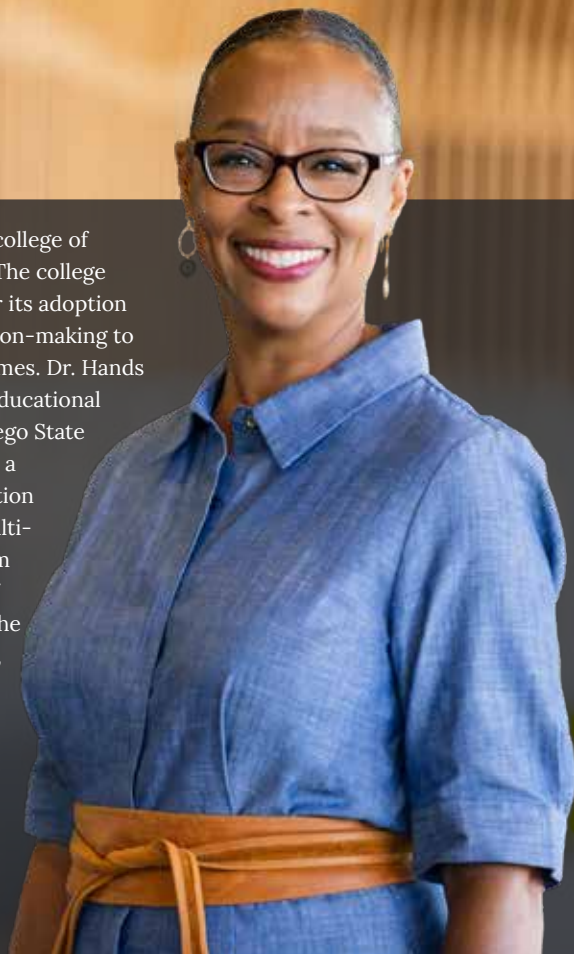
Dr. Ashanti T. Hands Named President of San Diego Mesa College

Ashanti Hands, Ed.D., an equity-focused leader with a deep commitment to diversity, access and student success, has been named president of San Diego Mesa College. Since 2016, Dr. Hands has served as Vice President of Student Services at Mesa College. She joined the college in 2008 where she has held positions as Dean of Student Affairs, Acting Dean of Student Development and Matriculation, and Acting Vice President of Student Services.

As a member of Mesa College's executive management team, Dr. Hands has provided leadership for the college-wide initiative

to become the leading college of equity and excellence. The college is widely recognized for its adoption of data-informed decision-making to ensure equitable outcomes. Dr. Hands earned a doctorate in educational leadership from San Diego State University. She also has a master of arts in education with an emphasis in multi-cultural counseling from SDSU and a bachelor of arts in sociology from the University of California, San Diego.

"I am humbled to be selected for the presidency of the very college I have called home for more than 14 years," Dr. Hands said. "The ability to live my purpose of creating conditions that matter for students to succeed at a college so deeply committed to equity and excellence brings me immense joy. I am excited to continue the great work we have started at Mesa College."



Mesa Health Information Management Bachelor's Degree Set the Stage for Bill Approved by California Legislature



In 2021, California lawmakers approved historic legislation that will expand and make permanent the California community college bachelor's degree pilot program. The baccalaureate degree pilot program was established when Governor Jerry Brown in 2014 signed Senate Bill 850, sponsored by then state Senator Marty Block.

In summary, AB 927 allows:

- The 15 pilot programs will now become permanent, with the "sunset" provision eliminated from legislation.
- All of California's 116 community colleges will be able to apply for bachelor's degree programs, not to exceed 30 new baccalaureate programs each year.
- A process to ensure good communication among the California Community Colleges, the CSU, and the UC, as well the independent universities.
- No more than 25% of any individual community college's degree programs may be baccalaureate programs.



Mesa Students Help Protect The Ocean Through Coastal Internship Program

San Diego Mesa College students are playing a hands-on role in research that explores how climate change and other factors are affecting local sea life through a new internship program at the Coastal and Marine Institute Laboratory (CMIL), a state-of-the-art research facility owned by San Diego State University.

The CMIL Summer Research Program was created by Jessica Griffin, a Ph.D. candidate at SDSU whose work focuses on the interactions between bivalves and seagrass in a changing ocean. In 2021, Griffin worked with San Diego Mesa College biology Professor Paul Detwiler to successfully apply for an Innovation Grant from the San Diego Mesa College Foundation, and used the grant to launch the program last summer with four interns from Mesa College. In the summer of 2022, interns each worked one day a week from June until August.

“When students have that kind of direct access to a research lab it really ignites their sense of what’s possible,” said Detwiler, who teaches a marine-science course at Mesa College. “They’re learning something about their own abilities and potential, and that’s an invaluable experience.”

Joseph Burch, a Mesa College and San Diego City College student studying aerospace engineering, was part of the first group of interns last summer. The internship program pairs each SDCCD student with a graduate student mentor conducting research. The interns help to analyze data, monitor equipment, do hands-on fieldwork, and more.

“One of my favorite things about CMIL is that it’s so multidisciplinary,” Burch said. “Graduate students are constantly designing and building their own marine-science experiments, which might entail a little bit of engineering, robotics, and even remote sensing using satellite data. It checked every box for me and inspired me to try new things.”

Since completing the program, Burch was selected as project manager on an engineering challenge with NASA’s Community College Aerospace Scholar (NCAS) program and has seen other exciting doors open, as well.



“CMIL was my first internship, and it quickly became a gateway to other opportunities that I never dreamt were possible,” Joseph said.

“I credit this program and the friendships I have made there with all of the incredible things that have come my way.”

New Spaces and Places



Mesa Quad

In 2022, Mesa College held the Grand Opening of its new campus Quadrangle, designed to serve as the physical “heart” of the college by providing a main thoroughfare through campus. The project was the last for Mesa funded by the District’s \$1.555 billion Propositions S and N construction bond. To make room

for the Quad, the outdated “I” and “J” buildings were demolished, creating a wide clearing in the center of the campus, designed with strategically placed walkways to help students navigate the campus. It also has an outdoor stage area to hold campus events, such as the traditional Welcome Week, job fairs, financial aid

fairs, and pep rallies. The northwest side of the Quad provides simple and direct access to the “K” Building, renovated to provide new student support spaces for Veterans Services, The Stand, as well as the Fostering Academic Success and Transitions (FAST) Scholars and Honors programs.



Fermentation

Renovation of the D-200 building started, which will house San Diego Mesa College’s Fermentation program. The future fermentation lab is receiving a face-lift with new flooring, fresh paint, a new ceiling, and plumbing and equipment installation.

Mesa College’s Fermentation Management program is one of a few in the nation dedicated to teaching the history of fermentation, as well as the fundamentals of brewing, distilling, and wine making, with a foundation in business, customer service, work experience and standards of hospitality.

Institutional Effectiveness

The Institutional Effectiveness and Research offices provide college-wide leadership and support for the infrastructure and integration of the College's institutional effectiveness efforts. These offices promote a commitment to equity, excellence, and continuous quality improvement through college-wide planning, research, program review, outcomes assessment, resource allocation, and accreditation.

Significant accomplishments this year include:



Accreditation: Developed a new system for collecting and organizing evidence for accreditation by taking advantage of the latest features of Office 365.



Grants: Supported the grant application process. Mesa successfully received \$5 million for HSI, \$1.5 million for AANAPISI, and \$200,000 for NSF.



Implementation Planning for Roadmap to Mesa2030: Coordinated campus committees and departments to delegate responsible parties for each of the 25 Strategic Objectives as well as develop reporting systems to track progress.



Bellwether: Collaborated for the national Bellwether Award to become the finalists for two categories, and receive the Best in Showcase Award.



New CTE dashboard: Developed the first-ever CTE Outcome Dashboard to showcase employment outcomes of CTE students and identify areas for improvement at the program level.



Bachelor's Degree Program: Led the statewide effort to advocate for AB 927, successfully passed in October 2021 making the offering of Bachelor's Degree Program permanent.



Student Interns: we continue to collaborate with Work Experience faculty to pilot the first internship program at Mesa within the IE office. To further improve student learning outcomes, we mentored the student intern on a multiple-semester research project. The project was presented at the Mesa Research Conference in May 2022.



Strong Workforce Faculty Institute: Supported faculty engaged in the Strong Workforce Faculty Institute with a Data Dashboard, Canvas Course Shell, and Professional Learning.



Pathways: Participated in Guided Pathways Data Coaching and Student Success Teams Programs.



Program Review and Outcomes Assessment Software: Led the district process to select new software and began implementation planning.

WE ARE *Mesa*

The Leading College of Equity and Excellence

Mission

San Diego Mesa College is a comprehensive community college committed to access, success, and equity. We honor those commitments as a diverse community of faculty, students, professional staff, and administrators who collaborate to foster scholarship, leadership, innovation, and excellence in an inclusive learning environment. By promoting student learning and achievement that leads to degrees and certificates, transfer, workforce training, and lifelong learning, we empower our students to reach their educational goals and shape their future.

Vision

To be the leading college of equity and excellence, educating students to shape the future.

Values

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

Land Acknowledgment

The San Diego Mesa College community holds great respect for the land and the original people of the area where our campus was built. Specifically, we recognize the Kumeyaay people whose ancestral homelands the Campus currently occupies. As members of the Mesa College community, we acknowledge their tremendous contributions to our region and thank them for their stewardship.



The San Diego Mesa College Annual Report can be found online at www.sdmesa.edu/Newsroom

To request a printed copy, please email jnkearns@sdccd.edu

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2022 - 2023

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The San Diego Community College District includes City College, Mesa College, Miramar College and the College of 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

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SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE

