



MESA COLLEGE
**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2019/2020

**THE PRIVILEGE
OF SERVING OUR
STUDENTS AND
COMMUNITY**







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MESA COLLEGE

ABOUT

San Diego Mesa College is a fully accredited, 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. Mesa offers associate degree and certificate programs, and is one of 15 California community colleges offering a four-year baccalaureate degree. 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 College serves 30,000 students per year, approximately 36% of whom attend full-time. Mesa ranks as San Diego's top transfer institution, is a Hispanic Serving Institution, and serves more than 4,000 veterans and their families.

EXECUTIVE LEADERS



Pamela T. Luster, Ed.D.
President



Isabel O'Connor, Ph.D.
Vice President
Instruction



Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.
Vice President
Student Services



Lorenze Legaspi
Vice President
Administrative Services

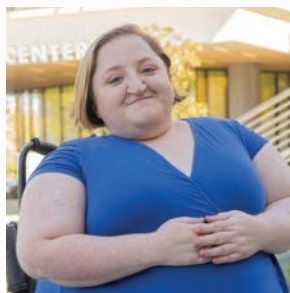
GOVERNANCE LEADERS



Manuel Vélez
President
Academic Senate



Charlie Lieu
President
Classified Senate



Taylor Carpenter
President
Associated Students



Terry Kholenber
Chair of Chairs

PRESIDENTS LETTER

The Privilege of Serving Mesa's Students and Community

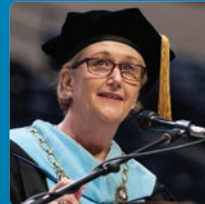
As we began the 2019-2020 academic year, we had no idea just how much was about to change. In this letter, I generally speak to all of the initiatives, events, and special awards related to our amazing college. This year, the body of this report takes an in depth look at what we were able to accomplish this year.

At convocation in August, we hosted Scholar Tim Wise to support our work in addressing racial inequities, and the impact of white privilege on our work. We continued that theme throughout the year, hosting book events and professional learning opportunities. Feedback has been very positive, and to date many campus members have reported shifting their practices, and continuing their investment in this work.

As the spring semester began, we were hearing about this possible "pandemic," and then in late February we began to understand the serious impact that this might have on our college. In March, the San Diego Community College District determined that we would go to all remote learning, guided by the local, regional and state guidelines. Everyone jumped in to support one another and our students. We continue, for the most part, to be in that mode.

Since that time, we have deployed a number of strategies to support our employees and students. We immediately reached out to find out what faculty and staff needed to do in remote learning. Our LOFT crew designed and delivered Mesa Buddies, an online, cohort-based support program for humanized online instruction. We surveyed our students to see what we could do to support them. They told us that they needed money - they were out of jobs, their family needed them, they were not ready for remote learning, and they need technology and connections. We immediately began our COVID-19 fundraising efforts, and have given out over \$60,000 in private funds to date. We have loaned laptops, webcams, and other forms of technology to students, staff, and faculty. We opened our parking lots so that students could use the campus Wi-Fi from their cars. We continued to feed our students through our partnerships with San Diego Food Bank and Feeding San Diego with drive through food distribution. The bottom line...we found new ways to be our students' community. Even if students dropped classes, we called them to ask what they needed, and invited them to stay connected to us.

As we continue this work, we know that we are forever changed. We do not know when we will be back on campus, and we know that our community continues to struggle with economic, health, and racial pandemics simultaneously. As the Leading College of Equity & Excellence, we will continue to be the institution that supports our whole community.



PAMELA T. LUSTER, ED.D.

President - Mesa College

#WeAreMesa #EquityandExcellence

#SomosMesa



OUR COLLEGE AND STUDENTS



1964
Founded



\$ 46
Cost per Unit,
CA Resident



\$22,245,483
Financial Aid



33,424
2019/20
Students
Enrolled



1,605
Students
Graduated
2019/20



1,837
Academic Degrees
and Certificates
Awarded



10,725
Students
received
Financial Aid

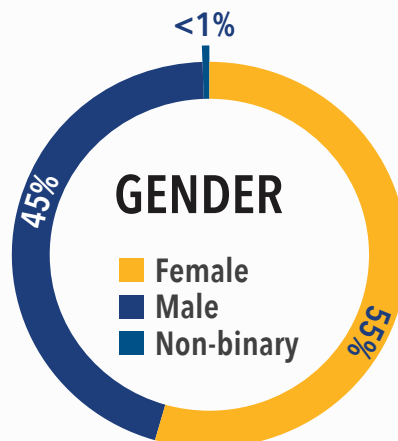
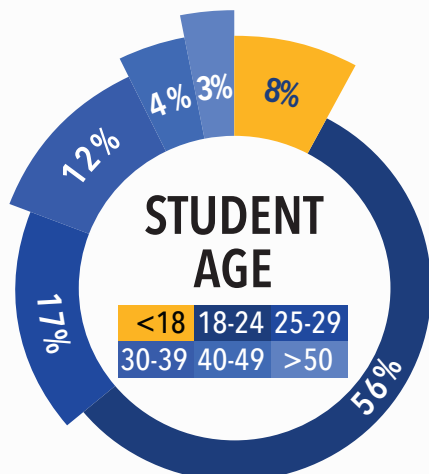


4,355
Students
received
Pell Grants



4,332
Students
are Veterans
or Active Military

TOP FIVE MOST AWARDED ASSOCIATE DEGREES



ETHNICITY

Latinx 38% • Caucasian 30%
Asian/PI 11% • Other/Multi 7%
African American 6% • Filipino 5%
Unknown 2% • Native American <1%

MESA'S ONLINE COMMUNITY



/SanDiegoMesaCollege

 **7,619**
CURRENT
FOLLOWERS

 **410** NEW
PAGE LIKES

 **855**
NEW POSTS

 **727,185**
POST REACH

 **1,435**
SHARES

 **17,880**
REACTIONS



@sdmesacollege

 **3,743** TOTAL
FOLLOWERS

 **456** NEW
FOLLOWERS

 **850**
NEW POSTS

 **720,400**
IMPRESSIONS

 **4,672**
LIKES

 **1,118**
RETWEETS



/sdmesacollege

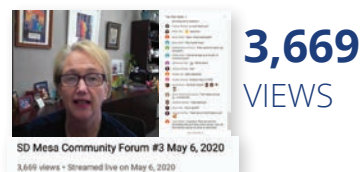
 **558** TOTAL
SUBSCRIBERS

 **261** NEW
SUBSCRIBERS


 **25,500** VIEWS

 **2,200** HOURS
OF WATCH TIME

MOST POPULAR VIDEO



 **33,730**
FOLLOWERS

 **31,927**
ALUMNI

MESA COLLEGE WEBSITE

 **www.sdmesa.edu**



6,005,682
TOTAL PAGEVIEWS

TOP PAGES

 **HOMEPAGE**
2,582,502 VIEWS

 **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**
129,657 VIEWS

 **LIBRARY**
123,616 VIEWS

 **COURSES**
116,916 VIEWS

 **ADMISSIONS**
82,651 VIEWS

EQUITY LEADS TO EXCELLENCE

BASIC NEEDS



THE STAND

serves as Mesa's food pantry and professional clothing closet, and serving the needs of Mesa College students.

FALL
2019

1,911
STUDENTS SERVED

SPRING
2020

1,200
STUDENTS SERVED

Prior to campus closure due to **COVID-19**



FARMERS MARKET/MOBILE MARKETS PROVIDED

134,246 LBS OF FOOD TO **5,320** HOUSEHOLDS

IMPROVING EQUITY IN SCHOLARSHIPS



In 2019, the Mesa College Foundation, Student Equity, Student Affairs, and Institutional Effectiveness, reviewed a Scholarships Equity Analysis which revealed:

- White students had the lowest application rate compared to their representation, but the highest award rate
- African American, Latinx, and Filipino students had the lowest award rate
- Asian students had the biggest gap between application rate and award rate
- Compared to males, female students received fewer awards per headcount and award
- African American students received the lowest amount of rewards

The award results were not representative of the applicant pool or the student body. Therefore, Mesa formed an Ad Hoc Scholarship Committee to evaluate how scholarship practices could be adapted to achieve more equitable outcomes. The team immediately took the following actions:

- Increased outreach to students to include classroom presentations and promotional materials
- Partnered with the Writing Center to assist students with applications
- Created a workshop series to provide assistance with the online application and personal statements

- Expanded Community Service to include service to church, family, and friends
- Added "All GPAs welcome to apply"
- Removed required references and minimum unit requirement (on select scholarships)
- Adjusted eligibility to be more flexible with part time/ full-time status

Results of the equity efforts were largely successful and revealed:

- More African American, Asian, and Latinx awardees, with representation of Native American students
- Higher scholarship award amounts for African American, Asian, Filipino students
- Lower amounts received by White and Latinx students, but Latinx was biggest for total amount received
- Average per headcount for females was higher than for males
- Representation in the non-binary category

Mesa College and the Foundation will continue to analyze scholarships and the scholarship process to improve equity among applicants and awardees.





San Diego Mesa College is committed to student initiatives that benefit a diverse student body. As part of our commitment to be the leading college of equity and excellence, we intentionally move to close achievement gaps in access and success for underrepresented student groups. As civil unrest gripped our nation in the spring of 2020, we wanted to ensure that our students felt supported, leading to the creation of a Black Lives Matter resource webpage.

The goal was to create a safe place for students and provide resources and information. The BLM resource page includes updates from the Chancellor and the Chancellors Cabinet, a comprehensive library guide, and access to student health services. The page provides information on professional development, the Black Studies Program, UMOJA, the world in the world cultures art gallery. We also include extensive information on our equity work with The Center for Urban Education.

CELEBRATING A WIN FOR DACA STUDENTS



Mesa College celebrated the U.S. Supreme Court's June 18 decision striking down the Trump administration's years-long attempt at eliminating the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program that is protecting nearly 200 DACA students at Mesa. Adopted under then-President

Barack Obama in 2012, the DACA program allows some immigrants, brought to the United States as children, without proper documentation to remain in the country and become eligible for a work permit. DACA recipients have grown up as Americans and identify as Americans. Mesa College has long advocated in favor of the DACA program and comprehensive immigration reform. The Supreme Court ruled that the Trump administration illegally restricted federal stimulus funds to students protected by the DACA program.

HONORING OUR GRADUATES

CLASS OF 2020

In lieu of a traditional, in-person Commencement Ceremony, Mesa College hosted both a Grad Parade and a Virtual Commencement. Over 600 graduates opted to participate in the online Ceremony, which included multiple elements of the traditional ceremony in video format – including addresses by Dr. Pamela T. Luster, President, as well as Dr. Constance M. Carroll, Chancellor, and Dr. Maria Nieto Senour, President of the Board of Trustees.

On Wednesday, July 15, San Diego Mesa College hosted a Graduation Parade to celebrate the Class of 2020. Nearly 300 graduates participated, driving along the parade route through campus in their vehicles packed with family members and even pets. The graduates received their diploma covers and were cheered on by over 75 faculty, staff, and administrators who waved pom-poms and danced to music.



MESA COLLEGE - CLASS OF 2020



1,605
GRADUATES



1,542
DEGREES



628
GRADUATING
WITH HONORS



448 WITH
TWO OR MORE
DEGREES



295
CERTIFICATES



150 +
VETERAN
GRADUATES



27 H.I.M.
BACHELOR'S
DEGREES



44
VALEDICTORIANS



54
INTERNATIONAL
GRADUATES

A PROUD HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTION



TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Mesa is a designated HSI (Hispanic Serving Institution) with an enrollment of 38% Hispanic/Latinx students as of Fall 2019. As an HSI, Mesa receives federal funding through annual grants to ensure that our Hispanic/Latinx student population has access to services and resources that promote their academic success. This year, Mesa was awarded a Supplemental HSI Title III grant award of \$150,000 to provide funding for STEM Teacher Preparation. This will help us address the shortage of bilingual and culturally responsive high school math and science teachers in California. As one of the largest community colleges in California, we recognize our potential to support and educate diverse STEM teachers in this teacher ed pipeline.



INNOVATION RESEARCH LAB

Mesa's Innovation Research Lab (IRL) provides students from diverse backgrounds with the guidance they need to conduct independent and guided research within STEM disciplines. IRL's faculty liaisons in anthropology, biology, and geography serve as mentors, helping our students experience greater efficacy in their scientific abilities.

Throughout the year, the IRL hosted events, workshops, and student club meetings. The IRL's support also extends to off-campus events as Mesa students to have the opportunity to work with faculty mentors and present their work at various research conferences across the country. Regardless of whether they decide to become STEM majors, all students at Mesa are provided with a space that fosters their engagement in scientific investigation with technological resources and faculty support.



MESA PATHWAYS



Over the last year, the Mesa Pathways Committee and work groups engaged the campus in an effort to create program mapping guidelines, a communication plan, a Pathways glossary, Mesa Journeys, onboarding processes, a student fellows program, embedded tutoring, and outreach practices.

2020-21 GOALS

- Complete a campus scan of the various programs and projects on campus to find how they fit into the student journey, and thus the Pathways framework.
- Embed Pathways into our Mesa 2030 strategic planning



UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Developing metamajors or areas of interest
- Differentiating orientation practices
- Developing pathways with our continuing education students
- Coordinating all of our dual enrollment programs
- Conducting a curriculum audit
- Creating student support teams
- Collecting the student voice



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Adaptability, resilience, innovation, and commitment to student learning and success - those are words that characterize the work that our faculty and classified professionals are doing to ensure instructional continuity, help support every Mesa student, including those enrolled in CCAP courses, and ensure that they stay in school and achieve their educational goals. In the past year, instruction at Mesa focused on enrollment management—ensuring fiscal responsibility while scheduling the classes that students need to achieve their educational milestones in a timely manner. Strides were made to increase productivity.



In the spring, faculty worked hard to adapt lab, studio, CTE, and activity-based curricula through creative strategies. To empower learning, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators continue to support students' needs inside and outside the classroom. All of this work will continue into 2020-2021.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT BUILD WITH MESA BUDDIES



The Build with Mesa Buddies program, designed to train faculty in Distance Education pedagogy, started in June 2020, with over 60 faculty members enrolled. The program will continue in Fall 2020 with a new cohort of faculty, as well as a cadre of Buddies or DE faculty experts in each academic school who will provide guidance and support to their colleagues.

The Advancing Racial Justice and Equitable Outcomes in Community College Institute

In September 2019, Mesa College hosted the Advancing Racial Justice and Equitable Outcomes in Community College Institute, organized by the University of Illinois Office of Community College Research and Leadership. Issues related to race on community college campuses were the focus, with attendees learning how to define and support educational equity on their campuses as well as how to develop action plans to improve learning environments and promote equitable outcomes for all students. Among other resources, participants at the event received tools that outline culturally responsive practices for addressing implicit bias, promoting intergroup dialogue, and contending with racial microaggressions.



MESA 2030

Master Plan



The Master Planning Task Force

met throughout the fall and spring semesters to continue the development of the educational and facilities master plan, with the guidance of our consultants from Gensler. Mesa College was awarded a grant through the California Community Colleges Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative to integrate Equity and Pathways into our Mesa 2030 Master Plan.

During our fall Task Force Expansion kickoff meeting, we renamed ourselves Mesa 2030, to make this a 10-year plan for the college. The campus community participated in engagement events such as the Spring President's Cabinet Retreat and focus groups, where information was gathered and presented for review at subsequent meetings. This spring, we held our first meeting virtually with the IEPI Partnership Resource Team. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have extended the Mesa 2030 Master Plan timeline for Board review and approval to spring of 2021.



Supporting Expansion for Mesa's Bachelor's Degree Program

In April 2020, the San Diego Community College District's (SDCCD) Board of Trustees supported legislation that would eliminate the 2026 sunset date, and expand and make permanent the HIM bachelor's degree pilot program, allowing Mesa College, along with 14 other California community colleges to continue to provide the unique opportunity to students and meet workforce needs. The San Diego Mesa College baccalaureate program in Health Information Management, is among the colleges taking part in the pilot program.

A recent California Legislative Analyst's Office report validated the academic quality and rigor of the programs, and found that more than half of the students surveyed would not have pursued a bachelor's degree if the program at their community college had not been offered. At Mesa College, 95% of students in our Health Information Technology associate degree program aim to pursue a bachelor's degree so they can enter a profession with salaries ranging from nearly \$83,000 to more than \$144,000 annually.

Open Educational Resources



During the 2019-2020 school year, over 40 faculty utilized **Open Educational Resources (OER)**, free and openly licensed educational materials that can be used for teaching, learning, research, and other purposes. By incorporating OER into lesson plans, Mesa faculty have saved enrolled students thousands of dollars that they would otherwise have spent on textbooks and other learning materials. As we consider the long-term impact of these free resources and incorporate them more frequently into instruction, we maintain our commitment to equity by reducing the financial and educational barriers that affect our most vulnerable students.

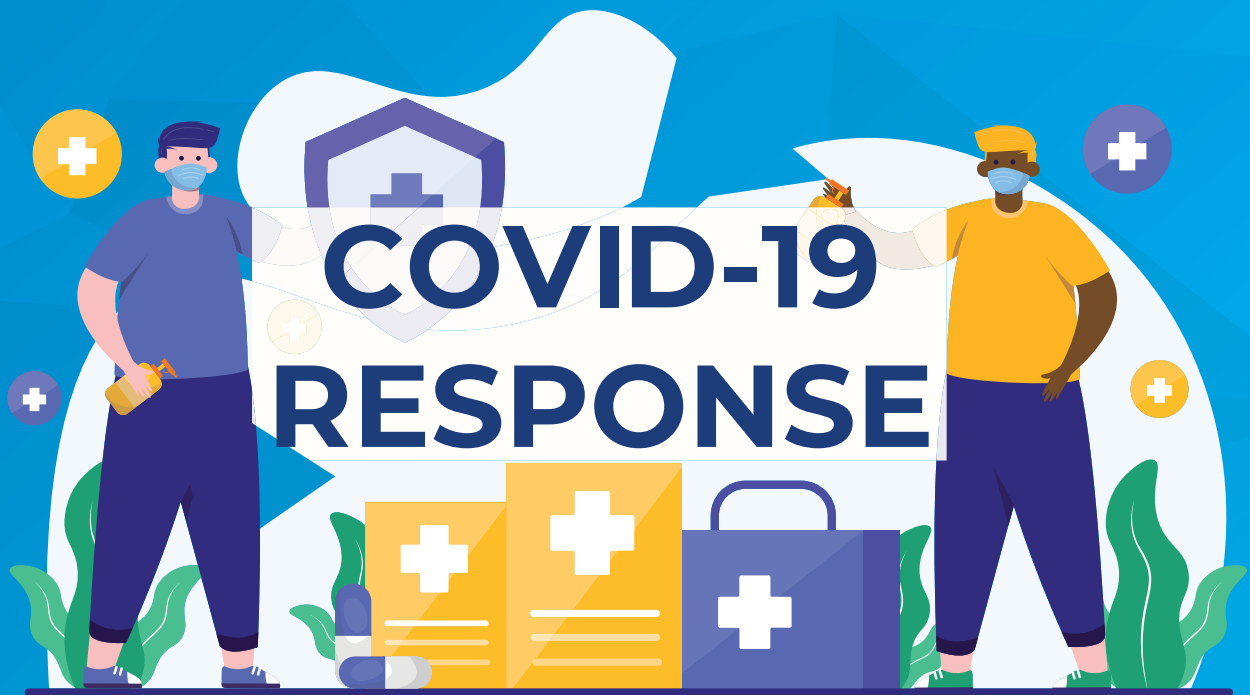


FALL 2019

29 Courses
83 Sections
\$ 230,000+
 Student Savings

SPRING 2020

43 Faculty
47 Courses
108 Sections
\$ 300,000+
 Student Savings



Mesa quickly transitioned to remote learning, and launched the [Mesa College COVID-19 webpage](#) to provide students with updates, resources, and support. We introduced our [Online Student Services webpage](#) with information and remote service access for admissions, assessment, counseling, DSPS, financial aid, health services, and outreach. [Tutoring and Computing Centers](#) transitioned all tutoring and training to online.



Mesa College received **\$2,473,151** through Federal CARES Act funding in support of direct student aid. Our process was designed to award **4,946** students **\$500** in COVID-19 Emergency Relief grants for Spring 2020.



The Mesa College COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund raised **\$61,000** to fund **420** students to date. EOPS Emergency Grants were awarded to **13** CARE students (single parent head of households receiving CalWORKs), and **43** NextUp and FAST Scholars (current and former foster youth). **\$6,500** has been raised for Borderless Scholars/DACA students. Through CalWORK's, **36** students received **\$150** Visa virtual cards.



Distributed over **400** laptops to students since March, (including EOPS students in the CARE, Borderless Scholars, and NextUp/FAST programs), and provided free Wi-Fi access in Parking Lot #1.



Annual Scholarship donors provided Mesa scholarship winners with **\$163,000** in advance of the standard timeline.



Exercise Science, Animal Health, Biology, Chemistry, and Architecture contributed to efforts to support PPE needs at local hospitals. Architecture utilized 3-D printers to create face shields for medical workers and the Fashion Department was making masks.



The Farmers Market became a "Drive-through Mobile Market," providing fresh food twice a month to our most vulnerable students.

As of June 30, 2020



Mesa College Events and Operations, in coordination with the VPA's office, held campus reopening discussions with faculty, staff, and administration in the spring semester to discuss current CDC, state, and county guidelines with regards to health and safety surrounding COVID-19, and to help us inform a draft Reopening Plan.

The Mesa College Technology team

headed coordination efforts to provide technology and support to students.



400 LAPTOPS
PROVIDED IN
SPRING 2020



120 LAPTOPS
PROVIDED FOR
SUMMER /
FALL 2020



25 MOBILE
HOTSPOTS
PROVIDED

COVID 19 EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND



In March, 2020 Mesa College announced the official launch of the Mesa College COVID-19 Emergency Fund for students. The fund provides emergency assistance to students whose lives and educational goals have been disrupted by the catastrophic impact of the Coronavirus

crisis. Funds were used to assist students in need, and decrease their risk of dropping out of classes or college. Many of Mesa College students were among those hardest hit by the COVID-19 crisis, working in sectors, such as food service, that have been forced to close or decrease their workforce. Many students who were without computers, internet, or other resources had to overcome these new barriers. Within days of establishing the fund, the Mesa College community—including Associated Students, the San Diego Mesa College Foundation, and generous donors — have contributed \$30,000 to establish the COVID-19 Emergency Student Relief Fund. As of June 30, 2020, the fund had reached over \$60,000 with 100% of donations going directly to students.

SERVING OUR FOSTER YOUTH New FAST Center

In the fall of 2019, Mesa celebrated the grand opening of the Fostering Academic Success and Transitions (FAST) Center. The Center houses NextUp, Mesa's Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) program that provides resources and support to current and former foster youth. The FAST Center is the first of its kind among San Diego community colleges, offering Mesa's community of foster youth a space of their own that affirms their background and experiences.



3-11%
of former
foster youth will
graduate from
college



80% of former
foster youth have
2 or more children
by age of 26



34%
of former foster
youth are
homeless by
the age of 25

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS AND VIRTUAL CEREMONY

The annual San Diego Mesa College Scholarship Awards Ceremony is a grand celebration marking the success and achievement of Mesa students. Although Mesa College and the Mesa College Foundation were disappointed to cancel the 2020 Awards Ceremony, they have provided a unique alternative - a 2020 Scholarship Awards Presentation Video. This year's presentation was also made possible by a generous donation from California Coast Credit Union.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Annual Scholarship donors unanimously agreed to provide 2020 Mesa scholarship winners with their awards in advance of the standard timeline. The 242 scholarships, totaling \$163,205, were awarded to 176 deserving students, 45 of whom received more than one award. Our donors' flexibility allowed Mesa to get money into the hands of our students weeks before they would normally have received it.



\$ 163,205
SCHOLARSHIPS
WAS AWARDED



176 STUDENTS
WERE AWARDED



45 STUDENTS
EARNED MORE THAN
ONE AWARD





SERVING OUR VETERANS



Mesa College works hard to serve our Veterans and their families. In 2019, we added a new Veterans Services Supervisor, who brings years of experience to assist our students. We also hired a former United States Marine as an Adjunct Counselor to support our student veterans in our Veterans Success Center on campus. Veterans Affairs worked on new procedures and processes for a

VA work study recruitment plan, provided a Mobile Vet Center and Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor on campus, along with STEM related internship opportunities. As a result of these efforts, Mesa has had over 15 student veterans offered spring admission to SDSU, the highest numbers of offers to student veterans to date.

STUDENT SUCCESS IN OUR TRANSFER AND CAREER CENTER



1,858

Students were assisted with transfer applications in Fall 2019 at The Transfer Center.



1,170

Mesa Students were admitted to San Diego State University for Fall 2020!



690

New students registered on the Mesa Online Job Board, Job Network.



2,919

The Career Center team, including counselors and staff, had a total of 2,919 contact points with students!



220

New employer connections for student job, internship, and volunteer opportunities!



210

Student users have used our **FREE Online Career Ready Guide Course**, which allows students to build 21st Century workplace skills through a virtual self-paced course.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Partnering to support our community

The Stand is a valuable resource for our Mesa students, offering a weekly pick-up selection of produce, meat, deli, and non-perishable foods. Expanding Mesa's and The Stand's partnership with Feeding San Diego, we participated in the Retail Rescue program, which aided in our initiative to bring fresh and healthy food options to our students. By redirecting retail stores' extra food to our campus, we were not only able to ease the struggle of food-insecurity felt by our community, but also reduce the needless waste of participating retail stores.



Mesa participated in a number of collaborative efforts to distribute resources to mitigate the widespread effects of the novel COVID-19 virus. Several of our departments in Exercise Science, as well as Animal Health, Biology, Chemistry, and Architecture, contributed to regionally coordinated efforts to support PPE needs at local hospitals. The Architecture department utilized its 3D printers to create face shields for medical workers, and members of the Fashion department put their talents toward making masks as well. In April and May, Mesa was able to provide 50 masks to the Bayside Community Center, allowing them to continue to provide meals to our local seniors. As an educational institution that serves thousands of diverse students each academic year, we have remained attentive to the needs of our local and global community, and dedicated to developing resources and services to lend aid where it is most needed.





MESA COLLEGE ALUMNI

In February 2019, Mesa launched the Alumni Network, an initiative to foster relationships among our alumni and renew their engagement with our campus community. Whether they earned a degree, a certificate, or only took one class at Mesa, we welcome all alumni to join the Alumni Network to get involved and stay in the know about the exciting going-ons

happening on our campus and within our community. Through social media and a robust email campaign, Mesa initially reached out to over 50,000 Mesa Alumni, with nearly 200 requesting to reconnect and get involved with Mesa. Our communications and engagement efforts will continue into 2020-21.



MESA ALUMNI ARE SEW SUCCESSFUL

In early April 2019, Mesa Fashion Alum Carmen Flores of Ebb and Flow Beachwear teamed up with engineers AP Nist and Kevin Gemmell to take on the “5,000 Mask Challenge,” a homegrown effort to create and donate 5,000 masks to healthcare workers on the frontline of the pandemic. Fashion Professors, Meegan Feori and Jordyn Smiley, recruited current Mesa Fashion Department students and delivered the first large donation of 400 masks on May 12, to the VA San Diego and the Health Center Partners of Southern California.

Another Mesa College alum, Emily Pritts partnered with Project Masks, a Southern California-based organization donating cloth masks to hospital workers. Through her business “Boho Fabrics,” Emily provided customers with free mask kits and offered the opportunity for less-skilled donors to sponsor local sewists contributing to the effort.



2019–20 YEAR IN REVIEW



July

2019 Summer CRUISE
Serves Record-breaking
Number of Students



September

Latina artists Katie Ruiz and
April Rose present **"Chromatic:
Grounding with Color"** at the
Mesa College Art Gallery for
Latinx Heritage Month



November

Mesa College Resiliency Fund
averaged **\$1,000 per day** in
donations

2019

August

Mesa College Hosts The Impact
of Privilege on Equity in Higher
Education Featuring Nationally
Acclaimed Speaker Tim Wise



October

San Diego City and Mesa Colleges
Receives Nearly **\$1.7 Million**
to Boost Academic Outcomes
for Latinx Students



December

Mesa College Resiliency Fund
Campaign Reaches Over
\$100,000



Double your impact.
Be there for our students
when they need it most.

2019-20 YEAR IN REVIEW



January

Mesa Marches in the 40th Annual MLK Jr. Parade



March

Mesa's Speech and Debate Team Goes National in Award-Winning 2019-2020 Season



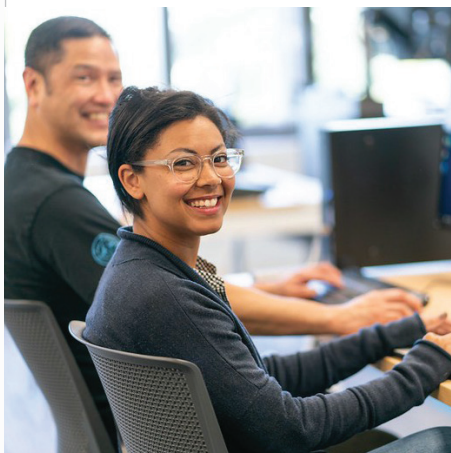
May

Mesa Transitions Farmers Market to Mobile Market

2020

February

SDSU Launches Innovative Agreement with Local Colleges to Increase Degree Access



April

Spring 2020 President's Breakfast
Mesa's Commitment to Sustainability



June

Two Mesa College Students Take Top Honors in District League for Innovation Student Literary Award Competition





HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STUDENT CHASTINY GLADDEN SERVES HER COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

HIT Student Chastiny Gladden is a veteran and Health Information Technology student in Mesa College's Allied Health Department. She came to Mesa after serving in the United States Navy and has continued to support veteran students like herself within her role as secretary of the Student Veterans Organization (SVO). Working with the SVO,

she has hosted events around the San Diego area, raised money to provide free food for students in the Veterans Success Center, and helped foster community on Mesa's campus. Even though she is retired from the military, Chastiny hopes to work for the VA in the Health Information field and continue to serve veterans throughout her career.



DR. DANIELA BRUCKMAN BRINGS EQUITY TO LAB REDESIGN

As a new full-time hire in the Biology Department, Professor Daniela Bruckman brought fresh eyes to the general biology curriculum. Since taking over teaching Biology 210B: Introduction to the Biological Sciences II, she conducts her classes with new lab material that she created as part of a grant-funded initiative to close equity gaps in the life sciences.

Professor Bruckman wrote a total of thirteen new Biology 210B labs that she began implementing in 2019. The Biology 210B lab redesign focuses on incorporating components of the scientific methods into lab activities. The initiative strives to prepare Mesa students for elevated studies in the sciences, and aids those who may have taken biology courses in high school or at other colleges that lacked instruction in crucial scientific methods and techniques.

ART EXHIBITION FORCED EXODUS

In celebration of Black History Month, Mesa presented Forced Exodus by established artist Joe Lewis. In his art gallery exhibit, Lewis delved into the heroic history of the Underground Railroad and drew parallels between the plight of slaves in the 1850s and undocumented immigrants today. His work explores past and present migration to and from Mexico, the connection between runaway slaves and indigenous people in their struggle for freedom, and the continuing search for social justice and self-determination.



JOURNALISM STUDENT FINDS HIS PLACE

At 30 years old, Lance Nelson entered Mesa as a post-traditional college student whose prior experiences in education had him inundated with daily homophobic slurs and occasional locker room threats. After a trying high school experience, Lance was reluctant to pursue higher education, fearing he would once again experience harassment due to his sexual orientation. Stepping foot on Mesa's campus, Lance's fears were assuaged as he spotted the rainbow banners that welcome LGBTQ+ students like himself with the words "Mesa Pride." Utilizing the free therapy and counseling sessions provided by Mesa's Health Services, Lance continued to heal. He began to write for the college newspaper, joined the Honors Program, and maintained a 4.0 GPA for the first time in his academic career. Set to transfer to Columbia University, Lance hopes to work for the United Nations and advocate for the LGBTQ+ community.



MESA COLLEGE WINS DEVORE TROPHY

In September 2019, Mesa's athletics department was awarded the DeVore Trophy, given annually to the athletic program that accumulates the highest average of points in the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference during the calendar year. To encapsulate our 217-point award-winning showing, Mesa captured PCAC titles in baseball, men's cross country, men's track & field, women's swim & dive, women's water polo, and women's volleyball and were second in men's swimming, women's soccer, softball and women's track & field. Our Olympians also finished second in the state in women's swim & dive while finishing third in men's cross country.

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY TEAM WINS THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



COACHES TAKE TOP AWARDS

In addition to having this year's highest performing student athletes, Mesa had award-winning coaches, sweeping the PCAC Coaches of the year awards. Sean Ricketts, head coach of San Diego Mesa College men's cross-country team, and Todd Curran, head coach of Mesa's women's soccer team, were awarded the titles of PCAC Men's Coach of the Year and PCAC Women's Coach of the Year, respectively. Both awards were voted on by the Athletic Directors throughout the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference.

Both coaches also received additional honors, with Ricketts earning the Men's Cross-Country Coach of the Year Award from the California Community College Cross-Country and Track & Field Coaches Association (5CTCA), and Curran being awarded the San Diego Mesa College's Coach of the Year award.



WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL CLAIMS PCAC TITLE



The Mesa women's volleyball team were back-to-back Pacific Coast Athletic Conference champions, tying with Grossmont College with their 14-2 record. With the conference crown in hand, the team also received a handful of year-end awards, including head coach Bobbie Jo Stall who was named 2019 PCAC Coach of the Year after winning the same award in 2018.

Sophomore outside hitter Lizzie Wilson was named 2019 PCAC Player of the Year, leading the PCAC in kills per set (4.97) and kills 442. Six additional players were named on the all-conference team. Rachel Wilkocz, Sabrina Speratti, and Madelyn Harris were selected first team all-conference. Amanda Nguyen, Jalesa Pointdexter, and freshman Hannah Cordon were selected for second team all-conference.



MESA HIRES FORMER SDSU STANDOUT LINDSAY SAMANIEGO AS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH

This fall, Mesa appointed Lindsay Samaniego as the new Women's Basketball Coach. Samaniego joined us after six seasons with the Cal Lutheran women's basketball program, where she guided the Regals to a 91-66 record while making five

straight appearances in the SCIAC Postseason Tournament. Samaniego is not only dedicated to helping her team of student athletes excel on the court, but also to assisting them as they transfer into four-year programs.



SOMETHING IS BREWING AT MESA COLLEGE

Mesa launched our new Fermentation Management Certificate program in the fall of 2019, providing Mesa students with the opportunity to learn about the fermentation business and the processes that go into making wine, beer, kombucha, and coffee. The program is especially tailored to our community, as San Diego boasts a \$1.2 billion craft beer industry, paving the way for greater community partnerships and preparing our students to hold positions within the local workforce as they begin their careers in the exciting, emerging fermentation industry.

MESA COLLEGE/SDSU MICROSITE PROGRAM

In February, Mesa announced a partnership with San Diego State University that will help our students earn online SDSU degrees starting in the 2020-2021 school year. The initiative helps address the issue of degree access by offering a program that provides the flexibility and support to accommodate many of our students' needs, especially those of our working and post-traditional students. There will be two bachelor's degree programs offered – one in Business Administration and Criminal Justice – with additional programs expected in future years. 50 Mesa students were accepted into the first Microsite program in Business, doubling the projected goal.



TASTE OF MESA

On October 24, Mesa celebrated our annual Taste of Mesa event. Over 130 guests tasted samples of various culinary delights prepared by Mesa College Culinary Arts students and alumni in the cook-off competitions. Bidding was intense for the Silent Auction, and prizes included cooking lessons with local award-winning chefs. Our generous sponsors included The French Gourmet, San Diego Hilton Bayfront, Knife Merchant, San Diego Seafood, and Chef Works, who each donated food, gifts, or prizes valued at over \$500. Proceeds from Taste of Mesa are used to further our initiative to incorporate instruction around farm-to-table style restaurants and service which is becoming more common in today's market.



MESA HOSTS LGBTQ+ CELEBRATION WEEK

From October 14 - 18, Mesa College hosted the campus' first ever LGBTQ+ Celebration Week. The entire community was invited to join multiple events around campus that supported and high-lighted our LGBTQ+ community. Events included a panel where advocates discussed issues around gender identity, a discussion on how sex-ed can be more inclusive, and a showcase where Honors students presented many artistic forms of queer expression. There was also a resource fair, a Drag Queen Q & A, and the week-long celebration culminated in the Spectrum Masquerade Ball on Friday evening.



BRIDGING TO A BACCALAUREATE

Mesa's Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program supports scholars from historically underrepresented backgrounds as they plan to transfer and earn a bachelor's degree in biomedical or behavioral science. This past fall in Anaheim, CA, one of Mesa College's Bridges Scholars, Kevin Cortez competed alongside nearly 2,100 undergraduate and graduate student researchers at the 2019 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS). His research, entitled "Inhibitory Effects of Fatty Acid Ester Vitamin C Derivatives on Rabbit Muscle Phosphofructokinase-1," earned him a top award in Biochemistry at the Conference, making him one of five Mesa Bridges scholars to receive a research award at a National Conference in the past five years.



WILLIAMSON BASKS IN "LIMELIGHT" WIN

On November 2, Mesa College student Rebecca Williamson participated in the 2019 IIDA Southern California Chapter Student Design Charette at the Gensler Office in Newport Beach. Williamson was one of 28 students who competed in the day's challenge: to design a creative office space for a historic building site in the Broadway District of Downtown Los Angeles. She worked alongside a team of four other California college students, and together, they garnered the first place prize for their interior design concept, "Limelight."

While the challenge tested the students' overall design skills, it also assessed their ability to manage time and work well with others. The students were

divided into six teams and with little time to become acquainted, they quickly pooled their talents to develop the best innovative design solutions that accommodated their limited resources. Working against the clock, they created designs for an Arrival Lounge, Creative Office Space, Conference Room, Private Modular Offices, and a Coffee Shop. After 4.5 hours of collaboration, the students presented their work to a panel of industry-professional judges, including Tom Ventura, Design Director for Gensler Newport Beach, Sarah McNally, Materials Consultant for 3form and IIDA SoCal VP of City Centers, and Saul Acosta, Principal of DA Lighting.



STUDENT SENATOR WINS PRESTIGIOUS JACK KENT COOKE SCHOLARSHIP

On April 24, 2020, Mesa student Hanan Dirirsa was announced as one of 50 recipients of the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, the nation's largest private scholarship for transfer students. The highly competitive national scholarship will provide Hanan with up to \$40,000 a year to complete her bachelor's degree. Hanan is a human biology major with a 4.0 grade point average who serves as a Senator with Mesa College's Associated Students. She is also the student representative on the Mesa College Foundation's Board of Directors. Hanan has been an active campus leader, serving as a mentor in Mesa College's STEM Peer Mentoring program and supporting students' success with her involvement in Mesa's Women in Science Club.

Track and Field Team Captain Troy Cristobal Wins President's Award Scholarship for 2020



Troy Cristobal is the winner of this year's 2020 Mesa Scholarship President's Award, given annually to a deserving Mesa College student who demonstrates leadership and academic excellence in their undergraduate career. Troy is a worthy recipient on both counts, having served as team captain for Mesa's track and field team since the spring of 2019, and set to graduate this May as an Engineering major with a cumulative 4.0 GPA.

Troy is described by track and field coach Sean Ricketts as "a team player, leader, and outstanding person." He has shown his commitment not only to his sport, but to ensuring the individual and collective successes of his teammates. For Troy, his team's ability to set and reach performance goals was based in effective collaboration and accountability. Troy's initiative serves as an enduring point of reference, helping to prepare his teammates and himself for life after college.

Troy credits his success at Mesa in part to the LRC's many resources, including the tutoring and peer support he received in the STEM Center. By having a location beyond the classroom that encouraged his passion for engineering. Troy will continue to receive Mesa's support as he goes on to study Engineering at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in the fall.



Mesa's Psi Beta Chapter Acknowledged for Excellence

The San Diego Mesa College Psi Beta Chapter was honored to receive the 2019-20 Chapter of Excellence Award. The Chapter is nationally distinguished, having received the Psi Beta Chapter of Excellence Award several times, as evidenced by their long list of impressive activities and accomplishments. In Fall 2019, they provided leadership and community service by participating in a beach cleanup and a donation drive for The Stand. In Spring 2020, Psi Beta represented Mesa College, demonstrating psychological science through fun,

hands-on activities at the San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering. Impassioned by goals for research and scholarship, the chapter hosted Dr. Gedeon Deák from UCSD to speak about his studies in infant cognition. And, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, members adapted to an online format, holding uplifting remote meetings, and organizing a Zoom panel to educate local high school students about careers related to psychology, opportunities at the community colleges, and the benefits of Psi Beta membership.

**You have
the power
to preserve
the dream
of a college
education.**



**Be there
for students
when they
need it most.**

MESA COLLEGE RESILIENCY FUND

Mesa's participation in the Hope Lab Community Colleges #RealCollege Survey showed that nearly 50% of our students are struggling with food insecurity and another 18% lack permanent housing. To ease these challenges, college leadership, students, and the Foundation started the Resiliency Fund. We set out to raise \$250,000 to provide emergency loans and grants to students at risk of dropping out due to financial setbacks. 100% of the donations to the Resiliency Fund go directly to students, providing financial assistance for expenses such as textbooks and supplies, car repairs, such as flat tires, hotel vouchers, and/or food. To date, the Foundation has raised over \$118,000 to support the fund and Mesa's students.

RESILIENCY FUND FREE THROW CHALLENGE

In November 2019, the Classified Senate, organized a Free Throw Challenge to benefit the Resiliency Fund. Thirty-two teams participated in the event, and a total of 347 free throws were made; each of these baskets raised \$1 for the Fund. The Classified Senate, Academic Senate, President Pamela Luster, the Foundation, Dean Shumaker and Dean's Council all contributed, and the event raised over \$3,000 for the Resiliency Fund.



MESA COLLEGE FOUNDATION

About

The San Diego Mesa College Foundation is dedicated to empowering students to reach their educational goals by increasing resources, raising funds, and creating friends and partnerships to support the mission of San Diego Mesa College. Our vision is to transform lives by supporting the educational dreams of our students and the communities we serve.

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MESA COLLEGE MOVING FORWARD



- ✓ Events and Operations team will continue to prepare Mesa College for reopening, focusing on the safety of in-person portions of hybrid classes in Allied Health, Culinary Arts, Animal Health Technology, and Science departments.
- ✓ Construction in the D-200 building will begin in the Fall of 2020 to create labs for the fermentation program.
- ✓ We will be breaking ground in late Fall 2020 on the highly anticipated Mesa College Quadrangle.
- ✓ Mesa 2030 Task Force meetings resume in the fall, with the objective of incorporating the feedback from the IEPI Partnership Resource Teams and continuing our work with Gensler of integrating Equity and Pathways into our Mesa 2030 Master Plan.

FINANCIALS

CATEGORIES	%	\$
Salaries & Benefits	98.9	70,365,712.45
Supplies & Materials	0.4	262,415.93
Services	0.6	428,998.77
Other	0.1	80,560.18

MAKING ROOM FOR THE NEW QUAD

I & J BUILDINGS DEMOLITION

The renovation of the K-100 building began during the fall of 2019, and will be completed in the summer of 2020. The renovated space will house the Veterans Resource Center, FAST Center, Honors Program, and The Stand Student Resource Center.

The Quadrangle Project continues moving forward, with the demolition of the I and J buildings complete. The ground-breaking for the Quadrangle will take place in the fall of 2020.



MESA'S COMMITMENT TO INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness strives to support the Mesa College community by inspiring a culture of equity-minded action research, reflection, and inquiry. The office creates tools that support equity analysis and foster data-informed decision-making at Mesa.



During Fall 2019, the team analyzed results from the 2019 Mesa Graduate Survey, and developed and shared the Graduate Survey Dashboard and the Campus Climate Dashboard.



Presented HSI and Equity Dashboard to a national audience at the Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators (AHSIE) Data Institute and Excelencia for Education Data Institute.



Conducted **campus-wide COVID-19 Student Needs Survey** of student experiences during COVID-19 closures, and received **nearly 10,000 valid responses** and **over 2,500 open-ended responses**.



Supported the development of our next Educational and Facilities Master Plan, entitled **Mesa 2030**.



In partnership with Career Technical Education faculty and administrators launched the **Strong Workforce Faculty Institute** in February, 2020.



Over 100 programs participated in the annual update for **Program Review**, focused on identifying equity gaps within course outcomes and reflecting on programs' contributions.

MESA COLLEGE

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.

VALUES

Our values are:

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

VISION

Our vision is to be the leading college of equity and excellence, educating students to shape their future.

GOALS

Our main goals are to deliver, advance, and support an inclusive teaching and learning environment; build and sustain a sense of community; support innovation, personal growth, and professional development of our employees.

WE ARE *Mesa*

The Leading College of Equity and Excellence

San Diego Mesa College, 7250 Mesa College Dr, San Diego, CA 92111

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

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