



FIRST *Monday* ON THE *Mesa* February 2017

Welcome Week • Spring 2017

Welcome back to campus!

As always, I truly enjoyed attending Welcome Week and greeting San Diego Mesa College students as they get ready for the spring 2017 semester.

I was pleased to see all the faculty and staff from around the campus in their booths interacting with students. Students who stopped by got bottled water, hot chocolate, snacks, candy, pens, ScanTron forms, and a chance to spin a wheel for prizes. I personally gave out otter pops on Tuesday, which was a lovely sunny day.

As I'm sure you noticed, Mesa Moves Valet Service was back for the second semester in a row. Valet Parking is currently available free of charge for the first three weeks of the semester

for students with a valid parking pass, and seeks to ease some of our parking woes here on campus. In February, we celebrate Black History Month with an array of amazing events that I hope you can attend. View [online calendar](#) for all events!



**SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE**
Office of the President

Convocation Spring 2017

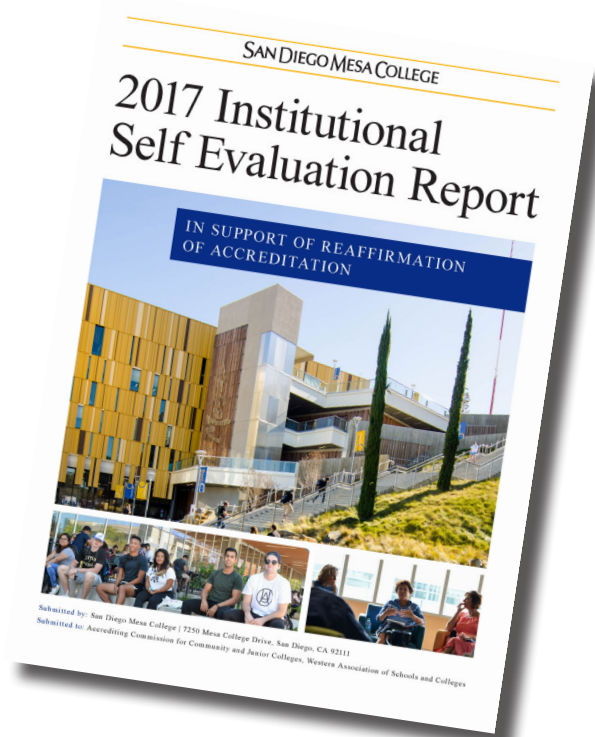
Thank you to those of you (nearly 200 staff and faculty) who attended the Spring 2017 Convocation. It was a great crowd, and Vice Presidents Tim McGrath, Ashanti Hands, and Rachelle Agatha and myself, were all excited to speak about upcoming events and progress occurring on campus. If you missed it, you can view the Spring 2017 Convocation Powerpoint [here](#). We had an excellent Equity In Action [presentation](#) by Dr. Frank Harris and Dr. Luke Wood of the Community College Equity Assessment Laboratory (CCEAL). CCEAL is a national research and practice lab that partners with community colleges like ours to support their capacity in advancing outcomes for students who have been historically underserved in education, particularly students of color.



ACCREDITATION UPDATE

We successfully submitted our Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). The final report is available on the [Accreditation website](#). In addition, the chair of our site visit team, Dr. Erika Lacro, and her assistant, Dr. Jerry Saviano, conducted their pre-site visit on January 19th. In preparation for the site visit, March 13th - 16th, we have prepared a 2017 [Accreditation Visit Guide](#).

When you have a moment, please review the Guide. It provides important information regarding the College and the accreditation process – AND it will provide MANY of the answers for our Accreditation Trivia Contest, which starts next week!



EXCITING NEWS FROM STRATEGIC PLANNING

On Jan 24, members of the PIE Committee and a few guests met to review our strategic directions and goals at the mid point of our Educational Master Plan. We currently do a great job in the areas of teaching and learning (Strategic Direction 1) and document it in our Institution Set Standards and Scorecard. We focused on the other SDs, in an attempt to bring together all the activities, initiatives, and committees on campus (many of which were not around when we first wrote the EMP). We want to build our capacity to get things done so we can achieve these goals we set for ourselves. Each table at our meeting focused on one of five areas: sense of community, pathways, innovation in our practices, personal growth and professional development, and sustainability and accountability. We developed a grid to list each goal, the activities and initiatives that address that

goal, who would be a good contact person, and performance indicators we can use to measure progress. We were especially on the lookout for any unmet needs.

We know from program review that all programs and service areas on campus are contributing to meeting these goals, but we are ready to be more deliberate. PIE will continue to work on the grid and will post it on the web and bring it to the participatory governance groups for discussion. We will be reaching out to people and groups that have something to contribute, and we welcome any input you have.



JUMPSTART

"Jumpstart", coming up on Saturday, Feb. 25 is Mesa's main recruitment event that provides workshops and activities aimed at preparing prospective students for college life. Student Services staff and faculty members hold workshops focused on topics such as how to prepare for assessment tests, apply for Financial Aid, make an educational plan, and transfer to a university. Faculty members discuss Mesa's degree and certificate programs in STEM fields, Ethnic Studies, Humanities and more, which can include hands-on activities and demonstrations such as extracting DNA from strawberries. Attendees also learned about the wide range of courses and tutoring options available at Mesa.

Mesa Student Ambassadors and Peer Navigators will lead campus tours, and during lunch, student actors, musicians, and

dancers will entertain attendees and their families. Additionally, once again this year, we will be offering scholarships – along with other giveaways – for attendees in an opportunity drawing. It really is a great way for prospective students to see that we are devoted to being the Leading College of Equity and Excellence in all that we offer. I hope to see you there. Find more information and registration form here: www.sdmesa.edu/jumpstart



NEW HIRES

Tina Recalde
Dean, Health Science & Public Service

Janet Mazzarella
Acting Dean of Humanities

Leticia Lopez
Director, HSI Title III STEM Grant

Jennifer Kearns
Director of Communications

Carina Castro
ILT/Biology

Leticia Gomez
ILT/Art Gallery

Danielle Short
Senior Student Services Assistant

Dulce Lopez
Student Services Technician

Ruben Leyva
Senior Student Services Assistant

Chelsea Ruwe
ILT, Art – Ceramics



February 2017 Events

STEM Lecture Series

Thursday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. in G-101.

Microbes, Viruses and the Future of Coral Reefs: Learn about the interactions between the microbial world and coral reefs during this STEM Lecture Series event.

Black Folks & The Blues

Wednesday, Feb. 8 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in MC 211A

Dennard Clendenin will be lecturing about the history of blues music and performing during this Black History Month even. Clendenin was featured in Lee Mun Wah's 2003 film "Last Chance for Eden," a documentary about racism, sexism and multiculturalism in America. The full schedule for Black History Month can be found [online](#).

18th Annual Black College Expo Bus Trip

Saturday, Feb. 11 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Travel to the Los Angeles Convention Center to learn about transferring to historically black colleges and universities. Email the Transfer Center at mesatransfer@sdccd.edu for more information.

Spend \$mart

Tuesday, Feb. 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in I4-404.

In this first event of the Financial Literacy Series, Rae Russell discusses why, how and the importance of planning and goal setting to build wealth. Contact Howard Eskew at heskew@sdccd.edu for more information.

Open Mic:

Tuesday, Feb. 21 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Poets Speak Out: Students, faculty, staff and the community are welcome to participate in or be in the audience for the annual Open Mic event. This year, a student winner will be chosen, whose piece of poetry will be performed by Dr. Ron McCurdy during the "Ask Yo Mama: 12 Moods for Jazz" performance.

An Afternoon with Sonia Sanchez

Thursday, Feb. 23 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. in MC 211A/B.

Award-winning poet, writer and activist Sonia Sanchez – made famous for her revolutionary work in the 1960s – will speak to students, staff, faculty and the community. The event will also include student performances of poetry.

La Tour de San Diego

Saturday, Feb. 24 from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Take a bus trip to tour local four-year campuses (University of San Diego, National University, Alliant International University and Point Loma Nazarene University). Email the Transfer Center at mesatransfer@sdccd.edu for more information.

Jumpstart

Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017 from 8:30a.m.-1p.m.

Join fellow future Olympians for an introduction to college life during Jumpstart. Students will learn about financial aid, transferring to four-year schools and careers during this free event. See Jumpstart online for more info. and registration: www.sdmesa.edu/jumpstart

Ask Yo Mama: 12 Moods for Jazz

Monday, Feb. 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. in G-101.

Dr. Ron McCurdy, music professor at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California, will be performing Langston Hughes' epic poem "Ask Yo Mama," set to jazz music.

DEADLINES:

Scholarship Application Deadline

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2017

More than \$180,000 in scholarships is available for students from San Diego Mesa College. Winners will be announced during the Annual Scholarships Awards Ceremony on Friday, April 28. Students wishing to apply must turn in their applications by Tuesday, Feb. 28. Visit <https://sdmesa.academicworks.com> for information regarding individual scholarships.

Distinguished Alumni Nomination Deadline

Friday, Feb. 17, 2017

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2017 San Diego Mesa College Distinguished Alumni Award. The award program recognizes former students who have made significant contributions to society, and whose accomplishments, affiliations, and careers have honored the legacy of equity and excellence at San Diego Mesa College. To nominate alumni for this award, contact Director of Communications Jennifer Kearns at jnkearns@sdccd.edu no later than Friday, Feb. 17. See [Nomination online](#) for more details.

