



FIRST *Monday* ON THE *Mesa* December 2016

Colleagues,

Congratulations on getting to the finish line of our busy Fall semester. I'm looking forward to seeing you at our annual luncheon tomorrow, or on campus as we attend our end of the year activities. Enjoy our December message focused on promises, accreditation, and celebrations.

Mesa Organizes 'Teach-In' to Show Support for Students Post-Election

As a way to ease political tensions post-election, San Diego Mesa College faculty, staff and students participated in a Teach-In event in front of the LRC on Wednesday, Nov. 30. With speeches from political science professor Carl Luna, sociology Professor Evan Adelson, psychology professor Inna Kanevsky, drama Adjunct professor Shelton Deckelbaum, ASG President Ava Fakhrabadi and more, the event was an informative and unique experience for all who attended. Originally proposed by English Professor Joe Safdie during an Academic Senate Executive Committee meeting, the purpose of the event was to give students, faculty and staff an opportunity to discuss the political climate in an educational and constructive manner, according to Robert Fremland. Look out for more Teach-In's in the near future!



NEW HIRES

Cesar Gaxiola - Student Services Assistant

Mr. Gaxiola has an excellent background in customer service and excels as a team player. Since 2016, Cesar has served as a NANCE Project Assistant employee and previously a VA workstudy in the Admissions office giving him the tools and experience we feel would be excellent for this position. He demonstrates a passion to serve Mesa students and has given examples of commitment to the importance of the position. He is Spanish bilingual. His supervisor mentioned he is always willing to go above and beyond for the job. We are very confident that he will be a great fit for this position.

Abimaliel Rosario Lopez - Student Services Assistant

Mr. Rosario has a wealth of experience in customer services and knowledge in the areas of general Admissions, Registration, International Student Admissions intake and VA benefits. Since 2015, Abi has served as a NANCE Project Assistant employee in the Admissions office giving him the tools and experience we feel would be excellent for this position. He is Spanish bilingual and has a military background with a professional demeanor and a white glove approach to helping students. His supervisor mentioned he is always willing to go above and beyond for students. We are very confident that he will be a great fit for this position.

Steven Salter, M.Ed. - DSPS Counselor/Coordinator

Steven Salter brings to Mesa College more than 13 years of experience working to support students with disabilities at both the K-12 and post-secondary levels. For the past seven years Steven has worked at Ashford University, serving as Director of Student Access and Wellness and was responsible for the oversight of online student support functions, including wellness promotion, psycho-social supports and student wellbeing, disability accommodation, compliance, and technology accessibility. In addition to direct oversight of day-to-day operations in the Office of Student Access and Wellness at Ashford University, Steven has also worked to support the college's WASC accreditation efforts, has served on external review committees and panels, and CAS self-studies, thus he brings a great deal of practical knowledge and leadership experience to Mesa College.

Todd Williamson – Instructional Learning Technician

We are pleased to welcome the new Instructional Learning Technician in the LOFT, Todd Williamson. Todd began his career in higher education in 2005 at Southwestern College as an hourly instructional assistant. Since that time he has grown alongside the transformation of instructional technology to his current role as Online Instructional Support Specialist at Southwestern College. In his role he has prepared and delivered trainings to faculty, staff and students in the use of blackboard and has been preparing his campus for the transition to CANVAS. He provides direct support to the campus for Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Suite, screen-casting and Video Applications, and publisher educational platforms, just to name a few. His supervisor and colleagues praise not only this depth of technical knowledge and skills, but also his ability to be a calming force that helps users resolve and learn the tools for their

success. As a life-long learner and professional, he actively engages with the entire campus community to create a positive environment for professional learning.

Kevin Branson - Administrative Technician

Kevin Branson was recently promoted from Software Technician to Administrative Technician for the College Technology Services Division in Administrative Services. Kevin has been with district for 16 years and is dedicated to student success and equity. He holds a BA in Public Administration, a MS in Educational and Instructional Technology and is currently an Ed.D. Doctoral Candidate at SDSU. He has served as the acting supervisor for the Library and former Center for Independent Learning, AV department, acting dean of the school of Learning Resources and Technology and was instrumental in the development of MT2C. Kevin has also been very involved in the Prop S/N projects coordinating the AV for Mesa College for the past 8 years.

Jacqueline Collins Administrative Technician

Jacqueline Collins joined the Administrative Services team as an Administrative Technician. Jacqueline attended Mesa College, and she came to us from the San Diego Workforce Partnership where she held several positions. Her most recent role was as the Director of Operations. Jacqueline has many years of experience in administrative and technical work including event planning, program and grant oversight, process documentation, and community coordination and presentations. She has a broad background in data analysis and research. Jacqueline lives with her husband and daughter in San Diego. We are excited to have Jacqueline join our team!

Cloris Johnson - Senior Clerical Assistant

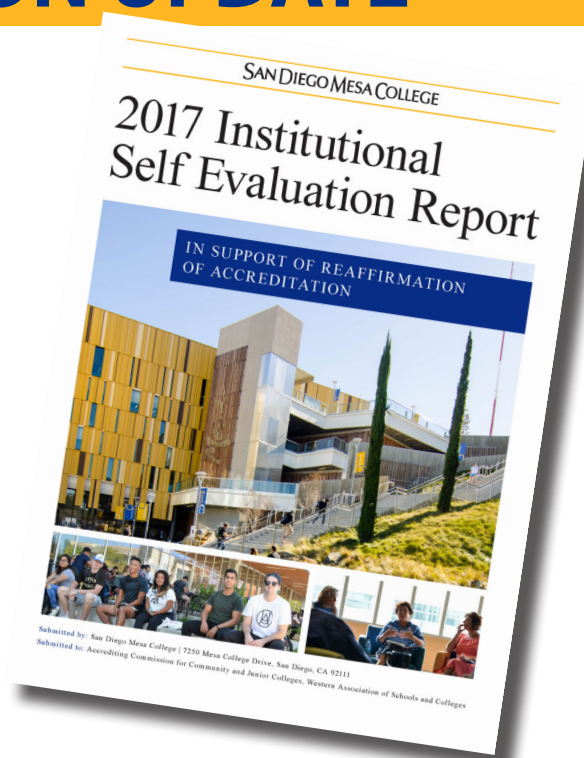
The President's Office of San Diego Mesa College would like to introduce its newest member: Senior Clerical Assistant, Cloris Johnson. Cloris holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Paralegal certification. Cloris began her career in public service over 10 years ago where she obtained experience in clerical support, compliance, accounting and legislation. Cloris was also elected as the Vice Chair of Outreach for the African American Association of County Employees where she assisted with employee development seminars, college enrollment, scholarships and referred students to educational and/or enrichment community programs. Cloris plans on pursuing a Master's Degree in education so that she can continue her passion to help students receive a quality education.



ACCREDITATION UPDATE

WE ARE SO CLOSE!!

We have rounded third base and heading for home as we submit our Institutional Self-Study to the Board of Trustees this Thursday, December 8th. We will do one final, final review in early January and then send it off to the ACCJC. At spring convocation we will be doing the process of informing and involving the campus about the actual visit which will be March 12-17, 2017.



The San Diego Promise

San Diego Community College District announced that it will be expanding its San Diego Promise program from 200 students to 800 students for the 2017-2018 college academic year during a press conference here at San Diego Mesa College on Dec. 6. With an ultimate goal of offering the San Diego Promise scholarship to 2,600 of students, the program's goal is to help students to attend college who may have been unable to due to the financial burden.

To be eligible, students must be graduating from the San Diego Unified School District in 2017, enroll at SDCCD in fall 2017, be state residents or DACA students, file FAFSA or a California Dream Act application, and have a minimum GPA of 2.0.

Those enrolled in the program are required to complete a minimum of 12 units per semester, remain continuously enrolled for one academic year and complete eight hours of community service per semester. All must complete assessment, orientation and an education plan prior to registration; and participate in college wrap around services such as EOPS, FYE and Peer Navigators.

For more information about the San Diego Promise please go to <http://www.sdccd.edu/promise>.



2016 Mesa College Holiday Card

Please enjoy our 2016 Holiday Card, and feel free to share it with your own networks and friends within and outside the college.



First Monday resumes in February. We have many activities in January, and hope to see you there. Happiest of holidays to you and your families, and we will see you in 2017.

Pamela T. Luster, President
San Diego Mesa College

December 2016 & January 2017 Events

DECEMBER 2016

Fashion Technology Fashion Show

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 7
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Location: LRC

Black Leadership Symposia

Date: Friday, Dec. 9
Time: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Location: MC 211 A/B

Mesa College Vocal Ensemble Misa Criolla

Date: Saturday, Dec. 10
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: LRC

JANUARY 2016

Winter Session Starts

Date: Tuesday, Jan. 3
Time: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Winter CRUISE

Date: January 10-12
Time: 8 am - 1 p.m.
Location: I4-203

Saturday CRUISE

Date: Saturday, Jan. 14
Time: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Location: I4-203

Martin Luther King Jr. Parade

Date: Sunday, Jan. 15
Time: 2 p.m.
Location: Harbor Dr. San Diego, CA.

