



FIRST *Monday* ON THE *Mesa*

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE
Office of the President

February 2021

Spring Is Here!

Happy First Day of Spring semester, Olympians! We are now underway after a wonderful week of professional learning and engagement. Thank you to everyone who organized and participated in the Catalyst Conference, Convocation, and the many workshops and meetings last week. Please continue to post, read, and respond to the many opportunities for learning in our mosaic, here: <https://bit.ly/mesaconvosp21>.

For our students who are reading this...we have so many cool welcome events this week! We can get you connected with tutoring, jobs, counseling and all things support...including our wonderful drive-up free food markets twice a month. Look here for more information <http://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/online-student-support-services.shtml>.

As we begin Black History Month, I want to thank our faculty and staff who have organized events for our celebrations. Drs. Mayasa, Katungi, Rogers, and Sundayo have led these efforts on our behalf. This is but one month that we do this formally, but let it be our everyday commitment to lift up and advance practices and outcomes supporting our black communities.

Welcome Week

We are thrilled to kick off the Spring 2021 Semester with an exciting **Welcome Week**! Of course, safety remains our top priority, so our welcoming activities will remain entirely virtual this semester. Please encourage students to attend the events online this



week by sharing the links below and posting or promoting the schedule in your department or service area:

- Click [here](#) to view the online Spring 2021 Welcome Week Schedule of Events
- Click [here](#) to view Mesa College's Event Calendar
- Click [here](#) to download the iMesa Mobile app - this is a great way to stay connected with all the latest news and events happening at Mesa College!

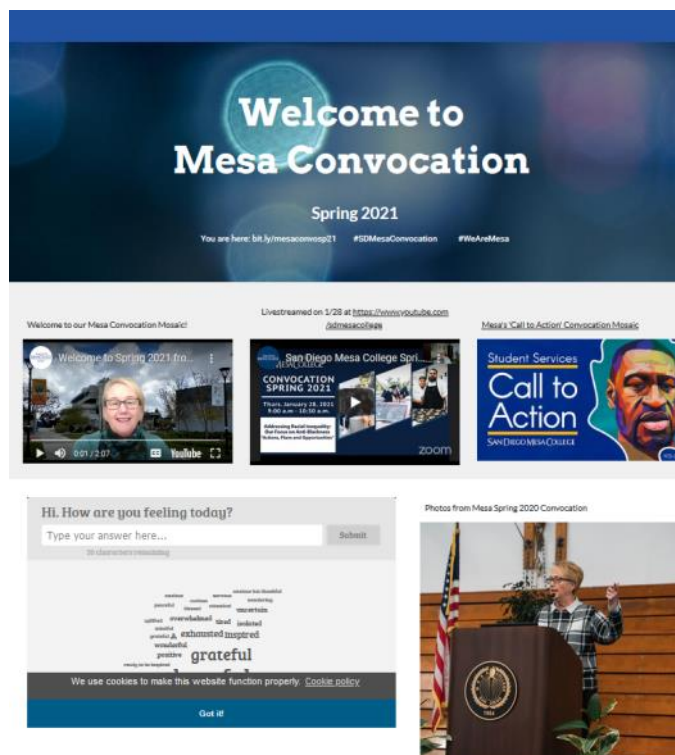
Welcome Week is designed to promote community while helping students feel connected to our campus and to familiarize them with our resources, but we can always be on the lookout for a student in need. Have a happy and safe Spring Semester!

Convocation Recap

It was fabulous to "see" so many of you attend our Spring 2021 Convocation, where we continued our work on Addressing Racial Inequality: Our Focus on Anti-Blackness. During the synchronous event, we heard a welcome – and goodbyes - from our Senate Presidents, all of whom will be ending their terms this year. We had updates on Mesa2030, where we discussed our plans for our Educational and Facilities Master Plan, and Mesa Pathways, where we discussed our work to date, as well as progress on the sorting activity. We then heard about how faculty and staff have responded to the 'Call to Action', and invited all of you to participate via the Mesa Convocation Mosaic jamboard. Finally, I was proud to award multiple Mesa Olympian Spirit Awards. If you were unable to participate, you can [watch the Convocation Spring 2021 session on the Mesa College YouTube Channel](#), and you can still participate in the asynchronous activities on the [Mesa Convocation Mosaic webpage](#), where you can choose which topics or sessions to watch or attend, all with the goal of learning and connecting - and continuing to become the leading college of equity and excellence.

Black History Month

Today is the start of Black History Month 2021! As chair of the Black Studies Department, I'd like to take a moment to share with you our plans for this first virtual celebration. We're excited about hosting (and co-hosting) a variety of both synchronous and asynchronous events. The [Black History Month Calendar](#) is being finalized this week. As an added feature, we've included Padlet Links to several of our activities as a way for participants to connect, share comments and Mesa



-nize their experiences. Feel free to share our calendar of events and please encourage your students to attend (consider offering them extra credit). The Black Studies faculty and I hope you will join us and wish you the best as we start a great spring semester. Thank you, Thekima Mayasa, Ed.D., Black Studies Department, Chair

Farmers Market

The Stand: Basic Needs Resource Center will provide two large free food distributions per month throughout Spring 2021. To ensure that students do not miss out on the opportunity to participate in our mobile markets and other events, please encourage students to [click here to opt in for emails](#) about upcoming events. February distributions will take place on Monday, February 1 from 1:00- 2:00 p.m., and Thursday, February 18, 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., in the parking structure.

CARES Act Update

San Diego Mesa College continues to utilize COVID-19 relief funds to support our students and employees. From the initial CARES Act allocation Mesa continues to fund the Build with Mesa Buddies and Olympians Pathways Partnership programs. Additionally the college has allocated resources from the Federal portion of the COVID-19 Block Grant to purchase laptops and other technology to support the work from home efforts of our faculty, classified professionals, supervisors, and administrators. Because of the longer-term impact that COVID-19 has had on the financial status of our students, there has been discussion of providing additional direct support allocations for our students. Additionally on January 14, the US Department of Education notified us of the release of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation (CRRSA) Act funds. The CRRSA Act, was passed by Congress and signed by the president in December 2020 and allocates approximately \$22.7 billion was provided to the Office of Postsecondary Education as the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II, or HEERF II. In the coming weeks we will know more about the parameters of this funding and identify ways to solicit your input on where support is needed the most.

Quad Update

The Mesa College Quadrangle, will become the heart of our college and serve as a main thoroughfare through campus. It has been designed with the student experience as the top priority. Once our students are

FEB. 1
PBS Film
February One
The Story Of The Greensboro Four

This remarkable documentary reveals the power of protest when four college students became friends, inspired one another's idealism and activism resulting in what became a major staged sit-in on Feb. 1st, 1960. It also shows the burden of history and its enduring impact upon their lived realities in America.

[Watch Video](#) [Comment on Facebook](#)

FEB. 4
Reflections On The
Rosa Parks Project
At San Diego Mesa College

Since 2010, San Diego Mesa College has annually recognized Ms. Rosa Parks as an iconic figure in the Civil Rights Movement of the 20th century who in 1955 refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white person as an act of civil disobedience. In 2021 we'll reflect on her activism which sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott, resistance to injustice throughout the world and the establishment of the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute at San Diego Mesa College.

[Link will be posted on 2/4](#)

FEB. 5
The Journey of Equity and Excellence
Umoja Day
"Black Joy"

Students will discuss elements of finding, expressing & maintaining Black Joy in various aspects of their lives and lived realities

Feb. 5 @ 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

[Join Zoom](#)

FEB. 9
West African
Healing Drumming

Master Drummer and founder, Vibes of Teyo Sa Thiosanne "Keepers of the Tradition" African Drum and Dance Company provides an important presentation on the power of drumming in the building of community and healing of the soul with synchronizing rhythms and heart beats of the mind, body and spirit.

Feb. 9 @ 11:00 am - 2:30 pm

[Join Zoom](#)

FEB. 11
Centennial Anniversary
The 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre Investigation, 2020
With Dr. Phoebe Stubblefield

The 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre (TRM) has a suppressed history within Oklahoma where many native and descendant Tulsans lack knowledge of its occurrence. Dr. Stubblefield, a Research Assistant Scientist a relative of a survivor from the Tulsa Race Massacre provides a historical summary of the 2020 investigation and answer questions about its status while describing her role as the lead forensic anthropologist in the contemporary analysis of the hidden victims of the Tulsa Race Massacre.

Feb. 11 @ 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

[Join Zoom](#)

FEB. 17
Documentary Film
Agents Of Change
Director: Tadeck W Frank Dawson

Documentary examines the untold story of the racial conditions on college campuses and in the country that led to protests and Black Studies Departments, forever transforming higher education. The film's characters were caught at the crossroads of the civil rights, black power, and anti-Vietnam War movements at a pivotal time in America's history.

Feb. 17 @ 11:00 am - 2:30 pm

[Join Zoom](#)

FREE Food Programs Drive-Thru

1st Mon 1-2pm **Mobile Market** **PS Parking Structure**

3rd Thur 10:30-1pm **Farmer's Market** **PS Parking Structure**

www.sdmesa.edu/TheStand

back on campus, the quad will create community by serving as a gathering place. To make room for the quad, the outdated I- and J-buildings have been demolished, creating a wide clearing in the center of campus. The quad will provide an expansive outdoor venue for eventual gathering and collaboration using terraced seating and benched tables. The design includes several walkways — strategically placed — to help students navigate the campus. It also will include 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 will provide simple and direct access to a building that has been renovated to provide space for Veterans Services, The Stand Resource Center, the Fostering Academic Success and Transitions (FAST) Scholars, and Honors programs. The project's landscaping plan includes native and drought-tolerant plants, and a computer-based, high-efficiency irrigation system.

Mesa2030

As we move towards the creation of the final draft of our Mesa2030 Educational & Facilities Master Plan, in January we held meetings and collected information from community surveys to continue to get feedback that directly informs what Mesa2030 will look like.

Administrative Services coordinated efforts with Gensler, our Mesa 2030 consultants, to pursue the next part of our facilities planning which involved reconvening with the expert groups from Exercise Science, Performing Arts, and English to review the work that Gensler has done since the meetings in the fall.

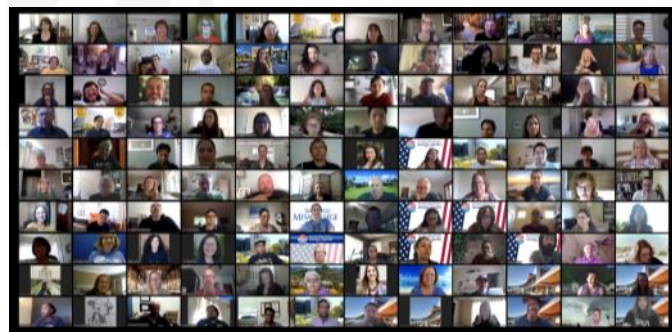
We held our first of several student focus groups, with Mesa College peer navigators, ambassadors, and pathways fellows. We also got the opportunity to deliver an update during spring Convocation to our campus community, and introduced our peers to the new Mesa2030 website.

Mesa Pathways Update

Mesa Pathways is back in the swing of things as the new semester starts. On Wednesday, January 27 we held a campus-wide Mesa Pathways Sorting Event. We gathered to learn about the benefits and concerns of “meta-majors”, collected information regarding how to name them, considered different methods of sorting, and identified how we might group our disciplines in order to support students in their exploration of and decisions toward determining their educational and



Beyond the Task Force



career goals. We also presented a timeline and process of completing this important segment of the Mesa Pathways work. Thanks to everyone who was involved in planning this excellent event, and a special shout out to our new Mesa Pathways Fellows for taking an active role in the activity. Additional information related to the timeline, process, and how you can participate can be found on the Mesa Pathways webpage.

Data Dashboards:

Over the last few months, the Mesa Research team has been working to update our dashboards with updated data. We will be releasing the updated dashboards over the next few months starting with our [Graduate Dashboard](#). The [Graduate Dashboard](#), explores the experiences and academic journeys of students who graduate from Mesa College with an Associate's degree or certificate. Learn why students chose Mesa, how often they changed their major, whether they attended Part-time or Full-time, what services/ programs they participated in while they were here, and what their transfer and employment plans are.



See all Mesa dashboards here: <http://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/institutional-effectiveness/institutional-research/data-warehouse/index.shtml>

Check out the California Community College Launch-Board here: <https://www.calpassplus.org/LaunchBoard/Home.aspx>

New Hires/Promotions at Mesa College	Congratulations!
Jacob Martin	Student Assistance Technician
Thuy Nguyen	Student Assistance Technician
Amara Tang	Student Services Technician (promotion)