



# FIRST *Monday* ON THE *Mesa*

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

June 2019

## This is Mesa!

The 2019 Commencement Ceremony was a huge success, and we sent our graduates off with encouragement to approach the world and say, “This is Me!” Mesa’s 55th graduating class altogether received 1,789 academic degrees and 411 certificates. For the second time, Mesa awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Information Management (HIM), as well as the second set of San Diego Promise graduates—whose education was funded under the San Diego Community College District’s free-tuition program. The Class of 2019 had 22 valedictorians, nearly 500 students who graduated with honors, and over 200 students who earned more than one degree. Amongst Mesa’s diverse graduates was the youngest, age 17, and the eldest, age 71. A special thank you to all the faculty, staff, students and administrators who helped make this event such a success. Please visit our [2019 Commencement Ceremony Photo album](#) and [Ceremony video](#).



## Summer Classes Start

The [2019 Summer Session](#) is officially underway this week, with most courses starting June 17, 2019, and others starting in early June and July. Please encourage your students to take the opportunity to get ahead this summer with their credits.

*Summers*  
**ARE BETTER AT MESA**  
**CLASSES START JUNE 3 REGISTER TODAY!**

Check out the summer class schedule here: [www.sdmesa.edu/summer](http://www.sdmesa.edu/summer)

WE ARE *Mesa*

*The Leading College of Equity and Excellence*

## 2019 ClassiCon

San Diego Mesa College [2019 Classified Conference \(AKA ClassiCon\)](#), will be June 4-6, and I strongly encourage staff to participate. The first two days offer trainings, workshops and informational sessions. Friday is a fun-filled day with team building activities including sports and games. On Wednesday at Noon, we will have Karaoke and present the Unsung Hero Award. Mesa established the Unsung Hero Award in 2006 to specifically recognize members of our classified professionals, both supervisory and non-supervisory. The award celebrates a member of San Diego Mesa College's contract classified professionals who share their time and talent to serve the needs of our community – on or beyond the Mesa College campus. Join us on Wednesday, June 5, from 12pm-1pm in MC 211 A/B to celebrate our faculty and staff, and recognized the 2019 Unsung Hero.

## 2019 Culminating Ceremonies

To further honor our graduating students, Mesa College holds multiple special end-of-year ceremonies to recognize Mesa students for their spectacular achievements. This past month, Mesa celebrated student success with our [HIM Baccalaureate Completion Ceremony](#), the [Veterans Recognition Ceremony](#), the [EOPS Achievement Ceremony](#), the [STAR Awards](#), the [PTA Pinning and Completion Ceremony](#), the [Honors Recognition Ceremony](#), [RAZA Grad](#) and the [Promise End of the Year Celebration](#). Take a moment to enjoy the celebratory photos from each event.

## Classified Staff Celebration

The annual [Classified Staff Awards Lunch](#) on May 8, honored multiple staff members for their years of service and accomplishments. A big congratulations to Anabel Pulido in the Office of Communications for being selected as the 2019 Outstanding Classified Employee of the Year. Thank you for all you do to help Mesa shine. Classified Appreciation Week included coffee, snacks, cupcakes and games, fishbowl challenges, and the Classified Senate's Gift Visit - where members of the classified staff received a Mesa Classified Professionals pin with a special "thanks for the adventures."





### Mesa College Research Conference (MCRC)

The San Diego Mesa College once again hosted the annual Mesa College Research Conference (MCRC) on Friday, May 10 in the lobby of the Math and Science Complex. Students from San Diego Mesa College, San Diego City College, and San Diego Miramar College, representing multiple disciplines, including math, science and the humanities, came together on campus to share the findings of their exciting research.

### Mesa Visions Awards Ceremony

Mesa's students and staff hosted the annual Mesa Visions Awards Ceremony on Monday, May 20. [Mesa Visions](#) is an art and literary magazine that showcases Honors English 249 students' work of fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. Additionally, every year student art work is also chosen and displayed. To order a copy of this year's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition, contact Jennifer Derilo at [jderilo@sdccd.edu](mailto:jderilo@sdccd.edu).

### Interior Design Student Exhibit

Mesa's Department of Architecture and Environmental Design hosted the annual [Interior Design Student Exhibit](#) on Thursday, May 23. Our students have been working hard all semester and it was a great opportunity for current and potential students, friends, family and employers to preview projects from each core course within the program. Graduating Interior Design students showcased select examples of their best work as they transition from academia into the workplace.

### Summer CRUISE

Mesa College will once again be hoisting [CRUISE Sessions](#) this summer – and we have expanded our sessions offerings to meet the needs of more students. Creating Rich Unique Intellectual Student Experiences (CRUISE) aims to prepare and engage new, incoming high school students through a three day, on-campus experience. Series dates include: June 25 - 27, July 9 - 11, July 16 - 18, July 23 - 2, and July 30 - Aug 1. An additional session from August 6 - 8 will help students with math courses. The CRUISE Program is now offering a separate Saturday CRUISE for new students transitioning from Continuing Education, veterans, and adults who have yet attended college. The two sessions will be held on July 20 and August 3, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Visit [Summer Cruise](#) for more information and help share the word on social media.



### Mesa Team Goes to NCORE

Motivated to further cultivate success for our students, fifteen faculty, classified professionals, and administrators from Mesa attended the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education (NCORE) in Portland, Oregon, from May 28th - June 1st to learn and collaborate with educators from around the world. They explored ways to address bias, privilege, oppression, and inequities in our institution. Each day of the conference was filled with opportunities to engage in impactful and moving discussions, and self-examination about relevant topics which impact our work as educators. The inclusive platform of NCORE ensured that every attendee left richer with a wealth of information and new insights which we look forward to sharing with others at Mesa during our *Bringing NCORE Back* lecture series (coordinated by *The LOFT*). We hope that you will attend some of these sessions starting in the fall so that we can share the powerful impact of NCORE. Until then, please visit the NCORE website to learn more: <https://ncore.ou.edu>

### Mesa Pathways

As the year of inquiry comes to a close for [Mesa Pathways](#), we are proud of the foundation that we have built to move the work forward in the coming years. This year over 180 students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators worked on Mesa Pathways. Highlights include welcoming new leadership with VPI Dr. Isabel O'Connor and Mesa Pathways Faculty Co-coordinators Howard Eskew and Toni Parsons, and projects including program mapping, curriculum clean up, and data sharing. The Mesa Pathways Summer Institute will be held on June 3, 4, and 5 and will feature data workshops, program mapping and a team from the ASCCC sharing information about areas of interest development. We wish to extend our appreciation to Dr. Ashanti Hands, Dr. Trina Larson, Dr. Manuel Velez, and student Tim Ackerson for their leadership. To all of those who served on the 2018-2019 Mesa Pathways Committee, and everyone who participated in our Mesa Pathway efforts this academic year, thank you. Your participation, work, and efforts are making a positive impact as Mesa College continues to be the Leading College of Equity and Excellence.

### Convocation Fall 2019

As we continuously strive to be The Leading College of Equity and Excellence, our Fall 2019 Convocation will focus on how we are being intentional when it comes to





equity in all that we do. Our Keynote Speaker will be **Tim Wise**, who will discuss “The Impact of Privilege on Equity in Higher Education.” Tim Wise is among the most prominent anti-racist writers and educators in the United States. He has spent the past 25 years speaking to audiences and community groups across the country, including at professional and academic conferences and at over 1,000 college and high school campuses. San Diego Mesa College is 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.

#### Welcome Week Fall 2019

Mesa College will welcome back thousands of students on Monday, August 19, as Fall classes will commence on campus. In addition to valet parking and free otter pops, Welcome Week booths help students learn about campus services, clubs and transportation options. Please contact [Student Affairs](#) to participate in Welcome Week - I strongly encourage all programs and service areas to do so.

#### Faculty Recognition Omissions

We apologize that in the May FMM, several faculty who promoted were not listed in the article. Please also congratulate **Michael Cox, Gloria Kim, Brian Lesson, Melissa Williams, and Rachel Russell**.



New Hires/Promotions at Mesa College	Congratulations!
Victoria Hernandez	Student Services Supervisor I
Luis Suarez	ILT/Trades
Brianna Garcia	Student Services Assistant (promotion)
Blanca Zavala	Student Services Technician (promotion)

SAN DIEGO  
MESA COLLEGE



#### First Monday on the Mesa

Is the [President's](#) monthly newsletter, published by the President's Office and the [Office of Communications](#).

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.