



FIRST *Monday* ON THE *Mesa*

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE
Office of the President

March 2021

Mesa College Stands Together

The college and our employees and students have been experiencing violent and racist zoom bomb incidents in the last 2 weeks. We condemn these incidents and we are responding together, please read [President Luster's letter](#) to the campus regarding these actions.

New SDCCD Board Member Geysil Arroyo Appointed

Public health consultant Geysil Arroyo has been appointed to fill a vacant seat on the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) Board of Trustees. After a nomination period, the governing board made its decision during a special February 8 meeting. Arroyo, who grew up in Tijuana and San Diego and attended both San Diego City and Mesa colleges before matriculating to UC San Diego, earned a master's degree in public health from Columbia University in New York and serves on the San Diego County Health Services Advisory Board. She will serve on the Board of Trustees as the Area E representative.

The Area E vacancy was created when former trustee Sean Elo-Rivera was elected in November to the San Diego City Council. The Board of Trustees decided to appoint a replacement to fill the final two years of Elo-Rivera's term because they felt the appointment process afforded more opportunities to thoroughly review potential candidates, and also because the cost of calling a special election, estimated at up to \$650,000, was considered prohibitive.

WE ARE *Mesa*
The Leading College of Equity and Excellence



Chancellor Search Finalists Announced

In February, the San Diego Community College District Board of Trustees announced that they had selected [four \(4\) finalists for the next Chancellor of the District](#). The finalists for the Chancellor position include, St. Charles (Missouri) Community College President Barbara Kavalier, Ph.D.; Pima (Arizona) Community College Chancellor Lee Lambert, J.D.; San Diego Mesa College President Pamela Luster, Ed.D.; and San Diego College of Continuing Education President Carlos O. Turner Cortez, Ph.D. Forums to interview candidates for the chancellor position were held from February 22-25, and gave faculty, classified professionals, administrators, students, and the public an opportunity to meet and learn more about the four finalists. The Board is aiming to make a final selection and announce the new Chancellor in late March, with the goal of having the new Chancellor start July 1, 2021.



Edquity Launch

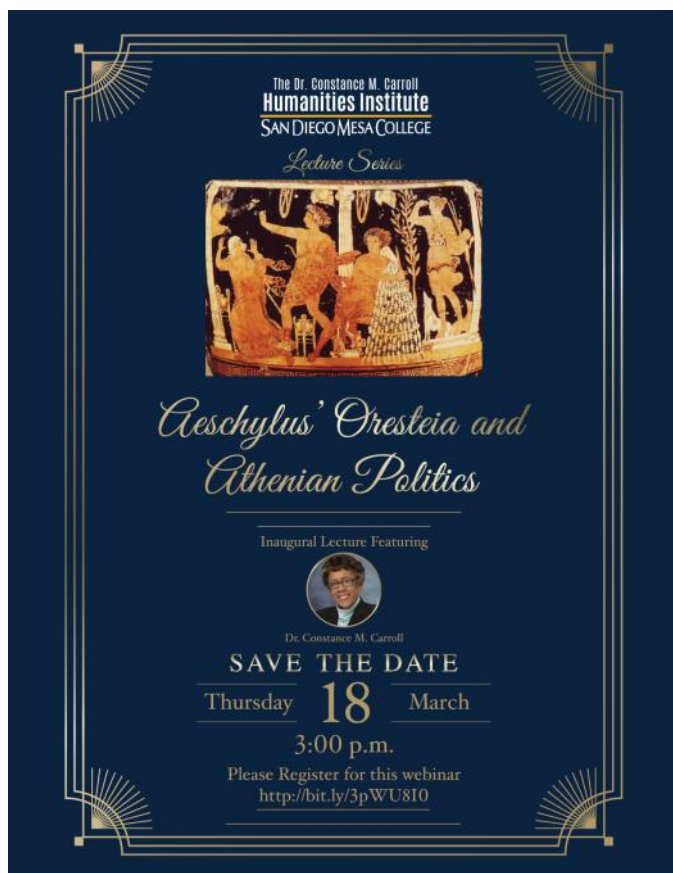
This Spring, we officially kicked off a partnership with Edquity to help bring emergency grants and resources to students experiencing a financial crisis. Thanks to the San Diego Mesa College Resiliency Fund, all enrolled students, regardless of credit amount or non-credit degree enrolled status, who were in need of emergency aid, such as funding for housing or food, had access. We were able to give out almost \$20,000 in awards to Mesa College students during the first three weeks of the semester.

While these emergency funds are expended for the semester, the Edquity app can be used to find local community basic needs resources near you. The app also has a financial budgeting tool as well. The Edquity App can be downloaded in your App Store.



Women's History Month

Mesa College will once again celebrate Women's History month – virtually this year. The Committee has lined up a spectacular set of events that include presentations, panel discussions, history, politics, and even art. Featured events include the Dr. Constance M. Carroll Humanities Institute Inaugural Lecture Series featuring Chancellor Constance M. Carroll, who will be lecturing on *Aeschylus' Oresteia and Athenian Politics*. Additional featured events include, *Light, Color, Madness: Memorializing Women's Resistance in Francoist Spain*, and two panel discussions entitled *Local Women Artists Reflect on 2020* and *Shattering Gender Bias against Women in the Workplace*. Please



see the complete list of events on the [Mesa College Women's History Month Calendar](#). We hope that you can join us.

Mesa Scholarship Applications are due March 8

Mesa College offers over **\$180,000 in scholarships** each year – and students could be eligible to receive up to three. Mesa has over 250 scholarships available, ranging from \$250-\$5,000. It is FREE to apply, and open to all Mesa College students. The Scholarship Application portal is currently open, and applications due on Monday, March 8, 2021. All materials are available online on the [Mesa Scholarships webpage](#). All GPAs encouraged to apply (*some have no min GPA required*), and there are awards available in multiple categories, and by major. Awards may be used for tuition, books, and additional expenses. Assistance with the applications and essays is available – [see the Flyer here](#). The 2021 Scholarship Awards Virtual Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 12, at 5:00pm, and all award winners will be recognized during the Ceremony. For more information, contact Student Affairs at 619-388-2699 or mesastudentaffairs@sdccd.edu.

Drive-Thru Farmers Market and Mobile

The Stand provides two large free food distributions per month during Spring 2021. March distributions will take place on Monday, March 1 from 1:00-2:00 p.m., and Thursday, March 18, 10:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m., in the parking structure. Please encourage students to [OPT IN](#) for more information and emails about upcoming events.

Covid-19 Relief Funds

Budget Allocation and Recommendation Committee, the college's budget committee, discussed COVID-19 relief funding sources including the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). An electronic form will be used to gather input from campus constituencies on how we can best use the various funding sources to support our employees and students. Additionally, presentations on the allowable usage and process for the funds will be given to the senates of each constituency.

Black History Month

Thank you to all who were involved in the planning and hosting of the wonderful series of events last month for Black History month. The hard work that went into the student exhibitions, discussions, and events is truly appreciated.



- Over 250 scholarships are available
- Scholarships range from \$250-\$5,000
- FREE to apply, open to all Mesa College students

sdmesa.edu/scholarships

Application portal opens on **Mon, Dec. 7th, 2020**

Applications due on **Mon, Mar. 8th, 2021**



- Applying is easy – all materials are available online
- All GPAs encouraged to apply
- Students can be awarded up to three scholarships each
- Scholarships available in multiple categories and by major
- Awards may be used for tuition, books and additional expenses
- Assistance with essays is available through the MT2C Writing Center



For information, contact mesastudentaffairs@sdccd.edu

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE



Campus Updates

The campus is still closed. We have not been cleared by the County Public Health Order to hold classes or other school activities where students gather, except where necessary to train students who will serve as essential workers.

Employees must continue to be screened and have temperatures checked prior to entering any District building. Screenings are conducted at Shipping & Receiving or College Technology Services, via the loading dock. A copy of the campus Reopening Plan can be found [here](#).

For questions, please contact Jacqueline Collins or Matt Fay.

Construction of the campus quadrangle continues, with an anticipated completion in late 2021.

Mesa2030

The Mesa2030 Task Force resumed its work this spring semester, with the first meeting on February 16. During the meeting, we were given the opportunity to look at results of the various campus engagement events that have taken place since fall 2020, and most recently the results of a campus survey, student focus groups, and a sustainability workshop that took place Friday, February 26. The sustainability workshop was hosted by the Environmental Sustainability Committee and Gensler, our Mesa2030 consultants. Mesa2030 will be holding a neighborhood community forum on Monday, March 8, to give a summary of the work we have done so far, and to include our community in the process.

We are in the final stages of drafting our Mesa2030 goals which focus on Community, Completion, Pathways & Partnerships, Stewardship, and Scholarship. The Task Force has worked with Gensler to create specific facilities planning principles that are guiding our facilities portion of the plan. The focuses for our facilities planning framework are: student-centered, welcoming environments, connected campus, community asset, and stewardship of resources. Using these facilities planning guiding principles, we have the opportunity to support the long range vision and goals of San Diego Mesa College.

The Planning and Institutional Effectiveness Committee has charged a Task Force to begin working on a Roadmap to Mesa2030, using the Mesa2030 goals as our planning framework, and identifying Strategic Objectives for the next 5 years.

MESA 2030

Master Plan

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE

A virtual presentation and community feedback session about Mesa 2030



Mesa Pathways

Mesa Pathways continues to advance its important work. Led by Ian Duckles and Cynthia Rico from the Guided Majors and Mapping Workgroup, mixers occurred on February 16 and 22. So far, 19 faculty members from 14 disciplines, as well as 3 counseling faculty members, have been present at the mixers. Pathways Fellows have also been actively participating and providing the student voice in these discussions. Upcoming March mixers will be held on March 3, 12, 18, and 22.

The Guided Pathways Self-Assessment has been circulated through all of the governance groups, approved by President's Cabinet, and submitted to the Chancellor's Office prior to the March 1 deadline. Thank you to everyone who participated in this important process.

Mesa Pathways Committee is making up to \$50,000 available to fund projects related to advancing our Mesa Pathways efforts here on campus. Projects must relate to Mesa Pathways efforts by identifying which of the four pillars of Pathways it relates to (Clarify the Path, Enter the Path, Staying on the Path and Ensure Learning).

Funding will not be granted for food, travel, or

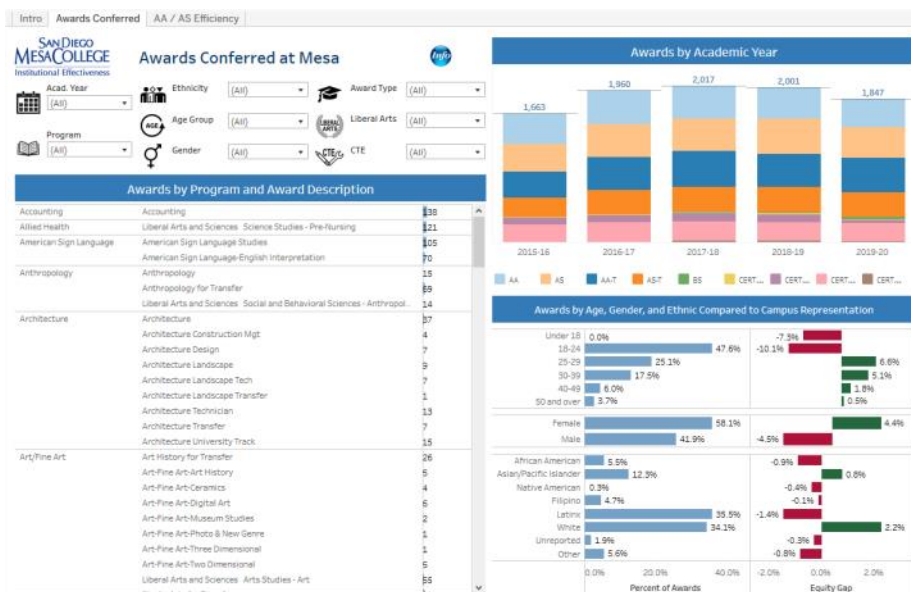
events. The maximum award amount will be \$5,000. Recipients do not have to spend funds by the end of Spring 2021 semester. Deadlines:

- Proposals must be submitted by March 15, 2021.
- Recipients will be announced and notified on April 5, 2021.

MPC Funding Form, Application Rubric, Timeline, and additional information can be found on our website: <http://www.sdmesa.edu/mesa-pathways/pathways-projects.shtml>.

Data Dashboard update:

Updated dashboards are now available on our website. The [Student Characteristics](#), [Course Outcomes](#), and [Awards Dashboards](#) have all been updated to include data from the 2019-20 Academic year. Interested in the difference in success between synchronous and asynchronous course sections? Click on the "Outcomes by Course" tab in the [Course Outcomes](#) Dashboard. Curious what the top majors are for Mesa Students? Click on the "Top Academic Plans" tab of the [Student Characteristics](#) Dashboard. Looking to learn more about which awards Mesa students are earning? Check out the [Awards Dashboard](#).



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

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