



*Hello Mesa College Community!* .....

**Weekly Update from Prez Hands** provides a brief overview of the exciting efforts taking place within our community. The updates are also a great way to tell our collective story of success, and to document our journey of becoming the Leading College of Equity and Excellence. Enjoy!

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OFFICE OF THE *President*





*Happy Holidays San Diego Mesa College!*

As the year comes to a close, we celebrate the joy, growth, and memories we've shared at San Diego Mesa College. Wishing you and your loved ones a happy holiday season and a bright start to the new year



**President Hands has been selected as one of San Diego's Most Influential People by the San Diego Business Journal!** She joins other educational leaders as well as leaders from finance, law, non-profit, and others.

The San Diego Business Journal researches and updates this list, weighing in on factors such as recent accomplishments, community involvement, and historical or sizeable impact. President Hands leads one of the largest community colleges in California, and is involved in various community groups such as the Junior Achievement of San Diego and 3C2A Board of Directors.

To read more, please [click here](#) for a link to the SD500 Journal.

## *Rest, Reflect, and Recharge* HAVE A WONDERFUL BREAK!

Mesa College will be closed from December 23 - January 1 for Winter Break. We encourage everyone to take this time to rest and recharge.

Wishing you all a peaceful and restorative break, and we look forward to welcoming you back in the new year!



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## OFFICE OF *Instruction*

**Congratulations to Vice President of Instruction, Dr. Isabel O'Connor, on being named Mesa's Manager of the Year!**

Vice President O'Connor has led several of Mesa's equity efforts related to the college's designation as a Hispanic-Serving Institution, including securing a new Title III HSI STEM grant in 2021. Additionally, she has improved equity and access through curriculum review and development, pioneered professional development initiatives, such as the Curriculum Equity and Excellence Review Institute, and led the college's Mesa Pathways initiative which provides Mesa's diverse student population with clear direction, strong support and well-developed roadmaps to achieving their educational, career, and life goals.

Vice President O'Connor will also assume her role as President of the California Community Colleges Chief Instructional Officers Board.

***We are so proud and grateful for Dr. Isabel O'Connor's vision and leadership!***

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# New Issue Alert

[Click here for the latest Mesa Journeys  
Newsletter!](#)

The Mesa Journeys newsletter gives a more in-depth look at all the great things that are happening on our campus. We encourage all faculty and staff to pass this along to our students, and also to sign up to receive these newsletters straight to their inboxes! Click below to sign up and for more information about

Mesa Journeys:

<https://linktr.ee/mesajourneys>





*Please click on the flyers to enlarge.*

**JOIN US FOR THE 43<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL**  
**Martin Luther King Jr. Parade**  
Sunday, January 19th, 2025, 10:00 am  
Harbor Drive (Between Grape and Ash)  
Arrival time for marchers | 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

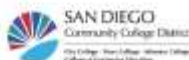
**THE TIME IS NOW TO**

**BE.  
BELONG.  
BECOME.**



 Sign up: [bit.ly/2025-MLK](https://bit.ly/2025-MLK)  
Free T-Shirts while supplies last

This is one of the largest celebrations of its kind in the United States in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The parade is held with marching bands, cheerleaders, high school bands, drill teams, college fraternities, fraternities, fraternities, churches, peace and youth organizations. The parade is coordinated by the Delta Sigma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., the oldest African American fraternity in America, founded in 1906 and the San Diego Alpha Fraternity.



**2025 WINTER CRUISE**

**New Students – CRUISE into Mesa!**  
Creating Rich Unique Intellectual Student Experiences  
Become confident and prepared for your first semester at Mesa College

**It's FUN!  
It's FREE!**  
And it's open to all new college students!

- Connect with a Peer Navigator who will serve as your mentor
- Receive support for CRUISE and the spring semester
- Build community and meet other incoming students
- Learn about campus resources and student life
- Participate in workshops aimed at your transition to Mesa College

**WINTER CRUISE SESSION**  
All New, Incoming Students  
**January 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
Lunch provided!

For more information and to register for Winter CRUISE, visit us at [www.sdmesa.edu/cruise](https://www.sdmesa.edu/cruise)



**Deadline to register: January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.**

**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE**

Contact: Agustin Rivera | Room: 14-203 | 619-388-3757 | [www.sdmesa.edu/cruise](https://www.sdmesa.edu/cruise)  
Request for disability related accommodations should be made no later than eight (8) working days prior to event.



# EVENT PLANNING OFFICE HOURS

EVERY TUESDAY | 9:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M.



Scan QR or  
**CLICK HERE TO JOIN**

Events and Operations will be holding weekly office hours! Please join us to receive support on event locations, space availability, and more!

## *Participatory Governance*

To learn more about our Associated Students, Academic Senate, and Classified Senate, please visit the links below:

## *In The Know*

For additional information on what is happening on campus and in our community - visit the links below:

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**Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.**

**President | San Diego Mesa College**

*Creating conditions that matter for our students to succeed!*

7250 Mesa College Drive, A-104, SD, CA 92111 | 619.388.2721

[Mesa College](#) | [Student Support Services](#)

