

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!

OFFICE OF THE President

Exciting Accreditation News

We are pleased to share that Mesa College successfully submitted our Accreditation Follow-up Report on Monday, September 22nd. This important milestone reflects the dedication and hard work of our entire campus community. Our next exciting step will be welcoming the Peer Review Team for the Follow-up Visit on October 27th.

Minority Serving Institute Update

We continue to monitor the impact of the recent rescinding of MSI funds, including \$302,000 for Mesa College's AANAPISI grant. The District has committed to ensuring continuity of support, and the State has committed funds, though we have yet to receive guidance on their allocation. At the same time, we are pursuing an appeal and engaging in advocacy at the local, state, and national levels. We know these times can be challenging, so please remember that resources are available:

Student Health Services: Click here.

Employee Assistance Program (EAP): Click here.

Additional supports are available for students, faculty, and staff across campus. Let's continue to show up for our students and for each other by participating in AAPI Week and Latino Heritage Week activities (Flyers for both weeks have been posted in the designated flyer section).



Mesa College at a glance: Learn more in our 2024–25 Fact Sheet.

Flex Credit: 30261

San Diego Community College District Chancellor Gregory Smith will host a series of forums in September to address district priorities and answer questions from faculty, classified professionals and administrators. All employees are welcome and encouraged to participate in their campus forum.



Please join your Mesa College colleagues in attending a presentation and open forum with the chancellor to discuss federal and state developments and priorities for the 2025-2026 academic year.



Gregory Smith

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 MC - 211 A/B | 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

FLEX CREDIT AVAILABLE | Sign up for Workshop 30261— Chancellor's Forum If an accommodation is needed, please contact the President's Office.



All About Auction Items

This week is all about auction items! We're currently reaching out to community-minded people and organizations like you to support our upcoming Spirit of Mesa fundraising event on October 10th, 2025.

Help support students and promote small businesses and others in the area by inviting people you know to donate auction items.

We welcome donations of items, goods, or services for our silent auction to help us reach our fundraising goal.

Use this template to reach out to prospective donors

Let Us Know You or Someone You Know Has Something to Give!

You can also email us at: mesasponsorships@sdccd.edu

Want to join us at Spirit of Mesa? Get tickets here!



National Endowment for the Arts Grant

The Mesa College World Art Collection just received a \$40,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts! This incredible support will help us digitize over 2,000 objects, and create an interactive app, virtual tours, and engaging online tools. These new digital features will give students digital access to world art and help bring global cultures into the classroom in new and exciting ways. Another truly dynamic outcome is that the project will extend beyond campus, connecting with local schools, colleges and universities, the San Diego community, and audiences across the country and around the world.

Fall 2025 Update

Fall 2025 headcount is steady with 21,506 students, which is actually 47 more students enrolled since last week's enrollment update. As we approach our second eight-week class session starting October 20, we will be monitoring enrollment activity and balancing that with current enrollment in our 16-week session and first eight-week session. FTES is 6,181 compared to 5,840 on the same day last fall. FTEF scheduled for the fall semester continues to show a small difference from the last fall semester (385 to 376). This difference is in alignment with the increase in FTES since last year.



Ryan Shumaker arrived at San Diego Mesa College in the fall of 2017. Eight years later, as Dean and Athletic Director, he has turned the Olympian athletic program into one of the top junior college athletic programs in the nation. Since his arrival, Mesa College has set the bar in the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference. The Olympians have collected the majority of the league's titles, stacked up six state championships, earned 30 individual state crowns, and claimed the Chet DeVore Trophy, awarded to the conference's top program, for seven straight years. This success extends far beyond success on the playing field. More than 100 Mesa student-athletes are transferring to four-year universities this year alone, receiving over \$3 million in scholarships. Since 2017, Mesa athletes have earned more than \$20 million in scholarship support.

Read Ryan's story here.



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE Evaluations

Schedule a Presentation Today!

GRADUATION VS COMMENCEMENT



The Mesa Evaluations team is excited to offer a short, informative presentation to your classrooms, club meetings, team huddles, and student gatherings!

In just 10 minutes, we'll clarify the difference between graduation and commencement, guide students through the graduation application steps, and share helpful tips to avoid common mistakes.

To schedule a presentation please fill out the Mesa Evaluations Presentation Schedule









We had a successful TCE Open House, hosted collaboratively by Transfer, Career Services, and Evaluations. Three Personal Growth classes toured the space and engaged with staff to learn about essential resources and services. The Transfer Center shared guidance on the transfer process and university application support. Career Services introduced students to Career Counseling, the Career Ambassador Program, and Mesa Impactship. The Evaluations Department covered the process to graduate and frequently asked questions regarding transcript evaluation, petitions, and applying for graduation. Overall, the event helped students better understand the process to transfer, career readiness, and the steps to earn a degree/certificate of achievement.



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



Click on the flyer to enlarge



What's QPR?

QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer - three simple steps that anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. Gatekeepers can include anyone who is strategically positioned to recognize and refer someone at risk of suicide (e.g. parents, friends, neighbors, teachers, coaches, caseworkers, police officers). QPR is a simple educational program that teaches ordinary citizens how to recognize the warning signs of a mental health emergency and how to get a person at risk of suicide the help they need.

Join us for the next ALL STUDENT LEADERS QPR training Friday, September 26 | 9am-11am | Loc: G-101

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

Request for disability related accommodations should be made no later than 5 (five) working days prior to the event at 619-388-2774.



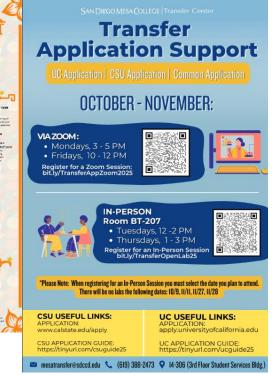
mesatransfer@sdccd.edu 📞 (619) 388-2473 🎯 @













OFFICE OF Institutional Effectiveness

Next Generation Dashboards Are Here!

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness is excited to announce the launch of **new**, **redesigned Power BI dashboards** that make data easier to explore and apply.

- Now available: the updated <u>Student Characteristics</u> and <u>Course Outcomes</u> Dashboard, offering clear, timely, and equity-focused insights.
- Coming soon: additional dashboards on Awards and Retention.

To help faculty and staff get the most out of these tools, the IE Office is offering **short, 15-minute training sessions** that can be added to department or school meetings.

To schedule a training session, please contact **Nancy Cortes**, <u>ncortes@sdccd.edu</u>. Visit our dashboards today and see how data can support your work!





A space to learn about our latest efforts to connect partners who share our passion for education with opportunities to give. See how fundraising can help you, our students, and Mesa's mission.

Learn More



Want to learn more about grant seeking?

View the flex workshop hosted by Dr. Michael Lettieri, who is leading grant writing efforts, and Krista Stellmacher, CFRE and Director in service to the Office of Resource Development and Foundation.

<u>View Recording</u>

Participatory Governance

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

Associated Students

Academic Senate

Classified Senate

In The Know

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

Mesa College Newsroom

Mesa College Events Calendar

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



















