From: Mesa President's Office < Mesa Presidents Office@sdccd.edu>

Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 2:21 PM

Subject: Weekly Update from Prez Hands - Week of May 05, 2025



# 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



## Olympians on the Rise: A Week of Championship Moments

Our Olympians continue to shine in postseason competition. Swim & Dive wrapped up the state championships with the men finishing 10th and the women finishing 18th. Softball closed out their playoff run with a hard-fought series against El Camino College. Baseball advanced past the first round and heads into this weekend's Super Regionals. Track & Field competed in the Southern California prelims and moves on to the finals this weekend. Beach Volleyball advanced both pairs and the full team to the state championships. Badminton heads to the state championships this weekend, and Men's Volleyball capped an outstanding season as the #2 team in the state.

I am proud of their determination, talent, and heart on and off the field.



# CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION OF INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

San Diego Mesa College has been recognized in the 2025 Carnegie Classifications as a "Mixed Associate Large" institution, placing us among only 2% of U.S. colleges and universities with a distinctive profile that combines high enrollment, a broad array of academic programs, and a focus on associate degrees. Additionally, Mesa has been designated as "Higher Access, Medium Earnings" in the newly developed Student Access and Earnings Classification, underscoring the college's strong commitment to serving racially and economically diverse students while highlighting continued opportunity to strengthen post-college wage outcomes.

This rare classification affirms Mesa's expansive reach and intentional focus on access for disproportionately impacted students. It reinforces our strategic imperative to drive equitable outcomes at scale, not just in who we serve, but in how we create the conditions for their success across every part of the college experience. Mesa's unique identity, both rare in structure and impactful in equity access and earnings, positions us to lead with both scale and purpose. We have a unique opportunity to lean into this distinction, not as a label, but as a lever for leadership, innovation, and meaningful impact. Let us thoughtfully leverage this recognition in our strategic planning, policy influence, and pursuit of resources that elevate student success and long-term economic mobility.

#### **Summer 2025 Modified Work Schedule**

Mesa College will go in a 4x10 Schedule starting the week of June 2, 2025 until August 8, 2025.

#### Please note:

Juneteenth will be observed on Thursday, June 19th. All District offices and campuses will be closed. Independence Day, which lands on a Friday, will be observed on an alternate date at the manager's discretion. Please note that the date you choose must be either on a Thursday or Monday.



# Summer 2025 Modified Work Schedule

June 2, 2025-August 8, 2025
Monday-Thursday
4x10s WORK WEEK



We are delighted to extend our warm invitation to join us in honoring the remarkable achievements of the class of 2025 during our upcoming Commencement Ceremony, set to take place on Friday, May 30th, at 2:00 p.m. at the Merrill Douglass Stadium.

We kindly request your assistance with various aspects of the day, including student check-in, wayfinding, Information booth, logistical support, and more. There is a myriad of roles to be filled, and your involvement is paramount to our collective success.

To volunteer your time and expertise for this momentous event, please complete the <u>Commencement Volunteer Registration form</u>. For any inquiries or further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my Co-Coordinator Liza Abuyo at <u>awoods002@sdccd.edu</u> or <u>fabuyo@sdccd.edu</u>.



### San Diego Community College District

City College  $\cdot$  Mesa College  $\cdot$  Miramar College  $\cdot$  College of Continuing Education

On Tuesday, April 29, Chancellor Gregory Smith presented in person and on Zoom about San Diego Community College District Employee Diversity Data. From this presentation, Chancellor Smith aims to form a workgroup to develop recommendations for new and/or revised hiring procedures to help improve upon the quality and equity of the District's application, screening, and selection procedures.

If you were unable to attend the live presentation, you can find it attached in this email, and you can view the recording of the Zoom meeting <a href="here">here</a>. More information related to the workgroup and how to express interest in participation will be made available at a later date.



Mesa College is participating in the California Community Colleges Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative (IEPI) through a partnership resource team. This team will visit Mesa to understand the issues thoroughly and help develop an improvement plan focused on <u>adult learners</u>. Associate Dean Alex Berry will serve as Mesa's designated point person on this project.



#### Building Our Future: First Measure HH Projects Reflect Mesa2030 Vision

I'm excited to share that San Diego Mesa College's first Measure HH projects will focus on two transformative spaces: our Kinesiology and Athletic Facilities and our Performing Arts and Administration Complex. These projects mark an important step forward in bringing our Mesa2030 vision to life.

Vice President Legaspi and the Administrative Services team will lead the planning and development process, working closely with key stakeholders across our campus. I want to extend my gratitude to the many contributors to Mesa2030 whose thoughtful input has grounded this next chapter in identified values that matter: student-centered design, welcoming environments, a more connected campus, a community asset, and responsible stewardship of our resources.

In the weeks ahead, please look to the VP of Administrative Services section of this newsletter for regular updates and opportunities to stay informed and engaged.





## AAPI Community of Practice (Fall 2025) - Now Accepting Applications!

The Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Community of Practice (CoP) is a critical professional development cohort that provides participants with opportunities to learn, contribute their knowledge and experience, and engage in promising practices to serve our AAPI students at San Diego Mesa College.

Sign up if you're interested!

<u>Classified Participants</u>

<u>Faculty Participants</u>

#### **AANAPISI Ice Cream Fundraiser Recap**

The AANAPISI Team would like to give a huge shout out to all those that supported our ice cream fundraiser. We hope you enjoyed the AAPI flavors, our culture, and met a friend or two as you waited in line. Your contributions resulting to a sell out sale raising over \$300! Special thanks to Chef Tonya, Michael, and Dean Monica Romero of Business & Technology on this sweet collaboration.

#### Ce-LEI-brating: Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and National Foster Care Awareness Month through Lei Making

May celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and National Foster Care Awareness Month. In honor of our shared celebrated month, AANAPISI, FAST Scholars, came together learning about lei culture while creating some to celebrate history and accomplishments. Congratulations to our Class of 2025.

#### **AANHPI SAP Regional Forum at Mesa**

Mesa college was selected as the first campus to host the AANHPI SAP SD Regional Forum! AAPI educators and allies from across the county came to discuss about their efforts and promising practices. Thank you to all Mesa staff that were in attendance that participated in this important conversation!

## San Diego Unified School District - 1<sup>st</sup> APIDA Youth Conference

On May 1st, Mesa hosted San Diego Unified School District's Inaugural APIDA Youth Conference. Nearly 100 students were in attendance from campuses such as Hoover, Morse, and San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts were in attendance. Our Kapwa and APD Students contributed in sharing their community college experience at Mesa. Thank you to all the collaborative partners especially to Jacqueline Collins, Gio Garcia and Facilities Team, for their support in helping them host this event here at Mesa!

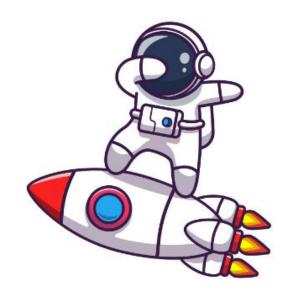
OFFICE OF Student Services



#### 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.

















For more student events, please click the Nesa Journeys link above



# FOUNDATION CORNER

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



## 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