

*Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: March 1, 2023*  
*Sent On Behalf Of President Ashanti T. Hands*



Hello Mesa College Community,

*Weekly Updates from Prez Hands* provide 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 Updates**

Thanks to everyone who joined us for the Grand Opening of our Pride Center. Photos from the event can be found [here](#).

Statewide [Learning-Aligned Employment Program \(LAEP\)](#) Highlight: San Diego Mesa College biology student placed at Scripps Research Institute as a Neuroscience Research Intern. Here are her comments: "As an intern at Scripps Research, I have the opportunity to dive into neuroscience research in the Weiss lab, with duties ranging from conducting experiments with mice to contributing to the research paper we write regarding our discoveries. My primary responsibility within the lab so far is data analysis, more specifically counting cell activation (fos) in certain brain regions using an analysis software program. In this project where we conducted experiments involving alcohol addiction and withdrawal, I collected and aided in analyzing this data by contouring regions of interest in the brain and counting the number of activated cells within these brain regions. Through this, I have learned about the neuroanatomy of mice, the functions of certain regions in the brain, and how to use analysis programs. Other responsibilities include presenting research papers at meetings, attending conferences, immunohistochemistry, dissections, shadowing in complicated procedures, creating solutions, and following protocol. This internship has allowed me to explore my passion for neuroscience through hands-on research and being part of a wonderful scientific community."

## Office of Instruction Updates

Our new student-athlete study space, **OZONE**, is now open. We are looking forward to providing our student-athletes with a space that truly provides academic support, community, and a space where they feel welcome and empowered. This space will serve all of our 19 intercollegiate teams, consisting of over 600 student-athletes. *This image is of our first student athlete using the new space.* →

**MOST Canvas Coaching Session** (Flex #16300): This Friday, March 3, from 10:00am to 12:00pm, our Mesa Online Success Team will be available to answer Canvas questions in-person at the LOFT. Please bring your Canvas confusion, your online course design and facilitation questions, and any other teaching and course design questions that we might be able to assist you with. We look forward to connecting with you and supporting you in our growing community of practice. Please bring your own laptops. We will have a limited supply of loaners available for folks on a first come, first served basis. We will also have cake! If you can't make it, you can also use this link to [book an online appointment with a MOST Coach](#).

*Save the Date:* **Leveraging Video for Instruction and Assessment in Math** (Flex #16292):

Part of the [@ONE Series: Going the Distance with Video](#)

Friday, March 17, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Prof. Juan Bernal & Prof. Kelly Spoon

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

The WBL team is thrilled to continue its work of supporting, implementing, and incorporating WBL at Mesa College. Faculty Liaisons are being recruited for each of the San Diego Mesa Schools. This work will support Mesa 2030, specifically our goals of increasing Pathways & Partnerships in support of Equity and Excellence. There will be one assignment per Mesa College School and the project will launch in two phases. Phase 1 will start in Spring 2023 and Phase 2 will start in Fall 2023. For questions on this project please reach out to Alex Berry at [aberry@sdccd.edu](mailto:aberry@sdccd.edu) or 619-388-2644. So far two of our WBL faculty liaisons have been selected: Denise Rogers for the School of Arts and Languages, and Danica Moore for the School of Math and Science.

## Student Services Updates

[CalWORKs](#), [CARE](#), and [The Stand Basic Needs Resource Center](#) are excited to offer Student Parent Café events this semester, starting Monday, March 13, from 10:00am to 11:00am in room K-105, or virtually via Zoom using the **Meeting ID 280 168 1610**. These sessions will be offered throughout the semester on Mondays. Students can stop by to learn about various programs and services both on campus and in the community, while connecting with other student-parents. For more information, please email [mesacalworks@sdccd.edu](mailto:mesacalworks@sdccd.edu).

The Career Coordinators and Veterans Team are collaborating on Veterans Career Counseling Chats in the Veterans Success Center and offer assistance to students with major and career planning, LinkedIn tips and tricks, Handshake profile building, and resume/cover letter review. [Click here for more information](#).



The next Narcan Education Lunch and Distribution Workshop will be held today from 11:00am to 1:00pm on the Student Services Terrace.

Financial Aid will host the Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Workshop on Friday, from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

Student Affairs will join San Diego Unified high school student leaders to promote student engagement and leadership today.

Outreach will present at tomorrow's High School Counselors Conference, which will be held at City College.

### **Campus Events**

***Jumpstart Your Success*** will take place next Saturday, March 11, from 8:30am to 12:00pm. Hundreds of prospective students are invited to our campus to find out everything Mesa College has to offer them. The program will include support services, academics, department resources, clubs, and the lively community feel we create here at Mesa. You can help spread the word by encouraging prospective students and family members to join this free, engaging, and informative introduction to life as a student at Mesa College! Follow [this link](#) to the online registration form, which is due by Friday, March 3.

Today Mesa College kicks off Women's History Month with a host of events taking place all month long, including the featured Gracia Molina De Pick Feminist Lecture Series. To see the full month of events, please click [here](#).

### **In the Know**

To stay abreast of the latest news and to find out what's happening on campus, visit the links below.

- [Mesa College Newsroom](#)
- [Mesa College Events Calendar](#)

Best,  
Ashanti Hands

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**Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.**

**President | San Diego Mesa College**

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

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