

March 20, 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*

ACCJC LEARNING OUTCOMES COMPLIANCE STATUS UPDATE

To comply with ACCJC Learning Outcomes requirement, please follow the established Action Plan:

tinyurl.com/OutcomesActionSpring25

We have established our goal as a college to meet ACCJC requirements: to achieve 75% of CLOs with results and 75% of SSOs with results by June 30, 2025. Seventy-five percent aligns with our 4 year outcomes cycle.

As of March 19, 2025, our CLO results stand at 41.9%, and our SSO results at 44.6%. To ensure compliance, it is critical that all programs and areas follow the outlined action plan. While many areas have reported being in the data collection phase and plan to enter results by the deadline, I encourage you to check in with your leadership to assess your area's progress toward meeting the June 30 deadline.

Managers, please collaborate with your team members. Team members, please contact your managers if you have questions or need support.

In addition, feel free to reach out to us for further support:

Liza Rabinovich at erabinovich@sdccd.edu

Hai Hoang at hhoang@sdccd.edu



INTERNATIONAL FORENSICS ASSOCIATION

Correction: An earlier version of this article incorrectly named the winners as Dylan Dorman and Jason Fathi. The correct names are Dylan Dorman and **Jasmin** Fathi. We apologize for the error.

Mesa's Speech and Debate team triumphed at the International Forensics Association's 35th Annual International Speech and Debate Tournament, securing first place in debate and making history as the most successful debate team in the Association's history! Pictured above are Mesa's winning students, Dylan Dorman and Jasmin Fathi.

In addition to the victory, Mesa College earned second and third place honors in debate, as well as a seventh-place finish in persuasion.

We could not be more proud of our talented students!



POP-IN with
President Hands

SPRING 2025 OPEN OFFICE HOURS

In effort to foster open dialogue with and within the Mesa College community, the President's Office will have open office hours throughout the Spring 2025 Semester.

Individual meetings will be limited to a 15 minute time block, and will be available during these dates and times:

NEW Wednesday, March 26 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 10 | 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Friday, April 25 | 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 1 | 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 8 | 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

To sign up, please use [this form](#). You will hear back from one of the President's Office staff members to confirm your date and time.

If you have any questions, please contact Eileen Hayward at ehayward@sdccd.edu.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. President Hands looks forward to hearing from our campus community and values the contributions each of you brings to our collective efforts.



OFFICE OF *Instruction*



Last week, we celebrated the inaugural SDICCCA AccessAbility Week, a landmark event dedicated to enhancing accessibility across California Community Colleges in the San Diego and Imperial Counties. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all Mesa faculty members who participated, acquiring practical skills, inspiration, and actionable steps toward our collective goal: creating a learning environment where every student and employee, regardless of ability, can thrive.





We are particularly proud of our Mesa MOST team members—Kim Lacher, Kris Secor, Cara Smulevitz, and Kelly Spoon—for their significant contributions and the strong positive feedback they received for their presentations.

For those unable to attend, we encourage you to access the recorded sessions and resources available on the [SDICCCA AccessAbility Week website](#). Here, you can find invaluable insights into transforming our educational spaces into models of accessibility and inclusion.

As we continue implementing Mesa College's Career Services Strategic Plan, I am pleased to share updates on our Employer Engagement efforts, which support Goal 7: Employer Engagement. Through our Employer Engagement Model, we have expanded Work-Based Learning (WBL) opportunities, increased industry partnerships by 120%, and strengthened collaboration agreements by 109%. These efforts, led by our Employer Relations Liaison Erica Olmos and in partnership with SDICCA's Strong Workforce consortia, are enhancing student job outcomes and aligning our programs with workforce needs. Faculty and industry advisory committees also play a key role in fostering employer relationships, ensuring our programs remain industry relevant. Over 200 employer partners actively support the Mesa Impactship Program (MIP) and Work Experience placements, providing students with hands-on learning opportunities that bridge education and career pathways.

Upcoming Career Services Events

We invite you to engage with our students and employer partners at several upcoming **Career Services events**, which serve as key opportunities to strengthen industry connections and provide students with real-world career insights:

-  **MIP Internship Expo – April 10**
-  **Districtwide Career Fair – April 16**
-  **Business Career Fair – April 24**
-  **Vet Tech Career Fair – May 12**



Last week, Mesa colleagues went to the AHSIE (Alliance for HSI Educators) Conference in Chicago. At the conference, Dr. Amanda Fusco and Dr. Toni Trejo Parsons gave a presentation titled: Challenges, Strategies, and Wins for the Institutionalization of STEM E³ Equity, Excellence, & Exito. The presentation was also attended by the other Mesa colleagues that were there, and about 25 other participants. Attendees were engaged and asked several questions. They were very interested in Mesa's highly impactful peer mentoring program as well as the creation of free on-line homework for Chemistry and Biology. The presentation also highlighted the professional development work we have done with ESCALA and the studio classroom redesign. Other than the presentation, your Mesa colleagues attended several breakouts centered around Hispanic/Latine student experiences in higher education and look forward to sharing their learning with you.

Writing Center Open House

All students, faculty & classified professionals are invited!

Come see what goes on in the Writing Center!



**Tuesday, April 8th
11am-1pm
2nd Floor of the LRC**

"The tutors helped guide me throughout the writing process. I'll be going back for future assignments!"

Light refreshments will be served

www.sdmesa.edu/mt2c

The Writing Center will be hosting an open house on Tuesday, April 8th, from 11am to 1pm. We hope to see you and your students there!

Flex #26822

OFFICE OF *Student Services*

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>



Click on the flyer to enlarge.



BE SMART STAY SAFE

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Learn Facts on Drug & Alcohol Use
- DDA with Impairment Goggles
- Receive Free Fentanyl Drug Strips, Drink Test Strips & Narcan
- Support and Resources for Drug & Alcohol Recovery
- FREE Lunch

Enter \$25 Gas RAFFLE!
Take the eCHECKUP TO GO Survey for a chance to WIN!

EVENT DETAILS:

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 26, 2025

MESA COMMONS QUAD

11:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

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



Spring 2025 Single-Parents STUDENT PANEL

Thursday, March 20th, 2025

Honoring National Single-Parents Day by holding space for Mesa Students to share their experiences as single-parents pursuing higher education.

Join us in empowering, enlightening, and supporting our single-parenting students at San Diego Mesa College.

Single-Parent Student Panel
11:00am-12:30pm

Hear from Single-Parents and their experiences navigating higher education.

Location
Mesa Commons (MC) 211A
7250 Mesa College Circle
San Diego, CA, 92111

For more information or accommodations please contact
MesaCatWORKS@sdccd.edu

San Diego Mesa College
Cabrillo

Stand

San Diego Mesa College
CARE

APPLY TO BE MESA COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT STUDENT SPEAKER

SCAN THE QR CODE, OR VISIT bit.ly/MesaCommencementSpeaker25

DEADLINE
FRIDAY, APRIL 11th AT 11:59 PM

AUDITIONS (IN-PERSON)
FRIDAY, APRIL 25th AT 10:00 AM

The San Diego Mesa College Commencement Speaker Selection Committee is looking for an outstanding graduating student to be the commencement speaker for the 2025 Mesa College Commencement, which will be held on Friday, May 30, 2025. If you are a student preparing to graduate, this is your chance to represent your 2025 graduating class. Share your wisdom and insights about your journey at Mesa, your feelings of gratitude, plans for the future, and words of inspiration for your fellow graduates!

In order to qualify, you must fulfill the following eligibility requirements:

- Completed, or will complete a degree, at Mesa College by Summer 2025.
- Have applied to graduate through your MySDCC portal (myportal.sdccd.edu) under the "My Academics" tab: myportal.sdccd.edu
- Must participate in the 2025 Commencement Ceremony at Mesa College on Friday, May 30 at 2:00 pm.
- Be in good academic and disciplinary standing.
- Applications with an attached personal statement/speech (3.5 minute time limit) must be submitted online by 11:59 pm on Friday, April 11, 2025.
- Be available to present your 3.5 minute speech in person to the Selection Committee on Friday, April 25, 2025 between 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Auditions typically take 10-15 minutes.

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Career Services

Construct Your Professional Portfolio

WORKSHOP

Olympians! Join our Career Peer Ambassadors as we explore what a professional portfolio is, its importance, and why you it's never too early to start one!

ZOOM

Tuesday, March 25th
3pm-4pm

Thursday, March 27th
3pm-4pm

Register Here

619-333-2777 | mesacareer@sdccd.edu | Get Your Student Services Bag 14-306

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

Emergency Grants

San Diego Promise is offering a limited number of emergency grants for eligible students!

- Must be enrolled in 12 or more units OR have an approved DSGPS
- Must have submitted a 2024-25 Financial Aid Application (FASFA or CADAA)
- Must be an active San Diego Promise student

Apply Now!
bit.ly/spring25eg

Deadline: April 6, 2025 at 11:59 PM

SAN DIEGO PROMISE
CITY COLLEGE - MESA COLLEGE - MIRAMAR COLLEGE COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

PRIDE SCHOLARS LEARNING COHORT

The Pride Scholars Learning Cohort is an academic community taught through a queer lens. Students are enrolled with the same group of students throughout different courses for your first year, allowing you to create safe spaces to explore your academic and personal goals. As a cohort, we will discuss overlapping themes and topics as we enjoy fun activities planned to strengthen our cohort.

Our Mission
We believe in uplifting our queer students to succeed through education, guidance, and networking. We recognize the unique experiences of our queer community while developing strategic educational plans and executing effective solutions toward academic success.

Do you qualify?
This cohort is available to queer Mesa students who have not taken PERSO 120 or ENG 101 / ENG 1000. You will be eligible to enroll in our Pride Scholars program through this cohort.

Scan the QR Code to complete our interest form, or go to bit.ly/sdmspslc

For more information, contact Lucio Lira at llira@sdccd.edu or call (619) 388-5996

- Counseling**
Access to academic, personal, and career counseling services from a queer lens.
- Queer Literacy**
Explore identity, history, and community with queer-focused classes and activities.
- Individualized Case Management**
Personalized support to help you navigate challenges and achieve your goals.
- Queer Mentoring**
LGBTQA+ mentorship opportunities for academic, career, and personal guidance.
- Access to Pride Scholar Services**
Enriching support services to aid you during your academic journey at Mesa College.
- University Trips**
Explore, connect, and learn beyond the classroom with local community trips.

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Career Services

Career Fest Resume Tents

Swing by our tents to get a quick resume feedback or drop-in for a full resume consultation in preparation for our annual district-wide Career Fair at Miramar Campus on April 16th, 10-2pm!

Resume Tent Hours:
Monday, March 10th 10am-12pm
Monday, March 17th 11am-1pm
Thursday, March 20th 2pm-4pm
Monday, April 7th 10am-12pm

Location:
Mesa Campus Quad

(619) 388-2777 | mesacareer@sdccd.edu
Career Center, Student Services Bldg 14-306 | bit.ly/SDMesaCareerCenter

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

MESA'S CAREER FEST EVENTS SPRING 2025

Opportunity Join San Diego Mesa College Career Services for our annual Career Fest on campus for the Spring 2025 Career Fair at the Miramar Campus on Saturday, April 19th from 10am-2pm.

How Social Support Drives Career Development
Tuesday, March 18th from 10am-12pm
Wednesday, March 19th from 12pm-2pm
Thursday, March 20th from 2pm-4pm

Thinking Through Evaluation Assessing Your Career Fit
Tuesday, March 18th from 12pm-2pm
Wednesday, March 19th from 2pm-4pm
Thursday, March 20th from 4pm-6pm

Strategies to Networking
Tuesday, March 18th from 10am-12pm
Wednesday, March 19th from 12pm-2pm
Thursday, March 20th from 2pm-4pm

Building Your Online Presence
Tuesday, March 18th from 10am-12pm
Wednesday, March 19th from 12pm-2pm
Thursday, March 20th from 2pm-4pm

Resume & Cover Letter Writing Tips
Tuesday, March 18th from 10am-12pm
Wednesday, March 19th from 12pm-2pm
Thursday, March 20th from 2pm-4pm

Crafting Your Elevator Pitch & Career Fair Networking Tips
Tuesday, March 18th from 10am-12pm
Wednesday, March 19th from 12pm-2pm
Thursday, March 20th from 2pm-4pm

Student Services Bldg 14-306
619-388-2777

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Career Services

MEET CAREER SERVICES

OUR MISSION
The Career Services team works with the mission to prepare students to reach their career goals and support faculty and staff to enhance career-focused activities within the classroom while focusing on industry needs.

REVIEW THE SERVICES OFFERED BY OUR TEAM:

CAREER COUNSELING

- Developing Your Major
- Career Path Exploration
- Transfer Planning
- Job Search Strategies
- Interview Preparation
- Resume Review
- Cover Letter Review
- Job Application Assistance
- Job Interview Preparation

CAREER PEER AMBASSADORS

- Resume Review
- Cover Letter Review
- Job Application Assistance
- Job Interview Preparation

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT WITH A CAREER COUNSELOR OR PEER AMBASSADOR

CAREER SERVICES PRESENTATIONS

Help the Career Services team to provide a presentation to your class. Click here to learn more about the program.

(619) 388-2777 | mesacareer@sdccd.edu | Student Services Bldg 14-306 | www.sdccd.edu/career

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE | Transfer Center

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY NEXT STEPS

Calling all soon-to-be AZTECS! Have you been accepted to SDSU for Fall 2025? Join us to learn about the next steps you will need to take to secure your spot at SDSU!

April 8, 2025
1:30PM to 3PM
G-Building G-101

Scan here to register or bit.ly/SDSUnextstepsMESA

www.sdsu.edu/transfer | (619) 388-2475 | Location 14-306 | mesatransfer@sdccd.edu

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Transfer Center

SDSU | San Diego State University

REPRESENTATIVE 1-ON-1 APPOINTMENTS

March 28th 11AM to 1PM
April 18th 11AM to 1PM

SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT WITH THE REP BY CALLING THE TRANSFER CENTER AT 619-388-2473

www.sdsu.edu/transfer | (619) 388-2475 | Location 14-306 | mesatransfer@sdccd.edu

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Transfer Center

UPCOMING CSUSM REPRESENTATIVE VISITS

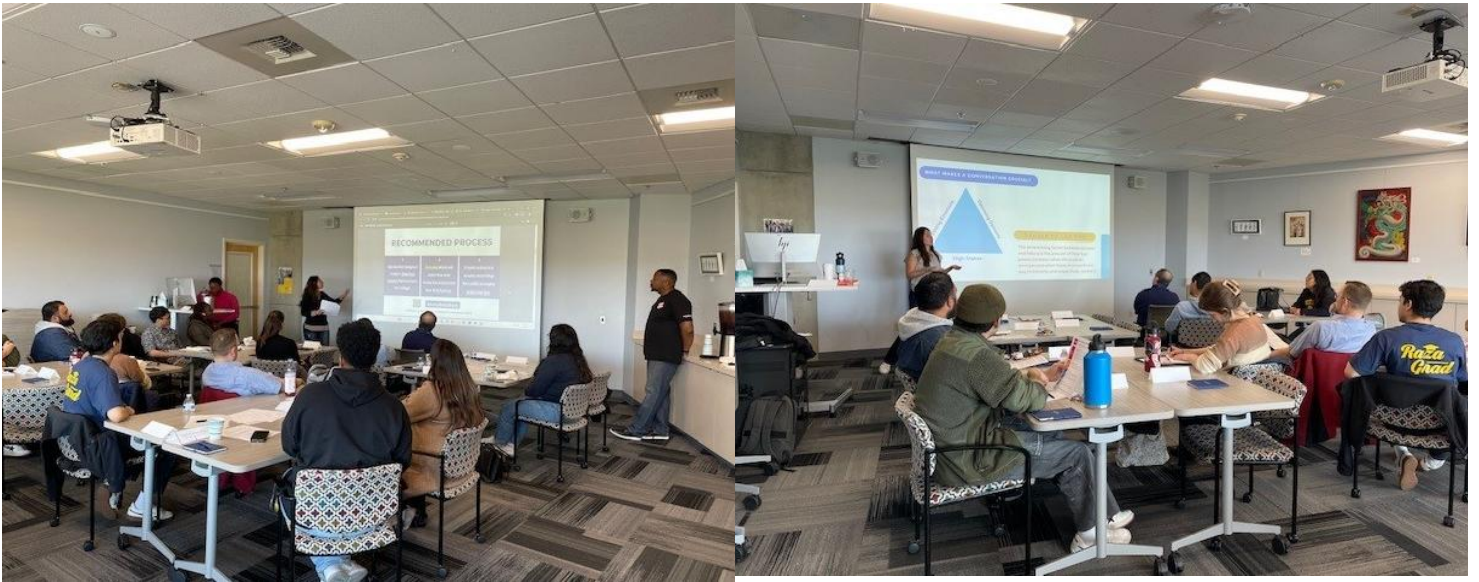
3/17/2025 from 12PM to 3PM
4/16/2025 from 11:30AM to 2:30PM

Mesa Transfer Center 14-306

TO SCHEDULE AN IN-PERSON APPOINTMENT CALL THE TRANSFER CENTER AT 619-388-2473
WALK-IN APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE DAY OF

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Transfer Center

OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*



This past Friday, March 7, our NCI cohort gathered for an interactive and insightful session on Crucial Conversations and Student Rights & Responsibilities. We explored strategies for effective communication with students, faculty, administrators, and staff, diving into real-world scenarios and practical de-escalation techniques.

The session was highly engaging, sparking meaningful discussions and motivating participants to implement new strategies for navigating difficult conversations while ensuring a safe and supportive environment for both students and themselves. It was inspiring to see our cohort actively learning, sharing experiences, and gaining confidence in handling challenging interactions.

Looking forward to our next session and continuing this journey of growth together!



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](#)



Did you know...

When you look at all giving across the nation to nonprofits, over 70% of contributions come from individuals—not corporations. So many of you are a part of this majority, giving generously to our students and mission. Thank you for supporting Mesa!

Institutional Research Update: Temporary Pause on Ad Hoc Requests

To enhance our data capabilities, the IR team is pausing all ad hoc requests until **06/30/2025**. During this time, we will be learning [SQL](#) and [Power BI](#) and begin automating key data processes. These modern tools will help us deliver insights faster, reduce manual work, and better support the college's growing needs.

Details:

- Ad hoc requests are on hold until June 30.
- Ongoing projects in our Research Agenda and mandated reports will continue as planned.
- New requests submitted during this period will be added to our queue and reviewed in July.

Long-term Benefits:

- Faster access to data through automated processes.
- Improved efficiency, allowing researchers to spend more time serving as your thought partners and transforming data into actionable insights.

Thank you for your patience and support. For questions, feel free to reach out to:

Nancy Cortes at ncortes@sdccd.edu

Hai Hoang at hhoang@sdccd.edu

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

OFFICE OF *Institutional Effectiveness*

As we are closing out the 2024-2025 Program Review Cycle, please take a few minutes to share your thoughts by completing this quick survey no later than **03/31/2025**:

- <https://tinyurl.com/PR-survey-2425>

As part of our commitment to compliance, continuous improvement, and institutional effectiveness, we invite you to complete the **Program Review Feedback Survey**. This effort aligns with [ACCJC 2024 Standards](#), [Roadmap to Mesa 2030](#), and our [college's vision](#) of being the leading college of equity and excellence.

On behalf of the Program Steering Committee, we would like to Thank You for your time and input in creating a meaningful and impactful process for the college.



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](#)

