

Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 12:49 PM



*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*

A MESSAGE FROM  
*President Hands*

In times of uncertainty, our role as a college community is to offer clarity, care, and an unwavering commitment to the dignity and safety of all who call Mesa home. Recent immigration enforcement actions in the Los Angeles area, along with similar activity here in San Diego, have caused heightened anxiety and fear for many in our community, especially for those who are undocumented, refugees, or part of mixed-status families.

The presence of armed federal agents in our region causes real fear, disrupts families, and threatens the safety and dignity of those already facing systemic vulnerability. Given the local impact, it is essential that we respond with both information and affirmation. As a college grounded in equity, we are committed to ensuring our community knows their rights, understands available protections, and feels seen, supported, and safe.

Below is an important message from our Chancellor that outlines the District's position, protections, and resources available to support students and employees. I encourage you to read it closely and to lean into our shared values of equity, inclusion, justice, and humanity.

At Mesa College, we continue to affirm: you belong here, you are valued, and you are not alone.

[Click Here to Read a Message from Chancellor Greg Smith](#)

Resources: [Immigration Enforcement Notice](#) | [Employee Information Card- Immigration](#)



## [JOIN THE SDCCD AT THE ANNUAL PRIDE PARADE](#)

Students, faculty, administrators, and classified professionals from the San Diego Community College District will walk in the annual San Diego Pride Parade on Saturday, July 20, one of the largest in the country, with up to 100,000 spectators expected. This year's parade theme is "Making History Now."

Free T-shirts will be provided to the first 400 SDCCD participants. A free shuttle service will run between the Old Naval Hospital, on President's Way, and Park Boulevard to the start of the parade route.

## **Meet our Summer 2025 Junior Achievement of San Diego Interns and their amazing hosting departments!**

Special thanks to Student Affairs, the Learning Resource Center, Outreach, Facilities and Operations and EOPS for providing real-world career experiences to high school students.

Mesa College is not just a great place to learn....it's a place where students discover their purpose and take real steps toward pursuing meaningful careers.



## **SDCCD Launches SDCCDsafes: Turning Your Smartphone into a Safety Tool**

In the coming weeks, the San Diego Community College District will launch SDCCDsafes, a free app that turns your smartphone into a safety tool. Safety at all SDCCD campuses and facilities is a top priority, and this new app will provide students and employees with another way to protect themselves with such features as:

- Placing a direct call to College Police or the 9-8-8 Crisis Lifeline.
- Setting up a virtual "Friend Walk" so a friend or family member can make sure you arrive at your destination safely - whether to a classroom, a parking lot, or even somewhere off campus.
- Reporting an anonymous tip.

The app will be available for download from the Apple App or Google Play stores in mid- to late-June. A notice will be sent out when the app is live.

More details about the app and other District safety services are available at [sdccd.edu/safety](https://sdccd.edu/safety)





### Classicon: Lei Back and Talk Story Workshop

AANAPISI hosted a workshop for participants to relax while learning about our Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (NHPI) community here in San Diego. To learn more about lei making or would like to purchase more, visit [Hula Sisters Lei Stand](#). AANAPISI will be around the community more this summer and welcomes you to join!

We would highly encourage everyone to [apply to our AAP! Community of Practice!](#)

### Events in June:

[SD County Fair - API Festival | June 14 \(Sat\), 11-5pm, Paddock Area](#)

[Lao Food Festival | June 21 - 22, 11-5pm](#)

## 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>






**New Students - CRUISE into Mesa! Attend CRUISE and become confident and prepared for your first year at Mesa College!**


Start college on the right foot with CRUISE, an onboarding program that helps new students transition to Mesa during their first year. The program will guide you to on-campus resources and introduce you to the many opportunities, programs, and people available to help you excel in all areas of your academic and personal growth. You belong at Mesa and we look forward to helping you set sail on a thrilling course of study.


[Link to Register: https://bit.ly/SummerCRUISE2025](https://bit.ly/SummerCRUISE2025)

**Disability Support Programs and Services (DSPS) Fall Readiness 2025**

You're invited to attend our DSPS Fall Readiness event, designed to help new Mesa DSPS students prepare for the upcoming semester. Choose either August 12th or 13th for a morning session, and take advantage of optional afternoon classroom tours offered on those days as well as an additional morning classroom tour on August 14th.

 **Date:** August 12th or 13th

 **Time:** 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

 **Location:** High Tech Center (Library, Room 110)

 **Register**

**here:** <https://forms.office.com/r/s9BP4abhA2>

EOPS is inviting all interested students to register for our **EOPS 2025 Summer Readiness Personal Growth (PG) 120 course** — a 5-week, in-person class designed to support students in preparing for college success. This course will help Students explore their academic goals, develop essential college skills, and gain confidence as they transition into higher education. The course is UC/CSU transferable and provides a strong foundation for future academic achievement. Plus, we will have weekly lunches, field trips, and so much more! Attached is the flyer for reference.

Course Details:

Dates: Monday - Thursday | 6/16 - 7/19

Time: 9:35AM - 12:30PM

Course Number: 91548

Room: Mesa BT-101

Type: In person

***Click on the flyer to enlarge***



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**August 12th or 13th  
9am-12pm**

High Tech Center  
Located in the Library, Room 110

Scan to Register



<https://forms.office.com/r/s9BP4abhA2>

For any accommodations please  
contact [cruffner@sdccd.edu](mailto:cruffner@sdccd.edu)

**For New Mesa  
DSPS Students!**



## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES! READY TO SUCCEED?

**Kick off your summer with EOPS  
Summer Readiness 5-Week  
Personal Growth 120!**

Instructor: Rosa Palacios  
Date: Monday - Thursday  
6/16/2025 - 7/19/2025  
Time: 9:35AM - 12:30PM  
Room: Mesa BT-101  
Type: On Campus

Students will receive assistance in achieving their academic goals. This Personal Growth 120 class will convene in person, and the units are transferable.

To secure your spot for the class, simply scan the QR code!

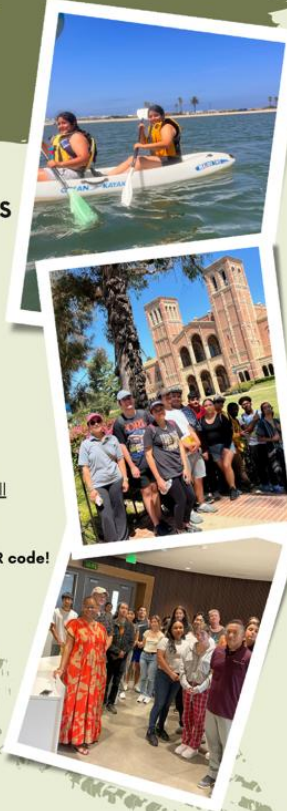


**HAVE  
QUESTIONS?**

For More Information:

619-388-2706

[MesaEOPSSdccd.edu](mailto:MesaEOPSSdccd.edu)



## 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](#)

**BREAKING BARRIERS.  
EMPOWERING MINDS.  
TRANSFORMING FUTURES.**



Next semester, we will be hosting our second ever Spirit of Mesa on Friday, October 10, 2025. This annual fundraiser will showcase the activities and students across Mesa College. Have information you'd like donors to know about? We need your input! Please give us ideas: [bit.ly/SOM25Input](https://bit.ly/SOM25Input)

### Spring Semester Fundraising by the Numbers

**\$194,147**

raised since January

**\$209,000**

Scholarships Awarded in April

**188**

Students Served by Scholarships

**\$77,000**

In Grants secured

## 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](#)

