



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!

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OFFICE OF THE *President*



Tomorrow is our Mesa College Fall Convocation!

San Diego Mesa College Convocation
Thursday, August 15, 2024
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Mesa College Gym

All Departments will be closed on Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. so we can come together in community during Convocation.



The Leaders of Promise Scholarship, sponsored by the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, awards around 200 scholarships annually, with 25 earmarked specifically for Society members who are active duty or veterans of the U.S. Military. The Military Leaders of Promise Scholars are selected based on outstanding academic achievement, demonstrated leadership potential, and were selected by a panel of independent judges from nearly 1,500 applicants.

Please help me congratulate Monika on this wonderful achievement!



Mesa College welcomes our new SDCCD Vice Chancellors:

Vice Chancellor Jared Burns, Ph.D., People, Culture, and Technology Services (left) and **Vice Chancellor Daniel Troy, Finance and Business Services** (right). Both bring a strong track record and impressive work histories that will not only contribute positively to their respective roles, but to the District.

We look forward to working together!

The **San Diego Community College District's Board of Trustees** has **unanimously agreed to place a \$3.5-billion bond measure on the November ballot** to fund critical construction and modernization projects that will ensure the region's largest provider of workforce training and higher education continues to be a leader in driving the San Diego economy.

To learn more about the bond, please visit the [SDCCD News Center](#).

Honoring Dr. Barbara Blackmun



Founder of the Mesa College African Art Collection
(now World Art Collection)

SEPT. • 11th • 3:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Room D-101

San Diego Mesa College

7250 Mesa College Drive, San Diego, CA 92111



SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE



You are cordially invited to the Dr. Blackmun Recognition Dinner & Ceremony, on **Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.**

As part of San Diego Mesa College's celebration of 60 years of equity and excellence, we ask you to join us as we honor Dr. Barbara Blackmun. In 1976, Dr. Blackmun started a small collection of African art at San Diego Mesa College. Through her work, and with others, the collection has since grown to include over 1,800 pieces from Africa, Asia, the Americas, and the Pacific.

We are excited to announce that this year we finally succeeded in fulfilling Dr. Blackmun's dream of securing a permanent location on campus. The Collection is not only on display, but now accessible to art history, art, humanities and Black and ethnic studies students in the newly designed space, the World Art Gallery & Research Center. And, with your help, we can continue Dr. Blackmun's work to empower students with knowledge and opportunities.

Dr. Blackmun Recognition Dinner and Ceremony

September 11, 2024 | 3:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

San Diego Mesa College
7250 Mesa College Drive, D-101
San Diego, CA 92111

This is a ticketed event. Please click below for tickets and program information:

Blackmun Ticket and Program Information

Sponsorship and underwriting opportunities would be very much appreciated. If you would like to donate to support the event, [click here](#).

OFFICE OF *Instruction*



Mesa College Welcomes Two New Assistant Professors!

Walter Thompson (left) has been selected as a new Assistant Professor of Astronomy in the School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences! He has dedicated the past 20 years to teaching Physics and Astronomy at community colleges and universities and has contributed extensively to his institutions and communities, including serving on various committees, hosted high school summer programs, designed a rooftop observatory, and implemented service-learning projects.

Kristen Monteverde (right) has been selected as a new Assistant Professor of Geography in the School of Social/Behavioral Sciences and Multicultural Studies! She is a community college alumna and has taught at SDSU and Grossmont College since 2019. She embodies the student-center ideal, and is determined to help students overcome social obstacles.

We welcome Professors Thompson and Monteverde to the Mesa family!

We are proud to announce that Sean Ricketts was named 2023-2024 5CTCA Women's Cross-Country Coach of the Year. This award highlights the dedication to both athletics and academics, as proven by the program's transfer rate. Sean would like to thank Athletic Director Ryan Shumaker, Assistant Athletic Director of Cross-Country Nathan Resch, the athletic training staff, athletic counselors Michael Temple and David Navarro, Mesa Student Support Services, and President Ashanti Hands. Sean also acknowledges his assistant coach Matthew Beckstead for all the hard work and instrumental contribution.



Welcome Week

We are thrilled to kick off Fall 2024 with an exciting **Welcome Week**! Welcome Week is designed to promote community while helping new and returning students feel connected to our campus and familiarize them with our resources. We will have information centers located adjacent to the Bookstore and Student Services Building, along with a variety of exciting events taking place throughout the week. The week of events schedule will be posted online soon!

If you would like to volunteer at one of the Welcome Week Info Booths on Monday and Tuesday, then please email Courtney Lee (clee@sdccd.edu) no later than Thursday with your desired time and location to get on the schedule.

HBCU CARAVAN

We are thrilled to announce that Mesa College has been selected as one of 9 campuses to host the 2024 HBCU Caravan! Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) were established primarily to serve the higher education needs of the Black community, but any student is welcome to attend any of these great institutions.

The 2024 HBCU Caravan will take place on October 28, 2024. Please scan the QR code for more information and other events from the Transfer Center



Live Well on Wheels
LIVE WOW

The Live Well on Wheels (Live Wow) Bus provides San Diego County residents access to a variety of health and community services on the go!

August 19-20
8:00am- 5:00pm
Sunrise Plaza

Services Offered

Health Education

Narcosis Education: "Turning Crisis into Hope, Saving Lives One Dose at a Time"

Public Benefits Information/ Services

Outreach on CalFresh and Medi-Cal programs. Applying for CalFresh and Medi-Cal benefits. Providing EBT cards & EBT PIN issuance. Inquiries on existing cases.

CalFresh Healthy Living

Make healthy food choices within a limited budget and choose physically active lifestyles consistent with the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

Contact Live Well on Wheels:

LWSD.HHSA@sdcounty.ca.gov | <https://www.livewellsd.org/>

Request for disability-related accommodations should be made no later than five working days prior to the event. Event Contact person: Suzanna Khambata, skhambat@sdccd.edu, 619-388-2774

On August 19 - 20 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Sunrise Plaza, the Live Well on Wheels (Live Wow) will be available for access for the Mesa community. Residents will be able to seek services such as Medi-Cal, CalFresh, Narcan Education, and healthy food choices.

For more information, please contact Suzanna Khambata at skhambat@sdccd.edu.

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming ALICE Training taking place on **Friday, September 13, 2024 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm in G101**. ALICE, which stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate, was developed with the concept in mind that civilians needed a set of skills to learn to take drastic steps in order to survive an active shooter situation, crucial steps until first responders could arrive to neutralize the threat. College Police has a team of Certified ALICE instructors that provide ongoing training classes to the community year round.

For this Academy there will be a limit of **30 people**. You will receive a confirmation email from Matt Fay when you have been added to the training list.

COMING THIS FALL
ALICE TRAINING
Active Shooter Training & Preparedness
September 13, 2024



[Register here for ALICE Training](#)

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](#)

