



*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*

## Spirit of Mesa

*This Moment. Our Mission.*

### Seeking Student Talent

Nominate Students & Alumni Who Inspire You

**They could be featured:**

- Onstage live at Spirit of Mesa
- As an event ambassador
- In a video
- On a poster
- On social media



Shine a spotlight on  
your students



Nominations open until  
September 5, 2025

Scan to nominate

[bit.ly/SOM-Nominate](https://bit.ly/SOM-Nominate)

**Help Us Lift Student Voices + Shape Mesa's Future!**

As we prepare for our upcoming *Spirit of Mesa* event and embark on a comprehensive fundraising campaign, we need your partnership in two important ways:

**1. Help us spotlight our students & alumni**

Donors and community partners are deeply moved when they hear directly from our students—their stories of resilience, talent, and ambition bring Mesa's mission to life. We are seeking students who can share their experiences, showcase their talents, or represent Mesa at events and donor gatherings.

Please share one of [these Flyers](#) with your students in class, in Canvas, advising, or other settings.

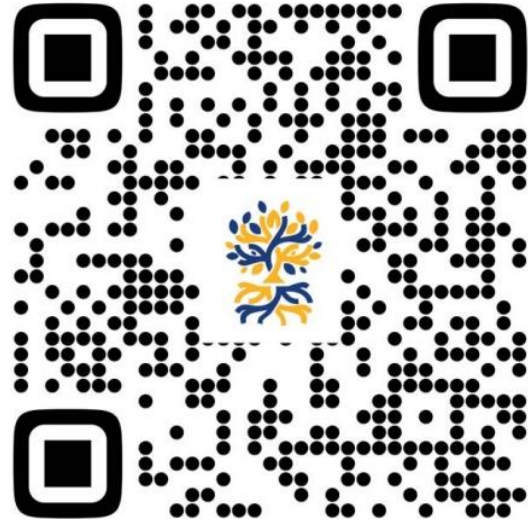
You may also **nominate a student directly** using this [quick nomination form](#).

Please submit all nominations and encourage students to respond **no later than Wednesday, September 3!**

**2. Share your perspective on Mesa's priorities.**

As we look ahead to a historic comprehensive campaign, we want to ensure that our fundraising efforts align with the needs and aspirations of our campus. Your insight is essential to shaping the priorities that will drive Mesa forward.

Please take a few minutes to complete our [Fundraising Priorities Feedback Form](#) and let us know what matters most to you and your students.



Thank you to everyone who attended our Fall 2025 Convocation! Your presence and engagement reflect a deep commitment to our shared goals. As we root ourselves in purpose and ground our work in equity, we grow together in service to our Mesa students. Scan the QR code to view our Fall 2025 Convocation documents.

[2025 Fall Semester Convocation  
Presentation](#)

[2025 Fall Convocation Photo Album](#)

**Save-the-Date for the Chancellor's Forum:**

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

San Diego Mesa College

MC211 A/B

President Hands invites you to apply to attend the 2025 Nandi Annual Conference, held October 9 - 10, 2025, at Paradise Point Resort in San Diego.

This year's theme, *In the Pursuit of Softness: A Radical Act of Resistance*, centers rest, care, and healing as essential practices for Black women and *all* educators engaged in equity and liberation work.

Apply by Friday, August 29, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. Access the online [application form for the Nandi Conference](#). Applications will be reviewed by the Conference and Travel Committee, a group of five will be selected, and forwarded to the President for final approval.

The graphic is a promotional poster for the Nandi Annual Conference. The top half features a vibrant, abstract collage of pink, purple, and black shapes, including stylized faces, eyes, and patterns. Below this, a photograph shows a conference room with an audience seated at tables, facing a stage with a large screen displaying the Nandi logo and the text "REIMAGINING SU Black Women Shaping". To the right of the photo, the text "nandi" is written in a bold, lowercase font with a crown over the 'i'. Below this, it says "REGISTRATION IS OPEN!" and "Save Your Space Today!". Further down, the dates "October 9-10, 2025" and "3rd Annual Nandi Conference" are listed, followed by the location "Paradise Point Resort and Spa, San Diego, CA". A paragraph of text describes the event as a transformative event with dynamic speakers, community building, and "so much more!". A QR code is provided for registration, along with the link "https://bit.ly/NANDI25". At the bottom, the California Community Colleges logo is shown, and the text "Follow us on Instagram @nandi\_org or online at nandiorg.org" is displayed.

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OFFICE OF *Instruction*

### Happy start to the Fall 2025 semester!

We have strong enrollment numbers to share with the campus community. Our current FTES (Full Time Equivalent Student) is 6,288.6. With our target of 5,970, we have exceeded our goal and are resting at 105.3% progress. Current productivity is 16.41.

The final number to certainly celebrate is our headcount of 21,695! I know the campus has worked hard and intentionally to continue to grow in this way. Amazing work!

We look forward to sharing more positive enrollment numbers in the coming days as we approach Census at the end of next week.





On August 12th, [Cassandra Storey and Karen Wait](#), presented a program on the Mesa College Dental Assistant Program.

San Diego Mesa College offers students a dental assistant education and training program accredited by the Dental Board of California (DBC) and the Commission of Dental Accreditation (CODA) of the American Dental Association.

The program to become a Dental Assisting (RDA,CDA) requires 37 credit hours at the cost is \$46 per credit hour so that the total cost is \$2760. This is a remarkable opportunity to start immediately in a career in high demand that pays a living wage with benefits. Of course, the program is very competitive and selects 24 new students each year.

In addition to classroom work, the program also has an on-site dental clinic that offers free basic dental services to members of the community in need. These amount to some 5000 visits per year and allow students hands on experience.

Members of Old Mission Rotary were so impressed that the San Diego Community Colleges are actively educating students for opportunities in the real world and the San Diego Mesa College Dental Assistant Program is a wonderful example.

### Recap | AANAPISI Wraps Up AAPI Community of Practice (Cohort III) – Fall 2025 Summer Intensive

AANAPISI wrapped up its 3rd AAPI CoP Summer Intensive! Over 23 participants engaged in professional development, with a key highlight—the inclusion of classified professionals in the learning experience. This year, we also welcomed Eileen Hayward and Jennifer Park to the Facilitator Team! Participants deepened their understanding of how to better serve AAPI students by: Debunking the model minority myth, Challenging the monolith myth, Emphasizing the importance of disaggregated data, and more.

They were also immersed in culture—from the movements to the flavors—making the learning both meaningful and memorable. 🌸💡

Stay tuned as participants check in and share their projects at the end of the semester!



**Interested in expanding your professional learning this fall?** Several exciting conferences are coming up, offering valuable opportunities to engage in equity-focused learning, build new skills, and bring fresh insights back to our campus community. If you're a Classified Professional, Faculty, or Administrator, we encourage you to explore these events and consider applying. Selected participants will be asked to share key takeaways through presentations or discussions.

Please apply to attend an upcoming conference sponsored by the President's Office. Please check the deadlines for submission. Also, you can apply to request funding to attend a conference. Please refer to the Conference and Travel Committee section to access the information.

[Applications are now open—don't miss your chance to attend!](#)

## OFFICE OF *Student Services*



We are thrilled to kick off the Fall 2025 Semester with Welcome Week on campus. Please visit us next week at the Sunrise Plaza and give our new and returning students a warm welcome!

[Click here for the online Fall 2025 Welcome Week Schedule of Events](#)

[Click here for information on Mesa College Student Support Services](#)

Welcome Week is designed to promote community while helping students feel connected to our campus and to familiarize them with our resources, but we can always be on the lookout for a student in need.

## *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



## ASSOCIATED STUDENTS APPLICATION

LEAD. INSPIRE. SERVE.

**FALL 2025**



bit.ly/ASGFall2025

WE ARE LOOKING FOR MOTIVATED STUDENTS WHO DESIRE TO SERVE THEIR CAMPUS AND FOSTER COMMUNITY!

SUBMIT BY  
**8**  
SEPTEMBER

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT  
**MARIE YOKERS (MYOKERS@SDCCD.EDU)**  
AND  
**JAHNAE MAXEY (JMAXEY001@SDCCD.EDU)**

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
Transfer | Career | Evaluations

# FROM START TO SUCCESS: TCE MONOPOLY BASH

The Transfer, Career, and Evaluations Center invites all students, faculty, and staff to our monopoly open house event!

**SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> & 17<sup>TH</sup>**  
**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

Transfer Career & Evaluations Office  
Student Services Building, I4-306

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
San Diego Community College District

## WE ARE HERE TO HELP! MESA COLLEGE TECH HUB

**CONNECTING CAMPUS THROUGH TECH**  
The Tech Hub is designed to provide convenient, walk-up technology services for our students, faculty, and classified professionals.

**OUR SERVICES**

- **Wi-Fi & Access:** Help connecting to SDCCD Wi-Fi.
- **Canvas & Tools:** Setup and troubleshooting for Canvas, Zoom, Pronto, and more.
- **Accounts & Login Help:** Password resets, Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), SSO issues.
- **Email:** Microsoft Outlook.
- **General IT Support:** SDCCD devices, software, and digital resources.

NEED HELP?  
STOP BY THE TECH HUB IN THE STUDENT SERVICES LOBBY, FIRST FLOOR (I-400)  
MON-THURS: 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
FRI: 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

CONTACT US OR SCAN THE QR CODE  
619-388-7000  
<https://help.sdccd.edu>

SCAN HERE

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

## ROOTED AND RISING BLACK STUDENT SUCCESS RESOURCE FAIR

**Thursday, September 4th, 2025**  
**11:00AM - 12:30PM**  
**Mesa Commons Quad**

Join us for an empowering event featuring campus resources, networking, food, and music.  
Everyone is welcome!

For any questions or accommodations, contact [Ldiaz@sdccd.edu](mailto:Ldiaz@sdccd.edu).

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

## iLatino/a/e Bienvenida

Latino/a/e Heritage Month Kickoff  
Celebrating Latino/a/e Students and Colegas at Mesa College  
Meet students and colegas  
Learn about campus resources

**Thursday, September 11, 2025**  
**11:00am-1:00pm**  
**Mesa Commons Quad**

Everyone is welcome!  
Food will be provided

For more information or accommodations, contact [Ldiaz@sdccd.edu](mailto:Ldiaz@sdccd.edu).

**MESA COUNSELING**

## Promise Program

Individualized Counseling and Guidance Support

**Your Counselors**

**Summer 2025 Services**

- 1/2 hr Zoom or in person sessions where you can discuss your
  - Abbreviated education plan
  - Update your next semester courses
  - Talk about career and/or major options
  - Ask general questions

**Fabiola Beas**

**Miriam Pacheco**

**Schedule 1/2 hr sessions:**  
<https://bit.ly/PromiseZoomSessions>



**Pride Center**  
SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

## PRIDE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Pride Scholars assist LGBTQIA+ Mesa College students through academic and personal support services

**PRIDE SCHOLARS SERVICES**

- Academic/Career/Personal Counseling
- Textbook Assistance
- Meal Assistance
- School Supplies
- Self-Care Packages
- Individualized Case Management
- Community Building Opportunities
- & much more!

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- Identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ Community
- Be enrolled in at least six (6) units (or unit minimum from DSPS) at Mesa College.
- Mesa College as school of record

**DEADLINE TO APPLY: SEPTEMBER 16TH**

**HOW TO APPLY:**  
 Scan the QR Code to complete online application, or go to [tinyurl.com/SDMesaPS](https://tinyurl.com/SDMesaPS)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US!**

- [SDMesaPrideCenter@sdccd.edu](mailto:SDMesaPrideCenter@sdccd.edu)
- (619) 388-5096
- @SDMesaPride
- Room D-102



**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE**  
Borderless Scholars

**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE**  
Dreamer Resource Center

## Higher Education Legal Services

**Schedule a FREE Appointment Today**

<https://findyourally.com/>

**HIGHER ED. LEGAL SERVICES PROJECT**

**I am undocumented and unafraid**

**Mission is to help**

**Immigration is my life**

**For more information contact The dreamer's Resource Center at 619.500.2053 or [MesaDreamers@sdccd.edu](mailto:MesaDreamers@sdccd.edu).**

## OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*

### New Business Card Request Process

#### To submit a request:

- Visit the Reprographics page: <https://www.sdccd.edu/departments/operations/enterprise-services/reprographics/index.aspx>
- Click on "Request Business Cards."
- This will open the request form: [Business Card Request Form \(PDF\)](#)

#### Key updates:

- Managers are now responsible for approving business card requests.
- Once the form is completed and signed, send it to Anthony Tolentino at [atolenti@sdccd.edu](mailto:atolenti@sdccd.edu) for processing.



# 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](#)



## ***Highlight Your Students and Activities!***

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)

## ***Want to learn more about grant seeking?***

View the flex workshop hosted by Dr. Michael Lettieri, who is leading grant writing efforts, and Krista Stellmacher, CFRE and Director in service to the Office of Resource Development and Foundation.

[View Recording](#)

## *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:



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**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](#)

