

SAN DIEGO  
MESA COLLEGE



WEEKLY UPDATES FROM

*Prez Hands*

*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*

**Save the Date for our Fall Convocation!**

**San Diego Mesa College Fall 2025 Convocation**

Thursday, August 21, 2025

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Program at Mesa Gym; Lunch at Mesa Quad)

***Departments will be closed during Convocation***

 SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

**ROOTED IN PURPOSE.  
GROUNDED IN EQUITY.  
GROWING TOGETHER.**

**Convocation / Fall 2025** —————

Thursday, August 21, 2025

8:00 am 📍 Mesa College Gym

San Diego Mesa College | 7250 Mesa College Drive, San Diego, California, 92111-4998

Join us for our annual **Convocation** as we kick off the year with important updates, shared goals, and a celebration of our collective work.

## Mesa Gym

**8:00 AM - 8:30 AM:** Coffee and Pastries

**8:30 AM - 10:00 AM:** Program with Campus Highlights, Updates and Olympian Spirit awards, Opportunity Drawing

**10:00 AM - 10:30 AM:** SDCCD Chancellor Visit

**10:40 AM – 12:15 PM:** Breakout Sessions 1 and 2

**12:20 PM - 1:00 PM:** Lunch in the Mesa Quad

Then, **gather around after the meeting in the Quad** to relax, recharge, and reconnect with colleagues!

- 🎈 **Unwind with inflatable games**
- 🍦 **Cool down with handcrafted gelato provided by our Culinary Team**
- 🍱 **Enjoy a flavorful lunch from Los Chuchy's**

## Mesa College's Receives National Recognition

Mesa College's Psi Beta Chapter received the Psi Beta Chapter Excellence Award and the 3rd Place Leadership Award, earned by student Melanie Aguilar Luna.

Psi Beta is psychology's national honor society for community college students. Chapter advisors such as Professor Van Kirk spend countless volunteer hours overseeing and mentoring Psi Beta members. Mesa College students benefit from the high-impact experiential learning programs made available through Psi Beta.

We want to congratulate Melanie Aguilar Luna and Professor Van Kirk for these outstanding achievements!

## San Diego Mesa College Ranked #3 in California for ROI

San Diego Mesa College was ranked third in the state for how quickly students recoup their educational costs, according to *Golden Returns*, a first-of-its-kind report analyzing ROI across 327 California two-year colleges. The study, released August 6 by the College Futures Foundation and The HEA Group, found that Mesa students recover their costs almost immediately—thanks in part to financial aid programs like the San Diego Promise. On average, Mesa alumni earn \$12,644 more annually than individuals with only a high school diploma. President Ashanti T. Hands noted, "Return on investment in education is about more than dollars. It is about the return of confidence, opportunity, and possibility for students."

To read more, [click this link to the report](#).



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

# Summer 2025 Modified Work Schedule



**June 2, 2025-August 8, 2025**

**Monday-Thursday  
4x10s WORK WEEK**

**Note:**

**Thursday, June 19th - Juneteenth  
HOLIDAY**

**Friday, July 4th - Independence Day**

**HOLIDAY - observed on an alternate date at the manager's discretion.**



As a reminder, our summer 4x10 work schedule will soon come to an end. The final 4x10 week will be the week of **August 4, 2025**, with the last Friday off on **August 8, 2025**. We will resume our traditional work schedule starting the week of **August 11, 2025**.

Thank you for making the most of this flexible summer arrangement!

The San Diego Mesa College Foundation's signature fundraising event, Spirit of Mesa, celebrates year two!

This event will focus on how Mesa's mission is all the more critical at this moment in time. The event brings together leaders from across our community who share a passion for equity and excellence in education.

Join us and other regional leaders on the beautiful San Diego Mesa College campus to celebrate the achievements of students, showcase the role of the Foundation, and honor the generosity of donors and sponsors. Together, we can ensure that nothing stands in the way of San Diegans working hard to get an education.

**Date: Friday, October 10, 2025**

**Location: Mesa Quad**

[Click Here to RSVP](#)

## Spirit of Mesa

*This Moment, Our Mission*

**SAVE  
THE DATE**

**Friday, October 10, 2025**



[sdmesa.edu/SpiritOfMesa](https://sdmesa.edu/SpiritOfMesa)

SAN DIEGO  
MESA COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION



### Save the Date for Time Wise at Mesa College

**Date:** August 26, 2025

**Time:** 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

**Location:** Mesa College, G-102

Tim Wise is one of the country's most compelling voices on culture, politics, and power, bringing three decades of experience to some of the most urgent issues of our time. A gifted storyteller and sharp strategist, he helps audiences understand how we got here, what's at stake, and how to move forward with clarity, courage, and purpose.

Please let us know you'll be attending by accessing the RSVP form: <https://forms.office.com/r/SW27Nq3JJJa>

### 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](http://sdccd.edu/safety)



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OFFICE OF *Instruction*

**As Summer 2025 comes to a close, here are a few instructional numbers (pre-cleanup) to celebrate:**

Mesa offered over **400 sections** in various modalities and over several sessions.

We served **7,451 students** and reached just over **98% of our target FTES for the term.**

And even dealing with fraudulent enrollments, we accomplished these numbers and a **productivity of 16.15.**

***Nice job, Mesa!***

**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*




This week, **Admissions** and the **International Student Counseling Team—Terrence Hale and Vanna Jarrous**—are hosting a weeklong **International Student Orientation (ISO)** to welcome our newest global students.


We're excited to greet an incoming class of **28 international students**, representing **17 different countries**. With their arrival, our total international student population will reach **77 students** for **Fall 2025**.


Please join us in extending a warm welcome as they begin their journey at Mesa!

### **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)

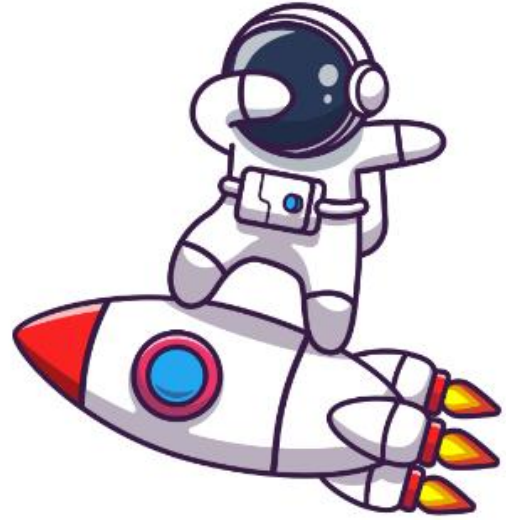
 **Register here:** <https://forms.office.com/r/s9BP4abhA2>

# 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**



**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

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

**Fabiola Beas**  
**Miriam Pacheco**





**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
- Mental 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

**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) 388-6096
- @SDMesaPride
- Room D-102

**DEADLINE TO APPLY: SEPTEMBER 10TH**





**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE**  
Borderless Scholars

**Higher Education Legal Services**

Schedule a **FREE** Appointment Today

<https://findyoureally.com/>

**LEGAL SERVICES PROJECT**

**I am undocumented and unafraid**

**Immigration is my right**

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



**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE**  
DSPS

**Disability Support Programs and Services Fall Readiness 2025**

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

**For New Mesa DSPS Students!**

**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)

OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*





**The New Classified Institute team had the honor of presenting at the statewide Classified Leadership Institute Conference, where we showcased our innovative orientation program designed specifically for classified professionals: the New Classified Institute.**

Our interactive session guided participants through the process of designing their own version of the program, encouraging them to think critically about potential challenges and opportunities for implementation on their campuses.

It was a rewarding experience to share a model that has made a meaningful impact at our institution, and to empower colleagues from across the state with tools and inspiration to support and uplift classified professionals in their own communities.

### **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)

## OFFICE OF *Institutional Effectiveness*

### Extension of Pause on Ad Hoc Requests

Earlier this year the Institutional Research (IR) Team announced a temporary pause on all ad hoc requests until June 30, 2025, to allow for a transition to new data tools including SQL and Power BI.

To support emerging institutional priorities, our team is currently dedicating resources to the Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions (Title V, Part A) Grant application, due July 3, 2025. As a result, the transition to our new tools is temporarily on hold.

To ensure adequate time for this transition, the pause on ad hoc requests is now extended through July 31, 2025. Any new requests submitted before then will be added to our queue and reviewed in August 2025.

We appreciate your understanding and support during this time. For questions, feel free to reach out to:

### Districtwide Dashboard to Replace Mesa's Enrollment Dashboard

Beginning Monday, June 23, 2025 the [SDCCD Enrollment Dashboard](#) will serve as the primary source for enrollment management data across the district.

As a part of this transition, Mesa's *Enrollment Daily Dashboard* will be retired and removed from Mesa's dashboard webpage.

This change reduces duplication of work, minimizes data discrepancies, improves comparability, and streamlines the user experience with a single access point.

To access the dashboard, visit the Mesa College Dashboards page (you can find it by Googling "Mesa College Dashboards" and clicking the first result).



Nancy Cortes at [ncortes@sdccd.edu](mailto:ncortes@sdccd.edu)  
Hai Hoang at [hhoang@sdccd.edu](mailto:hhoang@sdccd.edu)

Then, under “Operational Tools” section, click the link labeled “SDCCD Enrollment Management.”

For questions, feel free to reach out to **Adriana Caetano** at [acaetanofournier@sdccd.edu](mailto:acaetanofournier@sdccd.edu).

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## 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

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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](#)

