

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!

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.

At last week's Board of Trustee meeting, the Board approved the receipt and expenditure of funds for our new **STAR TRIO Student Support Services Program 5-year, \$1,762,655 grant from the U.S. Department of Education**, covering fiscal years 2025–2026 through 2029–2030.

[Click here](#) to read the August 28, 2025 Board Report.

[Click here](#) to learn about our grant.

**Shoutout to Basic Needs Coordinator Johanna Aleman for sharing our Mesa College's Student-Parent story** at this month's CCCCO Systems Webinar in honor of National Student Parent Month. Mesa College has a beautiful, evolving, and intentional story to tell!

[Click here](#) to learn more about available resources.

**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

San Diego Community College District Chancellor Gregory Smith will host a series of forums in September to address district priorities and answer questions from faculty, classified professionals and administrators. All employees are welcome and encouraged to participate in their campus forum.

**72Fifty is officially open and will be serving dinner this semester.**

To see the rotating menu and hours, [click here](#).

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OFFICE OF *Instruction*



**We would like to congratulate our AANAPISI Program Activities Manager and Grants Director Leland Simpliciano as a recipient of the National Pacific Islander Educator Network (NPIEN) Educator Awards!**

While some of his impactful work began before his time at Mesa—such as farmworking education in Hawai‘i and the PILOT Program—we are especially grateful for the contributions he's made at Mesa College. These include initiatives like the Healing Circle for the Maui Wildfires, implementing NHPI cuisines at 72Fifty, crafting a resource guide inclusion and promotional materials, leading outreach efforts such as PIFA and APAHM/FAST Awareness Month, giving a Classicon presentation, providing UCLA transfer guidance for Pasifika students, and more.

**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*

**The Mesa College Art Gallery is proud to present the exhibit Clothes Story, envisioned and curated by Atlanta based designer Kenneth Green.**

Clothes Story celebrates the lives and contributions of African American women by carefully replicating over thirty garments and fashion accessories that represent what women wore in historical periods ranging from 1890 to 1963. The exhibit will run until October 16.

[Learn more about the exhibit here.](#)



**Mesa College Associated Student Government President and Student Trustee Jeremiah Palomino uses his personal philosophy and heart for people to serve his community.**

Jeremiah's mission is to ensure that students feel safe and comfortable sharing their concerns, as well as any changes they would like to see on campus. He aspires to become an immigration lawyer and is currently interning with a local attorney, bringing valuable legal experience to help expand student support services and promote inclusive policies.

[Read Jeremiah's story here.](#)



**Mesa Disability Support Programs and Services (DSPS) welcomes its newest team member, Christopher Kalck.**

Chris joins the DSPS Counseling team with over 20 years of experience in counseling and student equity. For the past four years, he has served as Counselor Coordinator for STAR TRIO, supporting first-generation, low-income, and disabled students. His previous roles at Mesa include Transfer Center Coordinator, Honors Program Counselor, International Student Program Counselor, and over a decade in general counseling. Chris has also worked in EOP coordination at CSU San Marcos, guest lectured on student wellness at Palomar College, and supervised a dual-diagnosis mental health facility.

On weekends, he enjoys cheering on his sons at soccer and volleyball games—and relaxing with his cat, Brynn, a “foster” pet he was lovingly tricked into keeping during the pandemic.



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)**

# ART FROM ABROAD LONDON

FEATURING ARTISTS: AFTON BUHR, SOPHIA DAVIES, VALERIE DECASTRO, ARI DOERR, MELISSA GUERTIN, TIGRA ROMERO

RECEPTION: SEPT 3, 5:00-7:00 PM @ MESA STUDENT ART GALLERY

LEARN MORE ABOUT STUDYING ABROAD

+Q&A

LOCATED ON 2ND FLOOR OF FINE AR BUILDING

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
Borderless Scholars

## Higher Education Legal Services

Schedule a FREE Appointment Today

<https://findyourally.com/>

For more information contact The dreamer's Resource Center at 619.500.2053 or MesaDreamers@sdccd.edu.

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
Dreamer Resource Center

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

### 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
- (619) 388-5096
- @SDMesaPride
- Room D-102

DEADLINE TO APPLY: SEPTEMBER 16TH



## FROM START TO SUCCESS: TCE MONOPOLY BASH

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE  
Transfer | Career | Evaluations

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, 14-306

## 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>



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



## ¡Latino/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).

## OFFICE OF *Institutional Effectiveness*

### Next Generation Dashboards Are Here!

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness is excited to announce the launch of **new, redesigned Power BI dashboards** that make data easier to explore and apply.

- **Now available:** the updated [Student Characteristics](#) and [Course Outcomes](#) Dashboard, offering clear, timely, and equity-focused insights.
- **Coming soon:** additional dashboards on **Awards** and **Retention**.

To help faculty and staff get the most out of these tools, the IE Office is offering **short, 15-minute training sessions** that can be added to department or school meetings.

To schedule a training session, please contact **Nancy Cortes**, [ncortes@sdccd.edu](mailto:ncortes@sdccd.edu).  
Visit our dashboards today and see how data can support your work!

## 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:

[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](#)

