



December 2010

# MESA NEWS

San Diego Mesa College, 7250 Mesa College Dr., San Diego CA 92111-4998. [www.sdmesa.edu](http://www.sdmesa.edu)

**WELCOME TO MESA E-NEWS**, the monthly e-zine of college-wide events, activities and news. Go to [www.sdmesa.edu/e-news](http://www.sdmesa.edu/e-news) for more information on the following November 2010 items:

## NEWS and EVENTS at SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

### Live United

That's the theme for this year's United Way campaign, underway now through Monday, Dec. 13. Mesa College, in collaboration with the district, has supported United Way in San Diego in their work of advancing the common good through services for quality education, stable income, and good health. By now, you should have received an email describing how you can access the United Way website. If not, please contact our college volunteer coordinators [Joyce Skaryak](#), or [Patricia Davila](#). Also note that you have the option to designate your funds the San Diego Mesa College Foundation. For each dollar you contribute to the Mesa Foundation, 85 cents will go to the foundation and 15 cents to United Way. In addition to coordinating the campaign, Joyce and Patricia are organizing opportunity drawings – watch for emails with more information.

**GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.**  
**LIVE UNITED** 



### Mesa Student Wins Prestigious ABRCMS Award

Mohamed Musse, one of our four Mesa College students who presented research in the November ABRCMS Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, was the recipient of a prestigious award in the Biochemical Sciences, Biochemistry Division. This marks the second time a Mesa College student has won an award in the annual competition, considered “the largest multidisciplinary conference in the United States,” according to ABRCMS’s Web site. The award consists of a gold medallion, a certificate of recognition, and a monetary scholarship. According to Prof. Ed Alexander, director of the Mesa’s Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program, there were over 154 research abstracts competitively submitted to ABRCMS in the Biochemical Sciences, Biochemistry category, and only twelve awards were given.

### Debate Team Scores at Grossmont Tourney

The internationally acclaimed Mesa College Speech and Debate Team took home honors from the 18th annual Griffin Tournament that brought 23 college teams to Grossmont College Nov. 19-20. The 23 teams that competed represented both two- and four-year institutions from California, Arizona and Texas. They met for 12 types of speech and debate events. Team Mesa took a third place sweepstakes award (third highest score of all schools in the tournament) in debate as well as a third place sweepstakes award overall (debate and individual events combined). Five out of the seven teams from Mesa made it to elimination rounds. Four Mesa students placed in the top ten of Debate Speaker Awards. Amanda Wells and Aubrey Blackwell took first place honors for dramatic duo in the individual events category, with Paul Macias placing fourth for informative speaking, and Casey Dairymples placed fifth in programmed oral interpretation. Team coach Prof. Kim Gerhardt beamed, “We so proud of all the great things our team is accomplishing and look forward to even better news from the PSCFA Fall Championships next weekend.”



**SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

CITY COLLEGE • MESA COLLEGE • MIRAMAR COLLEGE • CONTINUING EDUCATION

## Students Rally to Honor Those Who Served

More than 200 people – veterans, active duty, dependents and supporters – wore their colors and attended this year's Veterans Day celebration at Mesa College. Hosted by the Associated Student Government and organized by student senator and veteran Edward Higuera, the event recognized and remembered those who serve and have served in U.S. armed forces.

Following a catered lunch sponsored by Argosy University and the University of Phoenix, attendees heard remarks from speakers Melodie Alvarez, the wife of a purple heart recipient; Joe Schanberger, veteran, Math professor, and advisor the Student Veteran's Union; and Maurice Wilson, MCPO Ret., USN and now President and Executive Director for the National Veteran's Transition Services, Inc. He spoke on remembering those who served and also about recommitting to serve those who have served. The event finished with desert sponsored by the Honors Club at Mesa College.



Several military friendly schools and veteran's services organizations hosted informational tables for the Veterans at Mesa College. The east side of the quad was dedicated to a display of veterans in history and veterans at Mesa. Students were encouraged to plant a "thank you" flag for a veteran they know. One flag said simply, "Thank you. I miss you. I love you."



## TOP CHEFS

The Mesa College Culinary Arts program was pleased to host Certified Executive Chefs of the American Culinary Certification (AFC) who conducted practical tests for industry chefs and culinary students in the Mesa College culinary laboratory on November 18 and 19. According to Culinary Arts program director Michael Fitzgerald, Mesa College became certified as a proctor site in June 2009. On-site lead AFC evaluator was Robert Reid, CEC, CCA, who also teaches gourmet and "gard manger" classes at Mesa College. You can sample his students' works yourself for lunch or dinner through December 8 at the MFusion Café.



## GIS Careers Explored

More than 60 students came to hear a presentation on GIS on Wednesday, November 17th. The "GIS Day" event was held as part of National Geographic Society's Geography Awareness Week -- an international forum for users of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to demonstrate real-world applications that are making a difference in our society. A panel discussion featured GIS adjunct faculty Eileen Goff and Casey Cooke, and career and GIS professionals including two former and one current GIS student. After the discussion, the students networked, mingled and enjoyed refreshments until 8:30 p.m. "We had to drive them away!" reports Dean Jill Baker.



## Coach Kim Lester Records a Milestone

On November 17, women's volleyball coach Kim Lester recorded her 200th victory as a college coach. This personal milestone will be recognized by the American Volleyball Coaches Association's Victory Club. Her most memorable match? The first conference championship she played for Mesa in 2004, Mesa vs. Palomar College. "It was the last match of the season and we needed to beat them to secure sole position of 1st place," Coach Lester remembers. "We had a huge turnout crowd at Palomar, family, members of the Mesa women's soccer team and men's football team. It was so awesome!" A photo of that win can be found in the team's photo gallery. That same year Mesa finished Runner-Up at the State Championships. Coach Lester has served as Head Coach of the Mesa College Women's Volleyball team for an even dozen years.



## Professor Emeritus Rita Sanchez to be inducted into Hall of Fame

In October at the SDSU Women's Studies 40th Anniversary Banquet, it was announced that Rita Sanchez, Mesa College professor emeritus in the English/Chicana Chicano Studies departments, will be inducted into the San Diego Women's Hall of Fame 2010 for her activism and initiation of change. Inductees are chosen based on one of five categories: Empowerment, Activism, Trail Blazing, Cultural Competence, and History. The honor will be bestowed on Professor Sanchez in the area of Activism and will be presented on March 2011 at SDSU. The awards are co-sponsored by the Women's History Museum and Education Center; the Commission on the Status of Women; SDSU Women's Studies Department; and UCSD's Women's Center.

## On-Track with the Olympians

The fall athletic season winds down winningly, and readies for post season competitions. The men's cross country team ran their way into first place in the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference and then made a repeat performance at the SoCal Preview race. The following weekend, the team made a great showing at the SoCal Championships placing 7th among 27 teams on Nov. 6th at Mission Bay Park. After being crowned PCAC Champions, the men's water polo team marched into the PCAC Tournament and took their position at 1st place, earning them a bid to the regional tournament in San Luis Obispo against the very team they beat for the PCAC title, Grossmont College. The women's team also performed well in the PCAC tournament and placed 2nd after a very competitive and dramatic final game against Grossmont. Women's Soccer celebrated a successful season as they took 2nd in the conference and earned a bid to the regional tournament where they will face Ventura College at Ventura on Nov 20th with the conference "Goalkeeper of the Year" Kate Newman on their side. On the other side of the ball, the men's team finished at 2nd place as well and just missed a bid into the regional playoffs. Another 2nd place finisher was the women's volleyball team who has a very good chance at making their playoff run and will find out their fate Nov. 21st at the regional tournament meeting. Volleyball player, Brittany Burgess was named, "Pacific Coast Athletic Conference Female Athlete of the Week" for week ending Nov. 14th because of her outstanding playing against Imperial Valley. The Olympian Basketball teams are both in full swing as the Mesa men took on Santa Ana College and started their season off right with a victory. The women's team hosted Riverside College with a tough loss and are hopeful to add some wins as they travel to Santa Barbara for a tournament.

## Can't Get to the Game? Watch it LIVE, online!

Coach Hootner proudly reports that you can now watch Mesa College women's basketball in your offices or homes when you cannot make the road games! Women's Basketball games will now be broadcast live at [www.justin.tv/mhootner](http://www.justin.tv/mhootner). Tune in to catch these upcoming games:

December 3 at 7 p.m. or Dec. 4 (time TBD) from Mount San Jacinto College

December 5 from Mount San Jacinto College

December 9 at 8 p.m., 10 and 11 (time TBD) from Alan Hancock College.

Pending are the games with City College Dec. 17-29

## Kudos:

- To Coach **Michael Hootner** and the Mesa Women's Basketball program which annually collaborates with the V-Foundation and Kay Yow Foundation to raise money and awareness for breast cancer and cancer research. The team has raised a total of roughly \$1,000 over the last three years, and plan to donate at least \$300 more this year. Collaboratively, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association has donated over \$1.5 million annually to this cause.

## This and That

- Enroll in [FLEX workshops](#) of your choice! For questions, contact the Flex Office at (619) 388-2509 or visit A-109.

## Mesa Moves!

### Promotions:

- **Art Boyd, Jr.**, Counselor/Professor
- **Tom Teegarden**, Math Professor
- **Barbara Vegas**, Student Services Assistant, Admissions

## THE MONTH AHEAD: December

You can always check out what's happening at [www.sdmesa.edu/events](http://www.sdmesa.edu/events).

- **Mesa College Faculty and Staff HOLIDAY Reception:** Thursday, Dec. 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., H117/118/119 and MFusion.
- **ACTIVATE 2010 Student Art Exhibition**, Nov. 30-Dec. 4.
- **Mesa College Choir/Guitar Ensemble Concert.** Can you imagine sitting in the LRC and suddenly hear violins and cellos reverberate around you? Hear the beauty of Bach and Vivaldi on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. in the LRC Lobby.
- **"DECK THE HALLS (in 7/8)"** Mesa College Vocal Ensemble presents a 3-minute concert presentation, Wed., Dec 8, in the LRC Library lobby. The concert begins at 2:14 p.m. sharp!
- **Jingle Bell Jazz with the Mesa College Big Band**, under the direction of James Romeo local professional jazz players Gary Lefebre, tenor sax, and Steve Dillard, trumpet and featuring our superb student vocalist, Farshed Balol. This annual not-to-be-missed holiday performance will be held in Dizzy's Jazz Club at the Culy Warehouse at 7 p.m., Thurs. Dec. 9, at 338 7th Ave, between J & K Streets. (\$3 parking after 6 p.m. is available 1/2 block away at the 6th & K Parkade). \$10 cover.

## HOLIDAY DRIVES:

- The **Child Development Center** is conducting its annual Lending Library Book Drive, Nov. 5-Dec. 10. Drop off preschool age books, puppets and puzzles at the CDC or call 619-388-2812.
- The **SDCCD Classified Senates** are joining together to sponsor **"AniMeals."** The holiday drive will run through Dec. 14. Donations of dry or canned pet food will be distributed to the pets of the homebound elderly or disabled members of our community through the Helen Woodward Animal Center. Watch for an email from Robin Watkins for Mesa College donation locations; monetary donations are welcome also.
- **The SDCCD police officers** are partnering once again with the San Diego Chargers to collect gifts for the children of the A.B. and Jessie Polinsky Center. Polinsky Center residents range from infants to teenagers. Please keep this in mind when making your donations. Personal care items, CDs and gift certificates are especially appreciated. If you'd like to donate, please place your items in collection bins at the Mesa College Police Substation, Rm Q-100, and the Mesa College Mailroom, K-203. All items will be picked up by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 13, 2010.

- **Language Professor Jeff Berry** is conducting an annual holiday drive to gather gifts and donations to support community holiday parties for impoverished children in three villages in Baja California: 13 de Mayo, Colonet and (new this year) the migrant farm of Brisas. Financial donations are especially appreciated for food and beverages. Deadline is December 10th; please contact Jeff directly.

#### **STAY INFORMED**

- **Shared governance** committee agendas, minutes and reports can be found at <http://www.sdmesa.edu/governance/committees>.
- **Prop S&N Updates** are posted to VP Ron Perez's monthly reports at <http://sdmesa.edu/parking/>.

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