



February 2, 2015

We are climbing towards our cruising altitude on the journey to and through the spring semester. Students are finding their way, alarms are sounding less often, and the buzz on campus is palpable. We've already had a booming start with news of the baccalaureate pilot, new parking spaces, the MLK, Jr Parade and more. Here are some of the happenings on campus now and in the month of February.



The Annual SD Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade marched down Harbor Blvd. again this year with a robust crew from Mesa College. For those who have not participated, we get such great reactions with people shouting out their support for Mesa along the way. Please join us next year if you can, it's a great experience and a fun way to spend a beautiful day with colleagues and friends celebrating the legacy of Dr. King.

Mesa College becomes one of 15 California Community Colleges to offer Bachelor's Degrees

We are pleased to have been selected by the Board of Governors and Chancellor's Office to participate in the Bachelor's Degree Pilot Program (BDP). The college has already begun work under the leadership of Connie Renda, Program Director and Ass't Professor of Health Information Technology. The college has received significant media attention for this important milestone, and you can find interviews on our [YouTube](#) and answers to frequently asked questions [here](#) on our website. We will keep the campus informed of new developments.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
It's Official! Mesa College to offer 4-year degree

San Diego Mesa College on Jan. 20, 2015 received approval from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office to offer a bachelor's degree program in the rapidly growing field of Health Information Management. Here are answers to several questions prospective students may have about the program.

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

New parking available, English village opens

“What a difference a day makes” (think the beautiful song styling’s of Dinah Washington here). Over 300 parking spots opened up as we bid a farewell to Modular Village over the semester break. It was tight, but our facilities crew and construction managers, under the leadership of VPA Agatha pulled it off. We also opened up English Village, taking four of the modular units, adding them to the T buildings, and with some refurbishment, reopened as EV buildings 1-7. This has added needed classrooms for English.



Hiring Updates

It will be a busy semester again for hiring. We have already hired three new faculty and we are on track to hire in the following faculty positions.

History (2) 1 new, 1 holdover from F14
Architecture
Astronomy
Chemistry
GIS

Hospitality
Child Development Center Director
Dental Assisting
Black Studies
Counseling (4) General, Veterans, First Year Services & DSPS

We have also hired several new classified staff and will be adding several additional classified positions, some replacements, and some that are newly funded from the SSSP, Student Equity and Title V grant. Additionally, we will begin the hiring process for three administrative positions, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Dean of Learning Resources and Academic Support, and Director of Campus Technology.

Spring Convocation

We gathered on January 22 to kick off the spring semester together. We heard updates on facilities, enrollment, new faculty, new assignments, our new website and much more. Hearty thanks go to the folks in the President's Office, Communications Office and IT staff for helping us carry out this event, and to all of our presenters. To see the PowerPoint presentation click [here](#).



Comprehensive Program Review

I am hopeful that you all submitted your program reviews by the deadline last Friday night. It was a herculean effort to get the over 90 program review areas trained and then supported along the way. We could not have done it without Ms. Ginger Davis, who held our hands, dried our tears and helped us get it done. Thanks go to the entire Institutional Effectiveness gang, led by Madeleine Hinkes with ample support from Bri Hayes. Congratulations to you all for completing this important step in creating meaningful assessments for our programs, and an integrated resource plan leading to successful outcomes for our students.

After administrative review and final approval, the college committees charged with resource allocations will begin their work. These are Faculty Hiring Prioritization Committee (FHP), Classified Hiring Prioritization Committee (CHP) and the Budget and Allocation of Resource Committee (BARC).

San Diego Mesa College works towards becoming a Center of Excellence in Equity with CUE

Last Friday over 25 faculty, staff and administrators gathered to begin work as "Change Agents" with USC's Center for Urban Education (CUE). The project, which is part of our overarching student success and equity plan, engages Mesa practitioners in the work of examining equity through the lens of students. We look forward to reporting our findings over the next 18 months.



Welcome Week

Thank you to Student Affairs for organizing a successful welcome week, and thanks to all of you who volunteered to work the booths last week. Students appreciated the bottle of water, pens and maps, but primarily we know that they enjoyed engaging with all of us.

Much to do, let's get to it

The First meeting of the President's Cabinet is tomorrow, February 3 from 2:15-3:30. All are welcome.

Enjoy your students and your work together as we cruise through the spring semester. If you have items you'd like for me to highlight in the next issue, send them to me with a copy to Beth by the last Monday in February.

