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San Diego Mesa College Named One of the Nation's Fastest-Growing Colleges

San Diego Mesa College has been recognized by *Community College Week* as one of the nation's Top 50 Fastest Growing Colleges. Of 1,050 two-year institutions, the magazine's overall ranking puts Mesa College seventh in the nation for colleges enrolling at least 10,000 students. The demand for classes at Mesa, Miramar and City colleges are at an all-time high – even as the entire California Community College system faces severe and continuing budget cuts. San Diego Miramar College ranked 41 in the CCW report, with an eight percent increase in the same category. With a 13 percent increase in enrollment. Mesa College ranked the highest growth in numbers in the state of California, with Mesa and Miramar being two of only four California community colleges to place in the top 50 with enrollments of 10,000 or more.

“This distinction underscores the dedication of our faculty and staff to meet the education and workforce training needs of the San Diego region,” noted Dr. Pamela T. Luster, president. “It comes at a critical time, and in spite of the fact that in the last several years, we have had to turn away students, reduce classes and increase fees.”

Olympian Spirit at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade



Led by **President Pam Luster**, dozens of Olympians and their families and friends turned out for the 31st Annual San Diego Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade, held Saturday, January 14 on a new parade route along Harbor Drive.



Prop S and N Updates

Continuing Education Building – Framing on the north and east sides of the project is going up as is exterior sheathing work at the south end. The project is 45 percent complete, and has an estimated completion date of October 12, 2012.*

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Student Services Center – (top left) Installation of interior systems and finishes continues as well as the start of drywall and glass guardrails in the atrium. Exterior building finishes are also underway. Site improvements currently in progress include the installation of the grand staircase railing and preparations for installation of walking paths and other landscape features. The project is 60 percent complete and has an estimated completion date of July 27, 2012.*

Math+Science Complex – (top right) Steel is flying! Take a look from the 4th floor of the LRC to see the structural steel being raised in what will be the lab area. That should be completed the first week in February, following with steel erection for the classroom area. The project is 25 percent complete and has an estimated completion date of August 14, 2013.*

Merrill Douglas Stadium Restrooms – (bottom left) This project will include two restroom buildings at the track and field complex, one east of the track and one to the west. Site demolition has taken place and underground utilities should be going in. The project is 14 percent complete and has an estimated completion date of July 27, 2012.*

Quad Dreams – (bottom right) Thanks to everyone who attended and filled out the worksheet forms for the Quad Planning last semester. All of the concepts and reports (including the latest pdf showing how events could be held in the central quad) can be found here: www.sdmesa.edu/parking.

**NOTE: All completion dates are estimates and subject to change.*

Lady Olympians: First in the PCAC

December and January were two very busy months for the Olympian basketball teams as they improved their records and team statistics.

The women's team finished strong in two big tournaments. The first tournament was Mesa's own "James Mulvehal Coaches vs Cancer Holiday Inn Mission Valley Stadium Tip-Off Tournament." The team battled and topped powerhouse Cerritos College, and took the tournament title with a final score of 57-41. Following a long stretch playing on the road, the Olympians returned to win the title "Consolation Bracket Champions" at the City College tournament. In the first game of Pacific Coast Athletic Conference, the Lady Olympians beat City College. They then faced last season's co-champion, the unbeaten Grossmont Griffins, rallying from a 15 point deficit to take the 51-50 victory. The team went on to beat Southwestern, MiraCosta, Imperial Valley, and Palomar Colleges with a conference record 7-0. Next they defeated City College in their 11th straight win, and closed with a 15-7 overall record, placing the Olympians in first in the PCAC. To top it off, two of Mesa's women

have been named "PCAC Conference Athlete of the Week." **Katie Ratfield** earned the honor for the week ending January 8, and **Denise White** the following week.

In their season opener, the men's basketball team traveled to San Luis Obispo for the annual Cuesta Tournament where they finished the weekend with a 1-2 record. After a long road trip the men's team kicked off their home opener right way with a huge victory of 66-65 over the visiting Reedley College. At Glendale College, the team conquered the Vaqueros in a 72-67 victory.

Classified Leadership Graduates



A big shout to the San Diego Mesa College 2011 graduating class of the SDCCD Classified Leadership Development Academy. They are **Eduardo Arteaga**, Custodian; **Aracely Bautista**, Accounting Technician; **Susan Gregory**, Senior Secretary; **Cris Palmiter**, Administrative Technician; **Ruth San Filippo**, Senior Secretary. The CLDA offers training for classified staff currently working in a lead position or with the interest to move into a lead position or project lead capacity in the future. Curriculum consists of a combination of introductory leadership skills training, computer skills assessment and guided self-study on district specific functions and processes. Congratulations, graduates!
(Pictured: **Cris Palmiter**, **Aracely Bautista** and supporters.)

Kudos to:

- Art Professor **Jim Machacek**, whose work will be featured in "Twenty-one Artists Create Books," an exhibition featuring all genres of artists' books—unique, editioned or altered, sewn or accordion, large or small—will open at the University Art Gallery at California State University, Dominguez Hills on February 1, 2012, continuing through April 3, 2012. Prof. Machacek co-founded the Mesa Arts Press to promote the art of fine printing in the production of artists' books, prints, and ephemera.



- Prof. **John J. Crocitti**, who, after four years of "often-frustrating work," announces the release of *Brazil Today: An Encyclopedia of Life in the Republic*, which he co-wrote with **Monique Vallance**. The two-volume set is an introductory work intended for those in search of basic information about Brazilian institutions, businesses, social issues, and culture. At the same time, it is a work that reflects the nation's geographic, demographic, economic, and cultural diversity.

Out and About

- Anthropology Prof. and Academic Senate President **Madeleine Hinkes**, Ph.D., will speak on natural mummification in Southern California in conjunction with the Modern Day Mummy Exhibit at the Museum of Man. 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Saturday, March 3, Museum of Man, Balboa Park.
- Drama Prof. **George Ye** is working as fight director on "The Recommendation" at the Old Globe Theatre, and doing sound design for "How I Got That Story" at Mol'olelo Performing Arts Company.

In the News

Retired Math Professor **Fred Borges**, who just turned 90, is coaching young chess players at the Joan Kroc Center. Borges is an "Expert" in chess and ranked ninth in the U.S. in table tennis. The *La Mesa Courier News* reports that "Fred quipped that while he may have been bested occasionally at one or the other of his chosen games, no one could beat him at both..." (Dec. 2, 2011 issue)

This and That

- **Lieutenant Jack Doherty** announces that the Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) program is now in operation. The patrol has a freshly painted vehicle (a high mileage former police car) for patrol operations. Based out of Mesa College, RSVP officers will serve the Mesa College community and Continuing Education Campuses.
- Electronic Resources Librarian **Jean Smith** announces that the Mesa College Library offers access to several new, online resources on book reviews, consumer health, social issues and "points of view." Contact Jean at x2550.

- Mesa College Online Instructor Training and Certification (required for All Faculty who teach or are planning to teach online) Are being offered by the District. To get started, email Andrea Henne ahenne@sdccd.edu and Register for Flex#64444 under District Flex (<https://faculty.sdccd.edu/facflex/facflexview.cfm>).

Mesa Moves!

New Hires

- **Brianna “Bri” Hays**, Campus Based Researcher.

Transfers

- **Ginger Davis** is now Senior Secretary for Dean Bill Craft, LRC.

Retirements

- **Beate Bermann-Enn**, Professor of History
- **Lynnda Echevarria**, Senior Student Services Assistant, Admissions
- **Elinor Williams**, Instructional Laboratory Technician, Biology

Resignations:

- Dean of Matriculation and Student Development Dr. **Joi Lin Blake** was named Vice President of Student Services at Skyline College in Northern California.
- Prof. **Michael Reese** who was named Dean of Math, Natural Sciences, Exercise Science and Wellness for Grossmont College.

Passings

Haley Hodnett, Professor Emeritus of Architecture, passed away on January 14 following a brief illness. Professor Hodnett’s career at Mesa College spanned 17 years, from 1986 to 2003. He played a key role in shaping the college’s architecture program and received a number of prestigious professional awards as well. In 1997, he played a key role in establishing the articulation/transfer partnership with Woodbury College, which, at the time, was one of only two similar programs in the nation. Throughout his career, Professor Hodnett set the highest standards for students and for himself. He had a gentle sense of humor which was effective in establishing rapport with students and putting them at ease.

Bette González passed away on January 9, 2012. She was the wife of César A. González, Professor Emeritus and founding chair of the Chicano Studies department.

Myra Gonzales, a counselor in the EOPS Program, passed away last Sunday, January 22, 2012, following several medical challenges which she battled with great courage. Myra came to Mesa College as an adjunct instructor in 1998 and obtained a contract position in 2000. She served as the lead for the Foster Youth Program for several years and in 2009, she received an award from the LEAP Board of San Diego County acknowledging her as a “Champion” of foster youth and their causes. She will be missed by many, but especially by her beloved students. Memorial information will be forthcoming. Please contact Lisa Naungayan at x2484 if you would like to sign a journal that will be presented to Myra’s grandchildren.

STAY INFORMED

- If you missed the President’s Spring Forum, you’ll find President Pamela Luster’s PowerPoint here: www.sdmesa.edu/president/pdf/spring-forum2012.pdf
- 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/>.
- Flex Credit Opportunities including new Veterans Summit Workshops to better understand the needs of student veterans and how to support their successful transition to higher education and civilian careers are now available. See <https://faculty.sdccd.edu/facflex>.

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