



Student Services Monthly Updates are designed to tell our story of providing pathways that inspire, engage and empower our diverse students to learn and succeed. These updates also track our support of Mesa's journey of becoming the leading college of equity and excellence. We encourage you to review our highlights and dig deeper into departmental updates to learn about new employees, innovations, data, events/activities, student success stories, special recognitions and new Policies & Procedures impacting the way we serve students. Thanks to our incredible Student Services Team for their tireless efforts in creating the conditions that matter for our students to succeed.

- Ashanti Hands, Vice President, Student Services

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Monthly Update Highlights

Employee Updates

- Career & Transfer Center hired Shawn Fawcett is a new counselor in the Career & Transfer Center. Shawn will provide counseling services to students on Mondays and Wednesdays.
- Congratulations to Elizabeth Jones, a new SSA in the Admissions Office.
- Counselors Camille Harris and Rechelle Mojica will be teaching Personal Growth 120 - College Success and Lifelong Learning this summer 2017.

Events & Activities

- Judy Sundayo coordinated the Annual Mesa College Cultural Unity Week/Festival of Colors celebration, April 10-14th.
- The International Student staff attended the PIER (Professional International Education Roundtable) regional meeting on April 21st held at USD.
- April 11th: Cultural Immersion... Welcome to Somalia, was a huge success. 172 students were engaged in the culture of Somalia through 1:1 interactions with Culture Educators from Somali Family Services. The educators only spoke Somali to the students. Students remarked that they learned about the Somali Culture. They had a greater understanding of what it feels like to be an immigrant who doesn't know the language.
- Mesa Academy continues to host the Real Talk series as part of the African- American Diaspora Initiative.
- Veterans is continuing to do counseling hours at the Veterans Resource Center.

- DSPS completed its third-party OCR Compliance Review by hosting a site visit to assess ADA and 504 compliance, Title VI compliance, and Title IX compliance for our Career and Technical Education programs. As part of the review, the team evaluated physical space accessibility and our policies and procedures to ensure compliance with federal non-discrimination regulations. While the review team did identify a few areas for improvement, the preliminary results were very positive. We look forward to receiving our final report in the coming weeks.
- STAR TRIO Meet & Greet was held on 4/13. We had 58 student log-ins for a total time of 46:19.
- The Assessment & Testing department opened for services during Cash In on Community College on Saturday, April 15. The special Saturday hours were advertised online and in the office for a month prior to the event and nineteen students took advantage of the opportunity to test on a Saturday. Many more came in to gather resources and information on how to complete the placement exams at a later time.
- So Say We All took place on April 24, 2017 was a collaboration with Ramiro Hernandez, Jennifer Derilo from the English Department, Dylan Hardie and the So Say We All writers. They were able to bring the veteran perspective in their own words of the struggles adjusting to the civilian world along with sharing their experiences while in the service. Also continuing to work on the Veterans Graduation Ceremony which will take place next month (May).
- The Classroom Tutoring Program (HSI) presented a flex workshop for faculty interested in participating in the program. The goal is to dialogue with potential CT faculty about why the program benefits students and the role that faculty play in this collaboration. The April Campus Conexiones highlighted our own Agustin Rivera Jr. and his path from Mesa to USC and back to Mesa. His openness and encouragement to students makes a difference!

Innovations & Data

- As of 04/22/17, Financial Aid has disbursed \$21,978,602 in direct funds to students for the 16-17 academic year.
- A Press Event with Congressman Peters was held on 4/24 to provide purple heart veterans full post 9/11 GI Benefits. Currently, full benefits are only available to veterans who complete at least 36 months of active duty service or are medically retired.
- For the month of April, General Counseling served 3,631 students: Drop-ins 1,380 Appointments 471 Workshops 63 Phone Calls 1,717
- The Puente website now includes a link to the Puente Mentor Form for those interested in becoming Puente Mentors.
- In April, The Stand has provided a total of 471 food services to 191 individual students. It has provided 22 students with professional clothing items and has outreached to who have used or exceeded their point allowance with information on campus resources, the San Diego Food Bank, and various other community housing and food resources.
- Outreach piloted the MMAP Online Placement Assistant with Madison and Kearny High schools. We walked 108 students through the online assistant at Madison and 22 students at Kearny. Utilizing the Online Placement Assistant, students were able to enter in transcript data (GPA, last English/math class taken, and last grade received) to generate a placement recommendation. Of the 108 Madison students who participated in the workshops with us, the Online Placement Assistant was able to assign placement levels and recommend English and math classes for 60 students (55.5%). The remaining 48 students who needed to still take math and/or English tests were scheduled for group testing in April. Kearny MMAP

students who need to take math and/or English tests will be scheduled in May. Only four students (18%) were assigned placement levels for both math and English through the Online Placement Assistant.

- The Transfer Center and General counseling are conducting counselor cross-training.
- In conjunction with the Communications Office and Daniel Stromwall, Evaluations is developing an electronic way to check-in students at Commencement. We have 449 student registered to attend Commencement as of May 3, 2017.

Student Success Stories

- Student Success Story: Ahmad Barbakh, Student was referred by EOPS. Student is in his last semester here at SDCCD (he currently attends all 3 campuses) He had learned about EOPS late, just signing up this semester. He is an math /pre-engineering major in his last semester with a 3.5 GPA. He is currently not working and it was becoming increasingly difficult for him to cover transportation costs. SSE helped him out with 2 monthly passes for April and May.
- 31 STAR-TRIO program participants will earn their 2-year degree and transfer to a 4-yr university. Andy Cruz and Jadifaye Dineros were awarded the STAR TRIO scholarship.
- Bryce Washington and Garett Eldred, ambassadors and Mesa student athletes (football) received certificates from the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference for being scholar athletes.
- EOPS student Emily Longoria-Hernandez is Mesa College's Valedictorian. 34 EOPS students received Mesa Scholarships totaling over \$27,000 in scholarship money.
- Peer Navigators continue to elevate the bar as many of them have received acceptance letters from four-year colleges! As a result, a Peer Navigator "Wall of Fame" is being developed where admission letters (along with a baby picture) will be displayed to encourage / motivate their students.

Admissions

Events & Activities

The International Student staff attended the PIER (Professional International Education Roundtable) regional meeting on April 21st held at USD. Those who attended were Ivonne Alvarez, Deyanira Preciado-Bayardo and Abi Lopez Rosario.

Ivonne Alvarez attended the CACCRAO (California Community College Records and Admissions Officers) annual meeting April 24 - 26 that was held in San Diego this year.

Assessment

Events & Activities

The Assessment & Testing department opened for services during Cash In on Community College on Saturday, April 15. The special Saturday hours were advertised online and in the office for a month prior to the event and nineteen students took advantage of the opportunity to test on a Saturday. Many more came in to gather resources and information on how to complete the placement exams at a later time.

Innovations & Data

We provided scheduled high school testing to four high schools (Clairemont, High Tech High, Madison, and Mission Bay) as part of Outreach's pre-/assessment high school efforts. We tested 142 students through this effort: Clairemont - 43 students, High Tech High - 18 students, Madison - 51 students, High Tech High - 18 students. We piloted the MMAP Online Placement Assistant with both Madison and Kearny High schools. We had 108 students participate in the pilot at Madison and 22 students participate at Kearny. Of the 108 Madison students, 101 completed the pilot with us (Online Placement Assistant AND testing as recommended by the Online Placement Assistant). Kearny is anticipated to schedule their MMAP students for assessment in May.

Associated Student Government

No Update

Career

Employee Update

We have a new Career & Transfer Counselor, Shawn Fawcett. Shawn will be with us on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Events & Activities

We successfully completed our 2017 Career Week. We able to provide 57 pieces of clothing to 19 students. We provide 14 resume reviews at our Resume Tent and served 16 students through our Career Week workshops. We finished the Career Week with our Spring Job Fair with 60 employers in attendance. We hosted a Resume Workshop and Job Search Workshop in April as well.

Innovations & Data

The Career Center was able to serve 31 students on a walk-in basis in the center and had 44 students through appointments in the month of April.

Counseling

Events & Activities

Kirsten Pogue-Cely and Vang Thao held 3 orientation sessions for Fast Track students at Kearny High School orienting 95 new Fast Track juniors. Anne Hedekin took her Personal Growth class to the Umoja community Mesa Academy Real Talk on 4/27 and her students reported it was a great experience. The Puente students attended the play "Into the Beautiful North" at the Lyceum theater and sold extra tickets as a fun raiser for the Puente Club. Puente students also attended the festivities at the annual Chicano Park Day celebration on April 22nd. In addition, the Puente website now includes a link to the Puente Mentor Form for those interested in becoming Puente Mentors. Judy Sundayo coordinated the Annual Mesa College Cultural Unity Week/Festival of Colors celebration, April 10-14th. There were many films, workshops, panel discussions, and performances throughout the week aimed at increasing our understanding and appreciation of the different cultures represented on our campus. Counseling awarded the San Diego Mesa Counseling Scholarship at the Scholarship Banquet, Friday April 28th. Counselor, Anne Hedekin awarded the "Pay It Forward" Donna Kieselbach Memorial Scholarship to a Personal Growth student the same evening.

Innovations & Data

For the month of April, General Counseling served 3,631 students. Drop-ins 1,380 Appointments 471 Workshops 63 Phone Calls 1,717

DSPS

Events & Activities

- April was a busy month in DSPS. We completed our third-party OCR Compliance Review by hosting a site visit to assess ADA and 504 compliance, Title VI compliance, and Title IX compliance for our Career and Technical Education programs. As part of the review, the team evaluated physical space accessibility and our policies and procedures to ensure compliance with federal non-discrimination regulations. While the review team did identify a few areas for improvement, the preliminary results were very positive. We look forward to receiving our final report in the coming weeks.
- Additionally, we continued to offer Hot Spot counseling in the High Tech Center, supported many mini-resource fairs for prospective students from our feeder high schools, and attended the Financial Services Cash-In on Community College event. To close out the month, Laura Gorham and Joseph Pritchett adapted their previously offered workshop on Educational Planning for DSPS students to a webinar that was offered on Tuesday, April 25th. We had 16 students RSVP to the event and five ended up attending. It was a good opportunity to build comfort and familiarity with the webinar platform and to work through any potential challenges with technology. The students were actively engaged throughout the presentation and the forum was a great way for their questions to be addressed.

Innovations & Data

In the month of April, there were 182 counseling appointments attended and 461 drop-ins. There were 294 exams proctored in our testing center and 120 students logged 780 hours in the High Tech Center. Additionally, the HTC processed two alternate media requests, there were 71 tutoring sessions attended in the HTC and eight students leveraged our Hot Spot Counseling supports.

EOPS/CARE

Events & Activities

- EOPS counselors, staff and 6 EOPS students participated in the SDSU EOPS/EOP Summit - it was a great opportunity to introduce our transfer students to their new campus and community.
- EOPS Director participated in the Region 10 CARE Best Practices Conference.
- EOPS counselors attended Strong Interest Inventory Training and Equity Minded Conference at Loyola Marymount.
- In collaboration with Ava, Lisa and Monica, Sade spearheaded the submission of a grant for foster-youth through the Angell Foundation.
- Lisa and Kenia presented at various outreach events including: Parent Night, Cash-in on Community College and presentations to high school groups.

Innovations & Data

EOPS team is working with Joel Arias to launch an online EOPS application Fall 2017.

Student Success Stories

EOPS student Emily Longoria-Hernandez is Mesa College's Valedictorian. 34 EOPS students received Mesa Scholarships totaling over \$27,000 in scholarship money.

Special Recognition

Special thanks to our student staff Kenia (currently in NANCE position), Melissa, Kevin and Adrian for providing outstanding front desk support to our students. We also would like to congratulate Kenia for completing her bachelor's degree in psychology at SDSU fall 2016 and Adrian for his accepted into UCSB.

Evaluations

Employee Updates

The Evaluations Office is gearing up for Commencement. We are working with the Commencement Committee on developing way to encourage student participation.

Innovations & Data

In conjunction with the Communications Office and Daniel Stromwall we are developing an electronic way to check-in students at Commencement. We have 449 student registered to attend Commencement as of May 3, 2017.

Financial Aid

Employee Updates

Kesia Williams, SSA/Foster Youth Liaison for the Financial Aid Office completed her 6 months of employment. We re-opened the SAT position and looking to interview in May.

Events & Activities

- In coordination with Outreach and with the assistance of other student services department staff, we successfully hosted the Cash In Community College - College Pathways to high school students and the incoming FYE population.
- Pilar attended the 4/24/17 CCCC Financial Wellness training (previously known as the Financial Literacy Program).
- Pilar, Cathy and Alma meet to begin mapping the financial aid "Student's Journey".

Innovation & Data

As of 04/22/17, we have disbursed \$21,978,602 in direct funds to students for the 16-17 academic year.

Student Success Stories

We have had several students return to convey their gratitude for their loan counseling as they are transferring to SDSU and USD with minimal debt.

Special Recognition

To all student services staff that directly or indirectly made the Cash In Community College a total success.

HSI/Title V

Events & Activities

The Classroom Tutoring Program presented a flex workshop for faculty interested in participating in the program. The goal is to dialogue with potential CT faculty about why the program benefits students and the role that faculty play in this collaboration. The April Campus Conexiones highlighted our own Agustin Rivera Jr. and his path from Mesa to USC and back to Mesa. His openness and encouragement to students makes a difference!

Student Success Stories

A number of Classroom Tutors, Peer Navigators and Office Support earned scholarships! Hy Troung, Victoria Green, Rena Alspaw, Olha Mosezhna, Daniela Perez Padilla, Natchel Bello Luna, and Fabiola Beas!

Special Recognition

I would like to recognize the HSI Team that attended at the Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators for their dedication to improving outcomes for our Hispanic and low-income students. Juan U. Bernal, Mariam Kushkaki, Agustin Rivera and Fabiola Beas (who also presented on the Peer Navigator / CRUISE program) and Leticia Lopez (who presented on Professional Learning). It was great to have such a solid team representing Mesa College!

Outreach & Community Relations

Events & Activities

Our Mesa Information Nights concluded with an English and Spanish session on April 6 and the 20th. Parents and students were very pleased with the sessions, these are some of their words, "Appreciated the information presented because it helped clarify what resources are available at Mesa and it was easier to get info this way rather than over the internet," and " The different departments coming together to receive broader scope of what's offered."

Outreach participated in the annual "Clairemont Day at the Bay," this event brings together neighborhood schools and higher education institutions for an informational fair and family fun day. We provided over 200 attendees with informational materials and giveaways and hosted a crafts table where children colored in their very own Mesa Olympians.

Outreach also participated in the 32nd Annual Linda Vista Fair, this fair is intended to promote cultural awareness and understanding within the City of San Diego. The theme in 2017 was focused on Healthy Communities, it emphasized the health resources available to Linda Vista and San Diego. The Outreach team proudly represented Mesa College, its programs and services, we saw over 1,000 attendees and spoke to some Mesa alumni who came by to say hi and reminisce on their Mesa experience.

Innovations & Data

Outreach piloted the MMAP Online Placement Assistant with Madison and Kearny High schools. We walked 108 students through the online assistant at Madison and 22 students at Kearny. Utilizing the Online Placement Assistant, students were able to enter in transcript data (GPA, last English/math class taken, and last grade received) to generate a placement recommendation. Of the 108 Madison students who participated in the workshops with us, the Online Placement Assistant was able to assign placement levels and recommend English and math classes for 60 students (55.5%). The remaining 48 students who needed to still take math and/or English tests were scheduled for group testing in April. Kearny MMAP students who need to take math and/or English tests will be scheduled in May. Only four students (18%) were assigned placement levels for both math and English through the Online Placement Assistant.

After last year's pre-/assessment cycle, we held a debrief with Assessment & Testing to see if there could be ways to improve the experience for students throughout the process. One of the ideas that emerged was a mini resource fair that could be held on the days that we brought in high school groups to test and that would allow us to engage with students in a more meaningful way once they left Assessment. During this year's pre-/assessment high school cycle, we were able to incorporate that idea and hosted mini-resource fairs on the second floor of the Student Services Center. Students from Clairemont, High Tech High, Madison, and Mission Bay High Schools were able to engage with representatives from Counseling, DSPS, EOPS, Student Health Services, CRUISE, SEEDS, ASG, and the Office of Communications after completing their placement tests. We incorporated a "stamp" system to encourage students to visit all the tables and students who visited all tables could then come to Outreach and receive a "prize." Of the students who participated and completed the evaluation on the back of their stamp card, 80% said that they learned about resources to help them succeed in college and 78.7% said that, as a result of the information they gained, they knew what their next steps in the admissions process so that they were ready to register for classes in the Fall.

Special Recognition

Bryce Washington and Garrett Eldred, ambassadors and Mesa student athletes (football) received certificates from the Pacific Coast Athletic Conference for being scholar athletes.

Special thanks to the following individuals who helped to make our Mesa Info Nights this Spring a success: Victoria Miller, Larry Maxey, Gilda Maldonado, Pilar Ezeta, Randall Gambill, Claudia Estrada, Leroy Johnson, Cynthia Cordova, Monica Romero, Agustin Rivera, Wyatt Beale, Natchel Bello Luna, Marlena Gonzalez, Steven Salter, Isaac Arguelles, Rebekah Corrales, Elizabeth Wilke, Joseph Pritchett II, Monica Demcho, Julianne Chang, Ava Gill, and our Outreach student panelists – Joshua Quiroz, Cassie Casares, Tommy Bonds, and Garrett Eldred.

Peer Navigators/Summer CRUISE

Employee Updates

Although one Peer Navigator has stepped down from the program, we end the year 13 Peer Navigator's strong.

Events & Activities

- 4/18 - Peer Navigator Monthly Workshop: Summer Time Involvement Olha M. and Anthony M. delivered a presentation to CRUISE participants on the importance of summer classes, interning, and seeking out resources over the summer.
- 4/25: Student Art Wall Thanks to ASG funding, center is proud to announce a wall dedicated to student art. Idea was presented from a current CRUISEr who presented the "leave a piece, take a piece" concept. Student art is beginning to accumulate :-)
- 4/26 -Campus Conexiones: Monthly Speaker Series Event aims to motivate and reassure students their academic journey is not only feasible but requires sacrifice and determination. Best turnout of the series thanks to two Puente classes attending and the humbling support of colleagues.
- 4/26 - Game Day Game Day was made possible thanks to ASG funding. Inaugural event was held in March and student response was positive. Held event in the center complete with snacks and music. Board games provided students a way to "de-stress" and connect with PNs and other students
- 4/27: Peer Navigator Monthly Workshop: Summer Time Involvement To provide CRUISErs more availability to attend workshop, second session was held to deliver content. Guest speaker from counseling, Amber A., helped answer student questions.

Innovations & Data

Working with Daniel on creating new content on the CRUISE webpage reflecting student experiences with the program. Work is in progress but hope to be complete by the end of May.

Student Success Stories

Peer Navigators continue to elevate the bar as many of them have received acceptance letters from four-year colleges! As a result, a Peer Navigator "Wall of Fame" is being developed where admission letters (along with a baby picture) will be displayed to encourage / motivate their students.

Policies & Procedures

Peer Navigator training will take place in the month of June and PN manual is being revised to reflect the needs of the program.

Special Recognition

Johanna. A current CRUISE participant and International Student had a situation where the resources from The Stand not only helped, but encouraged the student to not give up. Johanna was instrumental connecting our student to temporary resources while overcoming such a hardship.

STAR TRIO

Employee Updates

- Thuan and 3 student staff participated in the Cash Into Community Event on 4/15.

Events & Activities

- STAR TRIO Meet & Greet was held on 4/13. We had 58 student log-ins for a total time of 46:19.

Student Success Stories

- 31 program participants will earn their 2-year degree and transfer to a 4-yr university. Andy Cruz and Jadifaye Dineros were awarded the STAR TRIO scholarship.

Student Affairs

Events & Activities

NCRC Art of Inclusive Communications

In order to better accommodate student schedules after a period of information gathering, we rescheduled our Art of Inclusive Communication trainings to later on in the Spring Semester (May 11). We have also integrated one of the student sessions with the Summer Cruise Peer Navigators orientation (June 9), since they have a fresh group of students coming in for the first time. These training sessions have proven to be quite well-regarded among those students, staff and faculty who have been able to attend.

Inter-Club Council and Club Activities

The Inter-Club Council held its regular meetings, during which the election of new officers for the upcoming academic year—Fall 2017 to Spring 2018—was announced. The Student Veteran's organization has been especially active through the month of April, hosting weekly dance events ("Salsa with Soldiers") and frequent bonfire get-togethers on the weekends; they notably hosted a "pig roast" barbecue at Mission Beach that was very well-attended. In addition, the Math Club has been planning and promoting their second Integral Bee, a competitive event pitting Mesa College students against math problems that I can barely comprehend with numerous prizes at stake.

Scholarship Notifications and Ceremony

- 191 student recipient awards
- 49 recipients receiving multiple awards
- 240 total scholarship awards! Record high of Student Awards this year with our largest number of guests joining the Awards Ceremony with over 430 total guests at the event!

The Office of Student Affairs Team (Kathy, Courtney, Claudia, Shanelle and Vicki) worked very closely with the Mesa College Foundation to ensure that every step of the scholarship application, review and awards process was as smooth and accurate as possible. In particular, an especially large number of individual notifications were required this year; nonetheless there were only a spare handful of delays. The Scholarship Ceremony itself (Friday, April 28) involved an entirely new arrangement and program, deleting the staging of student recipients and scholarship representatives so familiar from previous years. One new addition were a series of short videos, one of which featured "interviews" with student recipients and their appreciation to Mesa College for the opportunity to receive scholarship awards. Courtney worked with Mike Gast to gather much of the footage used in this video, and conducted all of the student interviews in two separate groups. Altogether more than \$160,000 was awarded to more than 100 students, many of whom won two or more scholarship opportunities.

Preparations for Spring 2017 General Assembly

Members of the Associated Student Government, student clubs and other student organizations applied to attend the Spring 2017 General Assembly arranged by the Student Senate for California Community Colleges. The conference will be at the Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, CA, from May 5 to May 7, 2017. The final group will be one advisor and nine students, one less than we usually bring on these trips. Major changes are on the horizon for the SSCCC as a state-wide organization and it will be imperative that our students stay on the leading edge of these changes.

Student Development

Employee Updates

- Congratulations to Elizabeth Jones, SSA in the Admissions Office.
- A warm welcome to Camille Harris and Rechelle Mojica who will be teaching Personal Growth 120 - College Success and Lifelong Learning this summer 2017.

Events & Activities

- The Posse Spring Session occurred on Thursday, April 13 at 10 AM and 1 PM in the Veterans Resource Center. These information sessions allowed our student veterans to apply and go through this unique selection process. Those selected are provided with the opportunity to be a part of a cohort of veterans and attend college together to pursue their bachelor's degree. Dartmouth, Vassar and Wesleyan guarantee four years of full tuition funding after GI Bill and Yellow Ribbon benefits have been applied. Posse offers internship opportunities, career coaching and connects Veterans Posse Scholars to a large professional network so they are ready to take on leadership positions in the workforce.
- A Press Event with Congressman Peters was held on 4/24 to provide purple heart veterans full post 9/11 GI Benefits. Currently, full benefits are only available to veterans who complete at least 36 months of active duty service or are medically retired. It was enlightening to listen to Angel Garibay, a United States Marine veteran and Purple Heart recipient about his experiences and how these benefits enabled him to pursue an education. Thank you to Ramiro Hernandez for ensuring that our student veterans were present to support the press event.
- Mesa Academy continues to host the Real Talk series as part of the African- American Diaspora Initiative.
- The Career Week and Spring Job Fair was held on April 24-27, 2017. The week long event included Resume Tent and Professional Clothing Closet, Resume Workshop, Preparing for the Job Fair Workshop, Networking Workshop, and the job fair that was highly attended by various organizations.

Policies & Procedures

Excited about continued collaboration with Student Success and Support Program, Student Equity, and Basic Skills about the upcoming integration. Planning meetings continue to take place both the workgroup members and consultants have been identified and will report through the Student Success & Equity Committee.

Special Recognition

- Thanks to Ramiro Hernandez for working with our student veterans and ensuring that they were represented at the press event with Scott Peters on 4/24.
- Another thanks to Ramiro Hernandez for playing a critical role in supporting our student veterans by assisting with the set-up and logistics for the veteran writers storytelling showcase held on April 24th at 7 PM. He continues to do a wonderful job of assisting with efforts that promote our students.
- Thanks to the following faculty and staff who ensured that Student Development areas were represented at the Cash In for Community College event on April 15: Vang Thao, Olivia Picolla, Danielle Short, Laura Arellano, Jim Arnegard, Trung Huynh, Raul Rodriguez, and Amber Alatorre.
- Kudos to Amber Alatorre for revising the FYE flyer for 2017-2018 and reducing the steps from 9-4 which is a huge accomplishment!

- Thanks to Michael Temple for his continued collaborative efforts with student equity to host the Real Talk series through Mesa Academy. A big thanks to Ramiro Hernandez for assisting with the Real Talk series on 4/25.
- Kudos to Olivia Picolla and the rest of the Career Center team for yet another successful Career Week and Spring Job Fair. She did a phenomenal job organizing and ensuring that the career week events went off without a hitch. Students were excited to participate in the workshops, Resume Tent, Professional Clothing Closet, and the fair.
- A special thanks to the whole team to include Danielle Short, Deborah Salazar, Gity Nematollahi, Mary Garcia, Cynthia Cordova, Shawn Fawcett, Raquel Sojourner, and Leroy Johnson for their support, in addition to the faculty from general counseling who assisted with the resume tent to include Laura Mathis and Kristen Pogue-Cely.

Student Health Services

Employee Updates

Fredy Dominguez, Naval Gunners Mate Second Class, is safely back at Student Health and his Mesa classrooms. Fredy has just returned from Naval duty in South Korea, where he transferred personnel and cargo, ship to ship and ship to shore, in support of a multinational force in the area.

Events & Activities

- April 11th: Cultural Immersion..Welcome to Somalia, was a huge success. 172 students were engaged in the culture of Somalia through 1:1 interactions with Culture Educators from Somali Family Services. The educators only spoke Somali to the students. Students remarked that they learned about the Somali Culture. They had a greater understanding of what it feels like to be an immigrant who doesn't know the language. Students loved learning about the history of Somalia remarking "I only knew about stereotypes about Somalia but now I know why they have to come here..to be safe". Students sought English speaking Somali women to learn how to say thank you in Somali so they could say this back to their educators. It was an immersive experience.
- April 15th. Mark Malebranche RN, PhD represented our services at the Cash in to Community College: Pathways to College Success from 9am to 1pm. Mark met a couple hundred High School students and their families.
- April 18th: Suzanne Khambata FNP and Mark Malebranche Rn, PhD Community Health Nurse presented our assessment plan and data at the COA meeting.
- April 20th: Suzanne Khambata FNP presented at the Health Care Professions Career Panel at UCSD's Career Center. Suzanne responded to questions regarding the profession of Family Nurse Practitioner.
- April 27th: Suzanne participated in the Community Conversations on Homelessness presented by Veronica Gerace's Communications Studies students. Members of Mesa's community and the homeless community were also on the panel. Suzanne spoke about loving kindness and the giving spirit of our hearts. Afterward, students were asked to write about their experience at the event. Veronica Gerace wrote to Suzanne that "every single one wrote that what you said about "Having a loving heart," really resonated with them".

Student Success Stories

Itzel Martinez Moreno, Student Health Peer Educator, is graduating from Mesa this semester. Itzel has been accepted to UCSD, UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis, SDSU, San Francisco State, Humbolt State, San Jose State and University of New Mexico. Itzel comments that "Mesa has provided me with a well rounded experience with Professors who always had their door open for me whenever I needed guidance. The Counselors always knew what to tell me when i needed it the most. Overall I feel humbled to have crossed paths with individuals who knew me for who I am and the importance of my roots". "I am blessed to move along in my journey with my body, mind, spirit, soul and heart always knowing that I will give back to Mesa what i received".

Robin Perry RN, Mark Malebranche RN, PhD, Grace Osmolo Peer Educator and Kennedy Carrothers Receptionist presented information about Student Health Services to High School Students at the Mini Fair.

Special Recognition

Our amazing health care team is rarely mentioned in these reports because their work is very confidential. We must remember that they are working at a feverish pace to provide much needed healing to sick and wounded students. Our team consists of Nurse Practitioners, Marriage Family Therapists, Registered Nurses, receptionists and a Physician who provide emotional, spiritual, physical and cognitive healing to students. We honor their service to keep students moving forward and restoring them to a healthy state.

- Nancy Bromma FNP
- Michael Booth LMFT
- Dr. Calvin Wong MD
- Laura Milligan FNP
- Vanessa Gambala FNP
- Robin Perry RN
- Sue Shrader hanes LMFT
- Rebecca Lee LMFT
- Michelle Harris Feller LMFT
- Kennedy Carothers
- Kayte Hayduk
- Grace Osoimalo

Student Success & Equity

Events & Activities

- Attended Taco Shop Poets Event, facilitated by Chicano Studies on 4/11
- Student Development & SS&E held 2nd joint school meeting on 4/14
- Participated in a Community Forum on Homelessness on 4/27
- Johanna attended the IEPI April event: The Role of Financial Well-Being in Student Success

Innovations & Data

The Stand: April 2017 Update

- For the month of April The Stand has provided a total of 471 food services to 191 individual students. We have provided 22 students with professional clothing items. We have outreached to who have used or exceeded their point allowance with information on campus resources, the San Diego Food Bank, and various other community housing and food resources.

Direct Student Support from SSE

- 76 applications, 69 received support, a high number have been repeat students from Fall 65 have been assessed and oriented 50 have ed plans.
- 7 students received supplies and 7 received food prior to The Stand Opening
- \$7137 in assistance (\$4100 towards books, \$2330 in café cards, \$500 in print card,\$717.00 for bus passes(3 semester, 3 monthly pass and 2 daily).
- We are currently checking enrollment status and persistence information.
- We are seeing an increase in food card requests via referrals from The Stand.

Student Success Stories

Student Success Story: Ahmad Barbakh, Student was referred by EOPS. Student is in his last semester here at SDCCD (he currently attends all 3 campuses) He had learned about EOPS late, just signing up this semester. He is an math /pre-engineering major in his last semester with a 3.5 GPA. He is currently not working and it was becoming increasingly difficult for him to cover transportation costs. SSE helped him out with 2 monthly passes for April and May.

Special Recognition

Want to give kudos to Marichu Magana and the STAR TRIO Program for hosting the Southern California Western Association of Educational Opportunity Personnel (WESTOP) here at Mesa on 4/28.

Transfer

Employee Updates

Currently Interviewing for new Student Services Assistant. Hired new adjunct transfer counselor.

Events & Activities

Field Trip to UCSD on April 28.

Innovations & Data

The Transfer Center and General counseling are conducting counselor cross-training.

Student Success Stories

Many happy students due to university admissions decisions.

Special Recognition

Deborah Salazar! Throughout the month of April, we have been short staffed. Deborah has almost single-handedly maintained the phones and office for Transfer, Career and Evaluations!

Veterans & Records

Employee Updates

Veterans is continuing to do counseling hours at the Veterans Resource Center.

Events & Activities

So Say We All took place on April 24, 2017 was a collaboration with Ramiro Hernandez, Jennifer Derilo from the English Department, Dylan Hardie and the So Say We All writers. They were able to bring the veteran perspective in their own words of the struggles adjusting to the civilian world along with sharing their experiences while in the service. Also continuing to work on the Veterans Graduation Ceremony which will take place next month (May)

Student Success Stories

Freddy Cervantes and Ryan Loper received acceptance letters from UC Berkeley along with other schools. They are still waiting to hear back from Stanford.

Special Recognition

Dylan Hardie for always making himself available for any requests for assistance with events and promotion.

Vice President Student Services

Employee Update

- Daniel has been participating in various Mesa Journeys meetings; helped finalize technology purchases for implementation over the summer; has been working to plan and implement website improvements with various departments; continues to work on the MMAP Pilot with Outreach and Joel Arias to field test the MMAP Pilot Placement Tool for reliability and scalability; and has worked with the department of Institutional Research to develop a student services technology survey.

Events & Activities

- Hosted Outcomes Assessment Training for Student Services Departments. Training was conducted by Kris Clark and Charlie Lieu.
- Hosted a Jumpstart Thank You event for staff, faculty and students involved with Jumpstart planning efforts.
- VP Hands participated in the CTE Office of Civil Rights Compliance Review.
- VP Hands facilitated the Coordination of Equity Assessment Meetings with the Center for Urban Education and leads from the Student Success & Support Program, Student Equity, Basic Skills, Title V, Title III and Strong Workforce. The purpose of this aspect of the partnership answers questions such as “How do these projects work together to advance Mesa’s equity agenda?” “How do the stated goals of the initiative or initiative proposal relate to the current or planned activities?” “How is success within this initiative measured and assessed?” The outcome would include a check-list/guide/crosswalk that will strengthen current efforts and help ensure that new equity initiatives are complementary, monitored and assessed in ways that align with our equity vision.

Innovations & Data

- VPSS Hands hosted the 2nd meeting of Mesa College’s Integrated Planning Team (to discuss the Chancellor’s Office new model that promotes integrated planning and program coordination between Basic Skills, Student Success & Support Program and Student Equity) at the district and college levels.
- Daniel has worked with Outreach Ambassadors, ASG, the Peer Navigators, and various work-studies to start to gather Student Services Technology survey responses from students who are completing their time at Mesa this semester.
- Mesa’s second Multiple Measures Assessment Program (MMAP) Pilot was rolled out to students at Madison High School. The MMAP pilot utilizes an online placement assistant where students are allowed to enter in their high school transcript data to generate a placement recommendation.

Student Success Stories

The numerous scholarship recipients recognized at the Scholarship Award Ceremony are a tremendous source for student success stories. The many obstacles that our students have risen above in the pursuit of their goals is both motivating and rewarding.

Policies & Procedures

Confirmed [Student Services 2017 Summer Hours](#)

Special Recognition

Special thanks to -

- DSPS Coordinator, Steve Salter for his work overseeing Mesa's OCR Site Compliance Visit
- Counseling Faculty, Chris Kalck, for reflecting on Counseling's outcomes at this month's Mesa Student Services Council Meeting
- Special thanks to the MMAP Planning Team for months of work leading to the implementation of our new pilot: Chris Sullivan; Ailene Crakes; Alanna Milner; Andy MacNeill; Daniel Stromwall; Genevieve Esguerra; Gina Abbiate; Joel Arias; Joshua Taylor; Tracey Walker; Wendy Smith; Karla Trutna, Susan Topham and Ashanti Hands