

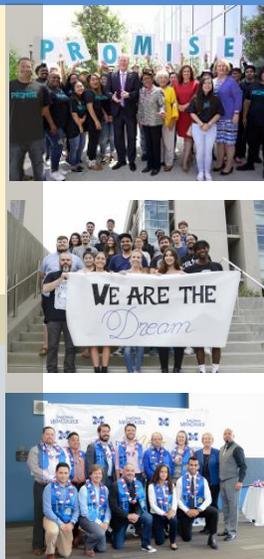


Student Services Monthly Updates are designed to tell our story of providing pathways that inspire, engage and empower our diverse students to learn and succeed. These updates also track our support of Mesa's journey of becoming the leading college of equity and excellence. We encourage you to review 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

- Olivia Picolla is Evaluations' NEW Student Services Technician!
- The CalWORKs department has a new home in I-410.
- Marisa Alioto, one of last year's counseling interns was hired as an adjunct counselor in August.
- Dayna Strothers, Jessica Gaffney, Jordan Nash, Karen Villanueva, Nicolas Irving, Samantha Ceron-Draeger and Victor Cenicerros officially began their Student Ambassador assignments in August.
- Student Affairs also welcomes Beatriz Barron, Kylie Ozols and Jennifer Park as our new cohort of graduate assistant / interns for the 2018-2019 academic year; Beatriz is a graduate student in the Higher Education Leadership Program at SDSU, the same program from which Kylie recently graduated, while Jennifer is a graduate of University of Pennsylvania from the Higher Education Program.
- Student Health is pleased to announce that it has hired a new Student Health Services Mental Health Coordinator, Linda Gibbins Croft, LCSW, and also added Tracy Fried, MSW, to the Community Mental Health team. Tracy will primarily be assigned to Active Minds suicide prevention and screening counseling intakes in the office.
- Correction to the June-July Monthly Update: Gity Nematollahi is still with the TCE. ☺ She's at ERP Monday-Thursday each week and comes back to Mesa on Fridays to support Transfer.

Events & Activities

- During August, Career Ambassadors assisted with the last Summer CRUISE events including the Financial Literacy Workshop and the Meet & Greet event where they presented information on career services to over 120 students, as well as served on three student panels.
- This summer, five Umoja-Mesa Academy Program (U-MAP) students attended the three day Umoja Student Leadership Summit (SLS) held at UC Riverside.
- Puente held its mentoring meet-and-greet, a Day at the Bay at the Crown Cove Aquatic Center. Students met their mentors and heard from past Puente students who shared their experiences in the program.
- Through a collaborative effort, Counseling, Admissions, and Instruction successfully enrolled Kearny Fast Track students into their Fall 2018 classes.
- Over the summer counselors held workshops for current PTA, Medical Assisting and Health Info Tech students in the Allied Health building to assist them with graduation.
- EOPS has admitted and oriented almost 100 new students to the program. Each student received a backpack and supplies. EOPS is currently supporting undocumented students with unmet financial need by giving them meal and book cards
- FAST Scholars /Next Up had 40 current and former foster youth attend our 3rd annual Welcome Back event.
- EOPS and Re-Start hosted a meeting to begin collaboration with the San Diego County Superintendent of Schools Juvenile Court and Community Schools Program to stream line the admissions and financial aid process for students transitioning from detention centers to Mesa College.
- The Evaluations Office supported with the Transfer/Career/Evaluations Center annual Open House and assisted over 200 students during the two-day event.
- Student Affairs and Mesa College at large kicked off the Fall Semester 2018 with a week of events designed around new and returning students. Altogether we hosted 16 separate items from 14 different departments and service areas on our Welcome Week schedule of events, including the “centerpiece” Welcome Week Information Centers and the STAND’s Farmer’s Market.
- In August, Mesa Pathways Committee members participated in a Committee Launch Retreat and Convocation activities which highlighted an amazing [video](#) created by Olivia Picolla telling our Why along with an invitation for the campus to engage the process. This fall, Mesa will enter into a Guided Pathways Coaching partnership with Dr. Al Solano. Dr. Solano’s coaching will help us with structures, processes, training and technical support to implement Guided Pathways. A campus-wide invitation to engage Mesa Pathways will be launched in September. Additional information can be found [here](#).
- The Stand Farmer’s Market held its first fall event on Thursday August 23rd, where we provided 8600 pounds of food to 820 households in 3 hours. 702 of which identified as students.

Policies & Procedures

- Student Services created and distributed a [Helpful Resources for Students](#) Flyer
- STAR TRIO is developing new procedures for verifying program eligibility.
- Student Affairs and the AS created a brand-new online student clubs and activities interest sheet in addition to the online ASB Card registration form and the online Scholarship Interest form.
- Student Success & Support Program, Student Equity, and Basic Skills Initiative worked collaboratively with Business Services to complete and submit the 2017-2019 Mid-Year Expenditure Report.

Innovations & Data

- In the month of August, Admissions staff assisted 969 students in Residency.
- On June 4, Assessment officially began offering remote proctoring of the Placement Assistant via ZOOM to students who were, for one reason or another, unable to come in to the office to physically complete the Placement Assistant.
- Approximately 30 students were confirmed for the ADVOC8 (second year experience) 2018-19 cohort.
- DSPS will be partnering again with MT2C to provide English and math tutoring in the High Tech Center.
- Financial Aid has received over 21,000 FAFSAs for 2018-2019 and has awarded 4,652 students with the California Promise Waiver totaling 3.4 million dollars.
- The Promise program is finalizing its cohort lists as students are settling down in their class schedules. At the moment, there are a little over 700 Promise students in the new 18-19 cohort (Year 1) and about 150 Promise students in the 17-18 cohort (Year 2). With both cohorts, Mesa's Promise Program serves roughly 850 students!
- Veterans is developing the Veterans Internship Program.
- Student Services and the Office of Communications launched the “Student Services Questions Project.” All student service personnel (Classified Professionals, Coordinators, Counselors, Managers, and Deans) are invited to submit frequently asked questions in their program/department. This information will be used to improve the navigation of our web pages to help students find what they need more easily, hopefully reducing the number of phone calls, emails, and questions. To submit a question go to: <http://sdmesa.edu/questions/>
- The first two weeks of the fall semester The Stand provided a total of 2468 items of food to students. Students now receive 100 points to spend at The Stand.

Student Success Stories

- The Peer Navigator Program received the following email from a Promise student: *Thank you for [Quintin's] contact information! However, we were able to schedule a meeting yesterday and had a great conversation! Thank you for assigning me such an amazing navigator!*
- Mesa College student and Career Peer Ambassador, Sadie Wager, is very passionate about student learning and discovery. Sadie voluntarily completed a LGBTQ+ Safe Zone Training hosted by the San Diego Mesa College Safe Zone Committee (a subcommittee of CDAIE – Committee for Diversity, Action, Inclusion and Equity). This inspired her to develop and facilitate her own LGBTQ+ Awareness workshop to educate her Career Peer Ambassador Team and our office staff.
- A PERG 120 student shared with Nick De Meo that he was officially accepted into the UCSD Extension Translation and Interpretation program (the main goal he was focused on while in the course). The student has significant life obstacles to overcome. He is wheelchair bound and limited in his upper body mobility due to a condition he’s had since birth. He is also a first generation college student and had no reliable transportation while in college, leading him to take the bus nearly two hours in each direction from City Heights every day he had class during his 3 year career here at Mesa College. In spite of his circumstances, he’s leaving Mesa with an ADT in Spanish, a 2.94 CSU GPA and 2.88 UC GPA, and is beginning a program that will land him in a solid career starting in the Fall 2018!
- After much advocacy, another ADT student who was denied from SDSU upon final review of transcripts had her offer of admission reinstated. She started this Fall! She was an honors student at Mesa and Business major at SDSU.

Admissions

Employee Updates

Jennifer Roachford resigned so we want to wish her the best in her new endeavors.

Innovations & Data

In the month of August, our staff assisted 969 students in Residency; 177 International Students; 34 in Allied Health and 34 for Petition to Challenge for a total of 1,214 students in person. The forms that were processed for manual registration, enrollment verification; applications, Petitions to Challenge and late withdrawal totaled 471. The high schools that participate in MOU agreements such as ACP and CCAP, returned 1,030 forms for our staff to begin the manual registration process. 3,169 phone calls were handled during the month.

Policies & Procedures

We continue to process the paperwork to correct names, SSN, birthdates and double records.

Special Recognition

Great job Admissions staff! Thank you for all your hard work especially during a time when we are short staffed.

Assessment

Innovations & Data

Assessment provided the following services:

- Placement Assistant: 722
- ELAC: 22
- Orientation: 431
- Pop-Up Counseling (in partnership with Counseling - ended August 17): 73

On June 4, we officially began offering remote proctoring of the Placement Assistant via ZOOM to students who were, for one reason or another, unable to come in to the office to physically complete the PA. Since the launch, we have assisted 27 students complete the PA remotely. Many of the students assisted were in the process of relocating to San Diego or were in different parts of the world looking to take online classes at our college but who could not physically meet the deadlines for their registration dates. Students are still run through the normal screening process, including completing the college's online orientation, before being able to set up a ZOOM appointment with Assessment staff. The ZOOM app lets us create meetings via video chat with the students in order to ensure that their information and identity remain private. The students are then able to interact with a staff member when completing the Placement Assistant and ask or address any other questions or concerns in real time. On the app, there is a feature that allows the viewers to share screens which made it easier for the student to follow along and visually see their placement results. We have received such positive feedback from students saying that they appreciate our college and thank us for being so accommodating to their needs. Along with the Placement Assistant, ZOOM has made it easier for students to become matriculated into the incoming semester and have been, for the most part, content with their placement results.

Policies and Procedures

Pop-Up Counseling, our joint effort with Counseling to help increase the number of students who complete the SSSP steps, ended on August 17. We hope to be able to continue this effort later this semester to support students beginning at Mesa in Spring 2019. We thank Counseling for collaborating with us and providing us opportunities to meet and serve students where they are.

AVANZA Student Engagement Center, Peer Navigator, and CRUISE Programs

Employee Updates

Peer Navigator team is complete with no new changes to report.

Events & Activities

August 20-21: Welcome Back Power Snack

Peer Navigators offered CRUISERS (mentees) snacks and drinks on the first day to welcome and wish them the best. The program offered an afternoon session for students taking classes in the evening. The activity also aims to encourage students to arrive early and find their classes.

Innovations & Data

Feedback from Summer CRUISE is being collected and will be used to strengthen the program.

Student Success Stories

Working in collaboration with the Promise Program, Peer Navigators have been guiding students throughout the on-boarding process. We received the following email from a Promise student in regards to our Lead Peer Navigator, Quintin Wortham, who is truly leading by example: *Thank you for [Quintin's] contact information! However, we were able to schedule a meeting yesterday and had a great conversation! Thank you for assigning me such an amazing navigator!*

Policies & Procedures

Developing ...

Special Recognition

Peer Navigators: We successfully welcomed over 800 CRUISERS over five weeks this year!

CalWORKs

Events & Activities

The CalWORKs Program has news to share. The department has a new home in I-410. Please come by and check out our new space. We also have a Mesa College CalWORKs web site (<https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/calworks/index.shtml>) and we now have a program email as well (mesacalworks@sdccd.edu)

Innovations & Data

Summer of 2018 - Served 29 CalWORKs Students

Student Success Stories

One of our returning CalWORKs student, who is perusing a major in nutrition, has begun employment with Sharp Hospital as of the beginning of the semester.

Special Recognition

Special thanks go out to Frank Fernandez, Tony Lo, Juan Ortega and to all the staff members from the facilities, IT and maintenance department who has assisted in making the New CalWORKs office into an inviting space, which will allow us to better serve our students.

Career

Events & Activities

Career Center:

- Early August, the Career Center participated in the CRUISE Meet & Greet Event to welcome and provide information regarding our services to new students.
- Career Center staff members were invited to present in a classroom to provide a Career Services Overview presentation including information regarding Service Learning during the last week of August. Thank you to Jill Moreno from the English Department for inviting us to meet your students.
- On August 31, we also provided a Career Services Overview presentation during the International Student Employment Workshops. Information about Career Center resources that students can utilize as they pursue on and off campus internship and employment opportunities was shared to all international students. Thank you to Adrienne Dines for inviting us to this event.

Career Peer Ambassadors:

- In August, Career Peer Ambassadors hosted two summer résumé building tent events and are excited to host Fall walk-in peer-to-peer résumé building hours at the Career Center leading up to Career Week on September 24-27.
- The Career Peer Ambassador Program collaborates with many departments across campus.
- During August, Career Ambassadors assisted with the last Summer CRUISE events including the Financial Literacy Workshop and the Meet & Greet event where they presented information on career services to over 120 students, as well as served on three student panels.
- The Career Ambassadors presented career services information at the Outreach Student Ambassador training.
- At the 2018 STEM Core Orientation, the Career Ambassadors served as orientation leaders for over 40 students in attendance and facilitated ice breaker activities and led campus tours.
- During 2018 Welcome Week, Career Ambassadors greeted new and returning students to campus while working the information booth with San Diego Mesa College President, Dr. Pamela Luster, and welcome week tabling activities.
- The Career Ambassadors volunteer to distribute fresh produce every month at the San Diego Mesa College Farmer's Market, hosted by the Stand and Feeding San Diego.
- In August, Career Ambassadors helped organize 500+ pieces of donated clothing at The Stand to help prepare free professional clothing racks to be available for students this semester!
- The Career Ambassadors met with over 200 students to share about Career Center services at the Transfer Career and Evaluations office Open House on August 29-30.
- Our Career Ambassadors and staff completed a total of 779 phone calls reminding Mesa College students and alumni to complete a Destination Survey.

Internships:

- Our internship Coordinator, Pavel Consuegra has been working diligently to create an internship program here at mesa. This month we helped facilitate an employer panel for the STEM Core program orientation. He has also begun to assist with the Work-Based Learning team and with new Veteran Student Paid internship opportunity. So far there have been over 100 student contacts with our internship coordinator.

Innovations & Data

Total of 29 new contacts were made this month through our online job board.

- Acuity Eye Group
- Associated Storage
- Bongiorno's Pizzeria
- Bongriono's New York Pizza
- Casa de las Campana
- Coast Personnel Services
- Correctional Medical Group
- California Pizza Kitchen
- Denny's Corporation
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Jing Chinese After-School Program
- Macy's
- Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego
- Nature's Elements Landscaping
- Oceanside Police Department
- Optimum Health Institute
- Paradise Yogurt
- QualStaff Resources
- Remodel Works
- Romano's Restaurant
- San Diego and Imperial Counties Cal-SOAP
- San Diego Center for Children
- Shewanders Photography
- Skyline It Services
- Southwest Antennas
- Survivors of Suicide Loss
- TK Bilstein of America
- UFC Gym
- Unlimited Services Building Maintenance

Career Ambassador Program data:

- In August, Career Ambassadors participated in 6 hours of career & professional development training, covering topics such as "Cover letters and job search etiquette," and "How to lead and engage an audience in a campus tour at Mesa College."
- In August, Career Ambassadors offered a total of 70.5 hours for summer walk-in peer-to-peer résumé building sessions at the Career Center, in addition to resume building tents.
- The Career Ambassadors assisted 10 students seeking résumé help.
- Post-survey comments from participants reveal a common theme of high satisfaction from their interactive experiences with the Career Ambassadors. Keywords and phrases include, "amazing," "patient," "they were great at explaining and coaching how to improve my resume structure," and "great people!"

Student Success Stories

Mesa College student and Career Peer Ambassador, Sadie Wager, is very passionate about student learning and discovery. Sadie voluntarily completed a LGBTQ+ Safe Zone Training hosted by the San Diego Mesa College Safe Zone Committee (a subcommittee of CDAIE – Committee for Diversity, Action, Inclusion and Equity). This inspired her to develop and facilitate her own LGBTQ+ Awareness workshop to educate her Career Peer Ambassador Team and our office staff about issues faced by folks who don't conform to the heterosexual norm while sharing her personal narrative. Being a part of the LGBTQ+ community, she found it difficult to find a sense of belonging at home and at school. Sadie is thankful she found a safe space at Mesa College where she is working her first job, being a campus leader, while also being a full-time student. She hopes to create a safe space at the Career Center when working with the diverse student population at Mesa College.

Special Recognition

We would like recognize Jill Moreno-Ikaru and Adrienne Dines for inviting us to meet with their students this month. Thank you for your support!

We would also like to recognize our Career Peer Ambassadors and our project assistant. Through their hard work we are learning so much more about the student experience and ways to improve our services.

Counseling

Events & Activities

Marisa Alioto, one of last year's counseling interns was hired as an adjunct counselor in August.

Events & Activities

from Kirsten Pogue-Cely:

It was a team effort – we successfully enrolled Kearny Fast Track students into their fall 18 classes with the help of Jose Aranda in Admissions, Mila Zagynskiy in the VPI's office and Arlis Svedberg who helped with the schedule as well as the team in Accounting!

from Raul Rodriguez:

We have our first Puente event this Friday at Crown Cove Aquatic Center. It's our beginning of the year mentor mixer celebration that we call Day at the Bay. Students will meet their mentors and hear from past Puente students who will share their experiences in the program.

from Adam Erlenbusch:

Approx. 30 confirmed for the ADVOC8 2018-109 cohort. The first kick-off event is scheduled for Sept. 28th in the Avanza center. Student Success and equity is continuing to be a huge supporter of program.

from Michael Temple:

This summer, five Umoja-Mesa Academy Program (U-MAP) students attended the three day Umoja Student Leadership Summit (SLS) held at UC Riverside. The SLS was similar to an intensive as the students determined how they will conduct U-MAP leadership and dramatically impact the Black student experience at Mesa College. The five U-MAP Student Leaders, created, developed, and sketched a plan of action items, goals, and objectives for a U-MAP Student Leadership Program starting fall 2018. To reiterate, over the three days, every effort was intentional and deliberate and students didn't merely complete activities, but worked at creating action items for making change and transform conditions and outcomes for the Black student population at Mesa College.

from Nick DeMeo:

Allied Health: Over the summer Cristina Carrillo and I held a total of 5 workshops for current PTA, Medical Assisting and Health Info Tech students in the Allied Health building. The workshops offered 20 minute personal appointments with a counselor where we could go over any graduation requirements that needed to be fulfilled, missing paperwork or administrative steps, and allowed us to put in the correct DQSE ed plan code for their program. With the help of Olivia from the Evaluations office, we were able to pre-screen each of these students and get an idea of their individual needs, which allowed us time during the sessions to create semester by semester comprehensive plans for the majority of them as well. The students expressed an immense amount of gratitude that we took the time to come to them while they were already on campus (4 of the 5 were held immediately after their program orientations or another mandatory on-campus gathering). The directors were also extremely appreciative that we are proactively looking to move in a direction of having 100% of the allied

health students receive counseling in the beginning of their respective program to avoid complications down the line when graduation draws near.

Innovations & Data

Counseling is partnering with MT2C to ensure that we have a student referral and follow-up system. Professors are now advised to speak to a student who is having difficulties, then refer them to counseling, for an appointment. Towards the end of the appointment, the student then meets with a tutor, and is escorted to see first-hand out tutoring services.

- Drop-Ins: 3473
- Appointments: 438
- Total: 3793

Student Success Stories

A PERG 120 student shared with Nick De Meo that he was officially accepted into the UCSD Extension Translation and Interpretation program (the main goal he was focused on while in the course). The student has significant life obstacles to overcome. He is wheelchair bound and limited in his upper body mobility due to a condition he's had since birth. He is also a first generation college student and had no reliable transportation while in college, leading him to take the bus nearly two hours in each direction from City Heights every day he had class during his 3 year career here at Mesa College. In spite of his circumstances, he's leaving Mesa with an ADT in Spanish, a 2.94 CSU GPA and 2.88 UC GPA, and is beginning a program that will land him in a solid career starting in the Fall 2018!

Special Recognition

To all of the counselors and counseling classified professionals for an outstanding effort during our busiest month!

DSPS

Events & Activities

- During Flex week, Dawn Stoll and Melissa Williams hosted a flex workshop focused on Disability Accommodations and the role faculty play in providing accommodations. Erika Higginbotham presented at the Chemistry department meeting and Liz Wilke presented to a Math 096 class.
- DSPS will be partnering again with MT2C to provide English and math tutoring in the High Tech Center.

Innovations & Data

In the month of August, there were 555 counseling appointments scheduled and 1485 drop-in services provided to students in DSPS. Our proctoring center administered 98 exams. The High Tech Center received 156 alternate media requests and 89 students accessed the High Tech Center lab.

Special Recognition

We would like to recognize and congratulate Elizabeth Mora for receiving the Olympia Award at fall convocation

EOPS/CARE

Events & Activities

EOPS

- EOPS has admitted and oriented almost 100 new students to the program. Each student received a backpack and supplies.
- EOPS/CARE, FAST and NextUP had information booths at Welcome Week
- Nellie Dougherty attended the Ambassador Training

FAST Scholars/Next Up

- FAST Scholars/ Next Up had 40 current and former foster youth attend our 3rd annual Welcome Back Event. The event was a huge success! Program participants received the following support at the event:
 - Program orientation
 - Lunch provided by Los Chucy's
 - Campus Tour (Outreach)
 - Paid for all required textbooks and school materials
 - Provided backpacks
 - Received FAST Scholar sweatshirts and notebooks
 - Received buss pass or parking pass
 - Paid for Health fees
- FAST Scholars Club hosted its first meeting of the semester on 8/22/2018 in the EOPS office. 10 foster youth from Mesa College and a student from San Diego Guardian Scholars attended the meeting. FAST Scholar Club has scheduled its second meeting for 8/29/2018 and are currently seeking members.
- Sade Burrell and Melissa Zavala outreached to a group of social workers at the San Diego County Child Welfare office for the Next Up program. As a result, Next Up has increased the number of program participants by 30% .

Borderless

- Began participating in the AFT Committee to support undocumented students.
- Currently supporting undocumented students with unmet financial need with meal cards and book cards
- Ongoing planning for Mesa's first undocumented student conference taking place Oct 11th

Re-Start

- Hosted meeting to begin collaboration with the San Diego County Superintendent of Schools Juvenile Court and Community Schools Program to stream line the admissions and financial aid process for students transitioning from detention centers to Mesa College
- There are currently 25 active Project Re-Start participants
- The formerly incarcerated student club elected officials

Innovations & Data

EOPS has launched a new department committee called Digital Footprint Planning. The goal is to update the website and integrate more social media platforms into the program.

Special Recognition

Everyone in EOPS who is stepping in to help out during this transition time!

Evaluations

Employee Updates

Olivia Picolla is our NEW Student Services Technician!

Events & Activities

The Evaluations Office supported with the Transfer/Career/Evaluations Center annual Open House and assisted over 200 students each day for two days.

Innovations & Data

The 2018 Participant and Non-participant Commencement survey was sent out to gather data on this year's Commencement Ceremony to ensure improvements are made for next year's ceremony! Four survey participants have been randomly selected for a \$25.00 gift-card.

Student Success Stories

Summer 2018 degrees and certificates are in the process of being posted. Degrees and Certificates will be mailed out during the month of October. Congrats Olympians!

Policies & Procedures

- Students are currently Petitioning for Fall 2018. Deadline to students to file a Petition for Graduation and be a Fall graduate: November 16th, 2018
- Deadline to file a Petition for Graduation for students completing an Associate Degree for Transfer and transfer to a CSU in Spring 2018: October 1st, 2018.
- The 2018-2019 Academic Review Committee dates have been set and can be found here: <http://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/evaluations/academic-review-committee/>

Special Recognition

We would like to recognize the hard work of the Academic Review Committee; they helped this month with an additional meeting date to meet the needs of our students during a busy enrollment period.

Financial Aid

Innovations & Data

- We have received over 21,000 18-19 FAFSA's
- We have awarded 4,492 students with Fee Waivers totaling 7.1 million dollars
- We have awarded 3,089 students with Federal Pell Grant totaling 8.1 million dollars.
- We have awarded 750 students with SEOG Grant totaling 55,296 dollars.
- We have awarded 4,652 students with the California Promise Waiver totaling 3.4 million dollars.
- Finding solutions to accommodate some system limitations.

Special Recognition

All Financial Aid Staff @ Mesa College.

Outreach & Community Relations

Employee Updates

Dayna Strothers, Jessica Gaffney, Jordan Nash, Karen Villanueva, Nicolas Irving, Samantha Ceron-Draeger and Victor Cenicerros officially began their Student Ambassador assignments in August. All Student Ambassadors, new and returning, participated in two weeks of department training and had the opportunity to hear from student services departments and instructional programs, QPR training, The Art of Inclusive Communication, as well as participate in team building and communication exercises including playing The Finish Line board game to ground themselves in the varied experiences of students they are likely to meet this year. Student Ambassadors and Outreach Staff also participated in the Fall District Outreach Training at National University. During this training, ambassadors were able to meet and participate on team building exercises across the District (City College and Miramar College). They heard from Mesa's Student Success and Equity department Dean Larry Maxey, and the District Student Services Analyst Victor DeVore present on mySDCCD and CCCApply.

Student Ambassadors Joshua Quiroz and Nina Geissler's assignments ended on August 17, 2018.

Events & Activities

Outreach: Outreach Ambassadors Joshua Quiroz and Nina Geissler provided 21 campus tours to over 60 new and prospective students in the month of August.

- 8/3: Nina Geissler, Student Ambassador, provided a campus tour to ten professors from China participating in an program with USD. The professors were interested in Mesa College's Career and Technical Education programs. The tour highlighted our student support services and the new buildings.
- 8/10: Outreach hosted ten students from Memorial Preparatory for Scholars and Athletes and Vanndaro Chhum, Outreach Staff, provided an overview of Mesa College followed by a campus tour led by the Student Ambassadors.
- 8/29: Student Ambassadors Nicolas Irving and Jordan Nash hosted an outreach resource table on behalf of the District at Olympian High School's annual College Senior Night. The Ambassadors got to share their experiences of attending Mesa College with prospective students. Ambassadors provided additional resources and information regarding programs and services at Mesa and our sister colleges.

Promise: Hosted 3 Recommitment Events for Year 2 (17-18 cohort) Promise students to review the requirements and welcome them back to school. About 150 students returning for Year 2.

- At the recommitment events students shared some of their accomplishments and what they are proud of from last year: getting A's and B's, achieving their desired GPA, passing their toughest science and math classes, completing many community service hours, completing IGETC requirements, perfect attendance, on time for class, never gave up, passing all their classes, visiting the Career Center

- Students set some goals they have for this year: transfer to SDSU, transfer to CSU Stanislaus, make homework a daily routine, transfer to UCLA, transfer to UCSB, transfer to CSULB, achieve or maintain a higher GPA than last year, take advantage of all resources available at Mesa, be on time for class, be confident, and keep going!
- Promise Coordinator, Graduate Assistant, and a Promise student attended a fundraising presentation at 2 separate Northrop Grumman campuses to raise awareness about all the different programs, services, and accomplishments that set Mesa College apart from other colleges. We were able to raise money for the Promise match and the Promise student got to share their experience in the Promise program and to network.
- Due to the huge number of students interested in the Promise Program, we were able to collaborate with the CRUISE/Peer Navigator program to host 3 additional CRUISE sessions for incoming Promise students.

Innovations & Data

Outreach: Outreach restructured the college Student Ambassador training from a week-long training to two weeks of training that included overviews from various student services departments and QPR Suicide Prevention Training with Student Health Services as well as Art of Inclusive Communication with the National Conflict Resolution Center. We hope that restructuring the training will allow us to invite more academic programs in during regular meetings to talk about their programs as well as more time for team building and professional development.

Promise: We are finalizing our cohort lists as students are settling down in their class schedules now. At the moment, we have a little over 700 Promise students in the new 18-19 cohort (Year 1) and about 150 Promise students in the 17-18 cohort (Year 2). With both cohorts, Mesa's Promise Program serves roughly 850 students!

Student Success Stories

Outreach: Joshua Quiroz and Nina Geissler finished out their time as Student Ambassadors right before the beginning of Fall semester to focus on their own educational journeys. Joshua Quiroz started as an Aztec at SDSU on August 24 and Nina will start her time as a Bruin at UCLA on September 25. We are so proud of them!

Promise: Promise students represented Mesa and the Promise Program on the news on multiple occasions during Welcome Week.

Policies & Procedures

Promise: The Promise Program is no longer accepting new Promise students for the year. The deadline to complete all eligibility steps for the program was August 3, 2018.

STAR TRIO

Employee Updates

Brandon Williams is sitting on the planning committee for the LIT (Leadership in Training) Conference hosted by Sade Burrell, the FAST Scholars Coordinator/Counselor for EOPS and is currently participating in the Closing the Equity Gap: Culturally Responsive Teaching and Project Based Learning, which is a 2-unit course offered through the College of Extended Studies at SDSU hosted by AFT Guild.

Events & Activities

In August, STAR TRIO conducted 17 group orientations for new students.

Innovations & Data

Due to the migration to Campus Solutions and the discontinuation of the RU screen in FAIM, we no longer have the ability to identify our students. This impacts our use of SARS TRAK as a screening mechanism and thus, when students enter the STAR TRIO lab, we must manually verify if they are eligible for services. We have also encountered problems when running statistical reports from SARS. We are currently working to resolve these issues.

Policies and Procedures

We are developing new procedures for verifying program eligibility based on our inability to access FAIM screens.

Student Affairs

Events & Activities

Claudia Perkins served temporarily as the District Title IX Investigator from July until August. Student Affairs also welcomes Beatriz Barron, Kylie Ozols and Jennifer Park as our new cohort of graduate assistant / interns for the 2018-2019 academic year; Beatriz is a graduate student in the Higher Education Leadership Program at SDSU, the same program from which Kylie recently graduated, while Jennifer is a graduate of University of Pennsylvania from the Higher Education Program. We are very pleased to have them working in our office this year and are confident that their excellent balance of friendliness and professionalism we look forward to sharing their accomplishments at Mesa College!

Events & Activities

Welcome Week

Student Affairs and Mesa College at large kicked off the Fall Semester 2018 with a week of events designed around new and returning students. Altogether we hosted 16 separate items from 14 different departments and service areas on our Welcome Week schedule of events, including the “centerpiece” Welcome Week Information Centers and the STAND’s Farmer’s Market. The two Info Centers were served entirely by student, staff and faculty volunteers from Mesa College; our 27 volunteers served a combined 66 hours. Over that time, our Info Centers distributed 1837 campus maps, 665 bottles of water, 579 frozen treats, 51 other assorted handouts, and 4 pounds of candy, for a total of 3132 verified points of contact with Mesa students. It goes without saying that this event is only possible through the hard work of many people on campus, and we at Student Affairs would like to extend a particular message of appreciation and gratitude to the Student Ambassadors, Peer Navigators, and Career Outreach student leaders for their indispensable volunteer support; we literally could not do it without them!

First Meeting of the Associated Students

The Associated Students of Mesa College held their first official meeting on August 29, the second Wednesday of the fall semester. As usual, our AS Elected Officials hit the ground running with participation in Spirit Week, and planning for the Homecoming Tailgate event coming up in September.

Various Student Affairs Involvement:

Claudia Perkins presented two Student Conduct Presentations: Rights and Responsibilities workshops to the Allied Health department. The workshops provided support, guidance and resources in successfully addressing student behavioral issues both in and outside of the classroom. Student Affairs has been closely collaborating with Financial Aid, Equity and Athletics to provide fee deferment support and resources. Kathy Fennessey attended the first workshop for the Campus Solutions Implementation Plan.

Innovations & Data

The Financial Aid team for managing the transition to PeopleSoft with care and professionalism. There have been several hiccups with the transition; however Financial Aid has taken the lead in providing support and guidance to our students (and staff). Thank you very much Team FA!

Policies & Procedures

We are thrilled to provide a brand-new online student clubs and activities interest sheet in addition to the online ASB Card registration form and the online Scholarship Interest form!

Special Recognition

Thank you to Team Financial Aid! They have endured a very busy summer semester and each member of the team deserves major recognition! The Mesa College Team Financial Aid is an incredible group that works hard to ensure every student has access to higher education. Under the strong leadership of Gilda Maldonado, the Financial Aid team exemplifies care, commitment and dedication!

Thank you to the most hard-working Financial Aid Team:

- Gilda Maldonado
- Pilar Ezeta
- Travis Bodnar
- Lupe Bueno
- Laura Cormode
- Skyler Dennon
- Brianna Garcia
- Randall Gambill
- Alma Godinez
- Flora Guzman
- Lillian Jensen
- Emmanouil Powell
- Lilibeth Rodriquez
- Julissa Samano
- Cathy Springs
- Kesia Williams
- Barbara Young

Student Development

Innovations & Data

Continued collaboration, development, and finalization of the One Step Closer Campaign with Counseling, Career, Transfer, CTE, Financial Aid, and Office of Communications.

Policies & Procedures

- Student Success & Support Program, Student Equity, and Basic Skills Initiative worked collaboratively with Business Services to complete and submit the 2017-2019 Mid-Year Expenditure Report.

Special Recognition

- Kudos to the Student Development Team: Admissions, Veterans and Records, General Counseling, Transfer, Evaluations, and Career for all their hard work and commitment to students as they help get everyone taken care of this fall.
- Thanks to Ivonne Alvarez and Cheri Sawyer for their continued support as the department continues to be faced with vacancies during this critical time.
- Thank you to all the Student Development areas, faculty, and staff who help with extended hours and peak coverage times.
- Thanks to James Arnegard for assisting with all the prerequisite needs and petitions that are submitted to the office.
- Shout out goes to Kirsten Pogue-Cely and Jose Aranda for all his assistance with Kearny Fast Track Program enrollment.
- Congratulations to the Transfer, Career, and Evaluations team for a successful Open House. A job well done with a theme surrounding opportunities available to students and encouraging them to “Reach for the Stars”!

Student Health Services

Employee Updates

Student Health is pleased to announce that we have hired a new Student Health Services Mental Health Coordinator, Linda Gibbins Croft LCSW. We are also blessed to welcome Tracy Fried MSW to our Community Mental Health team. Tracy will primarily be assigned to Active Minds suicide prevention and screening counseling intakes in the office.

Events & Activities

This summer, we held 3 Question, Persuade, and Refer suicide prevention seminars. The August QPR gathered 14 students for a 1 hour session. Students came from the Career/Transfer Center, Business Office, Health Education, Outreach DSPS and general summer students. QPR will be coming soon to the campus again!

Mark Malebranch RN PhD presented to several student groups on our services during their various orientation sessions.

Innovations & Data

Data: 503 students connected with our office faculty and staff in August.

Our Fall 2018 Retreat presentations ranged from Chiropractic care to the use of psychedelic micro dosing for trauma resolution. Mesa student Kennedy Carrothers provided an excellent presentation on the benefits of sushi and we all took turns rolling up vegetarian sushi. Tracy Fried designed an experiential activity to engage us in the conversation about Student Pathways. Laura Milligan FNP presented a heartwarming presentation about the struggling people in Bangladesh. Laura spent a couple of weeks in Bangladesh serving in a rural clinic as an NP. Robin Perry RN presented on 'Forest Bathing.' This is about practicing mindfulness in the forest.

Student Success Stories

We were able to help students use our systems to get enrolled in specialty programs to assist them with student success.

Policies & Procedures

Mimi Vu SSSA is working on writing new front office procedures.

Special Recognition

Laura Milligan FNP is our special recognition faculty member this month for her ongoing humanitarian efforts in rural third world countries. Laura also spent hours putting together her slides from her trip and provided valuable education about Bangladesh.

Student Success & Equity

Events & Activities

- Larry Maxey and Johanna Aleman participated in the Administrators Leadership Retreat and facilitated a panel discussion at Convocation on basic needs support.
- Student Equity and the campus community coordinated Mesa's first farmers market of the semester during welcome week. It was a great success; we distributed over 8,600 lbs of food to over 800 households.

Innovations & Data

Direct Student Support - Fall 2018 as of 8/31/2018

- 54 applications have received for the spring 2018 semester.
- 39 students have been assessed 37 received assistance.
- \$6420 in assistance has been given out. \$5350 in book assistance, \$700 in food cards and \$370 in bus passes.
- \$300.00 is the maximum amount awarded.
- We have provided 3 backpacks with supplies.

The Stand

- The first two weeks of the fall semester The Stand provided 834 transactions to 421 individual students.
- We provided students with a total of 2468 items of food.
- We have begun advertising the increased the number of 100 allowable points to students.
- The Stand Farmer's Market held its first fall event on Thursday August 23rd, where we provided 8600 pounds of food to 820 households in 3 hours. 702 of which identified as students.

Special Recognition

Special thank you to Karen Geida who has stepped up in the absence of a program director and has done an excellent job. Thank you for your hard work.

Transfer

Employee Updates

- Eric Hernandez returned to our team we are super happy to have his experience in the TCE.
- Jacob Kuschnick started this summer and is getting into the TCE swing of things. He is an excellent member of the team.
- Transfer Career plans to hire an additional counselor this fall
- Gity Nematollahi is still with the TCE. She comes back to Mesa on Fridays to support transfer.

Events & Activities

- TCE Open House
- SDSU Summer One on One visits
- Retail Management Ed plans sent to Fall Cohort Group
- PACE program courses offered
- SDEC Community College workshop created for Region X community colleges
- Planning for SDEC Mini Fairs 9/19/18
- Planning for Transfer Day Reach for the Stars 10/2
- Planning for Campus Bus Trips

Innovations & Data

- 9 transfer workshops
- 4 campus tabling events
- Transfer Center officially passed off the Majors Fair to the Work Based Learning coordinators when they came on board. We revived an old event to coordinate with guided pathways.
- New this Fall CSU Application Group Workshops

Student Success Stories

After much advocacy another ADT student who was denied from SDSU upon final review of transcripts had her offer of admission reinstated. She started this Fall! She was an honors student at Mesa and Business major at SDSU.

Policies & Procedures

New this Fall CSU Application Group Workshops

Special Recognition

- Gity Nematollahi is juggling ERP Monday through Friday and Transfer Center on Fridays. She is amazing and cranks out as much work as we can send her way.
- Olivia Picolla continues to support multiple projects in the TCE. She is doing an incredible job we appreciate all her hard work for the Transfer Center.
- Thank you Gity and Olivia you are Transfer Center all-stars!

Veterans & Records

Events & Activities

Getting ready for the Veterans Celebration Week happening the Week of Nov. 6th. Looking to have the Vet recognition wall, flag dedication fundraiser, bbq, relaxation tent, SD Vet Center Rep, Veterans Panel, other activities TBD.

Innovations & Data

Veterans is working on the Veterans Internship Program which will include -

- program sign-up in the fall
- an internship in the spring, students
- program recognition at the Veterans Recognition Ceremony where interns will present their internship experience videos. We will be working closely with CSUSM to prepare them for their internship program that will take place during the summer.

Special Recognition

Career Center, Charlie Lieu for their support, guidance and collaboration of the Veterans Internship Program

Vice President Student Services

Events & Activities

- Vice President Hands participated and/or presented at the following welcome activities: Convocation, Adjunct Convocation, Honors Program Student Orientation, New Faculty Institute & Meet & Greet, Farmers Market and other Welcome Week activities
- The M&M Team hosted/coordinated a Meet & Greet for the eleven (11) new student services employees hired/promoted since the end of January 2018.
- The building safety group will reconvene in September. Our annual meeting dates have been established.

Mesa Pathways

- In August, Mesa Pathways Committee members participated in a Committee Launch Retreat where we discussed our Why, reviewed data, fine-tuned committee logistics and engaged conversations about equity and change. MPC also participated in Convocation activities which highlighted an amazing [video](#) created by Olivia Picolla telling our Why along with an invitation for the campus to engage the process. This fall, Mesa will enter into a Guided Pathways Coaching partnership with Dr. Al Solano. Dr. Solano's coaching will help us with structures, processes, training and technical support to implement Guided Pathways. A campus-wide invitation to engage Mesa Pathways will be launched in September. Additional information can be found [here](#).

Innovations & Data

- New "Ask Mesa" button added to the side of our commonly used Student Service pages. This added shortcut will direct students to our Ask Mesa tool where they can see the top 10 questions students are asking or type in a question of their own. Thank you to all the student service departments who helped to clean up the Ask Mesa Knowledge Base.
- New [AS Card Registration](#) form. We now have a system to track new AS Card members.
- Launched "Student Services Questions Project". All student service personnel (Classified Professionals, Coordinators, Counselors, Managers, and Deans) are invited to submit frequently asked questions in their program/department. This information will be used to improve the navigation of our web pages to help students find what they need more easily, hopefully reducing the number of phone calls, emails, and questions. To submit a question go to: <http://sdmesa.edu/questions/>
- Collaborated with Mesa librarians Sean Flores and Lisa Burgert to update the [Course Reserves](#) page. New FAQ page and video tutorial.

Policies & Procedures

- Student Services created and distributed a [Helpful Resources for Students](#) Flyer