



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

- The Board of Trustees approved the increase of a 50% SSA position to a 1.0 in Admissions
- New SST started Feb 1st. Danielle Short has joined the Evaluations team at Mesa! She comes to us from the Career Center here on campus and has a lot of experience working with our students in student services. We are excited to have her on board!

Events & Activities

- Student Services Hosted the Stand Grand Opening. More than 150 students were served in February.
- Our Career Center is working very hard to coordinate this year's spring Career Week and Job Fair. Career week begins April 24th - the 27th. The Job Fair will be held Thursday April 27th at the Mesa Promenade from 9a.m.-1p.m.
- Embedded Counseling has evolved to prioritize Counseling Hot Spot in three locations: the Humanities Building, the Math and Science building, and the MT2C Center in the LRC. Embedded Counseling is now available both in the classroom and also at Counseling Hot Spots where Basic Skills students can receive drop-in counseling services. Hot Spot rooms/ offices were reserved, and weekly hours were established for services at each site. Outreach and promotional efforts have begun including outreach through Math and English Department chairs as well as introductory orientation workshop offerings in Basic Skills classes. Hot Spots for Student -Athletes has officially started. Our Athletics Counselor is housed in the EXSC building twice a week for 2 hours to bring our services directly to the students.

- San Diego Mesa's Second Year Experience Program's Advancing Diverse Vocational Opportunities and Community (ADVOC8) is in its recruitment phase and is generating a good amount of interest. The application period will close at the end of April. The Summer kick-off will be in the month of August with the first cohort scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2017.
- DSPS participated in several outreach events during the month of February. On February 14th and 15th, members of the DSPS team shared information about available support services to our ESOL program participants. On Saturday, February 25th, we participated in Jump Start 2017 and on February 28th, we participated in the Financial Aid Student Information Fair.
- EOPS collaborated with other Region 10 EOPS offices to plan a Student Leadership Conference. We had seven Mesa College students participate in the conference on 2/24 at USD.
- Borderless Scholars in collaboration with RISE (Rising Immigrant Scholars Through Education) Club is hosting a three day event, A Week in Our Shoes (March 6th - March 9) with the goal to educate, create awareness, provide resources and provide a safe space for our undocumented students to share their stories.
- Financial Aid staff had a table and provided aid application presentations in English and Spanish at "Jumpstart" with Mesa: on February 25th and held two events (morning and evening) as part of the Financial Aid Information Fair on February 28th.
- In conjunction with Proyecto Exito and Conexiones, the Peer Navigator program piloted a speaker series highlighting Coach Manny Bautista. His narrative serves as motivation for students and an inspiration to all. Speaker series aims to share narrative of our faculty, staff, and administrators. As provided by feedback from students, event was successful.
- The Black College Expo Field Trip, coordinated by the Transfer Center, was held on Feb 11.
- Veterans is planning the Inaugural Veterans Graduation Ceremony being held on May 19th.

Innovations & Data

- The ASG officially has a full senate and now have over 30 members. Wow! We can't wait to keep expanding and work hard to help students have a great experience at Mesa this semester.
- Based upon self-reported data gathered during January and February, most students (73%) actively prepared to take their exams, utilizing the resources and materials made available by Assessment. Of those students who did not prepare, many reported that they chose to take the test without studying, a sentiment often heard expressed to the staff, particularly from students returning to college after extended periods. However, we were tentatively able to ascertain that approximately 9% of students assessed during this period were reportedly unaware of the existence of study/preparation materials. Assessment personnel are discussing strategies to drive down the number of students who are unaware of assistance resources, and have already changed language utilized on the Mesa website and in the Accuplacer instructions in an effort to generate additional awareness.
- The HSI Classroom Tutor pilot program had 509 student contacts in the month of February. This is impressive considering the first few weeks of the semester students do not seek out tutoring and February is a short month. Way to go CTs!
- STAR TRIO is currently serving 204 students (up from 190 in January).
- In hopes of reducing the number of Academic Integrity cases, Student Affairs is working with the writing and tutoring center to create plagiarism workshops for our students to provide guidance with plagiarism questions.

- Student Success and Equity has given out \$3650.00 in book vouchers (26 students).
- Preliminary numbers for Mesa's 2017/18 SD Promise Cohort is 286 students.

Student Success Stories

- Garrett Eldred, Student Ambassador and Mesa College Student Athlete, has committed to Mississippi Valley State University, a Division I school, on a full football scholarship. He will begin his stint as a Delta Devil in the fall and is grateful for all the opportunities that Mesa College has offered him in his short time here. He hopes to make positive, impactful changes during his remaining time at Mesa as a Student Ambassador. He says: "My hope is that I am leaving this institution better than I found it because I truly am a more improved individual than the person I was when I first got here. So finally, THANK YOU Mesa College and GO OLYMPIANS!"
- Two years ago a traumatized student arrived from war torn Syria to Mesa College. The student was supported by our group and a position in our office was provided. Last week the student returned for a visit. The student is now studying Biology at UCSD and is doing wonderfully. The student relates a feeling of gratitude toward the SHS staff/faculty and appreciates the feeling of being a part of a family. The student has friends at UCSD and is experiencing academic success.
- Student Services received a \$3000 check in support of the Stand from an external donor.

Policies/Procedures

- Student Development is working on the Integration of the Basic Skills Initiative (BSI), Student Equity Program, (SE), and Student Success and Support Program (SSSP).
- The JED Foundation seeks to improve campus mental wellness to prevent mental illness and suicide. After 5 years of work, Sue Sharader Hanes LMFT was informed that MESA was awarded the JED seal. The JED seal acknowledges that Mesa Student Health has the activities and policies in place that create a supportive environment for mental wellness, suicide case finding and suicide prevention on campus. Our work will be continuing as we reach out to the campus community to further improve our policies to prevent suicide.

Admissions

Employee Updates

The Board of Trustees approved the increase of a 50% SSA position to a 1.0. Thank you!

Events & Activities

We processed a record of 25 Common Applications in one day due to the USD deadline!

Innovations & Data

In collaboration with Instruction, 13 LCOM classes are being taught this semester at Mesa. This is an academic opportunity for our students as traditionally we have only offered the Mesa and Puente Academy Learning Communities.

Student Success Stories

On 1/29/17 President Trump signed the Executive Order 13769 on travel ban and despite the order our impacted students made it to San Diego Mesa College and are thriving in our classrooms.

Associated Student Government

Employee Updates

President Ava Fakhrabadi, Vice President Johanna Eriksson, and Treasurer Tad Tobar will soon be going through those who applied to the Associated Student Government scholarships and selecting students to receive these amazing opportunities!

Events & Activities

We participated in Jumpstart which was a blast! We are also beginning to plan a carnival event and will keep everyone updated with what that will look like!

Innovations & Data

We officially have a full senate and now have over 30 members in our associated student government! Wow! We can't wait to keep expanding and work hard to help students have a great experience at Mesa this semester.

Assessment

Events & Activities

Assessment & Testing hosted an information table at the Saturday on the Mesa: Jumpstart Your Success event and provided prospective students, as well as other Mesa departments, with information on the different resources available for student to prepare for the placement exams. Staff highlighted the partnership with MT2C where students can receive one hour of tutoring support in English and math prior to taking the placement exams.

Innovations & Data

Based upon self-reported data gathered during January and February, most students (73%) actively prepared to take their exams, utilizing the resources and materials made available by Assessment. Of those students who did not prepare, many reported that they chose to take the test without studying, a sentiment often heard expressed to the staff, particularly from students returning to college after extended periods. However, we were tentatively able to ascertain that approximately 9% of students assessed during this period were reportedly unaware of the existence of study/preparation materials. Assessment personnel are discussing strategies to drive down the number of students who are unaware of assistance resources, and have already changed language utilized on the Mesa website and in the Accuplacer instructions in an effort to generate additional awareness.

Policies/Procedures

Assessment & Testing continues to collaborate with Outreach to improve/streamline communications to feeder high schools regarding large group testing of high school students in the Assessment labs. We hope that the collaboration proves to make the process easier for the high schools as well as the Outreach and Assessment departments moving forward.

Assessment & Testing continues its work regarding the MMAP pilot as well as the English challenge testing pilot.

Special Recognition

Kudos to Naayieli Bravo for her proactive approach to informing students of placement prep resources. Naayieli saw an opportunity to get in front of students and talk with them about test prep options and took the lead on the department's first community outreach effort with participation in Jumpstart.

Career

Employee Updates

Olivia Picolla has become the new lead staff member for the Career Center while a new Senior SSA is being hired for Career.

We will soon be making a job announcement posting for a replacement for the Career Centers SSSA position.

Events & Activities

Our Career Center is working very hard to coordinate this year's spring Career Week and Job Fair. Career week begins April 24th - the 27th. The Job Fair will be held Thursday April 27th at the Mesa Promenade from 9a.m.-1p.m.

Career Center staff participated in the Student Services Fair.

Special Recognition

Olivia Picolla has been accepted to SDSU for Fall 2017.

The Career Center would like to thank and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the Student Success and Equity Department. This office has forged such an important support system for student in development of The Stand. The Career Center is very fortunate to have a great working relationship and partnership with this amazing department in its continual efforts to practice equity when assisting our students!

Counseling

Employee Updates

In January we hired Ruben Leyva, Senior Student Services Assistant.

Events & Activities

Embedded Counseling has evolved to prioritize Counseling Hot Spot in three locations: the Humanities Building, the Math and Science building, and the MT2C Center in the LRC. Embedded Counseling is now available both in the classroom and also at Counseling Hot Spots where Basic Skills students can receive drop-in counseling services. Hot Spot rooms/ offices were reserved, and weekly hours were established for services at each site. Outreach and promotional efforts have begun including outreach through Math and English Department chairs as well as introductory orientation workshop offerings in Basic Skills classes.

Hot Spots for Student -Athletes has officially started. Our Athletics Counselor is housed in the EXSC building twice a week for 2 hours to bring our services directly to the students.

San Diego Mesa's Second Year Experience Program's Advancing Diverse Vocational Opportunities and Community ADVOC8) is in its recruitment phase and is generating a good amount of interest. The application period will close at the end of April. The Summer kick-off will be in the month of August with the first cohort scheduled to begin in the Fall of 2017.

Innovations & Data

We certified 15 students in February for the UCLA TAP program.

The General Counseling numbers for February:

- Appointments 504
- Drop-ins 1,560
- Phone calls 1,240
- Workshops 32

Special Recognition

Judy Sundayo Chairs the Committee for Diversity, Action, Inclusion and Equity (CDAIE) CDAIE collaborated with the Black Studies Department and SEPIA (funded through Student Services and Equity) to host over a dozen activities to celebrate Black History Month.

Also, CDAIE launched the "San Diego Mesa College: Who Do You Think you Are" project, co-sponsored by Ancestry.com so that students, faculty, and staff on our campus can receive a discount on genetic testing to enable exploration of genetic histories and how they overlap with culture and concepts of race. Selected participants will share their stories during Cultural Unity Week, April 10-14.

DSPS

Events & Activities

DSPS participated in several outreach events during the month of February. On February 14th and 15th, members of the DSPS team shared information about available support services to our ESOL program participants. On Saturday, February 25th, we participated in Jump Start 2017 and on February 28th, we participated in the Financial Aid Student Information Fair.

Laura Gorham and Joseph Pritchett hosted a workshop on Educational Planning for students with disabilities on February 14th. They will be offering this session as a webinar prior to summer and fall registration with the hopes of reaching a broader audience.

Innovations & Data

For the month of February, there were 257 counseling appointments and 987 drop-ins. 141 exams were proctored and 93 students logged 900 hours in the High Tech Center. Additionally there were two tutoring trainings conducted to MT2C tutors, writing center tutors and CTs. A total of 260 hours of tutoring (equity) was provided in the High Tech Center.

Special Recognition

We would like to recognize our classified staff for their flexibility and unwavering commitment to student service during the first several weeks of the semester.

EOPS/CARE

Employee Updates

- Nicole Judd is working out of class to help cover the Student Assistant Tech position left vacant by Jackie Szitta.
- Kenia Suarez who has been working as a veteran student assistant for the past three years has been hired as a NANC to help with front desk coverage.
- Selam Gebrekristos is a new adjunct counselor in our office, she will be taking on some of the CARE Coordinator responsibilities while Karen Geida is out on sabbatical.
- We hired two new veteran student assistants, Kevin Brown and Adrian Mejia.
- We have a new graduate intern from SDSU, Carole Thompson, who is assisting us with student follow up and planning the end of the year Achievement Ceremony.

Events & Activities

EOPS collaborated with other Region 10 EOPS offices to plan a Student Leadership Conference. We had seven Mesa College students participate in the conference on 2/24 at USD.

Borderless Scholars in collaboration with RISE (Rising Immigrant Scholars Through Education) Club is hosting a three day event, A Week in Our Shoes (March 6th - March 9) with the goal to educate, create awareness, provide resources and provide a safe space for our undocumented students to share their stories.

Innovations & Data

EOPS will be serving an estimated 750 students this academic year. This is close to a 10% increase in the number of students served compared to the 2015-2016 academic year.

- EOPS staff processed over 750 applications for Spring 2017
- 250 students met eligibility criteria
- 220 students attended orientation

Policies/Procedures

Homeless students can be referred to Lisa Naungayan in the EOPS Office. Students will be provided with community resources, campus information regarding shower access, The Stand, EOPS Application and other relevant services. Students will be referred to Financial Aid to file FAFSA. Verification of homeless status for priority registration for students under the age of 25 will be completed through the financial aid application process.

Evaluations

Employee Updates

New SST started Feb 1st. Danielle Short has joined the Evaluations team at Mesa! She comes to us from the Career Center here on campus and has a lot of experience working with our students in student services. We are excited to have her on board!

Events & Activities

Evaluation Staff attended the Student Services Fair to provide information to students about graduation and commencement.

Evaluations is working very hard on commencement 2017 preparations for student registrations and petitions to graduate. This work will continue through the end of the semester.

Special Recognition

We would like to thank the office of communications. Jennifer and her team have met with the evaluations office throughout the month of February to help with all the commencement marketing. They have been an amazing partner!

Financial Aid

Employee Updates

Kesia Williams marked her 5th month with the Financial Aid Office.

Events & Activities

Financial Aid staff had a table and provided aid application presentations in English and Spanish at "Jumpstart" with Mesa: on February 25th and held two events (morning and evening) as part of the Financial Aid Information Fair on February 28th.

Innovation & Data

- 1) Continue to do the best with our current automated system.
- 2) During the month of February, we paid \$5,780,932.83 in direct aid funds to students.
- 3) ERP project meetings are twice a week until full participation resumes in March.

Policies & Procedures

No changes after the start of an academic year. We are evaluating and delineating the regulatory changes required for the 17-18 academic year.

Special Recognition

Pilar, Lili, Randy, Kesia, Alma, Flor, Barbara, Robin and Charleigh for volunteering their Saturday morning to make our participation at the "Jumpstart" event possible. To Pilar, Sky and Cathy for another great Financial Aid Fair.

HSI/Title V

Events & Activities

Proyecto Exito co-sponsored a LatinX Alliance event, Campus Conexiones along with the HSI STEM Grant and CRUISE program. The first in a monthly series, Campus Conexiones is an event for LaxtinX employees to share their unique journeys with students and connect with them as a support system. Manny Batista was the first of many LatinX employees to engage with students in this format.

Innovations & Data

The Classroom Tutor pilot program had 509 student contacts in the month of February. This is impressive considering the first few weeks of the semester students do not seek out tutoring and February is a short month. Way to go CTs!

Policies/Procedures

CT program has instituted using SARS to not only manage each of the differing tutor schedules, but also to improve tracking of student attendance in CT sessions. This is unique for an instructional service to use a system that is traditionally a student services method of tracking student engagement.

Outreach & Community Relations

Employee Updates

Garett Eldred started working with Outreach as a Student Ambassador in February. He rounds out our ambassador team for 2016-17.

Events & Activities

Outreach hosted students from the Monarch School on February 14th. Monarch is a K-12 public school that exclusively serves homeless children. We had 53 students whose grade level ranged 6th-8th grade. The students heard from Outreach, EOPS, Career, and concluded with a campus tour. They all look forward to being future Olympians!

Outreach ambassadors participated in the Spring 2017 Financial Aid Student Information Fair, helping Financial Aid to have a successful event.

Outreach played a major role in the Saturday on the Mesa: Jumpstart Your Success event organizing check in, hosting campus tours, and interacting with prospective students and parents.

Innovations & Data

Outreach continues to work on the MMAP pilot and will start working with the pilot high schools in March.

Student Success Stories

Garett Eldred, Student Ambassador and Mesa College Student Athlete, has committed to Mississippi Valley State University, a Division I school, on a full football scholarship. He will begin his stint as a Delta Devil in the fall and is grateful for all the opportunities that Mesa College has offered him in his short time here. He hopes to make positive, impactful changes during his remaining time at Mesa as a Student Ambassador. He says: "My hope is that I am leaving this institution better than I found it because I truly am a more improved individual than the person I was when I first got here. So finally, THANK YOU Mesa College and GO OLYMPIANS!"

Special Recognition

Special recognition going out to Cassie Casares, Student Ambassador and SEEDS Scholar, who was selected to attend a USDA/NIFA conference as part of the SEEDS program. Cassie not only got to learn more about the different pathways students in STEM can enter the USDA workforce but also presented her poster on the Mesa College Sustainability Summit Mesa to conference attendees as well.

Peer Navigators/Summer CRUISE

Employee Updates

One Peer Navigator stepped down from the program. As a result, students have been evenly distributed among Peer Navigators.

Events & Activities

In conjunction with Proyecto Exitto and Conexiones, the Peer Navigator program piloted a speaker series highlighting Coach Manny Bautista. His narrative serves as motivation for students and an inspiration to all. Speaker series aims to share narrative of our faculty, staff, and administrators. As provided by feedback from students, event was successful.

Peer Navigators also held their monthly workshop focusing on how to get involved on campus (clubs, ASG, groups) and invited current students to speak about their experience. Two sessions were held to best outreach to our students. Surveys distributed revealed appreciation for Peer Navigators and their work.

Continuing from last semester, monthly movie night presented Zootopia followed by a discussion on social justice and how it is not only portrayed in the film but how it also applies to current events. Snacks and drinks were provided during film. All efforts are aimed to best connect with students.

Innovations & Data

Program is piloting new check-in method to replace current method (paper signature). Daniel created draft on Google sheets with hopes program can implement it in the near future. System would require iPad and reflect current technology.

Student Success Stories

Prior to our movie night, a CRUISE student walked in and asked if they could grab a slice of pizza before headed to work. During our chat, student revealed a need in public support and lacks stable housing/food. Reached out to Johanna who put me in touch with Sasha Verastegui, CalWORKs Coordinator, to see how we could best assist. Student's situation requires additional support, but the support of Johanna and Sasha led student to express their gratitude and felt more at ease knowing Mesa is here to support/assist.

Policies/Procedures

Program mission has been added to weekly agenda to begin revision. Recruitment for new team of Peer Navigators is starting and PN manual is being updated to reflect responsibilities and commitment to the program.

Special Recognition

The Peer Navigators continue to support their students by showing up to events and welcoming students to center! Also, Johanna and Sasha for their assistance and follow-up.

STAR TRIO

Events & Activities

Program participated in the opening of The Stand. Conducted 11 New Student Orientations

Innovations & Data

Currently serving 204 students (up from 190 in January).

Student Affairs

Employee Updates

We are currently the same happy team which includes: Victoria Miller, Dean of Student Affairs; Claudia Perkins, Student Conduct Officer; Kathy Fennesey, Senior Secretary; Courtney Lee, Senior Student Services Assistant; and Shanelle Watkins, Graduate Assistant

Events & Activities

Spring 2017 Welcome Week – This semester's Welcome Week series of events (straddling the months from January 30 to February 2) featured many improvements to process and infrastructure, including moving the sign-up form for hosting a Welcome Week event, which simultaneously builds the Welcome Week Schedule of Events, online. Various faculty, staff, administrators and students provided a combined total of 136 volunteer hours to staff the Welcome Week Information Centers over its two days of operation, which recorded roughly 945 verified contacts with students (the actual total is probably twice that, if not more, but I do not have a method in place capable of tracking every student that approaches for assistance). The most common information requested by students was how to find a particular room or building on campus. Altogether, Welcome Week included 15 special activities hosted or provided by 10 Mesa College academic Departments and Service Areas.

Spring 2017 Club Rush – This semester's Club Rush event ran from February 14 to February 16 and included representation by 18 Mesa College Clubs. Most clubs reported a successful membership drive, with a verified total of 220 sign-ups recorded across all participant groups. The new Women's Alliance club was particularly successful, as was the Film Club. In addition, 56 signatures were gathered for a student petition to the ASG for an increase in Vending 5000 funds, and the support of several major student organizations was likewise garnered through collaboration during Club Rush. We also provided tabling space for non-campus groups that had been invited by the Career & Transfer Center, though due to the increase in club population and participation we should coordinate with other campus departments next semester to ensure there are no conflicts or confusion with who goes where and which set up belongs to whom.

Spring 2017 Club Orientation – This semester's Club Orientation was held in the new Mesa Commons building, room MC-211A&B, which for perhaps the first time in memory is actually large enough to accommodate all of our representatives comfortably. The Orientation was attended by 27 club representatives and officers, as well as one advisor. The ICC Executive Board was, of course, also present. The total runtime of the orientation presentation was 48 minutes, only our second-shortest orientation to date (the record is 42 minutes, from the Fall 2016 orientation).

Dean Victoria Miller and Student Conduct Officer, Claudia Perkins, presented the workshop, Student Conduct 101, at two department meetings and as a flex opportunity in the LOFT. The workshop included: addressing concerning behavior in the classroom, assisting student to reflect on their behavior to initiate change, creating a respectful learning environment and an overview of the conduct process. In addition, in hopes of reducing the number of Academic Integrity cases, the conduct office is working with the writing and tutoring center to create plagiarism workshops for our students to provide guidance with plagiarism questions

Jump Start 2017! We had a total of 250 attendees participate, over 14 workshop sessions and 35 department tables. The program started with a breakfast and warm welcome from Dr. Luster, Academic Senate President, Classified Senate and ASG President. Following this, our prospective students were able to participate in various workshops or join the Resource Fair. We concluded our program with a delicious lunch and Cultural Entertainment. We also awarded (4) \$250 Scholarships during the event. It was an exceptional day and great way to showcase Mesa and what we have to offer!

Scholarships!! A total of 354 applications were received. The Reference Request deadline is March 10, 2017. The online review process takes place March 13-24th. All recipients must be identified by the end of the day on March 24th. Our Scholarship Awards Ceremony will be held at the DoubleTree in Mission Valley on Friday, April 28th, at 5:30 pm.

Innovations & Data

In hopes of reducing the number of Academic Integrity cases, the conduct office is working with the writing and tutoring center to create plagiarism workshops for our students to provide guidance with plagiarism questions.

Student Success Stories

Exciting NEWS! ASG students are starting to receive acceptance letters from Universities! We are excited to see where our student leaders will choose to attend.

Special Recognition

Office of Student Affairs and Financial Aid Office worked very closely to assist Student Athletes that were in financial hardships. Financial Aid went above and beyond to help the students. The Financial Aid team is a group of caring, hard working doers that make things happen! Special Shout out to Gilda Maldonado and Pilar Ezeta for closely collaborating with the Dean of Exercise Science / Athletics, Dean of Equity and Dean of Student Affairs for finding solutions that meet our students where they are at. WAY TO GO TEAM FINANCIAL AID!!!

Student Development

Employee Updates

Danielle Short was hired as the SST for Transfer, Evaluation, and Career Center Leroy Johnson was elected to be the next Counseling Department Chairperson beginning July 2017

Events & Activities

Excited about Student Development areas represented at the Jump Start event to include Counseling, Transfer, Career, Evaluations, Student Veterans Union, in addition to the following workshops: How We Celebrate Diversity at Mesa College by Dr. Sundayo, Puente Project Information Session by Raul Rodriguez, First Year Experience by Amber Alatorre, Transfer Basics by Leroy Johnson, and How to Choose a College Major/Overview of Career Services by Raquel Sojourner.

Innovations & Data

Continued development and preparation of the new online orientation. Preparation is underway for the upcoming video shoot in March. Collaborative efforts between the Dean of Student Development, Communications Office, Webmaster, and Tech Analyst on the online orientation. Approval received to move forward with the virtual campus tour. Planning stages for the virtual campus tour. Fall 2015 and Fall 2016 comparison data show a decrease in the number of San Diego Mesa College students enrolled and missing one or more SSSP service. For example:

- % Missing an Ed Plan - 32% in 2015, down to 24% in 2016
- % Missing Orientation - 20% in 2015, down to 15% in 2016
- % Missing Assessment - 19% in 2015, down to 10% in 2016

Student Success Stories

In the area of Professional Development, SSSP is supporting the professional development opportunities for contract and adjunct counseling faculty to receive MBTI and Strong Training. School of Student Development and Student Success & Equity are working collaboratively to plan future school meetings. Dean of Student Development and Student Success & Equity are working together on the SSSP and SSE report to President's Cabinet. General Counseling Position was announced and will close in March. Successful professional development for Mesa College Personal Growth Faculty on Friday, February 25 with a special focus on various technology platforms, course learning outcomes, and helping struggling students. Veterans Who Salsa will be back this semester, under the leadership of student Alejandro Barajas.

Policies/Procedures

Integration of Basic Skills Initiative (BSI), Student Equity Program, (SE), and Student Success and Support Program (SSSP).

Special Recognition

To Miriam Pacheco for facilitating the College Promise Meet & Greet along with Genevieve Esguerra, in addition to the rest of the faculty and students on 2/2/17. Special thanks to Laura Mathis for taking the lead role in

organizing the Personal Growth faculty retreat. Special thanks to Dean Maxey, Dean of Student Success and Equity for continuing to support many Student Development equity related events. To Kristy Carson for implementing the MAAP Hot Spots. To Adrienne Dines for implementing the International Student Hot Spots. Adam Erlenbusch for his continued assistance with the Counselor Resource List. Barbara Plandor for assisting with supervision responsibilities of Transfer, Evaluation, and Career Center while Claudia Estrada is on maternity leave.

Student Health Services

Events & Activities

Welcome Week was an extraordinary experience as our Peer Educators played Root Beer Pong with 160+ students over a 2 day event. Students were asked to throw a ping pong ball into a cup of Root Beer. If they got the ball into the cup (and everyone eventually did), they were asked questions about alcohol/substance use and abuse. The questions doubled as on-the-spot teaching tools to inform students about the dangers of alcohol and illicit drugs. Students then received fun prizes along with their alcohol education.

Our mini health survey (n=143) reveals that 40% of respondents reported feeling sad, helpless hopeless or depressed. We also found that 60% of respondents had none or infrequent feelings of sadness, helpless, hopelessness or depression. At the Financial Aid Fair students often commented that they didn't know about our mental health services. The Peer Educators are improving their plan to get the information about mental health services out to students. A campus wide student-staff-faculty mental health survey was performed in February by the Rand Corporation. We will have additional information when these results are presented.

Suzanne Khambata FNP presented on a panel for the annual UCSD Medical Education For Diverse Students (MEDS) Conference on February 11th. This conference encourages students with diverse backgrounds to enter into the Medical field. Hundreds of students from many Community Colleges attended.

Rebecca Lee LMFT started a student group named "Sweet Talk" to educate students about personal communication and building relationships. This enables students to learn how to be social, meet others and create friendships. Michael Booth LMFT is continuing the tradition of the "Recovery From Addiction" group. Sue Shrader Hanes continues to provide the LGBTQIA (questioning, intersex and asexual are the last 3 initials) group "Come as You Are".

Innovations & Data

We are preparing a Campus Assessment for this semester on the spiritual, physical and mental health needs of our students in conjunction with the American College Health Association. Our results will be compiled as a campus and as compared to all other campuses who completed the assessment.

The JED Foundation supports colleges and universities to prevent the precursors to suicide and mental illness. The JED Foundation met with us this week in preparation for a campus visit on June 12th

Student Success Stories

Two years ago a traumatized student arrived from war torn Syria to Mesa College. The student was supported by our group and a position in our office was provided. Last week the student returned for a visit. The student is now studying Biology at UCSD and is doing wonderfully. The student relates a feeling of gratitude toward the SHS staff/faculty and appreciates the feeling of being a part of a family. The student has friends at UCSD and is experiencing academic success.

Policies/Procedures

The JED Foundation seeks to improve campus mental wellness to prevent mental illness and suicide. After 5 years of work, Sue Sharader Hanes LMFT was informed that MESA was awarded the JED seal. The JED seal acknowledges that Mesa Student Health has the activities and policies in place that create a supportive environment for mental wellness, suicide case finding and suicide prevention on campus. Our work will be continuing as we reach out to the campus community to further improve our policies to prevent suicide.

Special Recognition

We want to go outside of our office for this recognition: Special recognition is given to "The Stand". We now have an excellent on-campus referral for our students in need. Our thanks to them for all they do!.

Student Success & Equity

Employee Updates

- Lupita Fernandez was hired by the CalWORK's Program to provide program and student support.
Welcome Lupita

Events & Activities

- ***The Stand Grand Opening***
- Host of Black History Month Events in collaboration with SEPIA (An Equity Initiative), Including but not limited to: Rosa Parks Birthday Recognition & Libation
- STEAM DISCUSSION: The Brains Behind Black Brilliance (Architecture)
- Black Folks and the Blues
- SEPIA Emotional Emancipation Circle
- The Healing Drums
- Healing Drums
- Open MIC: Poets Speak Out
- An Afternoon with Sonia Sanchez
- Student Diversity Club Luncheon
- Kuumba Fest
- "How We Celebrate Diversity at Mesa College"
- The Langston Hughes Project: Ask Yo Mama-12 Moods for Jazz
- The Healing Drums
- FILM: Walk All Night: A Drum Beat Journey

Innovation & Data

Direct Support Program Highlights:

- 52 applications have been received to date this semester
- 4 students received only supplies or food (prior to the opening of The Stand)
- 47 students received direct support
- 91% (43 of 47) have complete orientation and assessment
- 76.5% (36 of 47) have education plans on file
- \$3650.00 in book vouchers were given out (26 students)
- \$1075.00 in café cards were given out (34 students)
- We have given a total of \$5265 in direct assistance for books, food, printing and transportation averaging \$112 per a student
- We have purchased 3 semester bus passes and handed out 2 day bus passes
- 7 students received backpacks or other supplies
- 6 students received food

The Stand:

- (As of Feb 27th) 353 food services to 169 individual students
- We have provided Professional Clothing to 24 students

Special Recognition

Special Recognition to Judy Sundayo, Thekima Mayasa and the rest of the SEPIA team for the coordination of numerous equity related events and activities designed to promote connectedness and build sense of belonging amongst our African America Students.

Transfer

Employee Updates

Maternity Leave: Claudia Estrada

Events & Activities

Black College Expo Field Trip, Feb 11

Innovation & Data

282 total student contacts

Student Success Stories

Students are receiving their acceptance to many universities!

Special Recognition

Claudia for being a trooper.

Veterans & Records

Employee Updates

Finished working on Breakfast Social event is ready to roll out next month (March)

Events & Activities

Planning the Inaugural Veterans Graduation Ceremony being held on May 19th.

Vice President Student Services

Employee Update

Vice President Hands served on a Senior Leaders in Student Affairs Panel for SDSU Master's students

Daniel helped with the planning, launch, operations and Grand Opening for The Stand; worked with Sade and EOPS to create a webpage for the Borderless Scholars program and with DSPS and the Hi-Tech Center to create a webpage detailing captioning resources available to the campus; helped coordinate the installation of new computers for students in TCE; helped coordinate updates and maintenance for the student computers in the Student Engagement Center; has been working with the Office of Communications to help coordinate and schedule students for casting and filming a new online orientation; and has been working with the MMAP team and Joel Arias to construct and pilot a software assistant to suggest recommended MMAP outcomes for prospective high school students.

Events & Activities

- Student Services Hosted the Stand Grand Opening
- Hosted 2nd Annual Saturday on the Mesa: Jumpstart Your Success Event
 - 250 student and family participants
 - 15 workshops
 - 32 Information Tables
 - 3 Student Performances
 - 4 Scholarships towards registration at Mesa College in the Summer or Fall
- Hosted 3 Student Services Outcomes Across the Campus Sessions

Innovations & Data

- Preliminary numbers for Mesa's 2017/18 SD Promise Cohort is 286 students.
- Launched campus website housing important immigration information for students.
- Launched Equity Efforts Assessment partnership with the Center for Urban Education.
- Our EEA will be an expansive assessment of our current equity initiatives which include:
 - mapping each initiative
 - identifying areas of intersection
 - evaluating allocation of resources based on goals, and,
 - assessing the equity focus of initiatives
- The Stand has served >150 individual students since Grand Opening.

Student Success Stories

Student Services received a \$3000 check in support of the Stand from an external donor.

Special Recognition

VP Hands would like to extend a special Thank You to all that made the Grand Opening of the Stand a reality: Dean Larry Maxey, Johanna Aleman, Claudia Estrada, Rob Fremland, Anabel Pulido, Sade Burrell, Lilibeth Rodriguez, Daniel Stromwall, Genevieve Esguerra, Kesia Williams, Ava Fakhrabadi, Olivia Picolla, Des Short and

Neeko David. The Stand has been very well received by the students and the campus community. This has been a tremendously rewarding project particularly because it will lead to more awareness and equitable outcomes for our students.

VP Hands would like to extend a special Thank You to the Jumpstart Planning Committee Members for their excellent work coordinating an amazing event - Monica Romero, Larry Maxey, Victoria Miller, Genevieve Esguerra, Taj George, Agustin Rivera, Anabel Pulido, Ailene Crakes, Jacqueline Collins

Claudia Estrada-Howell will be missed as she is away for maternity leave. Her efforts to modernize TCE technology and help launch The Stand are tremendously appreciated.