

# SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

## President's Cabinet

April 20, 2021 | 2:15 p.m. | Zoom

### 1) CALL TO ORDER: Vice President, Lorenze Legaspi

### 2) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Vice President of Administrative Services, Lorenze Legaspi, chaired the President's Cabinet meeting on behalf of President Luster. VPA Legaspi noted that the George Floyd verdict was just announced as this meeting began and we should extend grace to each other if someone needs to step out or hold dialogues after the meeting. This news is worth acknowledging and we want to continue to meet but also hold both spaces open today as we proceed. Due to a full agenda, VPA Legaspi moved forward with reports to allow time for all of the presentations.

VPA Lorenze Legaspi for President Luster

### 3) STANDING REPORTS - GOVERNANCE

a) Associated Students (AS): The President of Associated Students, Taylor Carpenter, shared the following updates:

- 1) Taylor began her report noting the verdict of the George Floyd trial.
- 2) AS elections are being held.
- 3) Taylor stated that AS supports the faculty and their freedom of speech and exercising that in their email signatures and that AS will be reviewing possible responses to student emails in their meeting tomorrow and will report on that decision at the next President's Cabinet meeting.
- 3) Dr. Bridget Herrin attended their AS meeting last week and presented on Mesa2030. Mona Alison and Holly Jagielinski attended a previous AS meeting and reported on the Road Map to Mesa2030. AS will have a second reading and vote on the Mesa203 plan on April 28.

Taylor Carpenter, President

b) Classified Senate (CS): The President of Classified Senate, Charlie Lieu, shared the following updates:

- 1) CS sends their appreciation to President Luster who attended their Senate meeting last week; it was a meaningful and engaging meeting.
- 2) Dr. Judy Sundayo attended their meeting to present the 13 Point Strategic Action Plan for Racial and Social Justice. Charlie commented that the CDAIE has put a lot of work into this plan; it is very ambitious and CS looks forward to reviewing it and consideration for approval next week.
- 3) Dr. Bridget Herrin attended their meeting to present a draft of the Mesa2030 plan. CS will review this document; they found the layout of the plan to be very well designed and appealing to read. CS will vote on this on May 13, 2021.
- 4) CS is rolling out their elections; nominations are being held for positions open for the next two years.

Charlie Lieu, President  
Nominate a classified professional for senate: Contact Cathy Palestini at [cpalesti@sdccd.edu](mailto:cpalesti@sdccd.edu)  
Miles 4 Mesa Registration:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd1i8ohygMwp0FZpAMVRbIc8R-SYi5y5cVibGSNqwg0EAbq5w/viewform>

Nominations should be sent directly to Cathy Palestini.

5) CS is also taking nominations for the Outstanding Classified Employee of the year. This is a very unique award and is peer-to-peer nominations and vote. This year a new recognition will be given for the Department of the Year award.

6) An email was sent on the “Miles 4 Mesa” fundraiser which is in collaboration with Associated Students as they roll out their Mesa Green Fund. Charlie stated that this event is a virtual Run-A-Thon and encouraged all to participate. The proceeds raised will be donated directly to the Mesa Green Fund.

c) Academic Senate (AS): The President of Academic Senate, Manuel Vélez, shared the following updates:

1) AS held their meeting yesterday and Dr. Herrin presented the Mesa2030 Plan. This has been placed on the agenda for new business and AS will vote on this plan at their next meeting in May.

2) Resolutions: AS voted and approved the resolution to propose some changes to their constitution, specifically changes to the committee on elections. AS also voted to support the Green Revolving Fund that was presented a few weeks ago from students from Associated Students. Additional resolutions that will be discussed: 1) a resolution condemning anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander hatred and violence in reaction to what occurred in Atlanta and the history of violence against the AAPI community; 2) a resolution for AS to support getting immediate help for the SDCCD evaluations office. Anthony Reuss presented on the issue for enough employees/people to evaluate students’ transcripts; 3) a resolution for AS to support a unified response for students who feel discriminated by signature tags (such as those that claim support for Black Lives Matter or Support for the Dreamer students) and a few students are responding very negatively to the tags. The Senate felt it was important to reinforce their support for the tags and to show that the District has also shown its support for those tags.

3) The Spring Plenary was held last week; the Academic Senates from all of California met to discuss issues and vote on important resolutions. Mesa College always does an excellent job of representing at plenaries; the faculty definitely takes on a leadership role at the statewide level and has does so historically. Of all the resolutions that were discussed and passed during this Plenary, five of them were resolutions that were either directly written by Mesa faculty or the faculty were in some ways involved in those resolutions. There were several resolutions: a resolution called for the establishment of a diversity, equity and access liaison for each campus; a resolution for a set of resources to create ethnic studies programs on California college campuses; a resolution which called for a definition of ethnic studies; and a resolution to reinstate the non-substantive revision category into the program and

Manuel J. Vélez, President

course handbook. Manuel stated he was particularly proud of this resolution because they collaborated with the Academic Senates of other colleges in the district and district curriculum review chairs who wrote a resolution in three days, managed to get it to Spring Plenary, get it passed and it is now a statewide resolution. Manuel stated that Mesa College is at the forefront in terms of leadership for faculty on a statewide level.

4) AS is working to reactivate the Faculty Staff Advisory Committee which was requested by some faculty. This is a committee that the AS formed several years ago but has been inactive. They have identified the four faculty who will be on this committee including Claudia Perkins. They are working with Classified Senate to place classified professionals on this committee and are proposing to begin meeting in early May.

5) Manuel stated he is a member of the Police Task Force on the districtwide level and stated this task force has released a survey to gauge the perceptions of police on the college campuses. This survey has been sent via emails, listservs and Canvas. Manuel asked for all to complete the survey and encourage others to fill out the survey.

#### 4) INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS\*

a) Facilities / Safety Committee: VPA Legaspi, Matt Fay and Jacqueline Collins presented an update on the Facilities and Safety Committee; this is the first update since the two groups were combined. The presentation included the charge of the committee, roster, COVID-19 updates and return for some in-person activities.

b) Budget and Resource Allocation (BARC) – first reading. VPA Legaspi and Alan Goodman presented the BARC update which included BARC Learns (accreditation standards, preliminary budget, HEERF funds), and the charge, goals, request rubric and committee process. VPA Legaspi thanked Mariette Ratner who has been the lead on the rubric and also Todd White and Leslie Shimazaki who helped craft this next rubric version. VPA Legaspi shared that they removed the requirement for quotes; because of timelines and year-end deadlines it now means that BARC will do their work very quickly and he thanked those on BARC for committing to that. Equity and Excellence was added to the rubric to make sure we are funding initiatives and making sure those are in consideration. An assessment piece and closing the loop were also added; BARC looks at data and how it serves the students and how the request supports equity and excellence and moving their agenda forward to be able to close the loop on the back end and making sure they are funding things that actually work.

VPA Legaspi asked for all to bring this document to their

L. Legaspi / M. Fay / J. Collins

[http://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/Facilities\\_Safety\\_Presentation\\_4.20.21.pdf](http://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/Facilities_Safety_Presentation_4.20.21.pdf)

L. Legaspi. A. Goodman

[http://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/BARC\\_Presentation\\_4.20.21.pdf](http://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/BARC_Presentation_4.20.21.pdf)

constituent groups and it will be reviewed at the next President's Cabinet meeting to address any questions or concerns.

## 5) OPERATIONS

a) Administrative Services Updates: VPA Legaspi thanked Dr. Bridget Herrin for her work on Mesa2030. From the first reading, they have received feedback which included strengthening the section on environmental sustainability and climate change and how we will react as a college to the climate crisis.

b) Student Services Updates: The Vice President of Student Services, Ashanti Hands, provided the following updates:

- 1) Dr. Hands thanked Lorenze Legaspi and Taylor Carpenter for their acknowledgement of the verdict that was announced as this meeting began; it is a monumental moment for many and a profound moment of justice – painfully earned justice. History has shown that such outcomes is not the norm. The outcome is about accountability.
- 2) Dr. Hands thanked Deans Crakes, Miller and Maxey for their acting roles in student services while she was out for two weeks.
- 3) Kudos to Dean Miller and the entire Jumpstart planning team for hosting an extremely successful event this weekend. There is a Jumpstart website where you can log into videos and workshops.
- 4) Student Services is working on a lot of end-of-year activities including the virtual Commencement and “Car-mencement” and “Cart-mencement”. The Rite of Passage ceremony, RAZA grad, and EOPS and many different programs will honor our students. Please encourage your students to participate.
- 5) Dr. Hands stated the Linda Vista Multicultural Fair will be hosting a new event called “All the Places You’ll Go” which will include a scavenger hunt on April 24, a drive-through curbside pickup of goody bags and resources from key Linda Vista hubs; San Diego Mesa College will be included as one of those hubs. Thank you to Carla who helped name the event and invited to sit on the board and for identifying Mesa College as part of a Linda Vista treasure.
- 6) Black Students Success Week is next week; it is a statewide initiative and Mesa College will be participating under the leadership of the Black Faculty Counseling Collaborative and the support of Dean Crakes. A flyer will be circulated of statewide activities along with campus activities that will include a workshop, a panel presentation and participation in next week’s campus community forum.
- 7) The Career Fair was a huge success and there is a lot of transfer news; please check emails with information from Anne Hedekin.

L. Legaspi

A. Hands

Jumpstart Website:

<http://www.sdmesa.edu/campus-life/jumpstart.shtml>

Jumpstart Virtual Resource Fair:

<http://www.sdmesa.edu/academics/jumpstart/resource-fair.shtml>

Project Success Mesa site:

<http://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/student-success-equity/project-success.shtml>

8) Project Success is now able to administer emergency student aid – students may receive up to \$500 for emergency expenses due to unforeseen circumstances. They can apply online but must meet some eligibility requirements.

9) The Stand is continuing with their school and work life series; EOPS will have a special drive-through for distributions for the student graduates.

10) Student Services is preparing for a return to campus for whatever that looks like and their teams are discussing how they will be able to provide in-person service and what will continue online. They will begin working with the campus and district entities to make sure they are in compliance with policies and procedures.

11) Student Services are reviewing all the possibilities with the HEERF funds and how to put those funds to use in equitable, innovative and meaningful ways.

c) Instructional Updates: The Vice President of Instruction, Isabel O'Connor, provided the following updates:

1) The summer schedule is out; priority registration starts on Monday, May 3; open registration begins May 17.

2) They continue to work hard on the fall schedule; there has been planning on determining classes and what classes need to be brought back in a hybrid format. She clarified that the rules for capacity and safety continuously change and they are not talking about bringing back full classes every day and every week; they are talking about hybrid instruction. They are looking at two things: 1) room capacity in buildings and she asked assistance from administrative services using a tool that MiraCosta has developed to give an assessment of what is the reality our classrooms (such as if students are six feet apart; how many students would be allowed in a 50% capacity). She is getting this data from administrative services and it will be very useful as they build for the possible which allows for them to pivot in the fall as the lens change.

3) VP O'Connor thanked Terry Kohlenberg who invited her and the Deans to attend the Chairs Council.

4) Instruction is looking at data and the effect of two semesters of being online. They are analyzing the impact on the equity gap of being online and they see a desire and need to come back to campus in some disciplines.

5) One of the professional learning activities VP O'Connor would like to acknowledge is the Chairs Academy held on Friday and thanked Deans Leslie Shimazaki, Linda Hensley and Andy MacNeill. She also thanked the leadership provided by Terry Kohlenberg and Manuel Vélez.

6) On Friday evening, Dr. O'Connor attended the Fashion Redux which was an amazing event held in

I. O'Connor

collaboration with the San Diego Center for History. The theme was “uniforms” and the fashion students competed and created their version of uniforms. The results were amazing and very talented; thank you to Jordan Smiley for coordinating this event.

7) Athletes are on campus; and kudos to Dean Ryan Shumaker and his entire team for their careful planning.

8) Professor Alessandra Moctezuma will hold a print making exhibition done with a steamroller. All the prints will be showcased by the Art Gallery: *Heavy Duty: A Steamroller Printmaking Exhibition Drive-in*, May 7, 2021, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Parking Lot 1.

d) Mesa Pathways: Toni Parsons, one of the three Mesa Pathways chairs; reported the following:

1) The vote is out - an opportunity to vote on Mesa Pathways Metamajors framework and the name is now out; an email has been sent with attachments (the PowerPoint from the Community Forum last Tuesday, four pdfs with each of the frameworks along with the degrees and certificates that have been sorted). The vote is being done through a program that allows ranking. As of now there are 129 votes: 84 faculty, 17 students, 15 classified professionals, 10 administrators/supervisors, 3 other staff. There have been no community member votes and the Office of Communication is working on getting the information out on social media and the website. Toni encouraged all in this meeting to forward the email to students. All must answer all three questions for their vote to count.

2) At the Spring Plenary, a resolution was passed asking the state Academic Senate to work with the Chancellor’s Office and the Governor to work on another round of funding. As of now, the funding must be spent by June 2022; this resolution asks for more funding but also an extension of the June 2022 date.

3) Mesa Pathways members are discussing a tech wish list to determine what kind of tech issues need to get resolved in order to put the Pathways framework all together.

Marisa Alioto, Howard Eskew, Toni Parsons

## 6) SPECIAL REPORTS

President Pam Luster joined the meeting and stated she had the opportunity to be on campus yesterday and acknowledged the Athletics staff for a very well run operation in terms of the athletes check in. Dr. Luster thanked Jacqueline Collins and Matt Fay for their behind-the-scenes work and taking seriously the safety orders. The MET high school has returned to campus and they are following the protocols. It was great to see colleagues and student athletes on the campus engaged in what they love to do. Dr. Luster also attended the Fashion Redux virtual program and stated it was an amazing event.

President P. Luster

Dr. Luster welcomed members of the President's Cabinet Taskforce to today's meeting; last year after the incident at President's Cabinet, she asked for a broad constituent group to come together to talk about the things we could do to deal with the experience that we had and also be able to move forward with fidelity about how we work with one another. President Luster thanked them for attending the meeting today and introduced Johanna Aleman, Candace Katungi, Claudia Perkins and Dean Leslie Shimazaki to provide an update on the President's Cabinet Taskforce.

Dean Leslie Shimazaki stated the purpose behind the group is the charge to do some work and make recommendations to President's Cabinet for ways to help propel our campus and our climate towards some shared values and actions around civility and mutual respect. They have been focusing on two primary areas: 1) the development of some principles of community, 2) some investigation and eventual recommendations for professional learning to address that goal.

Their goal today is to provide an update regarding the work they have done and to get feedback to move forward. Professor Candace Katungi reported on the principles of community which included some initial brain storming and research to look at the different principles of communities that have been established at other institutions. They discussed how they could pull from that and create their own ideas which would be living principles that are inclusive of other people's ideas. They are also creating space to hear from concerned members of the community and they reached out to committees that expressed concern and to those who are already doing some of this work on the campus. Some taskforce members have met with Dr. Judy Sundayo, chair of CDAIE, and talked about their work on restorative justice and ways to institutionalize some of these efforts and have them come from a larger body. One idea is that President's Cabinet could sponsor some ideas around restorative justice.

Claudia Perkins, Site Compliance Officer, stated they have been meeting with restorative justice facilitators to explore bringing climate circles, campus forums, and restorative justice trainings to the campus to build community. The facilitators have shared that they will include the community of principles into each event so it will be tailored to Mesa College.

Johanna Aleman shared that the taskforce sees the work that they are doing is a way to improve overall campus climate and environment. Additionally, they see some of the things that will help build, uplift and restore community to campus and they are requesting the support of the cabinet to continue in moving forward with

J. Aleman, C. Katungi, C. Perkins, L. Shimazaki

conversations and partnering with restorative justice facilitators.

AS president Taylor Carpenter commented following the presentation that she will be transitioning out of her role as student president but as we move forward and talk about the CDAIE 13 Point action plan that we also look into how it is that we promote and hold spaces for accountability and that we look at how these things can be implemented in order to ensure that future harm is mitigated and possibly prevented.

It was stated that the Taskforce would like to know if the body of President's Cabinet will support their ideas and want to pursue some proposals and also that forums and trainings needs to occur and efforts to actually work on healing, building, restoring community and understanding what that means and also creating space. They learned from one facilitator that it can be tailored together to think about how to most effectively think about both building community and creating tools and skills for this community to move forward.

Dr. Judy Sundayo thanked the Taskforce for working with CDAIE to determine how to do this because these are sensitive topics. CDAIE hosted an introduction to restorative justice last week to help people understand what it is and they will be hosting another one that will be a restorative justice intervention on a smaller scale so people will know how to deal with a personal event. She loved the idea that campus forums will address it in a larger way so that all can participate.

Dr. Luster thanked the Taskforce for their work; this has impacted our entire community and she expects we will be a better community as we move forward because we will have more authentic connections to each other and ways to work with one another in this environment towards a community we all want. Dr. Luster noted when the Taskforce makes their final recommendation to President's Cabinet it may be that this work will move to CDAIE or another structure that would assist us in implementing the recommendations.

Dr. Luster acknowledged the fantastic work from the Cultural Unity Week last week which was a remarkable set of experiences. Thank you to Denise, Judy and all that planned the events including our Communications Department for designing beautiful ways to post the information. Cultural Unity Week has such an important and historical basis at Mesa College and it is a celebration of the way that we want to broaden all of our perspectives around all the many cultures and the cultural impact we can have on our students and each other.

Dr. Luster thanked Krista Stellmacher and Jennifer Kearns for all of their support for the President's Breakfast held last Friday morning. This is held twice a year with members of our community and it was an opportunity to share all of the innovative things that all of Mesa College's faculty and staff have done to support students and one another and it was very well received; a lot of feedback was received that they had no idea of the depth and breadth of the work being done to both retain students and support students.

Dr. Luster thanked Dean Vicki Miller and all of those that coordinated the Jumpstart event on Saturday. Mesa college is in the midst of "smile season" and the back-to-back programs/events being held right now are remarkable; thank you to all who put together the beautiful presentation materials and coordinate these events.

On Friday night we will be celebrating Faculty Tenure, Promotion and Retirement Recognition. The 2020 class was not able to have their program for advancing to tenure so they have been invited to this event. It will be an evening of joy that celebrates all the hard work that it takes for faculty members to become tenured and to move to full professor, and to all the faculty, deans and chairs that do all of those evaluations. Dr. Luster acknowledged Cathy Palestini for her incredible work in supporting all of this; the process this year included 80+ staff involved in this cycle and all documents had to be scanned. Dr. Luster stated that from the funds that we are getting from the Federal Government that we may be able to deploy the electronic system we had hoped to do two years ago across the district. We do not want to lose the progress that we have made in supporting our faculty as they are going through these evaluation processes and she is hopeful we will be able to do that.

Dr. Luster shared that she feels fortunate to have been appointed to the Board of Governors for the San Diego Foundation for which she has been serving this academic year. She attended their meeting today and when the verdict came in on the trial and she had no idea how much emotion was packed in her response to that verdict and sure that many others are having that response as well. She was messaging with colleagues and all were saying that this was an incredible step; and when thinking of the statement that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. made on the arc of the moral universe, may this be that. May this be a slight tilt in that direction. It is an overwhelming feeling to know that this has occurred, and although we don't know what the sentencing will look like, we are having significant discussions about policing in our own district that are important and imperative. We are having important discussions about what safety means; and it means very different things to

different people who have had injustices visited against them. We have work to do but she is grateful she is involved at Mesa College and also the deep work that the San Diego Foundation is doing towards social and racial justice. It is a large foundation and they are focused on racial issues in San Diego and there is a new endowment to support first time black families to invest in real estate to buy their first homes. There is work to be done around childcare and COVID relief. Dr. Luster stated we have the opportunity as community college educators to impact justice every day – how we treat one another and the investment we make in our classrooms and with one another and she is proud to be part of this organization that is so focused on doing that every single day. We are training people who will become police officers; we educate people who will become judges; we educate people who will become social workers and counselors. We are a microcosm in a fountain of learning for those that go out into the world to do this work; so the better we do what we do, the better the world of justice we create. We can do this every day by rededicating our own work to being just. Dr. Luster thanked all for their work and she is excited to think about the work that is coming from CDAIE, the wonderful recommendations, and looking at ways to embed that even further in the work that we do at Mesa College. Dr. Luster adjourned today's meeting in the memory of George Floyd.

**7) ACTION ITEMS:** Review of the Budget and Resource Allocation (BARC) document – second reading (May18, 2021)

**Announcements:**

EOPS and Special Programs: Student Graduate / Student Acknowledgement Drive-Thru Distribution: Thursday, April 29, 2021, 12:00 – 4:00 p.m., at Mesa College.

EOPS and Special Programs Virtual Achievement Ceremony: Friday, May 14, 2021, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

RAZA Celebration: Raza Grad Drive-Through Ceremony will be held on May 17, 2021, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m., at Mesa College

Veterans Recognition Virtual Ceremony: Friday, May 21, 2021, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Calendar:**

May 4, 2021, 2:15 – 5:00 p.m., President's Cabinet Retreat (Virtual)

May 6, 2021, 5:00 p.m., District-wide Rite of Passage (Virtual)

May 12, 2021, 5:00 p.m. Scholarship Awards Recognition Ceremony (Virtual)

May 19, 2021, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., Classified Service Awards Celebration (Virtual)

May 25, 2021: 2:15 – 3:30 p.m., Special President's Cabinet Meeting – Presentation of the 13 Point Strategic Action Plan for Racial and Social Justice (J. Sundayo)

May 28, 2021, 3:00 p.m., Commencement (Virtual)

June 1-3, 2021, Classicon (Virtual)

June 4, 2021 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Drive-Through Graduation Celebration, Student Services parking lot

**Campus Community Forums:**

4/27 (Black Student Panel), 5/11 (Propelled by Protests videos), 6/15 (Borderless Scholars), 7/13

**Spring 2021 Pcab Meetings: 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16, 4/6, 4/20, 5/4, 5/18**

**\*INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- 2-16-21: Guided Pathways Essential Practices Scale of Adoption Self-Assessment Second Reading (H. Eskew);  
Presentation: Mesa College 13 Point Strategic Action Plan for Racial and Social Justice (J. Sundayo)
- 4-6-21: Student Equity & Achievement (SEA – A. Crakes, L. Maxey, A. MacNeill); MIT (D. Fierro)
- 4-20-21: Facilities/Safety (L. Legaspi, M. Fay, J. Collins); BARC (L. Legaspi)
- 5-4-21: President's Cabinet Retreat
- 5-18-21: Campus Employee Learning Committee (J. Johnson, A. MacNeill, E. Parrill); Strong Workforce / CTE (M. Romero); CHP (E. Engels); Mesa2030 Comprehensive Master Plan Second Reading; Road Map to Mesa2030 Strategic Plan – second reading;
- 5-25-21: Special Pcab Meeting; 13 Point Strategic Action Plan for Racial and Social Justice (J. Sundayo)