



# FIRST *Monday* ON THE *Mesa*

SAN DIEGO  
**MESA COLLEGE**  
Office of the President

February 2019

## Spring Welcome Week

The Spring 2019 Semester welcomed new and returning students with Welcome Week information booths. Faculty and staff volunteered their time to assist students searching for classes and class locations, and answered hundreds of questions to help our students during the first week. Several departments, programs, and clubs provided otter pops, giveaways, and prizes at booths. Thank you to Student Affairs and everyone who had a hand in getting our students off to a strong start.

It was an exciting week for Mesa College with classes now being held in the new Business Technology (BT) and Fine Arts (FA) buildings. Also, in an effort to assist students, *Mesa Moves* is offering Valet Parking during the first two weeks of classes. This is the sixth semester that this free service has been offered to our students. Additional parking is also available throughout the semester at Grace Brethren Church (3455 Atlas St, Corner of Stalmer and Atlas) and Kearny High School.

## Expanding The Stand: Mesa's New Food Rescue Partnership

Through our partnership with Feeding San Diego, The Stand is now participating in the "retail rescue program" which gives us an additional opportunity to bring fresh and healthy food options weekly to campus for our students. Our normal pick-up will include produce, meat, deli and non-



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*The Leading College of Equity and Excellence*

perishable goods. The inaugural offering on January 29 was small and included ham, packaged and ready-to-eat salads, and additional items, such as guacamole. The standard offering is expected to contain produce, meat, deli and grocery items, as well as a few dried goods. Future offerings could potentially include household items such as cups and reading glasses. Beginning this spring, advertisements with additional information for [The Stand: Pop-up Market](#) will be sent to inform students about this great new resource.

### Spring 2019 Convocation

On Thursday, January 24, 2019, nearly 300 faculty and staff members gathered in the Mesa Gym for Spring Convocation 2019. Reflective of this semester's theme for Convocation: "Students' Needs, Mesa's Promise," each speaker and presentation focused on how to best serve our students toward their success. We participated in a Mesa Pathways activity that tested our knowledge of all the great resources available to Mesa College students, and reviewed our Equity Journey and commitment to continuing to serve all students as the leading college of equity and excellence. We also began our [Educational Master Planning](#) process with an input-gathering activity that will inform our next steps. Thank you to all for contributing to this semester's planning activity, and congratulations to our Olympian Spirit Award winners.

### Mesa Guided Pathways Update

Vice President of Instruction Dr. Isabel O'Connor, and Mesa Pathways Co-coordinators Toni Parsons and Howard Eskew, officially started their work with Mesa Pathways this January. Special thanks to activity planners Shawn Fawcett, Brianna Kuhn and Trina Larson, and student participants Robyn Bolden, Marie Saint Luis, Tim Ackerson, and Nicolas Irving. Attendees were encouraged to join a Pathways Bubble and participate in our Pathways Retreat on Friday, February 8, 2019, which will focus on Guided Major & Career Exploration and Clear Program Requirements. Click [here](#) to request more information. Members from the Middle Academy Team, including Leslie Shimazaki, Howard Eskew, Cynthia Rico, Yolanda Catano, and Nancy Cortes will begin their work this semester. Our team will focus on middle leadership, taking risks, disrupting patterns, and transformational leadership with a



focus on Guided Pathways. Mesa Pathways Committees and Bubbles will resume their meeting schedules in February. Faculty, staff, students, and Administrators are invited to learn more and get involved with our [Mesa Pathways efforts](#).

### Winter Cruise

In collaboration with International Student Orientation, Peer Navigators welcomed new, incoming students to campus during Winter CRUISE, on January 8-10. The session aimed to successfully support students during the on-boarding process to Mesa and provide mentoring throughout the spring semester. Counselors, math and English faculty, and Peer Navigators led activities to engage and prepare students at Mesa. CRUISERS also participated in “Bite of Reality,” an interactive financial literacy simulation sponsored by California Coast Credit Union.

### Martin Luther King, Jr. Events and Parade

On Monday, January 21, 2019, San Diego Mesa College students, faculty, staff, and friends joined the District, City College, Miramar College, Continuing Education, and thousands of community members to march during the 39th Annual MLK, Jr. Parade. The theme of the Mesa College parade float this year was Past, Present and Future, to celebrate how Dr. King’s actions have brought today’s society forward, and how they will be used as a guide for the future. Mesa also attended other celebrations throughout the weekend, including the Jackie Robinson Family YMCA Human Dignity Awards Breakfast, the San Diego County Educators Breakfast, and the All Peoples Celebration, a program where nearly 1,000 diverse community members, business leaders, elected officials, and clergy honor the work of Dr. King.

### Rosa Parks Birthday Celebration and Libation

On Monday, February 4, Mesa College proudly celebrated the birthday of American civil rights activist Rosa Parks. Administrators, faculty, staff, and students gathered in the Humanities and Cultural Studies building to reflect on the life of Mrs. Parks and the civil rights movement. We are honored by Mrs. Parks’ legacy and her connection to Mesa College, as we strive to be the leading college of equity and excellent. Our celebration of Black History Month will continue throughout the month of February. For a complete list of events, please visit the [Black History Month Calendar of Events](#).



### Scholarship Applications Are Now Open

Please notify your students that Mesa College Scholarship applications are NOW AVAILABLE at [www.sdmesa.edu/scholarships](http://www.sdmesa.edu/scholarships). Nearly \$200,000 in scholarships are available for students. The deadline to submit scholarship application materials is Tuesday, February 19, 2019. The Scholarships Award Ceremony this year will be on Saturday, April 20.

### 2019 Distinguished Alumni Nominations

We are now accepting nominations for the [2019 Mesa College Distinguished Alumni Award](#). The Alumni Award program was established in 2011 to recognize our amazing former students who have made significant contributions to society, and whose accomplishments, affiliations, and careers have honored the legacy of academic excellence and equity at San Diego Mesa College. The award recipient will be announced in March and invited to be the guest speaker at our 2019 Commencement Ceremony. This year, we have a convenient [on-line nomination form](#), and all faculty and staff are invited to submit nominations. Nominations are due by February 22, 2019.

A graphic for San Diego Mesa College scholarships. At the top left is the college logo. In the center, a graduation cap sits above a large green dollar bill graphic that says "MORE THAN \$180,000 In Scholarships". To the right is a circular callout: "Start early, the payoff is worth it!". Below the dollar bill is a blue banner that says "APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE" and a red banner that says "DEC. 1, 2018 - FEB. 19, 2019". At the bottom is the website "www.sdmesa.edu/scholarships".





# ▶ BLACK ▶ HISTORY ▶ MONTH ▶ FEBRUARY 2019

Below are a few events we are highlighting for the Black History Month. To see all the events, please visit the [Black History Month webpage](#), the [Mesa College Calendar](#), or the [iMesa Mobile app](#)!

#### **Celebrating the Legacy of Raymond Vital**

**Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm; MC 211A/B**

Honoring the life and legacy of Raymond Vital who endeared himself to everyone on campus. His commitment to service and learning inspired the illumination of the spirit "SAKHU" for all.

#### **Woman-2-Woman Panel Discussion**

**Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 – 12:30 pm; MC 211A/B**

Attendees can listen to or share in the unique, heart-warming and sometimes difficult experiences of women. Please feel welcome to attend.

#### **Black Male Emotions & Vulnerability**

**Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 12:45 – 2:00 pm; MC 211A/B**

Black men are often visibly seen, but emotionally invisible. This presentation will detail reasons why Black men have difficulty sharing their emotions.

#### **The Impact of Racism on Black Health**

**Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm; MC 211A/B**

Workshop will address how racism, micro-aggressions and disproportionate killings of Blacks affect the physical and mental health of African Americans.

#### **Leaders Inspiring Transformation Conference**

**Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm; MC 211A/B**

Conference sponsored by the FAST Scholars Program at Mesa focuses on inspiration, motivation & achievement. Lunch is included.

#### **Telling Our Stories: Black Professional Career Panel**

**Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm; MS 111**

A panel of distinguished Black professionals share how they set and achieved their career goals, and discuss how they developed core professional values. They will also impart strategies for overcoming obstacles in order to achieve success.

# Mesa Upcoming Events

**Art Gallery Opening Reception with Music:** Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm – 6:00pm, Art Gallery.

**San Diego Fire Department Campus Visit:** Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am – 2:00pm, Mesa Commons.  
A representative from SDFD will be on campus to provide information about open positions within the company.

**Music Department Free Weekly Recital Hour Concert: Classical Music:** Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm – 5:25pm, C-119.

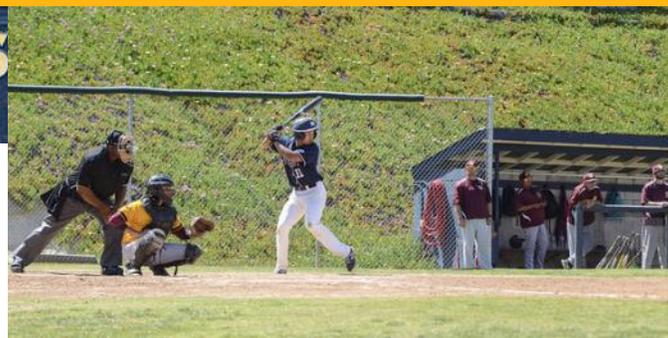
**Free Farmer's Market:** Thursday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 12:00pm, Sunrise Plaza.  
This event is our latest effort in taking a stand to eradicate hunger by providing free, fresh produce to members of the Mesa College community.

**BT Building Grand Opening:** Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am, BT Building.  
Come join us for the grand opening of our new Center of Business & Technology building.



# MESA OLYMPIANS ATHLETICS

Upcoming Mesa Olympians athletics events...  
to see them all, please visit  
[www.gosdmesa.com](http://www.gosdmesa.com)



DATE	DAY	SPORT	OPPONENT	TIME
2/7/19	THU	SOFTBALL	LA VALLEY COLLEGE	1:00 PM
2/8/19	FRI	M. VOLLEYBALL	GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE	6:00 PM
2/14/19	THU	BASEBALL	IRVINE VALLEY COLLEGE	2:00 PM
2/20/19	WED	W. BASKETBALL	SD CITY COLLEGE	5:00 PM
2/20/19	WED	M. BASKETBALL	SD CITY COLLEGE	7:00 PM
2/22/19	FRI	BEACH VOLLEYBALL	MT. SAC/ SADDLEBACK/ CYPRESS	8:00 AM

New Hires/Promotions at Mesa College	Congratulations!
Isabel O'Connor	VP Instruction
Valerie Pallares-Herrera	Counseling - Student Athletes
Stephanie Colby	AP Physics
Gary Watkins, Jr.	AP Exercise Science Football
Seymore McDaniels	AP Learning Assistance & Tutoring
Jennifer Snyder	AP Physics
Diana Solares	Admin Tech - Resource Dev.
Michelle Ortiz	ILT - Child Development
Rena Alspaw	Student Services Asst.
Octavio Hernandez	Media Clerk
Zoe Adler	Instructional Asst. - Ctr. For Ind. Learning
Carolina Rostworowski Stocco	Instructional Asst.-Tutoring & Computing Ctr.



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Is the [President's](#) monthly newsletter, published by the President's Office and the [Office of Communications](#).

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