



# FIRST *Monday* ON THE *Mesa*

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

September 2019

## Fall is Here!

### Welcome Week

We kicked off another fall semester with Welcome Week. As always, we hosted Popsicles with the President, and several departments, programs and clubs provided giveaways and prizes. Faculty and staff willingly offered their services to help our students during the first week, and Chancellor Constance Carroll stopped by to welcome students as well. Thanks to Student Affairs and everyone who had a hand in getting our students off to a strong start.

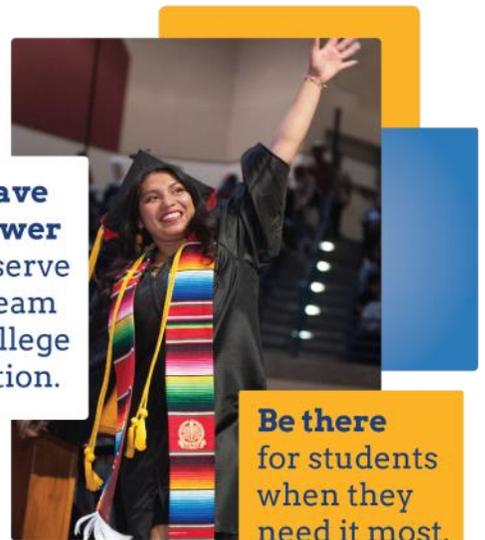
### San Diego Mesa College Foundation Resiliency Fund Campaign

We know that our students are facing even greater challenges than in the past. Through participation in The Hope Center for College, Community, and Justice [#RealCollege Survey for California Community Colleges](#), we learned that students have fewer resources and greater financial constraints. Results of the Study showed that **nearly 1 in 5** Mesa students are housing insecure and **almost 50%** are food insecure, with limited access to nutritionally adequate food. While dedication and hard work are key ingredients to success, financial instability means that one unexpected expense such as a flat tire or missed day at work due to illness or injury can put their entire education at risk.

Over the summer, the [San Diego Mesa College Foundation](#) met with college leadership to discuss how we could help students overcome financial setbacks so that short-term problems do not pre-



**You have  
the power  
to preserve  
the dream  
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education.**



**Be there  
for students  
when they  
need it most.**

vent long-term success. Out of this came a bold idea: create a “[Resiliency Fund](#),” which will provide emergency loans and grants to students experiencing financial setbacks that put them at risk of dropping out. Our goal is ambitious: raise \$250,000 towards the Resiliency Fund to help at least 1,000 students overcome financial setbacks and stay in school. The Foundation has secured \$75,000 in matching funds and as of today, we have raised over \$25,000 toward the Fund. Our entire campus and broader community are invited to invest, and donors have the chance to double their impact through November. Please join us as we preserve the dream of a college education.

### Fall Convocation 2019

Thank you to all who attended fall 2019 Convocation, which focused on “The Privilege of Serving Mesa College Students and Our Community.” Our keynote speaker and anti-racism activist, Tim Wise, discussed our equity efforts and vision to serve our students in all aspects of their educational journey. Mesa Pathways Co-chairs Toni Parsons and Howard Eskew presented an activity for attendees to practice playing the student and planning the first two semesters of an intended major. We also heard from the Chancellor and District representatives, the new presidents of Academic Senate, Manuel Velez; Classified Senate, Charlie Lieu; and Associated Students, Taylor Carpenter. We also proudly announced the Dr. Judy Sundayo Diversity Scholarship, in honor of all of Dr. Sundayo’s valuable work that contributes to Mesa College being a better learning institution for our students.

### Mesa College Hosts Tim Wise for Multiple Events

Mesa College was proud to host [Tim Wise](#) for four on-campus events including Convocation, a workshop, an NCORE alumni lunch, and a public event. Students, faculty, staff, administration, and colleagues from other institutions attended to hear about “The Impact of Privilege on Equity in Higher Education.” Mr. Wise shared the importance of creating a culture that sustains the efforts of equity for students, offering that we must actively interrogate what it means to belong versus what it means to have to prove that one belongs. He stated, “We can occupy the same space, but not have the same experience.” There is more work to be done to make education about collective liberation and uplift, rather than just about individual success. As faculty, administrators, and staff, I encourage us all to continue to create a community that fosters inclusion through equity and excellence, and to show



our students what it means when we say #WeAreMesa.

To continue our equity work, [the LOFT](#) is offering multiple upcoming trainings, workshops, and other sessions, including [Leaders Engaging in Equity Practice \(LEEP\)](#), [National Alliance of Partnerships in Equity \(NAPE\)](#), [Communities of Practice Information](#) and the upcoming [MESA READS – Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen by Jose Antonio Vargas](#).

### Mesa Pathways Summer Progress

As the new academic year begins, so does Mesa Pathways. Summer saw faculty come together for The Mesa Pathways Summer Institute held on June 3- 5 which featured data workshops, program mapping, and a team from the ASCCC sharing information about areas of interest development. The Pathways Committee and the workgroups have begun meeting to discuss plans for the upcoming year. Disciplines continue to work towards completing mapping by the end of Fall semester, as well as improving the Mesa Pathways webpage in the Brave Communication workgroup. Also, over the summer, a group of faculty members worked to update Mesa’s Guided Pathways Essential Practices: Scale of Adoption Self-Assessment, which will be used by the Mesa Pathways Committee works to set it goals and milestones for the 2019-2020 academic year. The submission date for this document has been changed from September 30<sup>th</sup> to March 30<sup>th</sup>. This Flex activities planned for the Fall semester include mapping, equity, and a presentation on areas of interest lead by the ASCCC Guided Pathways Team headed by Janet Fulks. Mesa Mixers, which will give opportunity for cross disciplinary discussion, begin September 11. We are excited to continue our work on [Mesa Pathways](#) and look forward to working with many of you this semester.

### FAST Center Grand Opening

On Thursday, August 22, the Mesa community celebrated the grand opening of the Fostering Academic Success & Transitions (FAST) Center – the first of its kind at a community college in the San Diego region. The FAST Center, located in D-102, is a place where students who are current or foster youth may gather and receive support services and have access to computers and specific resources to meet their needs. The Center is also about creating a sense of community. As the leading college of equity and excellence, Mesa strives to provide support that meets the unique needs of our diverse community of students. With programs like NextUp and FAST Scholars, Mesa College is able to better support foster youth in accomplishing their educational goals and developing self-



sufficiency. Students who are in need of resources, or want to learn more about [NextUp](#) and the FAST Center, may contact Sade Burrell at [sburrell@sdccd.edu](mailto:sburrell@sdccd.edu) or visit the [EOPS](#) webpage.

### Homecoming and Spirit Week 2019 (draft)

Get into gear for our [2019 Homecoming Spirit Week!](#) Events taking place from September 16-21, include our annual Spirit Week Office Decorating Contest, Pep Rally, Tailgate Party with FREE FOOD, and our Homecoming Football Game against L.A. Pierce College. For complete details on how you can show Mesa Spirit, check out the [Spirit Week flyer](#).

### Farmers Market Adds Weekly Popup Market

The Stand brought us a monthly [Farmers Market](#); now we are increasing our equity efforts to address food insecurity by offering a weekly Popup Market. The Popup Market, held every Tuesday, is our latest effort in taking a stand to eradicate hunger by providing free food to members of the Mesa College community. Food available at the Popup Market will vary. We will continue our Free Farmers Market on the third Thursday of each month. To volunteer, please sign up [here](#).

### Coming Soon: Our New Quad

To make room for our new long-awaited Quad, you will see construction taking place in the heart of campus this year. To create the footprint of the Quad, we will first be demolishing buildings I and J, using Mesa's remaining funding from Props S & N. Services that were offered in building J have been relocated, and K100 will be remodeled into our new Student Resource Center, which will accommodate FAST, Honors, The Stand, Veterans, and classroom space.

### Latinx Heritage Month 2019

In September/October, Mesa will be celebrating [Latinx Heritage Month](#) (formerly known as Hispanic Heritage Month) with multiple events, workshops, and activities. Leading up to the celebration (until September 11), Latina artist Katie Ruiz and April Rose are displaying their artwork "Chromatic: Grounding with Color" at the Mesa College Art Gallery. Officially kicking off the events on September 26, Dean of Math and Science, Susan Topham will share about her Brazilian cultural heritage and how that shaped her choices and career pathways in the U.S. Other Latinx Heritage Month events include a Car Exhibition Fundraiser for Raza Grad, Spanish Students' Poster Presentations of U.S. Latinx leaders, and more.



# LATINX Heritage Month 19

## Latinx Heritage Month Campus Events

**“Chromatic: Grounding with Color” at the Mesa College Art Gallery:** Monday, August 19 – Wednesday, September 11. Gallery hours are M-W: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Th: 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., F: by appointment, Art Gallery FA 103. An exhibit pairing two San Diego artists, Katie Ruiz and April Rose, this collaboration of artwork is grounded in the use of vibrant colors and exuberant patterns to show the power of women.

**Latinx Monthly Speaker Series:** Thursday, September 26, 10:30-11:30 a.m., AVANZA Engagement Center, I4-203  
Connect with Mesa Latinx faculty, staff, and administrators in a unique way! Learn about the Brazilian cultural heritage of Dean Topham and how that shaped her choices and career pathways when she moved to the U.S.

**Car Exhibition Fundraiser for Raza Grad:** Saturday, October 5, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Mesa College Parking Lot 3  
Free admission. Donations accepted. Around 100 cars will be on display at Mesa College. All proceeds and donations will help support Mesa College’s annual Raza Grad Celebration.

**Community Conversations: Dynamic LatinX Learning – Student Perspectives:** Wednesday, October 9, 9:45-11:00 a.m., SB-103. Latinx Intercultural Communication scholars will share what works and what does not in our HSI academic setting. Please join us to listen and learn.

**Spanish Speakers Poster Exhibition:** Thursday, October 10, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., LRC Atrium  
Spanish 215 students will display 24 posters of U.S. Latinx leaders that have made significant contributions to our society.

# Mesa Upcoming Events

## Spirit Week

### **Office Decorating Contest:** September 9-17

Get in the “Mesa Spirit” and decorate your office to win fabulous prizes! Email Zulma Duran ([zduran@sdccd.edu](mailto:zduran@sdccd.edu)) by Thursday, Sept. 5 to enter. Winners announced at the Pep Rally on Tuesday, Sept. 17

### **Pep Rally:** Tuesday, September 17, 12:45-1:45 p.m., Mesa Commons Quad/Sunrise Plaza

Meet the teams and enjoy music, games, FREE popcorn, and giveaways. Winners of the Office Decorating Contest will be announced.

### **Homecoming Tailgate Party:** Saturday, September 21, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Mesa College Merrill Douglas Stadium – Parking Lot 3. Come enjoy this family-friendly event sponsored by Associated Students. We will have FREE parking and lots of fun including food, games, booths, and music.

### **Homecoming Football Game:** Saturday, September 21, 6:00 p.m., Mesa College Merrill Douglas Stadium

Come support our Olympians as we face the Brahma Bulls of L.A. Pierce College, and enjoy a special half-time show. Tickets on sale at the gate at 5:00 p.m. (cash only). Tickets are \$10 General, \$5 Students, Staff, Faculty and Seniors, and FREE for kids under 12.

## STEM Lecture Series

### **Campus Astronomy Night:** Wednesday, September 11, 7:00-9:30 p.m., Room G101

Join Mesa Astronomy faculty for a night sky lecture, followed by viewing of celestial objects through telescopes and various hands-on activities. All ages, welcome!

### **Land of Fire and Ice: The Geology and Tectonics of Iceland:** Wednesday, September 18, 7:00-8:30 p.m.,

Room G101. Volcanoes, waterfalls, and glaciers, oh my! Mesa Geology professor, Don Barrie, will discuss the unique geologic setting of Iceland, including its rocks, landscapes, and plate tectonic setting.

### **Unravelling Shark Secrets Through Genomes and Microbiomes:** Wednesday, September 25, 7:00-8:30 p.m.,

Room G101. Please join geneticist, Shaili Johri, for a discussion of biodiversity assessments and population health monitoring of marine megafauna, including sharks.

### **Chancellor’s Forum:** Monday, September 16, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Mesa Commons (MC-211 A/B)

Please join your colleagues in attending a presentation and open forum with the Chancellor to discuss issues affecting the District and plans for the future. Light refreshments will be served.

### **Free Farmers Market & Pop-up Market:** Farmer’s Market on Thursday, September 19, 12:00 p.m., Sunrise Plaza; and Pop-up Market on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.

### **Financial Literacy Series – Keeping Your Money Safe: Tools To Do It:** Thursday, September 26, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., LRC 435. Having cash and keeping it safe is important! In this session, we talk about different types of deposit accounts, which ones are best for a college student, and tips to make saving easy and painless.

# 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
9/10/19	TUE	M. SOCCER	IRVINE VALLEY COLLEGE	3:00 P.M.
9/17/19	TUE	W. SOCCER	SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE	7:00 P.M.
9/20/19	FRI	W. VOLLEYBALL	SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE	5:00 P.M.
9/21/19	SAT	FOOTBALL	L.A. PIERCE COLLEGE	6:00 P.M.
9/25/19	WED	W. VOLLEYBALL	IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE	5:00 P.M.
9/27-28/19	FRI-SAT	M. WATER POLO	TOURNAMENT	TBA (ALL DAY)

New Hires/Promotions at Mesa College	Congratulations!
Marisa Alioto	AP, Counseling
James Hinton	AP, Physics & Astronomy
Lindsay Samaniego	AP, Exercise Sci.—Women's Basketball
Takeshi Takakura	AP, Japanese
Karen Wait	AP, Dental Assisting
Zulma Duran	Sr. Secretary
Cloris Johnson	Sr. Secretary
Claudia Perkins	College EEO/504/Discipline Officer
Brittany Williams	ILT - Allied Health

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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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