

September 2016



**Colleagues:**

**Welcome to our First Monday on the Mesa for Fall 2016 semester! We have had a fantastic start to the semester, beginning with our Convocation in August. We are in the midst of vetting our Institutional Self-Evaluation Report for Accreditation 2017 at each meeting of the President's Cabinet. We have opened our beautiful new campus center, the Mesa Commons, and our enrollment and headcount have increased over last year! We welcomed new faculty, staff and administrators and oriented over 400 new students at our Summer Cruise.**

In this issue of FMM, we cover the highlights of major events coming our way, brag a bit about cool things that are happening, and remember a wonderful colleague.



## **New Faces on the Mesa**

### **Rebekah Corrales, DSPS Counselor**

Rebekah Corrales transitioned to Mesa College as a full-time counselor within the DSPS Department beginning Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. For the past six years, Rebekah has served as the Learning Disability Specialist/DSPS Counselor for the CalWORKS Grant at the district office, and as an adjunct counselor in our program. Rebekah has a great deal of experience and brings valuable expertise to our program.

### **Deyanira Preciado, Student Service Technician, International Student Admissions and Residency (Classified promotion)**

Deyanira has a Master of Arts degree in Higher Education and a Bachelor's in Business Administration from SDSU. She is experienced in working in student services, recruiting and international students, and a wealth of knowledge in the areas of admissions, transfer, and student success and support programs. Since 2014, Deyanira has worked at Mesa Admissions as the Accelerated College Program Special Admissions representative. Deyanira is bilingual English/Spanish.

**Dawn Whiting, Administrative Technician, President's Office**

Dawn replaces Patricia Davila, and will be taking the lead on the many coordinative tasks in the President's Office. Dawn holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a Master's degree in Human Resource Management. She began her career in education as an academic advisor for five years and worked closely with students to support their academic journey. She then transitioned into an Assistant Registrar role where she was responsible for compliance, student acceptance, policy interpretation, and graduation audits. Dawn also has experience with policy training to staff and faculty, as well as organizing and participating in her former university's annual commencement ceremony. She is a team player who is focused on process improvement that supports student success.

**Sean Flores-Electronic Resources Librarian**

Sean was previously serving as an Electronic Resources Librarian at Santa Barbara City College. He has also served as the Web/Digital Design Librarian at the San Diego Central Library, and an Associate Librarian for Qualcomm. He has served in roles as an intern, substitute, and clerk at the San Diego History Center, Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park, Amylin Pharmaceutical Library, and for the Naval Medical Center, San Diego.

He holds a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) degree from San Jose State University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of California, Riverside.

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## Enrollment is UP and We are Off to a Great Start!

A Big Thank You to everyone on campus for their assistance in working with students and getting them to their classes the first week of the semester. Our collective work has really paid off as Mesa College's headcount and enrollment for Fall 2016 are up over the same time from the Fall of 2015. We are offering an additional 43 sections this fall compared to last fall with a total for the fall semester of 2,368 total sections. Mesa's FTES total for the fall semester has increased by 1.5% in FTES over the Fall 2015. Our headcount this semester is up about 5% over the Fall of 2015 meaning that 1,144 additional students are attending this fall and our current headcount is 23,427. Much of our enrollment growth is coming from online instruction.

The strength of our campus is how well we work together and this no more evident that the work that we do the first week of each semester in welcoming students back to our campus and helping them get off to a successful start to the semester. Every person on this campus plays a vital role in this work and a number of students have commented as to how good it feels to be at Mesa.

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## Mesa Commons Open for Business!

At long last Mesa College has a campus center worthy of its students and state-of-the-art college campus. Already this new building is fast becoming the place to be. New food options from our food services folks, and the beautiful new Culinary Outlook, with both the MFusion lunch service and Gourmet dinners on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, offers delicious reasons to stay on campus. The new conference rooms are already busy and offer the opportunities for more people to attend our college meetings.

Print and Mail services and the Stockroom are also in this new space, along with our beautiful new bookstore and the new outdoor Java Jive.

We are working on some additional shade options to create more seating; look for those soon.

On Wednesday, September 14th, we will have the official Grand Opening at 10 a.m. in the outdoor breezeway between the bookstore and cafeteria - join us!

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## Remembering Jan Ellis

Jan served as a faculty member for over 33 years, beginning her career as an adjunct in 1980. Jan taught in many areas of Dance, including Dance Repertoire, Jazz Dance & Performance, Lighting Design for Dance, Sound Design for Dance, and Choreography. She served as the Department Chair for Physical Education, Dance and Athletics from 2012 – 2015, which was an extremely challenging position with accreditation and legislative changes which she fulfilled with great proficiency. She also took the lead in coordinating the SDCCD revision of the Physical Education, Health, and Dance curriculum as well as wrote the initial Program Review for the Dance Department to document the current practices as well as the future goals to ensure the success, retention and persistence of students in the dance classes.

Jan was also involved in many areas of the Dance Community, including leading intensive Dance and Movement Workshops for Educators every summer and heading the Mesa College Dance Company which offered bi-annual main stage performance opportunities. Jan also directed and produced concerts each semester which included guest choreographers to work with the students.

Some of the many highlights of Jan's career:

2012 Professional Dance Educator of the Year (CAHPERD State Conference)

2012 Mesa Star Award

2014 SCOPE Dance Educator of the Year

Jan was a shining light in everyone's lives who knew her. Thousands of students have had transformative experiences learning their craft under her tutelage. Last year, the Mesa Dance Company performed a tribute to Jan that was moving and wonderfully represented Jan. Her former students, and even her daughters, performed to Jan's delight.

Jan was key in designing the new Exercise Science Center; advocating for the many features we have today. Jan has left an indelible legacy at Mesa College; we will be able to see her in so many things that she touched during her incredible career. Of course, her most important legacy is the gift of her time, love, and passion for her students, her colleagues, and her family, we hold them in our hearts.

The College and Family have established a "Jan Ellis Memorial Scholarship", donations to the scholarship can be made [here](#). There are memorials scheduled to remember Jan that have been published via email. The college will also be holding an event on campus, more information to follow.

## Convocation 2017

### *EquityinAction*

We kicked off the year with an action packed flex week in August. We started the week with the New Faculty Institute, then enjoyed our Adjunct Faculty Workshop – all leading to our Fall Convocation 2017. Highlights of our session included a session with Dr. Claude Steele talking about Stereotype Threat and its impact on learning, updates on Accreditation, the awarding of the first ever "Chairs Award" awarded to Vice Chancellor Lynn Neault, and the first "Olympian Spirit" Awards given to 20 faculty, staff and administrators. We also enjoyed a book signing with Dr. Steele.

Check out our [agenda](#), and there are some great pictures on the Mesa College website on Facebook and twitter.



## Accreditation 2017

Institutional Self-Evaluation Report review is underway!

We are in the midst of reviewing each standard of the College's Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER). Many thanks to those that have already reviewed and provided feedback. Each meeting, the standard is posted on the [Accreditation website](#) with feedback guidelines.

In advance of each President's Cabinet meeting a reminder goes out with the information regarding what section is under review; all are welcome to come hear the leads of each section present. The calendar for review can be found [here](#).

Each Thursday, our Accreditation leads and interested others are meeting to review your feedback and incorporate it into our final drafts. If you have an interest in joining this writing group, we meet in A-104 from 1-3 every Thursday.

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## Upcoming Events



**When:** September 17th, 2016

**Time:** 11:00am to 2:00pm

**Where:** NTC Liberty Station

Ingram Plaza

2640 Historic Decatur Rd

San Diego, CA 92106

[BUY TICKETS HERE](#)

The San Diego Gourmet Pizza Fest is a 21+ outdoor festival showcasing amazing restaurants competing for San Diego's best gourmet pizza. The pizza will be judged by a panel of judges, as well as our attendees, and will include 10 beer samples. Join us for a great day lounging with friends listening to music, tastings and more!

At the festival, you will get to sample pizza from the many restaurants, vote for your favorite, sample at least 10 beer tastings, listen to great music, and all in our wonderful San Diego weather!

All proceeds benefit the San Diego Mesa College Foundation

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You're invited!

# *Taste of Mesa*

Culinary Outlook

**Thursday, October 6, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

## **Culinary Fundraiser**

Mesa College is celebrating the grand opening of its newest building – the Mesa Commons Culinary Arts/Culinary Management classroom and laboratory – with “A Taste of Mesa”. Enjoy the great views, sample a selection of international cuisine, watch an amazing cook-off between Mesa alumni chefs and students, and win incredible "food-themed" silent auction item consisting of local specialty liquors, gift cards from restaurants, wine, culinary cooking tools, etc.

In addition, Mesa’s Hospitality Program will be assisting the Culinary Program with hosting the event. All proceeds benefit the Culinary Arts/Management Program, one of the premier Culinary Arts programs in San Diego County. For more than 50 years, Mesa College has provided a top-notch culinary education where many of the graduates of this rigorous program have gone on to be successful chefs, managers, and caterers.

Buy your tickets at: [bit.ly/tasteofmesa](http://bit.ly/tasteofmesa)

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I hope to see you at one of our many September events! Enjoy!

Pam

***Pamela T. Luster, President***

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