



Hello Mesa College Community!

Weekly Update from Prez Hands provides a brief overview of the exciting efforts taking place within our community. The updates are also a great way to tell our collective story of success, and to document our journey of becoming the Leading College of Equity and Excellence. Enjoy!

OFFICE OF THE *President*

Spirit of Mesa

The Power of Us

SAVE THE DATE | Friday October 9, 2026, 4:30 pm
San Diego Mesa College Quad

Mark your calendar, the San Diego Mesa College Foundation's signature event, *Spirit of Mesa*, turns three this October, and we cannot wait to celebrate with you!

This year's theme, **The Power of Us**, is a celebration of the entire community that makes student success possible. This year's theme recognizes that our greatest impact happens when we come together, and we're putting that belief into action by shining a spotlight on the **Mesa Impactship Program (MIP)**.

We're especially proud to spotlight the Mesa Impactship Program this year. MIP is Mesa's flagship initiative supporting our commitment to living-wage outcomes by connecting students with paid, hands-on internships that build professional experience, industry skills, confidence, and career networks. Together, we can turn opportunity into experience, experience into careers, and careers into a stronger San Diego.

Join us on the beautiful San Diego Mesa College campus for an evening of joy, gratitude, and community. Your presence will add to the joy of our event. Please save the date and join us!

Date/Time:
Friday, October 9, 2026
4:30 pm: Reception
5:30 pm: Seated Program and Dinner

Location:
San Diego Mesa College Quad

The Power of Us ♥



SAN DIEGO
Community College District
City College · Mesa College · Miramar College
College of Continuing Education



Join me for the

CHANCELLOR'S FALL FORUM

Charting the path together.



Thursday,
September 17, 2026



3:00–5:00 P.M.



Mesa College
Room MC 211A/B



College Flex
#35499



Join me for an open conversation about the issues that matter to you and our District.

Share your ideas, ask questions, and help shape our future.



SAN DIEGO
Community College District
City College · Mesa College · Miramar College
College of Continuing Education

START@SDCCD

New CCCStart process
for an improved student
entry experience

Beginning **September 15, 2026**, CCCApply will transition to **CCCStart**, introducing a new Start@SDCCD process designed to provide students with an improved and more streamlined entry experience. Learn more about the transition and why the change is being made by watching this brief video: [Why CCCStart?](#)



📍 New Professional Learning Opportunity: #RealCollege Curriculum Now at Mesa College! (FLEX#35460)

Mesa College now offers the [#RealCollege Curriculum](#)—four asynchronous, on-demand courses from [Believe in Students](#) designed to help faculty and staff better support students facing basic needs insecurity.

What's Included:

- **Four-Course Series:** Basic Needs 101 plus specialized modules, including support for parenting students.
- **Flexible Learning:** Self-paced, practical, evidence-based tools you can use right away.
- **Campus Impact:** Help strengthen Mesa's basic needs support.



The Power in Your Position:
Showing Up with Purpose and Impact
with Dr. Pilar Nova Huffman

What changes when we stop seeing our positions as roles and start seeing them as spaces of influence, purpose, and possibility?

In this interactive session, Dr. Pilar Nova Huffman, a higher education leader and professional development strategist grounded in the belief that *what you nurture will rise*, draws on Maslow's principles of motivation and her own NURTURE Framework to explore how the environments we create shape how people grow and contribute. Through reflection, dialogue, and hands-on activities, participants will examine the link between their sense of purpose and their impact on institutional culture and student success, leaving with a powerful question to carry forward:

"What am I nurturing through the position I hold, and what could rise because of it?"

INSPIRE. INFLUENCE. Nurture.
WHAT YOU NURTURE will rise.

September 18, 2026
at 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

ZOOM:
<https://sdccd-edu.zoom.us/j/82442746278>

Registration link!

YOUR POSITION. YOUR PURPOSE. Lasting Impact.

PURPOSE • PEOPLE • POSSIBILITIES • IMPACT

The Power in Your Position: Showing Up with Purpose and Impact with Dr. Pilar Nova Huffman

What changes when we stop seeing our positions as roles and start seeing them as spaces of influence, purpose, and possibility? In this interactive session, Dr. Pilar Nova Huffman, a higher education leader and professional development strategist grounded in the belief that *what you nurture will rise*, draws on Maslow's principles of motivation and her own

📌 **Access the courses** by creating an account and using campus code **Mesa2526**. *Please keep this code internal to Mesa.*

Please reach out to Janue Johnson, jjohnson001@sdccd.edu, if you have any questions. If you encounter technical issues please view this document for accessing the modules: [Guidance for RCC Partners 2026](#)

NURTURE Framework to explore how the environments we create shape how people grow and contribute. Through reflection, dialogue, and hands-on activities, participants will examine the link between their sense of purpose and their impact on institutional culture and student success, leaving with a powerful question to carry forward: *What am I nurturing through the position I hold, and what could rise because of it?*

📅 September 18, 2026 at 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

📍 ZOOM: <https://sdccd-edu.zoom.us/j/82442746278>

🔗 [Registration link!](#)

OFFICE OF *Instruction*



State Treasurer Fiona Ma Visits Mesa College

State Treasurer, Fiona Ma, was able to tour allied health programs last week. During her visit she interacted with faculty and students in the Rad Tech, Dental and PTA labs. It was a great opportunity to showcase how allied health is contributing to the economic mobility of the state.

[Fiona Ma Instagram Post](#) | [Mesa College Flickr Album](#)

ENROLLMENT *update*

Fall 2026 FTES is 6,284 and our headcount is 22,070. For Fall 2026, we are 101.9% towards meeting our goals and anticipate being able to meet our targets even with changes in enrollment and fraudulent "bot" students being removed. As for Fall 2026, the numbers continue to increase, and we have -1.11% more students this week compared to last week. Please note that the data has not yet been calculated based on the new attendance accounting method.



Stay updated on the latest developments of our Olympic Athletes!

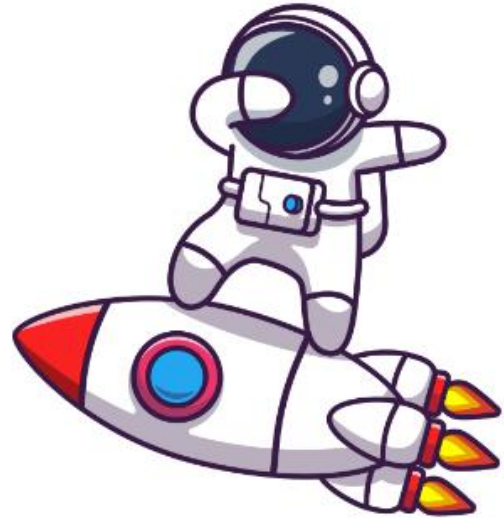
<https://www.gosdemesa.com/landing/index>

New Issue Alert

[Click here for the latest Mesa Journeys Newsletter!](#)

The Mesa Journeys newsletter gives a more in-depth look at all the great things that are happening on our campus. We encourage all faculty and staff to pass this along to our students, and also to sign up to receive these newsletters straight to their inboxes! Click below to sign up and for more information about Mesa Journeys:

<https://linktr.ee/mesajourneys>



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Mental Health Services

**Peer to Peer
SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING**

National Suicide Prevention Month

SEPTEMBER SUICIDE AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH

25 Sept, 2026
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

G-101

Request for disability related accommodations should be made no later than five working days prior to the event. Call (619) 388-2774 or contact admesamentalhealth@sdcoc.edu for more information.

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Transfer Center

UC TRANSFER Support August - September Events

TAG THURSDAYS Aug. 13th - Sept. 24th
Join us every Thursday to complete your UC TAG Application (Due September 30th) through the UC Transfer Admission Planner.

Via ZOOM: <https://gqr.sh/V9Aa> 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Register Now!

AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
13th	4th
20th	11th
27th	18th
	25th

PIQ FRIDAYS Aug. 21st - Sept. 25th
We will be hosting workshops every Friday focusing on a different Personal Insight question each week! Find the best way to approach each prompt to strengthen your UC transfer application!

14-306, 3rd Floor of Student Services Building

View Questions Here!

AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
14th	4th
21st	11th
28th	18th
	25th

What is TAG?
Transfer Admission Guarantee, a program offering guaranteed admission to students applying from California community colleges to select University of California campuses.

What are PIQs?
PIQ stands for Personal Insight Question, which is the short-essay requirement used in the University of California (UC) application. Students are required to submit 4 essays with their UC Application.

mesatransfer@sdcoc.edu (619) 388-2470 @sdmesatransfer 14-306 (3rd Floor Student Services Bldg.)

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Transfer Center

CSUSM
FALL + SEMESTER
WORKSHOPS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17th
Application Workshop 1:30am to 1pm | 14-306 | Tabling at the Transfer Center 1pm to 2:30pm | 14-306

THURSDAY OCTOBER 22nd
Application Workshop 1pm to 3pm | BT-216

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 19th
Application Workshop 1pm to 3pm | BT-216

Registration:

sdmesa.edu/transfer | (619) 388-2473 | Location: 14-306 | mesatransfer@sdcoc.edu

**CELEBRATE
CONSTITUTION DAY**

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

11:15 am - 12:35 pm | G-101

Federalism, Climate Change Costs, and the US Constitution

Sponsored by Pathways to Law Program, Publica Science, Student Affairs, Humanities Institute, and Institutions

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

For more information, please contact mesatransfer@sdcoc.edu or call (619) 388-2774 at least five (5) working days prior to event.



For More Events, Click on the Links Below

[From Community to Capacity: Building and Sustaining LGBTQIA+ Employee Resource Groups](#)

[Fall 2026 Housing Series: Ready, Set, Rent!](#)

[Finding Your Future: Scholarship Success Lab](#)

[Fall 2026 Art Focus](#)

[Fall 2026 CalFresh, MediCal, Drop In Sessions](#)

[Panel: Who Am I? Who Can I Become?](#)

[Fall 2026
Financial
Literacy
Workshop](#)

[The
Serenity
Space
Moved!](#)

[Ballet
Folklorico
with Mesa
Dance](#)

[Fall 2026
Club Rush](#)

[Club
Advisor
Training](#)

[Fall 2026
Student
Parent
Healing
Circle](#)

[Clubs: Get Involved!
Join A Club, Find Your
Community](#)

[Fall 2026 Association
Student Application](#)

[ALMA: Alliance for
Latine Mesa
Achievement](#)

[Welcome Back Parent
Cafe](#)

OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*



The graphic is a blue rectangular banner with a yellow diagonal stripe in the top right corner that says "NEW!". The main title "NON-EVENT PARKING PERMIT REQUEST FORM" is in large white capital letters. Below the title is a screenshot of a web portal titled "WELCOME TO THE EVENTS & RESERVATIONS PORTAL". In the screenshot, the "Non Event Parking Permits" link is circled in red. To the right of the screenshot, there is explanatory text and a bulleted list of requirements.

NON-EVENT PARKING PERMIT REQUEST FORM

NEW!

WELCOME TO THE
EVENTS & RESERVATIONS PORTAL

This webpage will guide you through submitting your event request.

Create Event Edit Event

Non Event Parking Permits

If your event needs parking please enter an event request and fill out the parking section.

This form can be used for parking permit requests that are **NOT** related to an event and do not require additional resources or a space/room (i.e. community clinic, meetings in dept. conference rooms, guest speakers during a class, etc.)

- Must be entered two weeks in advance
- Requests require manager approval, similar to Event Requests
- Can be used for single or group permits

Parking related to events will need to be entered as part of an Event Request.

WWW.SPIMESA.EDU/EVENTS

Reminder regarding parking permits for events, guest speakers, and meetings.

Event Parking:

All parking for events should be included as part of your Event Request in the [Events & Reservation Portal](#). Please keep in mind that all event requests must be submitted at least three weeks before the date of your event (longer for large events). More information can be found in the [Event & Reservation Portal FAQs](#).

Non-Event Individual/Group Permits:

Requests for non-event parking can be submitted via the [Non Event Parking Permit Request Form](#) now available on our [webpage](#), within the [Events & Reservations Portal](#). These would include requests that are not part of an “event,” such as guest speakers, departmental meeting attendees, etc. that do not require any other support.

OFFICE OF *Institutional Effectiveness*

IE Office Hours

A DEDICATED TIME TO THINK
THROUGH YOUR DATA TOGETHER 🌟



QUESTIONS?

We're here to help.



DATA?

Let's explore it together.



IDEAS?

Let's work through them.

*We look forward to being
your data thought partner. ❤️*

Flex #34535

Every Tuesday
12:30–1:30 p.m.



1st & 3rd Tuesdays:

In person in the
IE Conference Room (A-109)



2nd & 4th Tuesdays:

Via Zoom
Meeting ID: 872 4762 5082

New Resource: Data Element Dictionary & Acronym Glossary

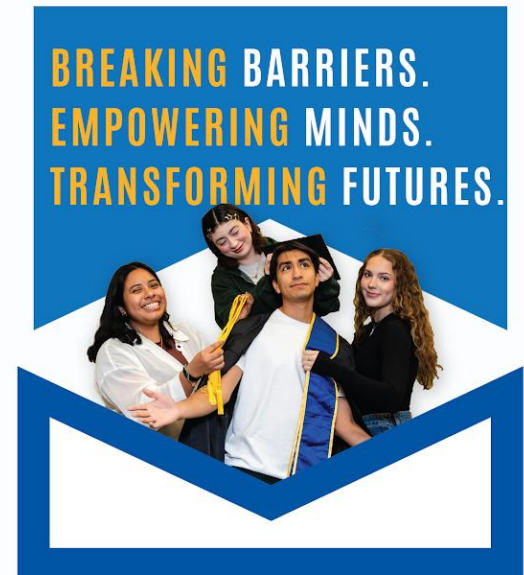
The Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Office has published a new [Data Element Dictionary & Acronym Glossary](#) on our website to support a shared understanding of the terminology used across Mesa College. Whether you're reviewing reports, navigating dashboards, or interpreting campus communications, this resource is designed to clarify common data definitions and acronyms in one central place. You can find it on the [IE website](#) under the **Data Dictionary & Acronym Glossary** section. We invite you to explore it and reach out to the IE Office with suggestions for new additions, updates, or corrections as we continue to build and refine this tool together. For feedback, please contact **Adriana Caetano** at acaetanofournier@sdccd.edu.



FOUNDATION CORNER

A space to learn about our latest efforts to connect partners who share our passion for education with opportunities to give. See how fundraising can help you, our students, and Mesa's mission.

[Learn More](#)



Want to learn more about grant seeking?

View the flex workshop hosted by Dr. Michael Lettieri, who is leading grant writing efforts, and Krista Stellmacher, CFRE and Director in service to the Office of Resource Development and Foundation.

[View Recording](#)

Non-Participation in Immigration Enforcement Activities

Please remember that our district has an official immigration policy, [AP 3415](#). This policy directs all inquiries regarding immigration enforcement to the District Chancellor and District General Counsel. If you receive a confirmed report of immigration enforcement on campus, please contact:

- SDCCD Chancellor's Office (Greg Smith): 619-388-6957 | chancellor@sdccd.edu
- SDCCD General Counsel (Ljubisa Kostic): 619-388-6589 | lkostic@sdccd.edu

You are not expected to engage with immigration enforcement or place yourself or others at risk. If approached by immigration officials, you may respond: "I am not authorized to speak with you, answer your questions, or provide access to any people or facilities per SDCCD policy. Only the District Chancellor and General Counsel have authority to assist you." To stay informed and prepared:

- Update your emergency contact information in the [MySDCCD portal](#)
- Download the [SDCCDsafe App](#)
- Refer to the [District's Immigration Resources page](#)
- Continue to read campus emails and official updates

San Diego Mesa College has a clear, coordinated Immigration Enforcement Response Plan centered on our Emergency Management Response Team, led by the President and including College Communications, Vice Presidents, Facilities and Operations, OEHS, and the Campus Community Emergency Response Team, in coordination with SDCCD Police. Recognizing that every incident is unique, this structure ensures we are prepared to act quickly and compassionately with clear communication, coordinated safety measures, and robust support for students and employees should an incident occur.

Participatory Governance

To learn more about our Associated Students, Academic Senate, and Classified Senate, please visit the links below:

[Associated Students](#)

[Academic Senate](#)

[Classified Senate](#)

In The Know

For additional information on what is happening on campus and in our community - visit the links below:

[Mesa College Newsroom](#)

[Mesa College Events Calendar](#)

Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.

President | San Diego Mesa College

Creating conditions that matter for our students to succeed!

7250 Mesa College Drive, A-104, SD, CA 92111 | 619.388.2721

[Mesa College](#) | [Student Support Services](#)

