

Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: Aug 25, 2023
Sent On Behalf Of President Ashanti T. Hands



Hello Mesa College Community,

Weekly Updates from Prez Hands provide 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 Updates

President Hands would like to thank and recognize the Mesa College team that has been on-site this past Monday to ensure that the campus was safe and secure for our community to return to: Vice President Maxey, Vice President O'Connor, Acting VPAS Jacqueline Collins, Giovanni Garcia, Jennifer Kearns, Lieutenant Ken Nelson, Dave Warczakowski, Matt Fay, as well as our Facilities team who worked diligently to ensure we were ready for the Fall semester!

Mesa College kicked off an engaging, interactive and exciting Welcome Week! Students had the opportunity to connect with the President and College Administrative Team during Popsicles with the Presidents. In addition, we had over 35 departments join in the resource tabling fair. It was a great week to welcome our students!

KUSI came to our campus to celebrate with us our first day of classes! President Hands along with other Mesa College ambassadors shared what our new and returning students have to look forward to and the vision for the Fall semester. To watch the news clips, please click [here](#) and [here](#).

Office of Instruction Updates



Over the summer, faculty Librarian, Dr. Alison Gurganus was able to speak one-on-one with our new California Community College (CCC) Chancellor Sonya Christian about how libraries can help with the [Vision 2030](#) for all CCC's. This took place in Sacramento at a board retreat of the Council of Chief librarians (CCL) who advocate for, and make professional development opportunities available to, all CCC librarians. At this same meeting, Alison was also elected the new Incoming President of the organization.

Office of Student Services Updates



Amber Alatorre has been working with the AANAPISI Team and kicked off the Campus Quest, an orientation program designed for AAPI students. The SD Mesa AANAPISI Canvas shell has been published and available through this link: <https://sdccd.instructure.com/enroll/HFT7LD>

Counseling has been working to support Mesa Promise Students through “Promise Race to 12 Units” sessions designed to increase student participation and aid students who need additional units.

San Diego Mesa College has been designated a Military Friendly Gold Status for 2023-2024.

Last week, our Mesa College Outreach was busy supporting over 150 students in multiple events to get started with their journeys here at Mesa College, including providing support with admissions, residency, Promise applications, counseling, and so much more. Outreach also hosted a week-long orientation that will prepare our new ambassadors and project assistants with the skills and tools needed to connect with community partners and promote Mesa College.

Our Black Leadership Fellowship program held their Black Student Meet & Greet this Wednesday! Students had the opportunity to meet with staff and faculty to learn about the resources that are made available to them. The Black Leadership Fellowship program is designed to create rich and rewarding opportunities of engagement for Black/African American students.

Office of Resource Development and San Diego Mesa College Foundation

The Office of Resource Development supported a tour with Acting Chancellor Greg Smith and Vice Chancellor Laurie Coskey in a tour of the World Art Collection, led by Dr. Denise Rogers.

The San Diego Mesa College Foundation welcomed Dr. Pamela Luster as Chair of the Advancement Committee! We are happy to have Dr. Luster continue her work with Mesa College.

In the Know

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

1. [Mesa College Newsroom](#)
2. [Mesa College Events Calendar](#)

Best,
Ashanti Hands

Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.

President | San Diego Mesa College

Creating conditions that matter for our students to succeed!

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