

Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: November 2, 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

We have raised the Kumeyaay flag in honor of Native American Heritage Month! We will be hosting a ceremony on Tuesday, November 14, 2023. An announcement will be shared with the campus soon.

The Fall 2023 of our District's *With Excellence* magazine is out now, featuring some great stories about Mesa College. To read, please click this link: [Fall 2023 SDCCD WE Magazine](#)

Last Wednesday, President Hands spoke about access to higher education, the skilled worker gap, and how San Diego Mesa College is making an impact at the San Diego Economic Equity Report Media Briefing. [Click here to check out the San Diego Foundation's Economic Equity Report.](#)

Office of Instruction



Congratulations to Cassandra Storey, who has been appointed as the Dean of Health Sciences and Public Service! We are delighted that Dean Storey has decided to stay at Mesa and we look forward to continuing our work with her.

Office of Student Services

- This Friday starting at 10:00 a.m. in the Mesa Quad is our **Black Excellence Symposium**, a dynamic event dedicated to celebrating and nurturing Black empowerment. This symposium presents an incredible opportunity to learn from accomplished Black individuals, including esteemed Mesa College alumni and community members. For more information, please contact Robyn Bolden at rbolden@sdccd.edu.
- Student Affairs is pleased to announce the approval of the Fall 2023 Club List! 24 previously-active clubs will be active again, and 9 new clubs have registered for this academic year, for a total of 33 student clubs. These new groups include the Chess Club, Lion Dance Club, and Middle

Eastern Club, just to name a few. Altogether, our student clubs are advised by 32 members of faculty, 2 classified professionals, and 1 administrator. We look forward to working with all our new and returning student leaders throughout the year!

- Extended deadline! **Year 1 Promise students are required to submit Promise Progress Reports by Friday, November 3rd.** The form is available at <https://bit.ly/2324fallrep> (also available on our Promise Canvas shell at <http://bit.ly/promisecanvas>). Students will submit their current mid-semester grades for every enrolled course (including all courses from Mesa, Miramar, and City College) for Fall 2023. Contact: sdpromisemesa@sdccd.edu.
- Promise Counseling Workshop, "**Navigating the Transfer Process to a UC School as a 1st-Gen Student**" will be held in-person Thursday, November 2nd, 10am-11am at the Avanza Engagement Center in I4-203. Free snacks & swag! Registration is required: <https://bit.ly/3Y4cFTL>.
- Stop by the Assessment & Testing office (I4-201) to meet the Mesa Promise team, guess the number of candy corn in our pumpkin jar for a chance at a Starbucks card, and fulfil your Fall Campus Engagement requirement! Submit your guess by November 3rd.
- The Phi Theta Kappa scholarship application is now open for submissions! It is a wonderful opportunity for our students who are transferring to a university as well as students who are pursuing a career after graduating Mesa. This scholarship opportunity will give Mesa students the chance to be awarded \$5,000! For more information, please visit the [All-USA Academic Team website](#) for a general overview of the scholarship. Please promote this scholarship to your departments and encourage students to apply!
- **Next week is Veterans Celebration Week!** For a full list of events, please [click this link to the flyer](#).

Office of Resource Development

2024 Innovation Grant Reminder – Submit Monday!



This is another friendly reminder that the 2023-2024 Innovation Grants Application period is now open and applications are being accepted with a suggested submission date of **this coming Monday, November 6, 2023***

At this point, we recommend that you begin drafting your application via the “Application Drafting Playground”

1. **Start Drafting Here:** <https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants24-Playground>

You can learn more by visiting the [Innovation Grants page](#).

2024 Scholarship Cycle – Calling Volunteers!



This year, we are hoping to double the number of volunteers who review scholarships. Please consider signing up as a scholarship reviewer: bit.ly/MesaScholarshipVol2024

Final Call: Taste of Mesa!

Join us *this Thursday, November 2, 2023* for internationally-inspired cuisine and two cook-off competitions between alumni, students, and an advanced baking team.

Visit the [Taste of Mesa event page](#) for more information and to get tickets.

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

