

Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: January 11, 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

Please join me in congratulating our Larry Maxey on his new role as Vice President of Student Services. He started in his new position on January 3, 2023.

President Hands and Chancellor Cortez met with the San Diego Unified School District regarding a potential partnership. Additional details will follow.

It was with great disappointment and an abundance of caution that we canceled our Study Abroad trip to Peru scheduled for Intersession 2023. This decision was based on events in areas near the intended destination of study, the current uncertainty of the political protests, and the [State Department's advisory](#) to not travel to Cusco. The Study Abroad students can either request a refund or select a different program of study in which fees can be applied.

Campus Events

Please Save the Date for the Spring 2023 San Diego Mesa College Convocation, to be held on Thursday, January 26, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., in the Mesa Gymnasium.

Office of Instruction Updates

We are delighted to announce that Dr. Jennifer Carmichael has accepted the position of Dean of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Dr. Carmichael started in her new position on January 3, 2023.

STEM Center Updates: During the Fall 2022 semester, the STEM Center saw 728 in-person general tutoring sessions across 237 students. The Virtual STEM Center had 1,117 online general tutoring sessions across 197 students. Embedded Tutoring attendance in STEM courses was at 760 session visits by 193 students. STEM Peer Mentoring attendance totaled 3,436 session visits by 305 students. In total, approximately **730 individual students attended over 6,000 sessions and meetings** with our general tutors, embedded tutors, and peer mentors – easily the best semester in terms of attendance since the pandemic began in 2020. This would not have occurred without the incredible effort and interdepartmental collaboration from the team behind the STEM Center: Megan Corieri, Zoe Adler, Liping Wang, and Nancy Vongthichack of MT2C; as well as Yasmin Alkabbani, Rita Muñoz, and Maria Teresa Poblete of HSI STEM; and our ever-diligent FWS student Momina Habibi. Their dedication, adaptability, and patience over the past two years have allowed us to maintain a virtual STEM Center while successfully reopening the original STEM Center on campus.

Student Services Updates

The 2023 Winter CRUISE event started yesterday and runs through tomorrow. Students can connect with a Peer Navigator, participate in workshops, receive support, and build community while learning about campus resources and student life. The Saturday CRUISE was held over the weekend.

In the Know

To stay abreast of the latest news and to find out what's happening on campus, visit the links below.

- [Mesa College Newsroom](#)
- [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!

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

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