

Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: October 14, 2022
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!

Word of the Week (WOW): FTES – Full-time Equivalent Student

The total number of full-time equivalent students enrolled. It is the equivalent of 525 hours of student instruction per FTES, or one student enrolled in courses for 3 hours a day, 5 days a week, for an academic year of 35 weeks.

Office of the President Updates

On Monday, October 10, San Diego Mesa College hosted a visit with ACCJC President, Dr. Mac Powell. Dr. Powell met with President Hands and the Accreditation Steering Committee, and was also given a brief tour of the campus.

Last night, Mesa College hosted SDSU's CCLEAD Alumni Group Book signing for Dr. George R. Boggs, author of *A College of All Californians*. Chancellor Cortez and President/CEO of the Community College League of California, Larry Galizio, served as panelists.

Campus Events

Yesterday, the Quad was busy with exciting events:

1. Our Acting VPSS Maxey sponsored the Black Student Fellows Initiative Ice Cream Social where our community got a chance to grab some ice cream and meet members of the Black Student Fellows Initiative.
2. Our annual Advocacy Fair, "Equity in Action", also took place. A cash award opportunity was made available to participating students.
3. To see photos from these events, [click here](#).

This week, Mesa Student Affairs is hosting Reflect, Restore, and Unite Week - a collection of events designed to explore and expand upon concepts within the movement of Restorative Practices in order to reflect, restore, and unite as a community. For more information, please [click here](#).

Student Services Updates

Veterans:

Veterans Counselor, Jillian Ventrone will be providing Counseling Hotspots for student veterans on Mondays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Transfer Center:

The Transfer Center is offering Transfer Application workshops via zoom and in-person. Workshops held Monday through Thursday will be held in a zoom format and Fridays will be held in-person. Students can find out more information and register [here](#).

[Transfer Day](#) was held October 13 from 10 a.m – 1 p.m. Students had the opportunity to discuss transfer planning and articulation with more than 40 California State Universities (CSU), Universities of California (UC), Independent/Private Colleges/Universities and Out-of-State Colleges/Universities. College representatives provided information with regard to the application process, financial aid, programs and scholarships that are available.

Student applying to transfer for fall 2023 are encouraged to reference our [Transfer Final Year Checklist](#).

Career Center:

Mesa will be the hosting campus for the fall 2022 [district-wide career fair](#) on Thursday, November 17 aligning with National Career Development week, November 14 - 18. Students were invited via Handshake on October 7 and can register [here](#).

Students can receive support with their resume and cover letter by scheduling a peer-to-peer appointment with a Career Ambassador. [The Career Ambassador Program \(CAP\)](#) meets students where they are at in their career journey providing peer-to-peer coaching sessions on job searching, résumé writing, cover letter writing, and interview preparation, as well as other career readiness resources. Students are encouraged to join [Mesa Career Services Canvas Shell](#) - one-stop hub for career readiness and exploration.

Evaluations:

[2022-2023 Graduation Deadlines](#) are here! Students earning a Degree and/or Certificate of Achievement must apply for graduation.

JIRA, the [District's forms & petitions submission site](#), is currently undergoing maintenance to provide a streamlined purpose for students.

Student Health Services:

Laura Milligan held a presentation on Birth Control options on Tuesday, October 11. Laura educated students on birth control options currently available and described the best options based on the student's personal history.

Diego Flores, LMFT, from the Urban Restoration Counseling Center spoke on-line on Building Resiliency on October 13 at 1 p.m. Resiliency, also known as mental toughness, helps to reduce stress levels and allows us to minimize anxiety and worry. Diego will educate us on the steps to building resiliency and how to take action to maintain resiliency.

Mimi Vu provided support for the "Equity in Action" Advocacy Fair with a Peer Educator Art project. Art allows the mind to relax, builds communication with others and provides a sense of true community connection.

Borderless Scholars and Dreamer Resource Center:

Mesa College will be participating in the Undocumented Student Action Week bring awareness of the services and resources for undocumented students and employees.

The Borderless Scholars and Dreamer Resource Center has selected the theme of “Resilience in the Making” to highlight the ability and determination our undocumented students have to overcome any challenges through their journey in obtaining an education. The events are for undocumented students, employees, and community members, click on this link to learn more:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CjZBe-Opyho/?hl=en>. Mesa College is also partnering with City, Miramar, and CE to offer a series of events, click on this link to learn more: bit.ly/SDCCDUSAW2022

San Diego Mesa College and Jewish Family Service of San Diego (JFS) have partnered to provide services through its Higher Education Legal Services (HELs) program. The HELs program is a unique opportunity for students and employees at Community Colleges to access personalized FREE Immigration Legal Services. Click on the link below to learn more about these services and to schedule a FREE appointment with an immigration attorney: www.ifssd.org/HELs. Funds are available to cover the \$495 DACA application fee.

Office of Instruction Updates

Seventeen faculty from across all Mesa schools just completed Mesa Online Success Team (MOST) program called “Include”, a 4-week asynchronous, facilitated cohort that puts faculty in the shoes of online students to explore inclusive teaching together. Faculty participants explored the use of stories to connect with their students, created accessible content, discovered how structure can provide entry points for our students, and applied the concepts of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) to their teaching. Participants shared the following feedback:

1. “All faculty should be taking this course. I’ll be telling my colleagues about it.”
2. “I enjoyed the Include class – learned a lot! Incorporating some new things into my current Canvas classes already. Who said old dogs can’t learn new tricks?!”
3. “Every tip and/or concept was one I could apply immediately. I’m certain that taking the Include course has translated into a stronger class for current and future students. I can see areas to continue improving, but it’s not without some immediate gratification too.”

Office of Institutional Effectiveness Updates

Mesa2030

We launched [a survey](#) on October 11 to learn about the experiences of Mesa College employees and students as we implement the vision outlined in Mesa2030. [The survey](#), being administered by our strategic partner Gensler, will allow us to understand the considerations of remote and hybrid learning, teaching and working in the context of *our experiences* and expectations for the future. The anonymous survey will remain open through midnight on **October 30**. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Please complete the survey and also share with students!

Data Coaching

Led by Anda McComb and Gina Abbiate, our Data Coaching program launched this fall with 9 participants including Classified Professionals, Faculty, and Managers. The ultimate goal of this effort is building a sustainable practice of data-driven decision-making within the campus community.

In the Know

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

