

Sent on behalf of President Ashanti T. Hands  
October 18, 2023



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**

Last Friday, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) announced that San Diego Mesa College's proposed Baccalaureate Degree Program (BDP) in Physical Therapy Assistant was granted **provisional approval** status. Mesa College's program can move from provisional approval to full approval after it is approved by ACCJC, reviewed by intersegmental partners, and finally approved by the Board of Governors President. While this process requires many additional steps and will span several months, we are truly excited to reach this monumental moment.

October 18 is the SDCCD Keeping The Promise Giving Day! During this year's Keeping the Promise giving day, let's unite in our mission and truly make tomorrow a day to remember. Harness your superhero skills, channel your energy, and prepare to embark on an extraordinary journey of giving and compassion. Get ready for a transformative experience! Click [here](#) to make your contribution in support of our students and the San Diego Promise program

### **Office of Instruction**



Last Saturday, October 14, there was a Solar Eclipse event that took place on the Mesa Quad. It was exciting to see people of all ages come to the event and enjoy the many interactive ways to view the eclipse.

Thank you to Dean Jennifer Carmichael, Physical Science Chairs Dr. Irena Stojimirovic and Dr. Jennifer Snyder, Physical Science Instructors David Coleman, Dr. Scott McCartney, Walter Thompson, and ILTs Chris Waters, Michael Lewis, and Alex Beltzer-Sweeney. We appreciate all your hard work!

### **Office of Student Services**

Student Health continues to host a reflection table outside of Student Health Services I-400 building, Room 209. People may leave thoughts, feelings, and reflections concerning the war in the Middle East.

Mental Health has a Parent Group led by Derrick White, LMFT on Thursday. Contact Robyn Bolden [rbolden@sdccd.edu](mailto:rbolden@sdccd.edu) for more information.

Mental Health is hosting "The Healing: Empowering Minds with Derrick White and Black Leadership Fellows" on Wednesday. Contact Robyn Bolden [rbolden@sdccd.edu](mailto:rbolden@sdccd.edu) for more information.

**Mesa Spirit Week is happening all week!** Events include:

- Office Decorating Contest brought to you by Classified Senate, join the fun by contacting Acting Classified Senate President Ayana Woods ([awoods002@sdccd.edu](mailto:awoods002@sdccd.edu)).
- All Sports Pep Rally & Party on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., sponsored by the Associated Students, Mental Health and Student Affairs teams. Join us on this day for a Recognition of Mesa Sports, with a party, DJ, music, free food, carnival games and prizes.
- End the week with the Homecoming Game on Saturday, October 21, 2023, 6:00 p.m., Mesa College Vs. Mt. San Jacinto College at the Merrill Douglas Stadium on campus.

**Promise Year 1 students are required to submit Promise Progress Reports by this Friday, October 20.** 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](mailto:sdpromisemesa@sdccd.edu).

**The next Promise Counseling Workshop**, "Academic Success: learn about W's, EW's, Disqual, Academic Renewal, Etc." will be held 9:00 a.m. -10:00 a.m. via Zoom on next week on Tuesday, October 24, 2023. For more details on this and other workshops, check our Instagram account, [@sdpromisemesa](https://www.instagram.com/sdpromisemesa).

**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 gift card, and fulfil your Fall Campus Engagement requirement! Submit your guess by November 3rd.

**Promises2Kids Resources:** The FAST Scholars and NextUp team hosted Promises2Kids on Monday, October 16th from 2-3pm to lead a workshop about the services they provide to students who have experienced foster care.

**Fall Parent Café:** CARE/CalWORKs will be hosting the Parent Cafe on Wednesday, October 18 from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in the AS Conference Room I4-409. Student parents will have a space to build a community, gather information and learn about resources. [Click this link to the Fall Parent Cafe flyer.](#)

**Dreamer Resource Center and Borderless Scholars** – The DRC invites campus community to join us for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Undocu Student Action Week happening all this week. We will be having workshops, events and collaborations with Region Ten community colleges and universities. For more information you can [Click this link to access the Dreamer Resource Center event calendar.](#)

**Dreamer Resource Center and Borderless Scholars** – The DRC and Borderless Scholars Program invites you to our Undocu Family Night on Thursday, October 19 from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Mesa Commons Room

211. We encourage students to invite their parents and family members to attend the event and learn about different topics such as legal services, resources on and off campus, and navigate college as an undocumented student. You MUST register for this event. <https://bit.ly/DRCFamilyNightFall23>.

**Pride Center** - Celebrate LGBTQIA+ History Month! LGBTQIA+ History Month, observed annually in October in the United States, is a time to celebrate and recognize the contributions, struggles, and achievements of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual individuals throughout history. This celebration serves as an opportunity to raise awareness about the LGBTQIA+ community's rich cultural, social, and political heritage and the ongoing fight for equality and acceptance. During this month, educational institutions, organizations, and communities often host events, discussions, and activities to honor LGBTQIA+ history and promote a more inclusive and accepting society. [Click this link to access list of events.](#)

**DSPS** - October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and we are excited to invite you to participate in several exciting activities to celebrate [NDEAM "Advancing Access and Equity"](#). No registration is required and all are welcome. To access all SDCCD events and registration information visit: [sdccd.edu/dsps](http://sdccd.edu/dsps)

### **Office of Administrative Services**

College Technology Services has continued to expand access to print technology for our students. The Architecture and Interior Design department have two new HP plotter/scanners installed at the Z-complex. The first has been placed into the student pay-for-print network and will allow students to print high-quality graphics; the second will be installed to the network in the near future. The new follow-me print system has been installed to the MS- Math/Chemistry area. The system provides print and scan access for users in a network-based arrangement; jobs are uploaded and can be retrieved at any follow-me multi-function printer.

The Affinity Space Request form and process is now open. The intent of this form is to request authorization from the Executive Leadership team to conduct an [initial project feasibility and cost estimating study](#) for dedicated affinity spaces. [Click here for the Affinity Spaces Request Form](#)

### **Office of Resource Development**

2024 Innovation Grants Available



The 2023-2024 Innovation Grants Application period is now open – applications are being accepted with a suggested submission date of **November 6, 2023\***

Each year, the San Diego Mesa College Foundation offers grants of up to \$3,000 to Mesa faculty and Classified Professionals for projects, equipment, and ideas that drive innovation support student success.

- Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/InnovationGrants24>

Please join Krista Stellmacher in her “Innovation Grant Office Hours” to take place in the LOFT on the following dates:

- Today! Wednesday, October 18th from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm
- Thursday, October 19th from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
- Monday, October 30th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

### 2024 Scholarship Cycle Open



It's that time of year! On behalf of the San Diego Mesa College Scholarship Committee and San Diego Mesa College Foundation, we are pleased to announce the start of the 2024 Scholarship Cycle! This is an opportunity for our campus to come together in support of students' bright futures. Here's how you can make a difference between now and **Wednesday, November 15, 2023**: Renew a scholarship, establish a scholarship, volunteer to review scholarships, or spread the word to your communities! Look for an email from Krista Stellmacher with more details.

### There's still time to register for Taste of Mesa!

Join us on 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

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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](#)

