



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

SDCCD District offices and campuses were flown at half-staff on Monday, October 2, 2023 in honor of Senator Dianne Feinstein who recently passed away. Senator Feinstein was a compassionate leader and her legacy will have immeasurable impact for years to come.

President Hands will be a panelist for one of the workshop sessions at the CCCCO Vision 2030: All Call to Action – Adult Education Summit this Thursday, October 5, 2023. This summit is a two-day summit running from October 5-6 focusing on adult learners, equity, innovation, and the workforce. President Hands' session is on Noncredit and Credit Innovative Employee Engagement Partnerships.

Mesa College was proud to host this past Monday the SDCCD Workshop: Deep Dive into Equitable Dual Enrollment Expansion in partnership with the Career Ladders Project (CLP) and support from the CCCCO. Special thanks to Vice President of Instruction Isabel O'Connor for her efforts!

Mesa College is sponsoring a team of faculty and students to attend the Nandi Symposium in Los Angeles, California.



Next week, our campus community will have a chance to meet our ACCJC Visiting Team at the Accreditation Open Forum on Thursday, October 12, 2023, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

This event presents an opportunity for you to acquaint yourselves with the Team, gain insight into their objectives, inquire about their procedures, and contribute any pertinent information.

The Open Forum will be conducted exclusively as an online event, and registration is required. To register, please use this link: <https://bit.ly/MesaAccreditation2023>

Office of Student Services

Veterans is hosting a Military Affiliated Student Orientation on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, 3:00 p.m., in the Veterans Success Center. Students will learn about their benefits, certification process, navigating class registration, mental health services, campus tour, etc.

This Thursday is **Puente's Noche de Familia** at 5:30 p.m. in MC 211 A/B. Students and their families will dine and mingle with Mesa faculty, staff, administrators, and Puente Mentors while hearing information about the program, its accomplishments, and plans for the upcoming semesters.

Year 1 Promise students are required to submit Promise Progress Reports by **October 20, 2023**. 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. For more information, contact sdpromisemesa@sdccd.edu

Reflect, Restore, & Unite Week will take place next week October 9-13, 2023. This is an opportunity for our student to pause, rejuvenate, and strengthen bonds as a campus community. We have a week filled with personal growth while coming together in meaningful ways.

Advocacy Fair Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., at Mesa Commons.

Coming Soon:

Mesa Spirit Week is October 16 – 20, 2023, events include:

- Office Decorating Contest brought to you by Classified Senate, more info coming soon.
- All Sports Pep Rally & Party- Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m., sponsored by the Associated Students, Mental Health and Student Affairs. 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 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.

Dreamer Resource Center and Borderless Scholars

- The DRC continues to facilitate its Fall 2023 Virtual / In Person Borderless Scholars Workshops to students. The workshops will take place from September 12, 2023 to December 15, 2023. Here is a [LINK](#) to the flyer.
- The Dreamer Resource Center began is FREE legal immigration consultations for students and employees on Thursday, October 5, 2023, in EOPS I4-309. Mesa College and Borderless Scholars are partnering with JFS/HELS to offer FREE legal immigration consultations. To learn more about this service, please contact the EOPS Office to schedule an appointment with a Borderless Scholars Counselor or visit our website at: <https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/eops/borderless-scholars/resources.shtml> and www.jfssd.org/HELS.
- The DRC invites students and employees to join us for the 7th Annual Undocu Student Action Week – October 16 – 20, 2023. We will be having workshops, events and collaborations with Region Ten community colleges and Universities. For more information you can click [HERE](#) to review the calendar.
- DRC and Borderless Scholars Program invites you to our Undocu Family Night on Thursday, October 19, 2023, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m., Mesa Commons 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 [here](#) to access list of events.

The Aztec Guardian Scholars Experience - The FAST Scholars and NextUp team will be taking 19 students on a campus trip to San Diego State University on Friday, October 6, 2023, to learn about how SDSU can support them as they pursue their studies there. Students will be provided transportation to and from SDSU and will engage in a day filled with activities including an informational session, campus tour, lunch, and bowling!

Financial Literacy Series - The FAST Scholars and NextUp team will be hosting Cal Coast on November 1, 2023 and December 13, 2023, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. to lead workshops on emotional spending and credit.

Office of Administrative Services

We are pleased to announce and roll out the Affinity Space Request form and process.

Purpose: 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.

Background: Affinity spaces play a pivotal role in fostering inclusivity, promoting cultural understanding, and providing targeted support to specific groups. These spaces provide members of particular Affinity Groups can gather to engage in enriching activities, dialogue, and support, all while feeling a sense of belonging and acceptance within the larger college community. The introduction of this formalized request form highlights the college's proactive approach in ensuring the needs and aspirations of different communities are addressed effectively. Through this process involving executive reviews, the college is looking to ensure that the creation and maintenance of these spaces align with the broader vision of the institution including Mesa2030, while also remaining equitable and impactful. The efforts to integrate Affinity Groups more holistically into the college's fabric emphasize the importance of these spaces in shaping an inclusive, diverse, and supportive campus environment for all.

Instructions: Requesting Groups meet with Dean/Manager/Supervisor on initial concept and complete the form and communicate to respective Vice President for approval. After submission, departments may be contacted by College Events and Operations to schedule a walkthrough and facts gathering session as necessary.

Request Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/gq4JmvhV7V>

2023 Timeline:

Oct. 2 – Request form and Instructions Emailed

Oct. 31 – Request form Submission Deadline

Nov. 1 – Nov. 20 – Requests evaluated

Nov. 22 – Space Allocation Feasibility determined and and communications to all requests sent

Office of Resource Development

We hosted a campus visit for alumnus and Resiliency Fund supporter Wyatt family, as well as alumnus and prospective supporter Restileon “Resty” Asuncion, who seeks to open a scholarship aimed at students who are also parents.

We supported a district-wide application in support of Basic Needs and internships for students.

With support from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, we are moving the Innovation Grant application process to an online form. Innovation grants offer the campus community grants of up to \$3,000 for initiatives and equipment that promote student success. Look for the application to open October 16, 2023.

Office of Institutional Effectiveness

Following the [ACCJC Guide for Virtual Visit](#), the [Guide to Institutional Self-Evaluation, Improvement, and Peer Review](#), and the [Commission Policy on Distance Education and on Correspondence Education](#) (in compliance with [federal regulation 34 CFR § 602.3](#)), a random subset of fully online Canvas courses in Spring 2023 will be reviewed by the ACCJC Review Team for trends and patterns related to *regular and substantive interaction* (as defined [here](#)). No individual faculty will be evaluated. Faculty whose courses were randomly selected were notified of this information.

The Open Forum with ACCJC Visiting Team is scheduled to be Thursday, October 12, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m., via zoom format. Additional information will be provided in a subsequent email. By request of the ACCJC visiting team, the college president, vice presidents, and senior staff/ administrators are asked not to attend the Open Forum to “foster a more open environment for comments from those that may not have had prior opportunity to meet with the visiting team.”

Nuventive - Nuventive trainings have begun! Do you want to learn more about the new platform we are using to capture data, lead us into having more meaningful conversations, while continuing to meet the needs of our students and highlighting the good work we already do? Join us at our trainings this week!

"Nuventive Mesa Trainer Workshop # 1 (Topic: Outcomes Assessment)" on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., in BT-102.

"Nuventive Mesa Trainer Workshop #2 (Topic: Program Review)" on Friday, October 6, 2023, via Zoom ([Meeting ID: 897 6100 3589](#)), 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

We hope to see you there! For questions, please contact Liza Rabinovich at erabinovich@sdccd.edu.



NUVENTIVE & PROGRAM REVIEW

NUVENTIVE MESA TRAINER WORKSHOP

- FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6
- 10-11 AM
- ZOOM MEETING ID: 897 6100 3589
- FLEX#20603
- WORKSHOP FACILITATED BY DINA MIYOSHI & LIZA RABINOVICH

This workshop will provide lead writer support and training for Program Review using the Nuventive workspace. The different parts of program review will be addressed/discussed (including the sections pertaining to goal/action plan updates and resource requests/Mesa 2030 mapping).

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](#)

