

Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: February 22, 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!

WOW (Word of the Week) – Census

For purposes of funding, the state takes a “snapshot” in time at the first 20% of the course. For a 16-week semester, this occurs Monday of the 3rd week.

Office of the President Updates

President Hands will attend the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) Annual Conference later this week.

The Mesa Men's Basketball Team had a big win over Southwestern College last Wednesday (87-77), and the Mesa Women's Basketball Team also had a big win the same night against Imperial Valley (68-50). The Women's Basketball Team plays again tonight at home in the first round of the SoCal Regional Playoffs, at 7:00pm against Pasadena City.

Campus Events

Club Rush is in progress this week, from February 21-23, during the hours of 11am-2pm each day, in the Mesa Quad (today's event was moved to the 4th floor of the Student Services Building due to inclement weather). Students can attend the event to learn about the various student clubs available on campus. Club Rush is an annual event where clubs promote themselves and students sign up to get involved. Students that attend will be able to earn \$100 by completing a simple set of tasks.

We are excited to celebrate the San Diego Mesa College Pride Center Grand Opening with you today! The Pride Center Grand Opening event will offer activities, guest speakers, food, on-and-off-campus Queer resources, and much more! Additionally, there will be opportunities to show your support through [donations](#) to the Pride Center. Everyone is welcome!

This week's Mesa Music Department Free Recital Hour will feature Zo Shah playing jazz guitar, starting this afternoon at 3:00pm in C-119.

The next STEM Lecture Series titled “The Last of Us? A look at the Mycobiome in Human Health and Disease” will be held tomorrow in room G-101 from 7:00pm – 8:30pm.

We continue to celebrate Black History Month. Click [here](#) to view the calendar of events.

Office of Instruction Updates

VP O'Connor will be attending the Common Course Numbering (CCN) Taskforce meeting on Thursday.

This week, Mesa College will launch our Invention and Inclusive Innovation (i3) Initiative Pilot Project. 22 Students are enrolled in this initiative. i3 is designed to develop 21st century workforce skills while solving community problems, scale experiential learning for students, teach students about using the entrepreneurial mindset as a skill, and learning as a cohort in an interdisciplinary environment while building confidence.

Office of Resource Development Updates

The scholarship cycle has now been closed to students and opened it to review. 42 people signed up to volunteer to review scholarships, and 808 students applied. A big thank you to Student Affairs, MT2C Writing Center, and many more who helped promote scholarships!

We are working with corporate donor RoomChazer to develop additional volunteer opportunities in support of students.

We recently met with prospective Board Members; Christine Lee of California Coast Credit Union, and Dr. Pamela Luster, President Emerita / Luster Higher Ed Group.

Administrative Services Updates

To accommodate our evening students, there will be a Food Truck on campus starting 2/27/23. The food truck will be open from 3:00pm to 7:00pm Monday-Thursday. The truck will be located near the Business Technology building.

Student Services Updates

Dean Vicki Miller and Claudia Perkins from Student Affairs will host the San Diego Colleges and Universities Student Conduct Conference. This is an event where all San Diego Region Conduct Officers collaborate to discuss hot topics including restorative practices, mental health, artificial intelligence, student rights and responsibilities, and more.

On Friday, Mesa Outreach will host approximately 100 Madison High School students joining us for workshops and a campus tour.

Success Story: Sergio, an international student from Brazil, returned to the United States after six months of travel ranging from Brazil to Mexico. We are happy to hear that he has successfully completed all of the I20 paperwork. This is a difficult process to complete quickly. We are excited to have him back, and he plans to complete two more semesters at Mesa to finish his two-year degree in Business Administration.

Success Story: Tiger, a UCSD international student from New Zealand, was academically disqualified from UCSD and was asked to attend Mesa for one semester before requesting to return to UCSD. He was referred to Mesa the day before the deadline to receive, process, and pay for permission codes. He successfully requested and received seven permission codes from Mesa College instructors, and relayed

that his experience with us was wonderful. Many thanks to all the faculty and staff who provided immediate support to ensure the student successfully registered for spring classes.

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!

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