

*Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: February 8, 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**

President Hands will be attending the Black Educators Networking Event this Friday at City College's Schwartz Square, where she will serve as a panelist. This event will include a job fair as well as food, music, prizes, and more. This event is free and attendees can register [here](#).

This weekend, President Hands and a team of faculty attended the Women Of Color Roar 5th Anniversary Breakfast Event at the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation.

Mesa College will send a team to this weekend's San Diego Chinese Women's Association (SDCWA) Chinese New Year Dinner later this week.

### **Campus Events**

Umoja and the Black Leadership Fellows (BLF) hosted a very well attended "Welcome Black Sip 'N' Dip" today, at The Stand. Students met with Black faculty, staff and administrators while painting, networking and enjoying refreshments.

To view images of the Rosa Parks Birthday Celebration, click [here](#).

To view images from Welcome Week, click [here](#).

For a full list of the Black History Month events, click [here](#).

### **Office of Instruction Updates**

We are excited to present our "African in Context" Reception, being held this tomorrow from 4:00pm – 7:00pm, including light refreshments and a performance by Teye Sa Thiosanne African Drum & Dance Company. Dr. Denise Rogers and Mesa College Art Gallery Director Alessandra Moctezuma, along with the Mesa College Art Gallery Team and the Mesa College Museum Studies program, are presenting the exhibit, a rare presentation of African art displayed as the pieces were historically used. The pieces displayed in the exhibit are from the San Diego Mesa College World Art Collection, from regions including Ghana, Mali, Yoruba, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, among others. There are several shrines constructed in the gallery, many of which honor a "great mother," or the power or spirit of women. The exhibit runs through February 23, 2023. On exhibit in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Student Art Gallery is *Beyond the*

*Vision - Student Art Exhibition.* Curated by Mesa students, this intimate exhibition explores transformative and healing ways art can be a vessel for release within the Black community. A lecture in the gallery hosted by Dr. Denise Rogers titled *SPIRITUALITY AND FEMININE POWER IN AFRICAN ART*, will take place Tuesday, February 14, from 11:15AM - 12:15PM, in FA-103. The Art Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, from 12pm – 5pm or by appointment.

Over the weekend, Mesa hosted its first “Game Jam” in partnership with the International Game Developers Association and the Global Game Jam. Over 40 professional and student game developers came together to create games under this year’s theme “Roots”. During this three day event, seven unique games were developed at Mesa for the Global Gaming Community.

The Mesa Impactship Program (MIP) hosted the spring on-boarding of Mesa College interns in-person on Friday, and virtually on Monday. Over 70 students were accepted for Spring 2023 to join the program out of over 160 applicants. Eligible Mesa students may receive a one-time, \$1,000 stipend, or hourly compensation for student workplace training and enrollment in a Work Experience or Directed Clinical Practice (DCP) course. Funding is intended to support students with reducing or eliminating out-of-pocket expenses such as childcare, equipment, fees, meals, professional attire, & more. MIP students will also be provided with additional career preparation activities, resume support, networking opportunities, and connections to additional job opportunities while participating. More information can be found [here](#). Applications for Summer 2023 and Fall 2023 will open later this semester.

### **Office of Resource Development Updates**

Director Stellmacher and President Hands had a campus visit with the California Coast Credit Union team last week.

We launched the next step of our Scholarship process, gathering feedback and setting up Review Committees for our 117 scholarships.

\$13,000 was recently awarded in Innovation Grants and an additional \$13,648 in support was leveraged from the campus community to secure funding for 83% of the amount requested during the 2023 Innovation Grant Cycle.

### **Student Services Updates**

#### **Admissions**

- Mesa has 1,783 CCAP enrollments for Spring 2023.
- Mesa received 16 potential enrollments via the California Virtual Campus Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI) from the following colleges: Bakersfield College, Chaffey College, Compton College, De Anza College, Foothill College, Lake Tahoe Community College, Santa Ana College, Santiago Canyon College, and Ventura College.

#### **Counseling**

- Promise counselors will facilitate virtual and in-person hotspots for students throughout the spring semester. In-person counseling hotspots will be held in the Assessment and Testing Center and in the Counseling Office.
- The Counseling Department will be collaborating with Outreach to provide abbreviated education plans to incoming high school students from four of Mesa College's feeder high schools. Students will visit Mesa College to go through the pre-enrollment stages and obtain an abbreviated education plan by meeting with a counselor. Campus visits will happen through March.

- The International Student Program facilitated the process for 16 new international students to be admitted to Mesa College for the spring semester.

#### EOPS & Special Programs

- **Borderless Scholars Workshops:** We are inviting all Borderless Scholars to join us for the “Spring 2023 Virtual / In-Person Borderless Scholars Workshops”. Workshops will take place throughout the Spring 2023 semester. To learn more, stop by the Dreamer Resource Center (14-204) or click [here](#) to join any of the workshops.
- **Rising Scholars Check-Ins:** We are welcoming back Rising Scholars students with special “Check-In” sessions. During these check-in’s, students will have an opportunity to gather any information and resources they may need for the new semester. Visit the [Rising Scholars website](#) to learn more.
- **NextUp and FAST Scholars** are providing a Professional Development Training titled “Supporting Foster Youth through Trauma-Informed Care and Best Equity Practices”. This presentation will focus on building empathy and understanding, through a review of the child welfare system, trauma-informed care, and best equity practices both in and out of the classroom in higher education. This knowledge will provide participants with the tools for allyship as current and former foster youth navigate the complexities of higher education. Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2023 | Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm | Location: ZOOM: Join SDCCD Zoom Meeting <https://sdccd-edu.zoom.us/j/89460411151> / Meeting ID: 894 6041 1151

#### Veterans

- The Spring 2023 VA Work Study training will be conducted on Friday, February 10, 2023, at the VSC from 9:00am - 11:00am.

#### 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

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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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