



Hello Mesa College Community!

Weekly Update from Prez Hands provides 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*

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your contributions to this week's accreditation site visit. Your dedication, professionalism, and commitment to equity and excellence have played a crucial role in ensuring the success of this important process.

From administrators, faculty and classified professionals who meticulously prepared documentation and shared insights into our academic and student support programs, those who facilitated logistics and provided essential support throughout the visit, your collective efforts have been nothing short of exemplary.

And to our accreditation team, whose expertise and dedication guided us through the preparation process with care and professionalism, words cannot express our gratitude. Their collegiality, feedback, and encouragement have been invaluable, and we are immensely grateful for their partnership in this peer review.

As we await the outcome of the accreditation process, let us reflect on the collective achievements and celebrate the spirit of collaboration and excellence that defines Mesa College. Together, we have demonstrated our unwavering commitment to providing high-quality education and fostering student success. Hearing from the ACCJC Team Chair, Dr. Angélica Garcia, the team's recognition of equity and excellence being woven into everything we do here at Mesa College radiated my soul with pride and purpose. I am proud of each and every one of you!

Once again, thank you for your contributions to our accreditation site visit. Your hard work, dedication, and passion are truly commendable, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work alongside such outstanding people. #WeAreMesa!

President Ashanti Hands



Mesa College alumnus Mario Romero made history as part of a team from Intuitive Machines whose uncrewed lander, as the first privately owned spacecraft, touched down on the lunar surface.

Mario attended Mesa College from 2013-15 as an Astronomy/Astrophysics major. He was active in our Mesa community: he was active in establishing the Student Veteran Organization and advocated for creating a Veterans Resource Center. He also dedicated his time to helping the homeless and food insecure veterans and children.



After Mesa, he transferred to Columbia University and graduated with a bachelors in pure mathematics, then went on to the University of Houston, Clear Lake to obtain a masters in systems engineering. He is now an Assembly, Integration, and Test Engineer for Intuitive Machines.

We are proud of you, Mario!

OFFICE OF *Instruction*

Mesa's Radiologic Technology Program received a continuation of the 8 full years of accreditation! This is the first time in 22 years this program has maintain the full 8 years of accreditation. Congratulations to Kimberly Mills and her team on the amazing work to make this happen!



Dean Cassandra Storey, Professor Connie Renda, and Dr. Shelly Hess from the District Office presented on the industry and community impacts of a baccalaureate degree at the Community College Baccalaureate Association Conference.

This event brings together the nation's brightest community college administrators, educators, and researchers to explore the value of accessible, affordable community college bachelor's (CCB) degree programs.

Dr. Waverly Ray has been accepted into the IODP School of Rock program! This professional development experience engages educators in the science and engineering of scientific ocean drilling. Participants aboard the *JOIDES Resolution* will use state-of-the-art facilities to explore scientific questions into cores and data, what those tell us about Earth's history, and how we use existing classroom resources on those topics.



The Teacher Education and DEBER Meet and Greet was a success! Over 35 students attended along with faculty who teach courses in the teacher education pathway. Students were able to meet their professors as well as gain insight into transfer requirements and scholarship opportunities for future teachers.



RSVP Now! **JUMPSTART YOUR SUCCESS AT SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE**

Saturday, March 9, 2024
 Visit the webpage to RSVP & get details
www.sdmesa.edu/jumpstart

mesaoutreach@sdccd.edu
 SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

Learn about the San Diego Promise Program offering free tuition.
www.sdmesa.edu/promise

We are thrilled to present **Jumpstart Your Success** on **Saturday, March 9, 2024, from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** This is a time that we invite prospective students to our campus and showcase what we have to offer, and how great we do it! The program will include student support services, academics, department resources, clubs, and the lively community feel we all create at Mesa. We encourage you to host a table for your department or service area so that you can provide information, share a demonstration, make connections with prospective students, and showcase what your department offers. Follow this link to the online registration form, which is due by Friday, March 1, 2024. For more info on JumpStart visit www.sdmesa.edu/jumpstart.

Mesa College in partnership with the San Diego Unified School District Indian Education Program is thrilled to invite you to an **upcoming Powwow** on **Saturday, March 16th from 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Mesa College Upper Athletics Field**. This celebration of unity will consist of traditional Native American dance performances, food, drum circles, vendors, and arts & crafts! This is a **FREE** event and everyone is welcome!



2024
SDUSD INDIAN EDUCATION
YOUTH & SOCIAL POWWOW

TRADITIONAL DANCING, FOOD, AND ARTS & CRAFTS VENDORS

HOSTED BY:
 SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

MARCH 16 | SATURDAY
10 AM - 8 PM
 SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
 UPPER ATHLETICS FIELD

FREE & OPEN TO EVERYONE!

For any questions, please contact tmayasa@sdccd.edu and carlatourville@yahoo.com

Participatory Governance

To learn more about our **Associated Students**, **Academic Senate**, and **Classified Senate**, please visit the links below:

[Associated Students](#)

[Academic Senate](#)

[Classified Senate](#)

In The Know

For additional information on what is happening on campus and in our community - visit the links below:

Mesa College Newsroom

Mesa College Events Calendar

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](#)

