

Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: March 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!

### **WOW (Word of the Week)** – Term Length Multiplier (TLM)

TLM is the number of weeks in a primary term with at least three days of instruction and/or examination. The term length multiplier for each college is set by the CCC Chancellor’s Office based on the college’s academic calendar. Maximum TLM is 17.5 for semesters and 11.67 for quarters. San Diego Mesa College’s TLM is 16.

### **Office of the President Updates**

Members of San Diego’s congressional delegation, including Rep. Sara Jacobs, Rep. Scott Peters, and Rep. Juan Vargas, hosted a Press Conference at Mesa College on Monday to present SDCCD with a check for \$3.4 million from the U.S. Congress. This check will benefit district students in the following 3 areas:

- \$1.2 million to better serve lesbian, gay, and transgender students
- \$1 million for an initiative to expand services to former foster youth
- \$1.2 million for new and expanded centers serving undocumented students

This Friday, I will visit the CBS 8 news studio for a live interview to speak about the Jumpstart event this weekend, the San Diego Promise Program, and the state of higher education.

Congratulations to Coach Gary Watkins who is currently taking advantage of the opportunity to coach the offensive line for the Michigan Panthers of the USFL. The USFL is a spring professional football league that serves as a feeder system for a number of NFL teams.

### **Office of Instruction Updates**

Mesa College Psychology Professor Dr. Inna Kanevsky was featured in a CBS News story and article entitled “[Teens turning to TikTok for mental health advice are self-diagnosing](#)”.

### **Office of Institutional Effectiveness Updates**

Dean Shelly Hess (SDCCD), Program Director Connie Renda (Mesa HIM program), and Acting Dean Hai Hoang (Mesa IE Office) collaborated with Bakersfield College, Rio Hondo College, and Golden West College to host the first-ever statewide workshop on Bachelor’s Degree Programs at Golden West College last week. The purpose of the event is to support new colleges who are early on in their journey of

offering the Bachelor's Degree Programs. The event sold out, with over 160 registered attendees from approximately 50 colleges in the state. VC Susan Topham, Dean Shelly Hess, Dean Victor Devore, Program Director Connie Renda, and Acting Dean Hai Hoang also presented at the event, in order to share information about student services, scheduling, curriculum, financial aid, and data/research.

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

The Office of Resource Development recently received \$905 of support, which was inspired by the Pride Center Grand Opening, and included generous support from the Trustees. We have also completed the 2022 tax letters, so if you donated last year, please look to receive your letter in the mail either via inter-office mail or to your home address.

### **Student Services Updates**

Mesa College has 22 counselors who will be participating in the SWF Counselor Institute. The counselor institute is designed to foster understanding and awareness of Career Technical Education/Career Education (CTE/CE); learn how to use labor market information (LMI) and career exploration in advising students; use inquiry, evidence-based decision-making, and continuous improvement to examine services provided to students; support counseling faculty in building relationships and collaborating with CTE/CE instructional faculty and institutional researchers; and inspire counseling from a culturally inclusive perspective.

The Dreamer Resource Center, along with the Borderless Scholars, continue to facilitate their Spring 2023 Virtual/In-Person Borderless Scholars Workshops for students. The workshops will take place throughout the spring semester. For more information, please visit our website [here](#).

### **Administrative Services**

The Wayfinding Project is in progress, and we expect the project to be finished by late summer or early fall. There will be fencing surrounding the areas where new signage will be installed. Work will commence the week of March 13 at the intersection of Mesa College Drive and Armstrong. This will generate some noise, so we ask for your understanding.

We have deployed more than 100 of the 750 replacement PCs so far as part of our PC Upgrade Project.

Moody's food truck will be open from 3:00pm to 7:00pm Monday through Thursday each week to serve our students in evening classes. The truck will be located near the Business Technology building.

### **Campus Events**

The 12th Annual Gracia Molina de Pick Feminist Lecture Series, featuring Dr. Gabriela Kovats Sánchez, will take place today, on International Women's Day, from 9:35am to 11:00am in room G-101.

Tomorrow, the Mesa Design Center will host a networking event in room Z-103A from 2:00pm to 4:30pm. All architecture, building construction, and interior design students are welcome! There will be opportunities for professional photographs for business portfolios, free swag, food, and refreshments for attendees!

The Mesa College Theatre Company will be presenting "A Number" by Caryl Churchill, directed by Rhys Greene, all weekend long. For showtimes, tickets, and event location, please visit the Eventbrite link [here](#).

Jumpstart Your Success is finally here! This fun, free, and informative event geared towards incoming freshman, will take place on Saturday, March 11, from 8:30am to 12:00pm.

The next information session about the Study Abroad Spain opportunity this summer will be held on Tuesday, March 14, from 3:00pm to 4:00pm in-person in room LRC 223.

An extended Narcan/Naloxone Training Event will take place on Thursday, March 23, from 11:15am to 12:00pm in the Student Services Building (I-400) in room 207. Free lunch will be provided to those who [register in advance](#) to attend in-person, and Narcan will be dispensed at the event. Attendees can also join virtually, using Zoom Meeting ID: 860 7972 9422. The meeting passcode is “narcan”.

A few of the Women’s History Month events have changed times or locations. Please view the updated flyer [here](#).

### **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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