



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*



Join us for **Black Student Success Week from April 19 - 26, 2024!** This week, created by a dedicated coalition of leaders and advocates within the California Community Colleges, offers a time to reflect on our commitment to the academic well-being of Black and African American students. This year's theme is ***Building a Better Future Together: the Urgency is Now***, focusing on innovative approaches to ensure Black and African American students succeed in community colleges.

Mesa College and the California Community College Chancellor's Office are providing two ways you can celebrate:

Mesa College will be celebrating Black Student Success Week starting on April 19. We will kick off the week with our Black Student Success

The California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office is also hosting virtual events in honor of Black Student Success Week. Everyday starting Monday, April 22 through Friday, April 26 at 12:00 p.m., the CCCCO will host a #TheBlackHour

Summit, where faculty, staff, and students can join for engaging workshops, inspiring speakers, and networking opportunities.

To register for the summit this Friday and for more events, please click below for the Mesa Black Student Success Week Flyer

We hope to see everyone at one, or all, of our events!

Mesa College Black Student Success Week

webinar, sharing insights and approaches for improving success among Black and African American students. Following each webinar will be #TheAfterParty, featuring small group discussion forums, then #TheStudentHour at 6:00 p.m. focused on the needs and resources available to help current and prospective college students.

For more information on the CCCCO Black Student Success Week events, click below to go to the website.

CCCCO Black Student Success Week



Last week, we held our **Festival of Colors** event that featured beautiful performances, dancers, food, and a variety of information booths for students to explore some of the cultures on our campus.

This event brings together from all walks of life, fostering a sense of community and understanding. For highlights from the event, click the Festival of Colors event video brought to you by our colleagues at SDCCD.

The Spring 2024 of the SDCCD WE - With Excellence magazine is out now!

In this issue, get to know our newest Chancellor, Greg Smith, as he shares a little bit about himself and his leadership. This issue also highlights some of Mesa College's recent achievements, including our Learning Resource Center receiving the 2024 Library Excellence Access and Diversity Award, and when the California Community Colleges Board of Governors recognized our Mesa College Ethnic Studies Faculty Council as a model for how institutional stakeholders can work in collaboration to advance ethnic studies.

To read more, [click here](#) to go to the SDCCD WE - With Excellence magazine



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
CITY COLLEGE • MESA COLLEGE • MIRAMAR COLLEGE • COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

In the past week, we have received great feedback regarding three possible District logo design options. If you have not yet taken the [survey](#), please take a few minutes to do so by this Friday, April 19. Your input is invaluable to the process.

As a reminder for this project, in October, you helped provide direction for the District to take the first step toward developing a new brand. After several months collecting input and working on design development, the District is proud to present three options for you to vote on and provide feedback on before a final logo is chosen. We have created a 5-minute [survey](#) that presents logo designs and explores a few font options. We welcome your participation as we move closer toward a new look and direction for the SDCCD's overall brand.

Upon completion of the [survey](#), you can enter your email for a chance to receive a \$100 Amazon digital gift card.

At this week's President's Cabinet meeting on April 16, the final Faculty Hiring Priority list was presented and finalized. The document can be found here: [Faculty Hiring Priority List](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Mix & Mingle with Chancellor Smith
Thursday, April 18, 2024 | 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
For questions, please contact Liseel Hayward at lhayward@sdccd.edu

SCHEDULE

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Transfer Fair | Mesa Quad
Farmers Market | Mesa Commons

12 p.m. | Room D-101
Chancellor Presentation
Q&A | Mix and Mingle | Food

CHECK OUT OUR NEW EVENT VENUE

Please join us for our event, **Mix and Mingle with Chancellor Smith**, on Thursday, April 18, 2024 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

During this event, our campus community will get to hear from our newly appointed Chancellor, Greg Smith, as he shares his aspirations, goals, and vision for our District. It will be a chance for us to learn more about his leadership philosophy and how he envisions guiding us toward continued excellence and growth.

From 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Chancellor Smith will be visiting our Transfer Fair and Farmers Market. Then at 12:00 p.m., he will be at our *new event venue in D-101* to present his vision and answer some questions.

Join us for community (and food!) as we welcome Chancellor Smith. No RSVP required. We look forward to seeing you there!

TODAY at 11:00 a.m., join us as we bring together esteemed past presidents to share their unique insights and experiences in leading Mesa College. These former presidents have left a lasting mark on our college, and will offer first-hand accounts of their time in office.

No RSVP is required. We hope to see you there!

ldiaz@sdccd.edu'."/>

Mesa College Past Presidents Panel
Join us for an inspiring discussion with our esteemed past presidents. Hear from our distinguished past presidents as they share their experiences, insights, and stories from their time leading San Diego Mesa College.

Dr. Constance Carroll 1993-2004
Dr. Rita Cepeda 2005-2010
Elizabeth Armstrong 2010-2011
Dr. Pamela Luster 2011-2022

Wednesday, April 17, 2024
MC-211
Panel: 11:00 am-12:00 pm
Reception: 12:00-1:00 pm

60th Anniversary 1964-2024

No RSVP required | For question, contact Leticia Diaz at ldiaz@sdccd.edu



The **Construction Management Association of America (CMAA)** San Diego Chapter invited Mesa's Building Construction program for a site visit for the UCSD Theatre District Project. **Dr. Bashar Haddad** organized for Building Construction students to tour the buildings for this expansive project with five high-rise towers and a multi-story parking deck. This project will feature over 2000 beds of undergraduate student housing and over a 135,000 sf of additional space for lectures, conferences, administration and other functions. This was really great opportunity for students to get some exposure to a large project, learn how large management teams are setup, hear about design-build delivery method, and generally walk and learn about construction!



Cross-Border Flows - Fashion Redux is an annual design competition for students in the Fashion Program at San Diego Mesa College. This year's exhibit is based on the idea that San Diego's geographical location has fostered a unique cultural exchange seen through a variety of examples from the History Center's Historic Textile Collection. Students in the Fashion 145 class (Clothing Design Through Draping) were inspired by clothing of San Diego's famed Don Diego, Ballet Folklorico, and their own family cross-border family heritage. Four student finalists showcased their designs and skills in the evening event at the San Diego History Center. The evening was capped by a student Q & A panel from patrons and a people choice's winner. A large congratulations to the Fashion department, including instructors Jordyn Smiley and Liese Hoffmire for the amazing work with their students.



Congratulations to Assistant Professor of Political Science, Austin Barraza, on being awarded the 2024 Wheelhouse Summer Scholars Fellowship! The Summer Scholars program is a funding and presentation opportunity for doctoral students conducting equity-focused research on the California Community Colleges. This award offers \$2,000.00 summer stipend to recognize and support the work of emerging scholars whose qualitative and/or quantitative research furthers equitable opportunities and outcomes for the students they serve.

Congratulations, Austin!

The Business department hosted its first Business Job Fair on Thursday, April 11. High-quality local employers such as SDG&E, San Diego Padres, San Diego Zoo, San Diego Port Authority, and Smart and Final, among others, connected with students to explore diverse career opportunities. Students spoke with local industry leaders, learned about career pathways, and applied for various positions; some employers had on-the-spot hiring! The event was a great success in meeting our student's needs. Many students came up afterward and shared how meaningful the sessions were and how they felt uplifted. A special thanks to Howard Eskew, Erica Olmos, and the Career Center!



OFFICE OF *Student Services*

THE 2024 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY

Wednesday, April 24th, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
Mesa College Gymnasium

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

M FOUNDATION, INC.

You are cordially invited to join us at the San Diego Mesa College 31st Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 4:30pm in the Mesa College Gymnasium.

At this fabulous event, we will recognize and celebrate our 2024 student scholarship award recipients for their outstanding achievements. The evening program will include appetizers, recipient recognition, extravagant opportunity drawings, fun and more. Please stay tuned for the list of recipients.

Tickets, tables and other sponsorships are now available. General tickets are \$30 and Student tickets are \$20 (*for those not receiving an award*). To purchase tickets, please click [here](#), or click the following link to buy a table or become a

[Scholarship Award Ceremony sponsor](#)



Volunteer to help with Commencement on Friday, May 24, 2024

Together, let us unite to craft an unforgettable experience for our graduating class. To volunteer your time and expertise for this momentous event, please complete the [Commencement Volunteer Registration form](#). For any inquiries or further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at awoods002@sdccd.edu

Special Request: GIFT BASKET DONATIONS for Mesa's 31st Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony

If you would like to donate a basket, please complete the [Gift Basket Form](#) and bring your basket to the Student Affairs Office (14-408) **by 5:00pm on Monday, April 22nd**. All contributions will be recognized as supporters of the **31st Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony**.

Please call (619) 388-2699 with questions or concerns. Thank you so much for your support!

PROMISE COUNSELING WORKSHOP SERIES

Register Now!

Pathways to Healthcare Professions -Snacks included!
Location: Avanza April 17th @9 am -10 am
April 3rd (CANCELLED)

Transfer Resources UCSD/SDSU
April 8th @12:00pm - 1:00pm

Academic Success By Understanding Policy
April 8th @12:00pm - 1:00pm | April 9th @11:00am - 12:00pm

From Olympian to Triton! Essential Success Strategies at UCSD Location: Avanza -Snacks included!
April 10th @10:30am - 11:30am

Learning About Grad School April 15th @12:00pm - 1:00pm

Creative Arts Workshop -Food provided-
Location: Avanza May 3rd 11:00am - 12:00pm

Careers in Education -Snacks included!
Location: Avanza May 6th @11:00am - 1:00pm

Chill Out - A Workshop on Letting Go of Stress Location: Avanza -Snacks included!
May 9th @12:00 - 1:00pm

2024

For questions, email Promise Counselor Miriam Pacheco: mvpacheco@sdccd.edu

Follow Us! @sdccpromise

Promise Counseling Workshops are still available in May! To register for one of the upcoming workshops, please scan the QR code on the flyer.

For additional questions, please contact Promise Counselor Miriam Pacheco at mvpacheco@sdccd.edu or Counseling Staff Claudine Castagna at ccastagna@sdccd.edu

OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*

Join us in promoting employee wellness, connection, campus integration, and community at our Wellness Walkabout!

For more information, please contact Catherine Cannock at ccannock@sdccd.edu

Wellness Walkabout

Promote employee wellness, connection, campus integration and community

Designated Route | 30 Minutes per Walk | Conversation Starters Provided

MAY 15, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
30 mins/session (walk)

Please scan the QR code for Registration and Location

For questions, please contact Catherine Cannock at ccannock@sdccd.edu

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](#)

