

Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: April 5, 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

Last week, I served as a panelist at the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education (AABHE) Networking Event, hosted by San Diego City College.

I also recently attended the 2023 American Association of Community Colleges Annual Conference, in Denver, Colorado.

Office of Instruction Updates

We are excited to share that Rachel Russell has recently completed Foothill's Humanizing Online STEM Academy. Rachel's showcase is her final project for Cohort 5 of the Humanizing Online STEM Academy. This showcase includes written reflections, demonstrating professional growth in culturally responsive online teaching, and Rachel's eight humanized online teaching elements, demonstrating the ability to use digital media to design psychologically inclusive asynchronous online courses. Rachel received a digital badge and will soon receive a grant-funded \$1,800 stipend for her hard work. Please take a moment to view the [Humanizing Showcase](#) created by Rachel.

We are also delighted to share that one of our students, Claudia Moreno, who will attend the Madrid, Spain Study Abroad trip this summer, was awarded a Fund for Education Abroad Scholarship. The Fund for Education Abroad (FEA) provides scholarships and ongoing support to students who are underrepresented among the U.S. study abroad population. You can learn more about Claudia [here](#).

Last week, Mesa hosted the 9th Annual Arnie Robinson College & Open Track & Field Invitational.

Student Services Updates

A self-affirmation and rock painting event was held on Monday for Rising Scholars to reflect, paint, and discuss their self-affirmations.

Relaxation Massages were offered to student parents yesterday, where they were also able to learn about CARE, CalWORKs, and The Stand.

We are very excited to announce that the Associated Students' General Election applications for the 2023-2024 academic year are now open! Please encourage your students to take part and apply for this enriching leadership and engagement opportunity. Positions available include President, Vice President, Treasurer, and (15) Senators. In addition, there are a number of appointed positions for students to take part in! The AS Leadership Election Applications can be found [here](#).

We are pleased to announce that San Diego Mesa College will submit a proposal for the HBCU Caravan in Fall 2023. This is a great vehicle to strengthen our partnership with the CA HBCU transfer program and increase transfer options for our students.

Campus Events

This morning, the Mesa Fashion Program hosted its *Repeat Boutique* in the Quad from 9:30am to 12:30pm. All proceeds will go towards scholarship opportunities for fashion students.

The Mesa Music Department is continuing their free weekly recital hour this week, with a performance this afternoon by the Seaside Quartet of classical chamber music. The performance will take place starting at 3pm in room C-119.

Persian students are invited to join a Listening Circle tomorrow, Thursday, April 6, from 3pm to 4pm in room I400 – 409, regarding the tragic and often violent treatment of Persian women in the Middle East. A Persian licensed therapist will moderate this group, and free Persian lunch will be served.

The “Perceive Me” exhibit is still on view through April 13 in the San Diego Mesa College Art Gallery. Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday from 12pm – 5pm or by appointment.

Education and Guidance Academic and Career Pathways (ACP) would like to invite you and your students to the *Education and Guidance Gala Event* on April 17 from 11am to 1pm in MC-211 A/B. Lunch will be provided. The following programs and disciplines have been invited to present/table at this Gala: ASL, Black Studies, Child Development, Communication Studies, Education, Exercise Science, Nutrition, and Physics. Please share this amazing opportunity with your department and students. [You can view the flyer \(PDF\) here](#). Visit this link for more information about [Education and Guidance ACP Programs](#).

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!

7250 Mesa College Drive, A-104, SD, CA 92111 | 619.388.2721

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