

*Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: May 10, 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**

Mesa Athletics hosted Women's Day in Sports last week, celebrating women in sports and the 50th Anniversary of Title IX.

The Mesa College campus flags have been lowered to half-staff, in observance of the recent presidential proclamation. Our campus flags will be flown at half-staff through sunset on Thursday, in honor of the victims of the tragedy in Allen, TX.

President Hands spoke words of welcome at Mesa's first Lavender Celebration on Monday.

President Hands will speak at the Transfer Recognition Luncheon tomorrow.

A group of our Art and Architecture students spent the day in Los Angeles last week, visiting three major museums, and viewing downtown Los Angeles architectural design. The museum tours included the travelling exhibitions; Afro-Atlantic Histories; Women Defining Women in Contemporary Art of the Middle East and Beyond, as well as their permanent collection featuring Chinese pottery and furniture design, a series of paintings by Pablo Picasso, and pieces in the permanent collection featuring Jean Michel Basquiat and Andy Warhol. The students also toured the Disney Concert Hall by world renowned architect Frank Gehry, and photographed modernist architecture. The trip concluded with a tour of the Los Angeles Contemporary Art museum. The students and faculty who attended would like to extend a special thank you to the San Diego Mesa College Foundation and members of the Foundation's World Arts Council for sponsoring the trip. Thank you to Art History Professor Denise Rogers and Architecture Professors Prof. Robert Wong and Valerie Abe for helping to organize this trip for our students! *Please see below, a photo of the students enjoying their trip.*



### Office of Instruction Updates

Lisa Burgert is excited to share that her team has been accepted to the American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U)'s 2023-2024 Institute on Open Educational Resources (IOER). Additionally, all of Mesa's attendance fees will be covered by a generous grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Congratulations!

Please join us in welcoming Joe Lunsford as the new MT2C team Administrative Technician in the Mesa and Computing Centers (MT2C). Joe is a Mesa College alumni, and has been working at Mesa since 2017. In 2018, Joe was recognized as the Bill Peters MT2C Tutor of the Year. While working for Mesa, Joe transferred to SDSU with an AA in History, and earned a BA in Social Science with a single subject focus. Welcome Joe!

### Office of Resource Development Updates

The San Diego Mesa College Foundation Board welcomed two additional Board Members: Dr. Pamela T. Luster and Christine Lee of California Coast Credit Union. We also celebrated the renaming of The Stand: The Pamela T. Luster Resource Center, alongside leading donors at the Shining Light on Your Impact event, bringing together over 50 supporters in a community of giving.

### Student Services Updates

Volunteers are still needed to assist with the 2023 Commencement Ceremony! We have various responsibilities and shifts. Please register to volunteer. We will have (5) Opportunity Drawings for all volunteers and the prizes include a \$100 Gift card. To sign up to volunteer at Commencement, [click here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Ayana Woods at [awoods002@sdccd.edu](mailto:awoods002@sdccd.edu).

Please check out our [Kapwa Newsletter](#) that highlights our April events, a super student, Faith San Jose and an intro to Brin Balboa, our Project Assistant, the Newsletter creator!

You can also check out our events for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month events [here](#). Click on a date to get the flyer with more information.

Outreach is hosting Hoover High school students to provide an "Architecture tour" tomorrow. Outreach is collaborating closely with the Architecture department to help promote their program to prospective Hoover High students. In addition to the campus tour, students will go through the architecture building, receive presentations, and have the opportunity to connect with professors and staff in the department.

### **Campus Events**

Student Health Services will be hosting a comfort mini-horse visit to the Student Services building for staff and faculty this afternoon, from 12:00pm to 2:00pm. This quick break from work is designed to bring calm as we enter the last few weeks of the semester.

Grad Fest & [Ticket Distribution](#) will be today and tomorrow from 9:00am to 4:00pm in front of the [Mesa College Bookstore/Mesa Commons](#).

The San Diego Mesa Choir will be performing at today's Recital Hour, in C-119 from 3:00pm to 4:20pm.

This Friday, Mesa will host the annual Mesa College Research Conference (MCRC). Students will showcase their research into various topics and present their findings in both oral and poster formats. The MCRC will be held in the MS Building from 9:00am through 1:00pm.

This is the last weekend of the Mesa College Theatre Company presenting "Dog sees God: Confessions of a teenage blockhead". Performances start on Friday and run through Sunday, with tickets available on Eventbrite. Click [here](#) for more info.

The Mesa Fashion Program will host their annual Golden Scissors Fashion Show this Friday from 5:00pm to 7:00pm in the Mesa Quad. There will be a Meet 'N' Greet with collection designers, a reception, design showcase, awards ceremony, and more.

The Mesa College Promise Program will host their End of Year Celebration in the AVANZA Workshop Room (I4-203) next week, on Tuesday, May 16, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

### **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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