

Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: May 25, 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

This Friday at 2:00 p.m., we will be celebrating the wonderful accomplishments of our graduates at the San Diego Mesa College 2023 Commencement Ceremony! Congratulations to all our amazing graduates on your success!

On Tuesday, President Hands and Vice Presidents O'Connor, Legaspi, and Maxey met with UCSD's Associate Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Management Jim Rawlins, Executive Director of Admissions Blia Yang, and Executive Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships Silvia Marquez, to talk about the vision for the coming years of the partnership between UCSD and Mesa College.

Office of Instruction Updates

There is a lot of excitement happening for our STEM Peer Mentors! Nine of our peer mentors have been accepted into various University of California schools: 3 have committed to UCSD, 2 have committed to UC Berkeley, while the others will make their decisions after touring some of the other UC campuses later this month. Additionally, one peer mentor was awarded a full-ride scholarship to the University of San Diego via the Constance M. Carroll Scholarship Award and another received and accepted a full ride to Harvard University.

As of week 14 of this semester, our peer mentor program has helped 671 unique students for a total of 2,952 instances. This data will be disaggregated over the summer.

Last weekend, faculty librarian Dr. Alison Gurganus presented at Stanford University her year-long work as a faculty fellow in the Education Partnership for Internationalizing Curriculum (EPIC) program with the Stanford University Global Studies Division. The EPIC Community College Faculty Fellowship program brings together a cohort of community college faculty and academic staff from various disciplines (humanities, social sciences, mathematics, hard sciences, international programs, etc.) to work collaboratively with Stanford staff for one academic year (August-May) on self-designed projects aimed at internationalizing core curricula and developing global competencies among community college students. For her project, she created globalized information literacy modules that can be added to any Canvas class. If you want to take a look, they can be found here: <https://bit.ly/InfoLitModules>. Faculty can also find them in the Canvas Commons under "information literacy modules" and watch out for updates as they are more fully built out over the summer!

Office of Student Services Updates

Pride Center hosted Rainbow Resilience Week. It was a week filled with fun and relaxing activities to help reduce stress and improve mental health, especially during finals week!

Mesa College Student and Black Leadership Fellow Robert Young is hosting an exhibit of Pictorial Photography today, May 25, from 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in room FA-201.

Foster Care Awareness Month is concluding this week and held workshops on goal setting, mindfulness, and learning about resources that are made available to them. Also, in celebration, the campus wore beautifully designed t-shirts in support of National Foster Care Awareness month. Visit the [SD Mesa Fast & NextUp](#) Instagram page for photos.

Office of Administrative Services Updates

Last Friday, we celebrated the first cohort in their completion of the first New Classified Institute! The New Classified Institute was created to more intentionally introduce new classified professionals to the College's culture and practices and to co-create greater community, engagement, leadership, and college vision from the classified perspective. The program included once-a-month activities during the academic year going over various topics.

Office of Resource Development Updates

Thanks to the love and support of our Mesa family, the #MesaGivingDay campaign met all of the \$10,000 match yesterday - ahead of schedule for #MesaGivingDay today! Now, due to the generous donors of the SDMC Foundation Board, we will be able to increase the match to \$20,000!

Donations will continue to be doubled until this Saturday, May 27. You can either make a donation [here](#) or if you would like to make a donation via check, you can drop by A-111 or email Krista Stellmacher (kstellmacher@sdccd.edu) or Heidi Brogren (hbrogren@sdccd.edu) to arrange a pick-up.

In the Know

To stay abreast of the latest news and to find out what's happening on campus, visit the links below.

1. [Mesa College Newsroom](#)
2. [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!

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