



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!

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OFFICE OF THE *President*



ASTA RoboSub Team Ranks Among the World's Best

Congratulations to **Advancing Science Technology and Art (ASTA) – Team Inspiration** on another incredible performance at the **2026 RoboSub Competition**, an international autonomous underwater vehicle competition sponsored by the Office of Naval Research.

Led by **Mesa MIP student Carina Dumitrascu**, who joined ASTA earlier this year with no robotics experience, the team achieved an impressive **9th-place international ranking** and **3rd in the United States**, outperforming teams from Stanford, Duke, Cornell, Carnegie Mellon, UCLA, UC Berkeley, and more.

The team also received the **Community & Outreach Award** in recognition of its outstanding STEM engagement efforts. Carina's work extends beyond competition, supporting the USD STEAM Academy and mentoring robotics teams in several countries around the world.

Congratulations to Carina and the entire ASTA RoboSub Team for representing Mesa College with innovation, leadership, and excellence!

Summer 2026 Modified Work Schedule



The Summer 2026 Modified Work
Schedule ends Friday, August 14, 2026

**The regular 40-hour
work week resumes
Monday, August 17, 2026**



Return to Regular Work Schedule

The Summer 2026 Modified Work Schedule will conclude on **Friday, August 14**. Effective **Monday, August 17**, employees will return to the College's regular **40-hour, Monday through Friday** work schedule.

We appreciate everyone's flexibility during the summer schedule and thank you for your continued support of our students and college community.

National Hispanic Heritage Month is September 15th - October 15th, 2026. At Mesa College we acknowledge this month by offering a series of events.

You are invited to share your excellence, creativity, and equity centered strategies that have made a difference with Latine students, colleagues, and/or campus community.

Click on the link below to submit a workshop and/or event proposal:

<https://bit.ly/Mesa2026LHM>

Deadline to submit workshop proposal is Friday, July 31st.

If you have any questions, please contact
Ldiaz@sdccd.edu.



UPDATE



LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER **CLOSED** FOR RENOVATIONS

During the summer, the LRC Building will be closed from June 8 - **August 21, 2026** for renovations. Library services and tutoring support will continue at the temporary locations listed below.

Circulation and Help Desk Services

B-106 *Open until August 20th

- Laptop checkout and returns
- Calculator checkout and returns
- Computer and printing stations
- Course reserves
- Book checkout and returns
- Study spaces with whiteboards
- Book scanner

Research and Study Space

D-108 *Open until August 6th

- Librarian research assistance
- Individual study spaces
- Study spaces with whiteboards
- New books available for checkout
- Library materials return

Tutoring Services

K-108A *Open until August 6th

- Onsite tutoring | 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Virtual tutoring | 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Library services are available **Monday - Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.** and closed Friday - Sunday. For questions or more information, please contact 619-388-2696 or mesalibraryrequest@sdccd.edu.



Save the Date for our Fall 2026 Convocation!

Thursday, August 20, 2026

8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Mesa Gym

ENROLLMENT *update*

Fall 2026 FTES is 5,544 and our headcount is 19,020. For Fall 2026, we are 89.95% towards meeting our goals and anticipate being able to meet our targets even with changes in enrollment and fraudulent "bot" students being removed. As for Fall 2026, the numbers continue to increase, and we have 4.20% more students this week compared to last week.

Congratulations
NEW HIRE
MEDIA CLERK
LIBRARY LEARNING RESOURCES

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE

JOIN US
IN CONGRATULATING

**SAMUEL
HOCKADAY**

 **START DATE**
JULY 6, 2026



Mesa College Welcomes Samuel Hockaday!

Please join us in welcoming **Samuel Hockaday** to San Diego Mesa College as our newest team member. We are excited to have Samuel join the Mesa community and look forward to the knowledge, enthusiasm, and support he will bring to our students, faculty, and staff. Welcome to the team, Samuel—we're glad you're here!

Recap | 4th Annual Doan Foundation Gala

San Diego Mesa College employees - Alessandra Moctezuma, Van Pham, and Leland Simpliciano had the opportunity to attend the [Doan Foundation](#) Gala, an evening dedicated to celebrating philanthropy, community partnerships, and investments in educational opportunity. The event provided valuable networking opportunities with community leaders, donors, and nonprofit partners while highlighting the collective impact of supporting students and local initiatives!

WELCOME WEEK

Event submissions due Monday, August 10th!

Student Affairs is pleased to present the FALL 2026 Welcome Week on Monday, August 24th through Thursday, August 27th!

We strongly encourage all departments that want to have an external (i.e. outdoors) set-up to request space at the Welcome Week booths on the Mesa Commons so that we can all support each other while we support our students; follow the instructions in the online form to request space at the Welcome Week booths if you are planning to host an outdoor activity. Other Welcome Week related set-ups, such as requesting a table and chairs to be placed right outside of your office space, must be submitted separately through the usual event planner process; we still ask that you let us know about your activity so that we may include it on the schedule of Welcome Week events!

Please submit your activities to the online Welcome Week Activity Form no later than Monday, August 10th, 2026.

If you would like to volunteer at the Welcome Week Info Booth on Monday and Tuesday, then please contact Courtney Lee (cle@sdccd.edu) in the Student Affairs office with your availability.

We look forward to a welcoming, festive, and engaging Welcome Week!

New Issue
Alert

[Click here for the latest Mesa Journeys Newsletter!](#)

The Mesa Journeys newsletter gives a more in-depth look at all the great things that are happening on our campus. We encourage all faculty and staff to pass this along to our students, and also to sign up to receive these newsletters straight to their inboxes! Click below to sign up and for more information about Mesa Journeys:

<https://linktr.ee/mesajourneys>

Click on the flyer to enlarge



MASTERING MICROSOFT 365: SHAREPOINT, TEAMS, AND ONEDRIVE

A THREE-PART MICROSOFT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

HYFLEX: ATTEND IN-PERSON* OR ONLINE VIA ZOOM

*IN-PERSON PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE USE OF A COMPUTER LAB



Workshop 1: SharePoint Foundations

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Learn the fundamentals of SharePoint to effectively organize documents, manage permissions, and collaborate securely with your team.

Workshop 2: Team Collaboration & Integration

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Discover how to communicate and collaborate more efficiently using Microsoft Teams calling, voice features, and productivity tools.

Workshop 3: OneDrive Essentials

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Master OneDrive file management and sharing while leveraging its integration with Microsoft 365 for seamless collaboration.

*In-Person option will be located at San Diego Mesa College

Address: 7250 Mesa College Drive, San Diego, CA 92111 | Room BT-102

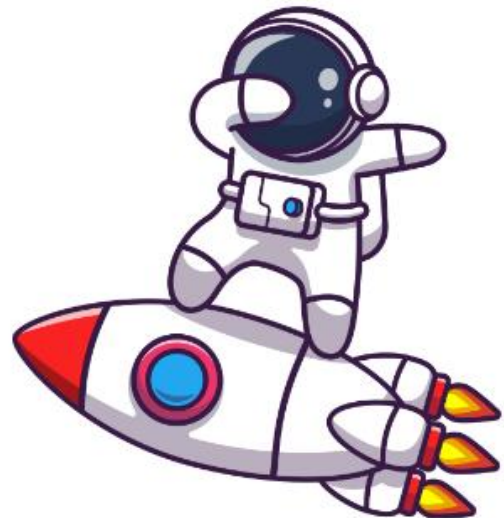
RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

PLEASE REGISTER AT: <https://bit.ly/SDCCD365>



FOR INQUIRIES OR ACCOMMODATIONS, PLEASE EMAIL PROFDEVELOPMENT@SDCCD.EDU

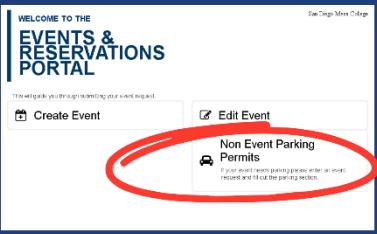
Master Microsoft 365! Click the flyer above for more information.



OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*

NON-EVENT PARKING PERMIT REQUEST FORM

NEW!



This form can be used for parking permit requests that are **NOT** related to an event and do not require additional resources or a space/room (i.e. community clinic, meetings in dept. conference rooms, guest speakers during a class, etc.)

- Must be entered two weeks in advance
- Requests require manager approval, similar to Event Requests
- Can be used for single or group permits

Parking related to events will need to be entered as part of an Event Request.

WWW.SDMESA.EDU/EVENTS

Reminder regarding parking permits for events, guest speakers, and meetings.

Event Parking:

All parking for events should be included as part of your Event Request in the [Events & Reservation Portal](#). Please keep in mind that all event requests must be submitted at least three weeks before the date of your event (longer for large events). More information can be found in the [Event & Reservation Portal FAQs](#).

Non-Event Individual/Group Permits:

Requests for non-event parking can be submitted via the [Non Event Parking Permit Request Form](#) now available on our [webpage](#), within the [Events & Reservations Portal](#). These would include requests that are not part of an “event,” such as guest speakers, departmental meeting attendees, etc. that do not require any other support.

Notice: Effective Monday, April 6, the Business Services Office will close at 12:00 PM daily for walk-up service to accommodate year-end processing. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this busy time.

[Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Year-End Deadlines](#) | [Consolidated Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Year-End Deadlines](#)

OFFICE OF *Institutional Effectiveness*



Summer IE OFFICE HOURS

A DEDICATED TIME TO THINK THROUGH YOUR DATA TOGETHER

EXPLORE DATA
for program review or accreditation

NAVIGATE
our dashboards

UNDERSTAND
what your data is telling you

COLLABORATE
on questions, ideas, or projects

EVERY TUESDAY
12:30 – 1:30 P.M.

1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS
In person in the IE Conference Room (A-109)

2ND & 4TH TUESDAYS
Via Zoom
Meeting ID: 872 4762 5082

We look forward to being your data thought partner.

New Resource: Data Element Dictionary & Acronym Glossary

The Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Office has published a new [Data Element Dictionary & Acronym Glossary](#) on our website to support a shared understanding of the terminology used across Mesa College. Whether you're reviewing reports, navigating dashboards, or interpreting campus communications, this resource is designed to clarify common data definitions and acronyms in one central place. You can find it on the [IE website](#) under the **Data Dictionary & Acronym Glossary** section. We invite you to explore it and reach out to the IE Office with suggestions for new additions, updates, or corrections as we continue to build and refine this tool together. For feedback, please contact **Adriana Caetano** at acaetanofournier@sdccd.edu.



On behalf of the SDCCD Institutional Review Board (IRB), we are sharing that the district is seeking Mesa College faculty participation on the IRB from Fall 2026 through June 2027.

The IRB supports the review of research involving human participants and helps promote ethical research practices across the district. This opportunity may be a good fit for faculty with experience or interest in research methods, human subjects research, ethics, program evaluation, or applied inquiry.

Commitment details include:

- 1-year term
- One 1.5-hour meeting per month
- Review of approximately 5-6 proposals per semester
- Onboarding and Human Subjects training required
- No summer meetings

Interested faculty are encouraged to reach out to Natalia Alarcón, District IRB Co-Chair, at nalarcon@sdccd.edu.

Learn more by clicking these links:

[SDCCD Institutional Review Board](#) | [IRB Steps to Become a Member](#)

Thank you for your considering this opportunity."

A recruitment poster for the SDCCD Institutional Review Board (IRB). The background is dark blue with large, light blue circles. At the top, the text "JOIN THE SDCCD INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB)!" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the text is an illustration of three people: a woman in a white shirt and blue pants, a man in a white shirt and blue pants sitting at a desk with a computer, and another man in a blue shirt and white pants standing and talking to them. The desk has a computer monitor, a laptop, and some papers. There are also speech bubbles and icons of a checkmark and a warning sign. Below the illustration, there is a block of white text: "The SDCCD IRB is an established body that protects the rights and welfare of humans on internal and external research projects and is currently seeking SDCCD faculty and professionals who are interested in serving as reviewers to ensure proposed research projects that include SDCCD data or communities are appropriately safeguarded. Meetings are monthly. Please contact [Natalia Alarcón](#), IRB Chair and Director of SDCCD Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research for more information." Below this text is a dark blue button with white text that says "Check out the Website! Sign up on our Interest Form!". At the bottom right, there is a small version of the San Diego Community College District logo.



FOUNDATION CORNER

A space to learn about our latest efforts to connect partners who share our passion for education with opportunities to give. See how fundraising can help you, our students, and Mesa's mission.

[Learn More](#)

**BREAKING BARRIERS.
EMPOWERING MINDS.
TRANSFORMING FUTURES.**



Want to learn more about grant seeking?

View the flex workshop hosted by Dr. Michael Lettieri, who is leading grant writing efforts, and Krista Stellmacher, CFRE and Director in service to the Office of Resource Development and Foundation.

[View Recording](#)



Thanks to everyone who made the inaugural Olympian Open an unforgettable success! 🏌️

What an incredible debut! Community leaders, alumni, sponsors, and supporters came together for a day filled with connection, generosity, and purpose—all in support of our amazing student-athletes.

Together, we've raised more than \$73,000 (and counting!) to help provide athletic equipment and academic support that empower Mesa Olympians to succeed in the classroom and in competition.

Thank you to every golfer, volunteer, donor, and sponsor who made this event possible. Your support is helping fuel the next generation of champions. We can't wait to see you at next year's Olympian Open!

For photos, [click here](#).

Non-Participation in Immigration Enforcement Activities

Please remember that our district has an official immigration policy, [AP 3415](#). This policy directs all inquiries regarding immigration enforcement to the District Chancellor and District General Counsel. If you receive a confirmed report of immigration enforcement on campus, please contact:

- SDCCD Chancellor's Office (Greg Smith): 619-388-6957 | chancellor@sdccd.edu
- SDCCD General Counsel (Ljubisa Kostic): 619-388-6589 | lkostic@sdccd.edu

You are not expected to engage with immigration enforcement or place yourself or others at risk. If approached by immigration officials, you may respond: "I am not authorized to speak with you, answer your questions, or provide access to any people or facilities per SDCCD policy. Only the District Chancellor and General Counsel have authority to assist you." To stay informed and prepared:

- Update your emergency contact information in the [MySDCCD portal](#)
- Download the [SDCCDsafe App](#)
- Refer to the [District's Immigration Resources page](#)
- Continue to read campus emails and official updates

San Diego Mesa College has a clear, coordinated Immigration Enforcement Response Plan centered on our Emergency Management Response Team, led by the President and including College Communications, Vice Presidents, Facilities and Operations, OEHS, and the Campus Community Emergency Response Team, in coordination with SDCCD Police. Recognizing that every incident is unique, this structure ensures we are prepared to act quickly and compassionately with clear communication, coordinated safety measures, and robust support for students and employees should an incident occur.

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!

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

[Mesa College](#) | [Student Support Services](#)

