

*Weekly Updates from Prez Hands: September 28, 2022*  
*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**

I met with Assembly member Christopher Ward, Chancellor Cortez, President Lundberg, and others earlier this week, to discuss future plans for student housing, a new pilot program for campus policing, and support for special programs for our students here at Mesa.

I am thoroughly enjoying engaging our community through the *Listening and Learning Tour*. These sessions will continue through December.

### **Office of Instruction Updates**

On Monday, the lobby of the Math and Natural Sciences building was filled with students, faculty, classified professionals, and administrators for the *Path to STEM Success Pizza Party*. The purpose of the event was to provide a space for students to grab a free lunch and mingle with fellow STEM students and faculty. An Engineering professor also provided a slide show of the many programs the department offers. Other faculty from Chemistry, Math, and Biology also stopped by the event. Everyone who stopped by was provided with a slice of pizza and other drinks and snacks. Most students visited the event before their classes started or after their classes ended. Some students stopped by to grab a snack on their break as well. Approximately 278 students, 10 faculty, and others were served a total of 13 of the 28-inch giant pizzas during the event. Pictures from the event can be viewed [here](#). The link to the *Beyond Engineering* slideshow shared at the event can be viewed [here](#).

Mesa Engineering students Luis Medina, Kevin Harvey, Cory Davison, and Edgar Rubio, along with Mesa professors Morteza Mohssenzadeh and Hamidreza Ghasemi Bahraseman, recently published an article titled “Numerical Thermal Stress Analysis on Semiconductors with Nano-Fluid Coolant” in the peer-reviewed *Global Journal of Researches in Engineering: A Mechanical and Mechanics Engineering* Volume 22 Issue 2 Year 2022.

### **Student Services Updates**

Mesa Veterans Counselors and Transfer Career Center Counselors collaborated to host a UC TAG/TAP Workshop, which will take place inside the Veteran Success Center tomorrow from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Mesa Veterans Counselor Jillian Ventrone will provide weekly Counseling Hotspots for student veterans on Mondays from 2:00pm to 5:00pm, and on Tuesdays from 8:00am to 11:00am. The Mesa Student Veteran Organization (SVO) participated in the Fall 2022 Club Rush Event last week.

Mesa Counseling started an outreach effort to students that identified as African American, Latino/Latina, or AANAPISI on their college applications this past spring semester. The purpose of contacting these

student groups was to provide appointments for the students to meet with a Counseling Faculty member in order to set up a comprehensive education plan. The Counseling Office will continue with these outreach efforts through the end of October. As of September 26, there have been 5,602 student contacts in General Counseling since July 1. Out of those student contacts, 2,246 students were seen in person. General Counseling Hot Spots include Deber, International Students, MAAP, Promise, STEM Core, and Veterans.

The Student Services Leadership Team hosted the San Diego and Imperial County Community Colleges Association (SDICCCA) Fellows last Friday at Mesa College, and facilitated a presentation titled *All About Student Services*.

DSPS recently partnered with Pathway Fellows to facilitate a discussion about the services available to students through DSPS.

CalWORKs recently partnered with the Child Development Center to host an informational session on the Headstart program.

### **Administrative Services Updates**

The SDCCD IT Services department will be hosting cybersecurity awareness programs throughout the month of October. The first program will be hosted next Wednesday, October 5, from 9:30am to 11:00am at Mesa, in room MC-211 A/B. The presenters for the event are Dr. Valerie Wagner (joining the meeting via Zoom) and Drew Facetti. Dr. Wagner, Vice Chancellor of Digital Innovation and Infrastructure at the State Chancellor's Office, is an advocate of technology and security improvements throughout the State of California, and an impassioned leader for the 73 Districts she oversees for the State of California. Drew Facetti is a cybersecurity program manager from the San Diego Law Enforcement Coordination Center, who will be providing an in-depth look into cybersecurity issues and best practices in the safeguarding of protected and confidential data. To register, visit: <https://forms.office.com/r/4tyXMDkvUB>.

### **Office of Institutional Effectiveness Updates**

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness has been working diligently with their partners at Nuventive to get program review workspaces up and running. In the meantime, Units can start reflecting on their data and practices, and begin developing goals using the following prompts (additional guidance can be found [here](#)).

1. Program Overview
  - a. Describe the successes and challenges your unit has faced since the last comprehensive review.
2. Data Reflection
  - a. Describe the trends you see in your program/service area's data.
  - b. Describe any equity gaps you see in this data. Are there differences and/or patterns observed by demographics (e.g. race/ethnicity, gender, age, etc.)?
  - c. Describe the discussion(s) that took place about the unit's learning outcomes assessment data.
3. Practice Reflection
  - a. Describe current practices your unit has engaged in that you believe impact the above data trends and equity gaps.
  - b. What other factors (internal or external) might also impact the above data trends and equity gaps?
4. Unit Goals

- a. Identify Goals related to the data and practice reflections above.
5. Action Plans
  - a. Identify specific actions your program/service area will engage in to accomplish this goal.

In collaboration with our Faculty Outcomes Coordinator, Liza Rabinovich, the Department Outcomes Coordinators, will be engaged in orientation next week – and will continue the process to review, revise, and/or reaffirm the current list of Course Learning Outcomes and Student Services Outcomes. Look for communication from your DOC over the next few weeks.

### **Campus Events**

In honor of the AANAPISI 15th Year Anniversary, there will be an AAPI Student and Employee Gathering tomorrow, from 11:00am to 1:00pm in MC-211 A/B. Everyone is welcome.

There will be a reception with artists Maria de Los Angeles and Ryan Bonilla for their “In Lak’ech: Tú eres mi otro yo” art exhibition this evening, from 4:00pm to 7:00pm in the Mesa Art Gallery, Room FA-103. Mesa College Music students will provide entertainment at the reception under the direction of Professor N. Scott Robinson. A conversation with artist Maria de Los Angeles will be held tomorrow morning, from 10:00am to 11:00am. A recent interview with the artist and the San Diego Union Tribune can be viewed [here](#).

The Mesa Music Department is hosting another Recital Hour Free Concert today, from 3:00pm to 4:00pm, in room C-119. Today’s performance highlights Fred Benedetti playing classical guitar.

### **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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