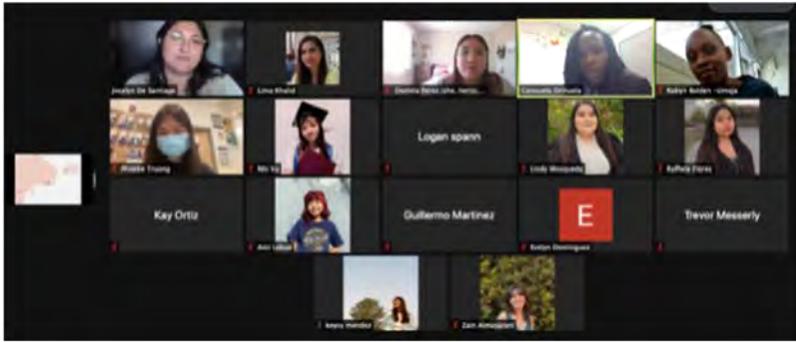




## Mesa Pathways Fellows Program

### Student Leadership Summit – March 8

### Women’s History Month



Our March Student Leadership Summit reflected the importance of Women's History month and the importance of showcasing stories and journeys that influential women at Mesa have gone through. It helps put into perspective that we are all different and come from different backgrounds, but we still can make it and be successful in higher education.

## Guest Speakers



Chrystian Smith graduated from Mesa and came back to work for Mesa in restorative justice practices for Student Services. Chrystian’s story in higher education includes having ADHD and figuring the best way to navigate college for them. “There is a super power with this condition (ADHD), very proud of myself because I’ve been able to recognize those superpowers and utilize them.”



Our second speaker Robyn Bolden who shared her story of being a mother and attending college: “I am your non-traditional student. I am a mother of four....Part of my motivation was my daughter ... I was just like, ‘Wow if my daughter can ... go straight from high school to college, I can do it too.’” Robyn’s contributions have been not only to The Stand, but to Mesa College in general.



Daniela Perez Padilla’s journey began at Mesa and has led to her master’s program, but her journey wasn’t always laid out nicely. She shared that it’s okay to change majors if not passionate about the current path. “I changed my major like six times.. And that’s completely fine. If anything, I love when people say they are undecided because I feel it really brings out a lot of possibilities.”

After hearing these stories, students and student leaders were able to ask questions and advice.

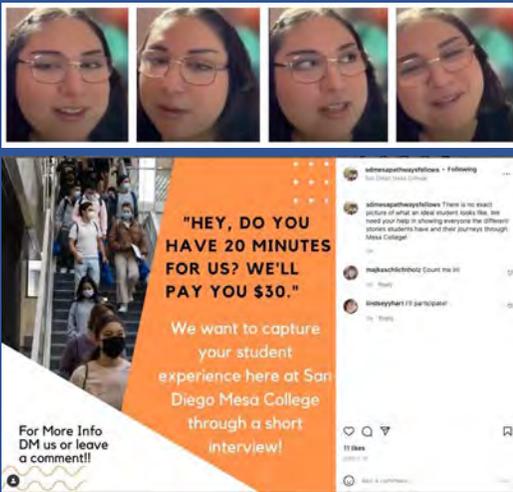
Yolanda Granados to Everyone 1:35 PM  
Really inspiring! I am happy that I joined in. I have to leave thank you all for sharing!

Kay Ortiz to Everyone 1:45 PM  
Robyn, do you have any advice for trying to finish school while having kids? I feel like I need to put my education on hold to start a family as a woman.

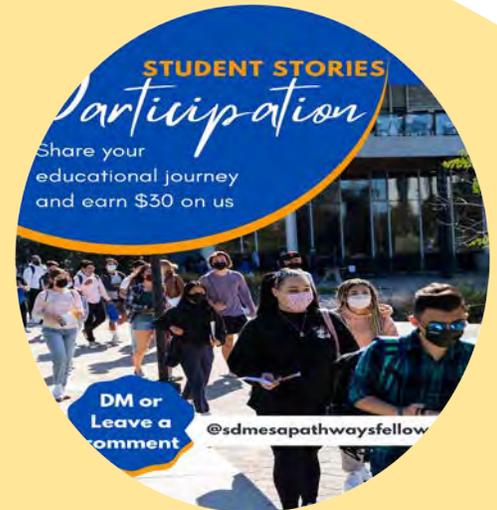
Evelyn Dominguez to Everyone 1:48 PM  
A lot of things that you said resonated with me, I definitely felt your energy even through zoom.

## Mesa Pathways Fellows Program

### Student Stories Promotion



Using Student Engagement & Innovation Grant funds, we've begun a promotional campaign to encourage students share their stories. The reception has been good and we have a slate of students to interview!



### Instagram



**SD Mesa Pathways Fellows**  
Community Organization

*We are here to help foster an equitable environment and direct you on your path to success!*

### Data

Our account engagement has seen a huge (213%) increase compared to last month and our number of followers has grown steadily (9.3%) as we near 200 followers. 493 accounts that don't follow us viewed our posts in the last month.

The Fellows team has received a small budget from the Student Engagement and Innovation Grant (SEIG) funds to order social media reports that help us better recognize and cater to our students and relevant demographics. Our accounts reached have stayed in our target demographic with 58% of our audience being in San Diego, 6.4% being in Chula Vista, 4.8% being in Oceanside, and 3.2% being in La Mesa. Our age demographic is in good standing also. 25.3% of followers being between the ages of 18-24, 31.3% being 25-34, 16.4% at 35-44, and 15.6% at 45-54. All in all, we are seeing steady growth and hitting our target locations and age groups. As we learn more, we've been modifying our promotions and expect continued growth and engagement.

## Mesa Pathways Fellows Program

### Financial Aid Informational Campaign

**Cal Grant:** CALIFORNIA STUDENT AID COMMISSION

To be qualify for Cal Grant for the academic year 22/23, apply for FAFSA or the California Dream Act Application!

**Deadline for Cal Grant: March 02, 2022**

**For Questions/Concerns Contact:**  
Mesa College Cal Grant Coordinator - Julianna Serrano: Phone:(619)-388-2817 Email: jserrano@sdcccd.edu  
California Student Aid Commission: Phone: (888)-224-7268 Email: Studentsupport@csac.ca.gov

**CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT**

**DreamAct**

Allows AB 540 or DACA students to apply for state financial aid for those interested in attending California community colleges, universities, and career education programs.

**Application Deadline for Year 22/23: March 02, 2022**

**For Questions/Concerns Contact:**  
California Student Aid Commission: Phone: (605) 274-7504 Email: studentsupport@csac.ca.gov  
Mesa College Financial Aid: Phone: (619)-388-2817 Email: mesaaid@sdcccd.edu  
For more information visit: <https://dream.act.ca.gov/landing>

**Students enrolled in at least 1 unit are eligible!!**

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE **NEED SOME FINANCIAL HELP?**

Students enrolled in at least one Spring 2022 class are eligible to apply for Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF) through our Equity App. One award per semester.

**\$1,200 AWARD**

**Application opens: March 17, 2022**  
**Deadline to apply is March 22, 2022 at 11:59pm**

To apply, download the Equity App available in the App Store and Google Play or online at <https://app.equity.ca/>

**Use email that the school has on file**

**What is Cal Grant?!**

Cal Grant is a financial aid program administered by the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC).

A Cal Grant award is money for college you don't have to pay back!

You must apply for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or CA Dream Act Application (CADAA) by the deadline and meet the eligibility and financial requirements as well as any minimum GPA requirements in order to qualify.

Cal Grants can be used at any University of California, California.

**REMOTE Act**

On December 21, 2021, President Biden signed the "Responsible Education Mitigating Options and Technical Extensions Act" or the "REMOTE Act" into law.

**What does this mean?**

Among other things, this law extends the various COVID-19 protections for GI Bill® students from December 21, 2021 to June 1, 2022.

In part, this means that students who were attending a course that was converted to online training because of COVID-19, and were getting paid the resident rate, may continue to train online, and will continue to receive the resident housing rate until June 1, 2022.

**What's next?**

At this time, there is no action required from stakeholders. We are committed to providing regular updates through direct email campaigns and social media about VA's effort to implement these new changes.

**What if I have questions?**

If you are a student with questions about your GI Bill benefits please contact the Educator: Congress has passed the Remote Act which allows students to receive their full Monthly Housing Allowance to 6pm CT. It is closed on all feds due to in person classes being dropped due to Covid-19 closures.

**Financial Aid Password**

The Financial Aid Office maintains a password system that requires you to create a custom password if you intend to check the status of your financial aid over the telephone or by email.

The system protects your confidential information and complies with Federal and State laws, as well as SDOCD procedures.

You must include with the form a visible copy of your government-issued photo ID showing your signature.

\*Military IDs not accepted. \*Department of Defense prohibits the photocopy of any federally issued ID card\*

**For Questions/Concerns Contact:**  
Mesa College Financial Aid: Phone: (619)-388-2817 Email: mesaaid@sdcccd.edu

**Access the Financial Aid Password Form Here:** <https://www.sdsds.edu/financial-aid/password-form-2022.pdf>

**Submit the Password Form with your Government ID Here:** <https://www.sdsds.edu/financial-aid/password-form-2022.pdf>

**APPEAL WORKSHOPS**

**Need a better understanding of the Financial Aid Appeal process?**

Attend an Appeal Workshop! It will help you to submit a more thorough appeal or come to an understanding if you don't have a case for which to appeal.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 04, 2022**      **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 08, 2022**      **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 05, 2022**

Prior to registering for a workshop, make sure you have a financial aid password set up to avoid delays!

You can register on Mesa's Financial Aid website: <https://www.sdsds.edu/financial-aid/appeal-workshops.html>

For Questions/Concerns Contact: Mesa College Financial Aid: Phone: (619) 388-2817 Email: mesaaid@sdcccd.edu

### Promoting Financial Aid Information

Support service areas report that students need more accessible financial aid information, so the Fellows, under lead Lindy Mosqueda has collaborated with Financial Aid and Communications to promote and cross-promote financial aid deadlines, opportunities, and other key information in engaging and relatable ways.

Our posts have even reached Point Loma Nazarene, where they have been circulated!

## Mesa Pathways Fellows Program

### Student Engagement & Innovation Grant (SEIG)

#### SEIG Spring 2022: Mid-Semester Reporting

Thank you for submitting the Student Engagement Innovation Grants Mid-Semester report! If you have any questions, please email [Students@foundationccc.org](mailto:Students@foundationccc.org).

[Submit another response](#)

Based on themes found in our Spring 2021 longitudinal study and also through the lens of the RP Group's six student success factors, we are preparing to hold focus groups with support from our Research Office and facilitated by Mesa Pathways Fellows and other student leaders identifying as Black or African American.

The team submitted our mid-term report in late March to the State Chancellor's Foundation Office.

### Veterans Onboarding Project



Working with our Veterans Director Victoria Hernandez and fellow veterans, Logan Spann is developing an onboarding video. He will soon propose a small research study to better understand veteran student experience at Mesa which will help inform his video.

### Pathways Five-Year Retrospective/Look Forward Video

The Fellows are currently producing a five-year look-forward/look-back video to present at the April 19, 2022, President's Cabinet Meeting.



### New Fellows to Begin in April!

Financial Aid Work-Study Arleen Torres and Project Assistant Edward King will join the Fellows in April. We are so excited to welcome them aboard!

## Mesa Pathways Fellows Program

### TikTok Posts & Views



Canvas Calendar added to Google Calendar (278 views) ♦ Remote Act (242 views) ♦ Student Health Services (242 views) ♦ Google Chrome Background (259 views) ♦ Taking time for yourself (264 views) ♦ Slidesgo (239 views) ♦ Cengage Unlimited Plan (267 views) ♦ Mesa Bookstore website (259 views) ♦ Valentines Day Ideas (205 views) ♦ Tip for Writers (238 views) ♦ Tide App (254 views) ♦ Self Care vs Self Soothing (285 views) ♦ Tips to Stay Organized (231 views) ♦ How to Add a Signature in PDF (327 views) ♦ Club Rush (216 views) ♦ Cloud Solutions for the Classroom (224 views) ♦ Class Timetable (253 views) ♦ Career Center website (175 views) ♦ San Diego Mesa Grief Support (230 views) ♦ San Diego's Cozy Bookstores (219 views) ♦ Student Leadership Summit (232 views) ♦ Forest App (170 views) ♦ Financial Aid Password (89 views) ♦ Mesa College Spring Break (79 views) ♦ March SLS Recap (73 views) ♦ Taking a break (226 views) ♦ Cal Grant Extended Deadline (266 views) ♦ March SLS Highlight (221 views) ♦ HEERF Funds Awareness (235 views)

### Collaborations & Connections

**Asian Pacific Islander Ethnic Studies Research Collaboration:** Fellows leadership has met with the Dean of Social, Behavioral, and Multicultural Studies to discuss Fellows' involvement with and possible research to support their launch of a Asian Pacific Islander ethnic studies program.

**Associated Students Cross Connections (Attending Fellows Jocelyn De Santiago-Ramirez, Logan Spann, Nhi Vu):** Fellows regularly attend Associated Students meetings to share Pathways initiative information and learn what is front-of-mind for Mesa's student government leaders.

**College of Continuing Education Pipeline to For-Credit Work Group (Fellow Members: Daniela Perez Padilla, Jocelyn De Santiago-Ramirez, Logan Spann, Nhi Vu):** The College of Continuing Education workgroup is creating a "look book" with Fellows' advice for continuing education students looking to transition to for-credit college.

**Onramp to Online Learning (Member Fellows: Daniela Perez Padilla, Jocelyn De Santiago-Ramirez, Lindy Mosqueda):** Under the management of VPI Isabel O'Connor, the LOFT is collaborating with the Fellows to create a humanized online course and community hub to promote online learning success, specifically, and success in all courses through online learning modules and connections to supports in Canvas, more generally. In April, we plan to conduct a study to gauge students' needs and interests.