



*Student Services Monthly Updates are designed to tell our story of providing pathways that inspire, engage and empower our diverse students to learn and succeed. These updates also track our support of Mesa's journey of becoming the leading college of equity and excellence. We encourage you to review our highlights and dig deeper into departmental updates to learn about new employees, innovations, data, events/activities, student success stories, special recognitions and new Policies & Procedures impacting the way we serve students. Thanks to our incredible Student Services Team for their tireless efforts in creating the conditions that matter for our students to succeed.*

- Ashanti Hands, Vice President, Student Services

### Contents

Admissions ♦ Assessment ♦ AVANZA Student Engagement Center, Peer Navigator, and CRUISE Programs ♦ CalWORKs ♦ Career ♦ Counseling ♦ DSPS ♦ EOPS/CARE ♦ Evaluations ♦ Financial Aid ♦ Outreach & Community Relations ♦ STAR TRIO ♦ Student Affairs ♦ Student Development ♦ Student Health Services ♦ Student Success & Equity ♦ Transfer ♦ Veterans & Records ♦ Vice President Student Services



## Monthly Update Highlights

### Employee Updates

- Welcome Karla Trutna as the new Outreach Coordinator and Supervisor of the Assessment/Testing Office!
- EOPS and CARE are excited to share that Clemente Ayala is joining their team as a new Borderless Scholars Adjunct Counselor. He will be supporting our efforts in developing and implementing their Dreamer support services.
- Counseling is very glad to have their returning people from ERP: Vang Thao, Barbara Plandor, and especially Guillermo Marrujo
- Admissions said goodbye to Robert Ortega, a NANC employee that helped the department while staff was at ERP.

### Events & Activities

- Assessment Staff Amy Bettinger and Naayieli Bravo successfully began to utilize the new District Placement Assistant. During this time they have been supporting our sister campus Assessment offices: City College and Miramar College as they transition from Accuplacer to the District PA.
- The Career Center was invited to present and provide a Career Services Overview presentation to Allied Health students.
- DSPS coordinated with outreach and hosted students from Mesa's dental assisting program, and Madison and Coronado High Schools who are interested in DSPS services.

- The Spring 2019 Leadership Equity Action Development (LEAD) Series, led by Dr. Tanis Starck, wrapped up their final meeting in April and had 22 students successfully complete the course.
- Student Health held an event focused on the prevention of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. Southern Indian Health presented and brought their Silent Witnesses. Psychology Professor Jaye Van Kirk provided student-made brochures on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault for the event.
- Nghi Nguyen & Amalia Villagran from STAR TRIO attended the Regional Tutor Retreat@ City College April 5 & 6.
- Veterans and Records participated in the Scholarship Banquet where our two Veterans of Mesa Scholarship recipients were recognized: Patrick Struszczyk and Xamayra Alvarez

### **Innovations & Data**

- 1st ever CalWORKs Scholarship was established at the San Diego Mesa College 26th Annual Scholarship Award Ceremony.
- Evaluations has over 300 students registered for commencement.
- In April, DSPS proctored 337 exams and 211 counseling appointments were scheduled. DSPS provided 1301 drop-in services and 792 hours were logged into the High Tech Center. 7 alternate media requests were processed.
- The 19-20 Financial Aid forms have been brushed-up for compliance with verification elements for this year. A few forms have seen a change in language for clarity.
- At the Farmers Market held on April 18th, we distributed 9,366 pounds of produce and 3010 pounds of shelf stable goods to 675 households.

### **Policies & Procedures**

- The Dean of Student Development met with Barbara Plandor, Ivonne Alvarez, Raquel Aparicio, and Karla Trutna to update the Let's Begin, Let's Finish publication to reflect new process for students.

### **Student Success Stories**

- Outreach is proud to share two student success stories: o Student Ambassador Victor Cenicerros has been awarded a full athletic and academic scholarship to play baseball at Roger State University. o Student Ambassador Isidro Velez-Valenzuela has been awarded a full athletic and academic scholarship to play baseball at Cumberland University. We congratulate them on this great achievement!
- AS had 7 students accepted to UCB! Great! Over 600 accepted to SDSU and 7 to Woodbury school of architecture. Currently waiting for official numbers from UCSD.

# Admissions

## Employee Updates

We had some transitions during the month of April. We said goodbye to Robert Ortega, a NANC employee who helped us while our staff was at ERP. We welcomed Rena Alspaw and Helena Hubbard back from leave and are excited to have a full team in the office.

## Events & Activities

The admissions office attended 3 Friday afternoon training on People Soft and spent time during the month testing security access with the student scenarios Ivonne created to become more comfortable with the new system. We gathered as an office to celebrate the new system. Our staff also visited a language school in downtown to promote our admissions process for International students.

## Innovations & Data

We have embraced SARS for daily scheduling and chatting. This has allowed us to become more team-minded and communicate more effectively. We are assessing the need for a better check-in process for residency and international students (using SARS vs paper signing sheets). Celine Ahearn created a new student checklist for next steps in regards to admissions and using campus solutions which we hope to distribute at the A&R counter. This is an example:

San Diego Mesa College

Admissions Checklist

-1st Time College Student-

- Apply to San Diego Mesa College at [sdmesa.edu](http://sdmesa.edu)
- Create mySDCCD Portal at [sdps.sdccd.edu/enroll](http://sdps.sdccd.edu/enroll)  Login to mySDCCD Portal at [my.sdccd.edu](http://my.sdccd.edu)
- Complete Online Orientation at [orientation.sdmesa.edu](http://orientation.sdmesa.edu)  (Optional) Complete Financial Aid Application at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov)
- Sign Up For Pre – Registration Workshop Through The Counseling Department (3rd Fl. I-400)
- Search For Classes via mySDCCD Portal or “Class Schedule” at [sdmesa.edu](http://sdmesa.edu)
- Login to mySDCCD Portal to View Your Specific Registration Appointment
- Login to mySDCCD Portal to Register for Classes and Pay for ALL Fees.

Petition to Certify Units: 149

Change of Course Level within a Discipline or Section: 2

Petition for Schedule Adjustment after Deadline: 10

Registration Worksheet: 26

Residency: 206

International Students: 225

Allied Health: 22

Petition to Challenge: 16

Petitions for Late Withdrawal 5

Change of HS Grad Status: 100

Admissions handled 2907 phone calls, 201 were in Allied Health and Residency. We updated our queue's to improve the answering of calls.

### **Student Success Stories**

We have been embracing "Life Learning Moments" whereby we walk alongside the student by listening to what they need and teaching them how to inquire. We had a student come in last week asking for official transcripts. He said he had received them from our office before. We asked what he needed those transcripts for and learned that what he really needed was a verification of enrollment. We explained to the student that official transcripts were only given at the district office. We taught the student to be more communicative on his needs and we used a relational mindset versus a process mindset, a win-win for both the student and our office.

### **Policies & Procedures**

As we learn this new system, we see needed changes to our current policies and procedures to best serve our students.

### **Special Recognition**

We are so thankful to our NANC employees: Robert Ortega, Daisy Briseno and Yaneth Mora for their abilities to learn the Admissions policies and procedures and take on various aspects of the admissions office duties from front desk counter to reports and facilitating office gatherings. These individuals have positively impacted our office and the ways that we serve our students.

# Assessment

## Employee Updates

We are excited to welcome Karla Trutna as the new Outreach Coordinator and Supervisor of the Assessment/Testing Office. Karla has extensive experience in Outreach and over 13 years of service within our district. Karla is committed to student success and works diligently to ensure prospective students receive the support they need to have a successful transition to Mesa College. Karla can be reached at [ktrutna@sdccd.edu](mailto:ktrutna@sdccd.edu) 619-388-2230 or just stop by I4-101.

## Events & Activities

On April 29 - Assessment Staff Amy Bettinger and Naayieli Bravo successfully began to utilize the new District Placement Assistant. During this time they have been supporting our sister campus Assessment offices: City College and Miramar College as they transition from Accuplacer to the District PA.

On April 27 - Assessment Staff Amy Bettinger supported Miramar's assessment office with the Mesa Placement Assistant tool during their "Super Saturday" event where students were able to receive assessment services/information. The Mesa Assessment office shared the link to the Mesa Placement Assistant tool since the District PA was not yet available. Thanks to the support of the Mesa Placement Assistant tool, Miramar was able to serve their special groups during this weekend event.

During the month of April, assessment Staff Amy Bettinger and Naayieli Bravo continued to collaborate with Outreach to go out to Mesa's feeder high schools and assist over 270 students with completing the Placement Assistant. Assessment staff was able to successfully serve our incoming students and help them complete their assessment, an important first step to starting at Mesa.

## Innovations & Data

Assessment provided the following services: -

- Total Students in Office: 258
- Placement Assistant: 237
- ELAC: 10
- Orientation: 168

Total Students served: 673

## Special Recognition

A big shout out to both Amy Bettinger and Naayieli Bravo for working so diligently to ensure our Assessment office was ready for the transition to the District PA. You have gone above and beyond, THANK YOU!

# AVANZA Student Engagement Center, Peer Navigator, and CRUISE Programs

## Employee Updates

The Peer Navigator program is in the process of hiring a new team for the 2019-2020 academic year. Name of each Peer Navigator will be provided once they are officially on-board.

## Events & Activities

*Peer Navigator Monthly Workshop Pre-Transferring and Career* *April 16th and 22nd*  
Gaby Ibarra and Philip Johnson held a "how to" on budgeting, credit cards and saving for the future. The presentation also offered time for discussion and key take away.

*Peer Navigator Game Night* *April 10<sup>th</sup> and 18th*  
Students were invited to play retro board games and show off their skills with this year's "all the rage" video game, Super Smash Bros. Students were invited to enjoy snacks, have fun and take a load off from the grind!

## Innovations & Data

As of this report, data has been received and in process of being finalized. A quick review revealed favorable results and we are excited to report information once data has been validated.

## Student Success Stories

One Peer Navigator shared sending their mentee a text to encourage them amidst the semester. The student replied "I needed this during this time." Upon asking the mentee if everything was okay, they replied feeling overwhelmed and unsure to the end of their semester. We are happy to report the student has visited the proper resources on campus to make sure they stay in school. (They are still with us).

## Policies & Procedures

In preparation for the upcoming Peer Navigator training, the PN Handbook is in process of being updating and revising to meet the demands of the program.

# CalWORKs

## Employee Updates

Hired a new CalWORKs Work Study student Khadija Hakimy

## Events & Activities

- Continue Monthly Outreach event with SDCE - West City
- 1st ever CalWORKs Scholarship was established at the San Diego Mesa College 26th Annual Scholarship Award Ceremony
- Presented to Public Consulting Group, a county contractor

## Innovations & Data

Three CalWORKs students won multiple scholarships. Two won the CalWORKs Scholarship!

## Student Success Stories

CalWORKs students have been accepted to CSUSM and UCR thus far.

## Special Recognition

-Shout out to Amber for establishing and donating to the CalWORKs Scholarship. Also, thank you Ramiro from General Counseling for being a donor for the CalWORKs Scholarship as well.

Thank you to Public Consulting Group, a county contractor, for allowing our CalWORKs department to present to East County case managers.

# Career

## Events & Activities

### SPRING 2019 JOB FAIR ATTENDING EMPLOYERS

AALL Care, Allied Universal Security Services, Behavioral Health Works, Biogeneral, Inc., Caledonian, Inc., ChildCare Careers, City of Los Angeles- Public Safety Division (LAPD), College Nannies and Tutors: Del Mar, Commonwealth Financial Network, Curology, Easterseals Southern California, Expedition America, Family Health Centers of San Diego, Gateway Learning Group, Girl Scouts San Diego, Harmonium, High Flying Foods, KB Way Supported Living Services, La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club, Inc., La Jolla Community Church, Le Lycee Francais et International dba La Petite Ecole, Learning Care Group, LensCrafters, Lyft, MAAC, Manpower San Diego, Meridian Home Care, Noonan Family Swim Schools, Inc., Ocean Discovery Institute, Picnic People, Positive Behavior Supports Corp., Rady Children's Physician Management Services (RCPMS), San Diego Coaster Company/Belmont Park, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego County Office of Education, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, SDCCD- WorkAbility III Program, SDCCD- Preparing Accomplished Transfers to the Humanities (PATH), T-Mobile Retailer (HIT Mobile), The Arc of San Diego, Tire's Warehouse, Chicken Charlies, United Cerebral Palsy Association of San Diego County, United Security, Visiting Angels of Poway, Waterworks Aquatics, YMCA of San Diego County

### Career Center Presentations:

The Career Center was invited to present and provide a Career Services Overview presentation. Thank you to Andrew Concors from the Allied Health Department for inviting us to meet your students.

### Spring 2019 Career Week Events:

Resume Tent & Clothing Closet Event on April 8th and 9th this year, we partnered with WorkAbility III, and we are thankful for their time in providing résumé review appointments to students. Thank you to Jamila DeCarli, WorkAbility III Coordinator, and her team for joining us during Career Week and helping students prepare their résumés. We also would like to thank our very own Career Ambassadors for assisting students with résumé reviews as well. We also partnered with The Stand and provided free professional clothing items to students.

### How to Succeed at a Job & Internship Fair Panel on April 9th

The Career Center and Work-Based Learning partnered with San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation (EDC for short) to host a panel. Students gained information on how to increase their chances of obtaining an interview and learned strategies to navigate a career fair. Professionals in the field provided inside tips and discussed career paths in the following fields: Health, Finance, Defense, and Technology. We would like to thank Professor Adrienne Milner, Computer and Information Sciences at Mesa College, for moderating the event. We also would like to thank our panelists:

- Moses Pittmam, Engineer, Systems Integration, General Atomics
- Kate Levan, Relationship Manager, Bank of America
- Luke Nora, Systems Engineer, Booz Allen Hamilton
- Erika Lauri, Talent Advisor, Scripps Health

## Innovations & Data

42 new employers registered this month on our online job board "JobNetwork".

# Counseling

## Employee Updates

Very glad to have our returning people from ERP: Vang Thao, Barbara Plandor and especially Guillermo Marrujo

## Events & Activities

Laura Mathis and Kirsten Pogue-Cely attended the 2 day 21st Century Skills Instructor Training offered free by New World of Work and California Community Colleges hosted at Miramar College.

## Innovations & Data

Drop-ins: 1683

Appts: 503

Total Unduplicated Contacts: 2103

## Policies & Procedures

Policies and Procedures: Apr 29 began our use of Campus Solutions. We are very glad to have the new system, and we feel that our expertise will improve, daily....

## Special Recognition

Our returning ERP people!

# DSPS

## Employee Updates

DSPS Adjunct Counselor Paul Hayes retired on April 30th. Paul was a counselor with DSPS for 5 years. We wish him all the best!

## Events & Activities

- DSPS participated in many of the Cultural Unity week celebrations including the Approach Me: Rethinking Disabilities event and the Student Diversity Club lunch.
- Throughout the month, DSPS hosted representatives from UCSD, SDSU and National University for transfer students who will benefit from disability services.
- DSPS held its monthly Touchstone group on April 5th.
- DSPS attended the annual scholarship luncheon and supported 2 scholarship recipients.
- The Associated Students awarded DSPS with funds to support our annual grad/transfer celebration.
- DSPS coordinated with outreach and hosted students from Mesa's dental assisting program, and Madison and Coronado High Schools who are interested in DSPS services. DSPS continues to collaborate with CRUISE and assist with equity efforts.

## Innovations & Data

In April, DSPS proctored 337 exams and 211 counseling appointments were scheduled. DSPS provided 1301 drop-in services and 792 hours were logged into the High Tech Center. 7 alternate media requests were processed.

## Special Recognition

DSPS would like to recognize Counselor Melissa Williams who was promoted to Associate Professor. Melissa is a highly valued member of the DSPS team and we couldn't be more proud of all of her accomplishments and appreciate her contributions to the DSPS department and to the Mesa College community.

# EOPS/CARE

## Employee Updates

We are excited to share that Clemente Ayala is joining our team as a new Borderless Scholars Adjunct Counselor. He will be supporting our efforts in developing and implementing our Dreamer support services.

## Events & Activities

- Region X EOPS Student Leadership Conference- April 5- Partnered with CSU San Marcos to host all day EOPS Student Leadership Conference. EOPS students from community colleges in Region X participated in this event.
- Region X EOPS Staff and Counselors Convening- April 11- brought EOPS classified professionals and counselors together at Mesa College for an all-day convening
- NextUp Office Hours- April 4, 11, 18, and 25- A space for student to stop by and check in with NextUp Counselors and Staff, network, and learn about various opportunities. -NextUp Leadership Workshop Series- April 17 and April 18. Workshop topics include understanding leadership style and how to effectively lead others.
- NextUp and Outreach efforts included: - April - Pre-Enrollment Workshops at high schools – saw over 270 students –
  - April 9 - Monarch School Campus Visit- saw over 25 students
  - April 22 - SDYS Staff Meeting
  - April 25 - Participated in the Southeast Collaborative Staff Meeting at O’Farrell Charter School
  - April 29 - Presentation at Just in Time
- Borderless Scholars Undocu-Circles- April 9, 16, and 23- A space for the undocumented community and allies to come together and share community, space and conversations around topics pertaining to current events, legislation updates, resources, health and many other things.
- Borderless Scholars hosted an Undocumented Student Panel, Know Your Rights Workshop and Immigration Consultations on April 23rd.
- Trauma Informed Care Training- April 23- Lisa Naungayan, Melissa Zavala, Nanyamka Hill, and Hadassah Nations attended this training in Anaheim and learned about the practices to build resilience in young adults exposed to chronic trauma.
- CCC Dreamers Project Regional Meeting- April 29- As part of Immigrants Rising’s work with the CCC Dreamers Project, Mesa College Borderless Scholars hosted one of four Regional meetings across the state to provide a space for community college educators to review the report and recommendations, and build an action plan for colleges to better serve undocumented CCC students.

## Student Success Stories

There are 100 EOPS students that petitioned to graduate! We will be celebrating their accomplishments at our annual EOPS Achievement Ceremony on Friday, May 3rd at Mesa College.

## **Evaluations**

### **Events & Activities**

In the month of April we worked on processing all the petitions for Spring 2019 graduates. These petitions had a student submission deadline of April 30th.

### **Innovations & Data**

So far in the month of April we have over 300 students registered for commencement. We expect to have over 600 participants this year.

### **Policies & Procedures**

Our office started using the new student management system named PeopleSoft, and we are very excited about the tool.

# Financial Aid

## Employee Updates

We have concluded the hiring committee's portion on the open SSA position and are currently waiting for notification to the selected candidate.

## Events & Activities

Student Services: Financial Aid, Outreach, and Student Affairs - Jumpstart your success 2019: Mesa College hosted our annual Jumpstart your success and Cash in on Community College on Saturday, March 16th. It was a tremendous success with over 450 prospective students and families. The program included a warm welcome from Prez Pam, Dean Miller and two very insightful welcomes from SDSU and UCSD transfer admissions representatives. Prospective students were then invited to participate in various workshops focusing on what Mesa has to offer and how great we do it. Workshops included San Diego Promise Program Free tuition program, Financial Aid info session, Transfer workshop, student perspective and many other engaging sessions. The day also included an interactive department resource fair, campus tours and placement assistant open labs. Jumpstart your success and cash in on community college was an exceptional success and we thrilled to share Mesa pride with so many prospective students.

## Innovations & Data

The 19-20 Financial Aid forms have been brushed-up for compliance with verification elements for this year. A few forms have seen a change in language for clarity. 19-20 ISIRs received from October 2018 - March 2019 were loaded and are being downloaded on a weekly basis. April also marks the start of the financial aid period in which we are working with 3 academic years simultaneously. We will close the 17-18 student loan cycle on July 31; will continue processing and disbursing 18-19 aid (mainly Pell Grants) until September 20 and while processing aid files the 19-20 academic year. Disbursed \$778,716.49 to 887 students.

## Student Success Stories

Office Techs went the extra mile and worked with two students who submitted difficult Petitions for Income Reduction and were able to be assisted.

## Special Recognition

To the FA Techs for their disposition: specially to Florisel Guzman and Emmanouil Powell for going the extra mile for the office when completing manual R2T4 calculations and cross training the other techs to ensure that the office will always have resources and knowledge to do the job. To Lilibeth Rodriguez who is still at ERP working with consultants on the pending issues with the Cal Grant Program (1 one year after implementation) and the California College Promise application via CCC Apply, and last but not least to Pilar for her commitment to students while dealing with family matters.

## Outreach & Community Relations

### Employee Updates

We are excited to welcome Karla Trutna as the new Outreach Coordinator and Supervisor of the Assessment/Testing Office. Karla has extensive experience in Outreach and over 13 years of service within our district. Karla is committed to student success and works diligently to ensure prospective students receive the support they need to have a successful transition to Mesa College. Karla can be reached at [ktrutna@sdccd.edu](mailto:ktrutna@sdccd.edu) 619-388-2230 or just stop by I4-101.

### Events & Activities

#### *Outreach:*

- In the month of April, Outreach has conducted over one-hundred and forty-nine campus tours to prospective students and their parents. In addition to this, Outreach has hosted a number of campus visits from various schools within the feeder area and outside. Some of the visiting sites range from Ingenuity Charter, Mark Twain High School, Coronado High School, Poway High School, and High Tech High School. During these campus visits, students get to hear from a number of student services departments like: EOPS, DSPS, Career, Transfer and Financial Aid and are provided with a Mesa College presentation courtesy of Outreach as well as an ambassador led campus tour. The Outreach Department has seen over two-hundred prospective students just on campus visits alone.
- On April 2 – Mesa College Outreach had the opportunity to present at Creative Performing and Media Arts Middle School to over four-hundred middle school students. Outreach staff Tavaris Franklin and Vanndaro Chhum and student ambassador Nicolas Irving provided a fun and interactive Kahoot to a number of different classes on the benefits of choosing Mesa College. The Outreach team introduced all attendees to a wide range of support programs and services available at Mesa.
- On April 2 – Student Ambassador Jordan Nash had the opportunity to present to Coronado High School seniors and early grads on why San Diego Mesa College would be a right fit for them. Jordan had the opportunity to present and influence those twenty students on why Mesa College. We look forward to seeing some of those students in the fall semester.
- On April 6 – With the help Mesa College's track and field team, Outreach had a special opportunity to reach out to prospective students during the Arnie Robinson Invitational Track Meet. Ambassador Karen Villanueva served as the lead and provided all attendees with Mesa College information.
- On April 7 – With the collaboration and partnership from our community partner, ACCESS INC. Outreach has been given a number of collaborative opportunities to provide the community with opportunities on pursuing higher education. Ambassador Isidro Valenzuela hosted an Outreach table during ACCESS INC's annual health fair and serviced over twenty students.
- On April 9 – The Outreach Department got the pleasure to host Monarch High School to a campus visit. Outreach staff Van Chhum provided a fun and interactive Kahoot on some of the services Mesa College has to offer. In addition to the Kahoot, NextUP staff Janelle Brown provided the students additional information in regards to foster youth services.
- On April 11 – Student Ambassador Jessica Gaffney provided The School for Entrepreneurship and Technology a fun and interactive scavenger hunt tour of Mesa College. The forty students that attended

loved the fun and interactive visit they've received while gaining insight and information about Mesa College programs and services.

- On April 12 – Outreach Staff Tavaris Franklin and ambassadors Yesenia Jacobo and Jessica Gaffney hosted an admissions application workshop at Mount Everest Academy, one of our local feeder schools. Tavaris hosted and showcased the admissions application process along with other support programs and services.
- On April 12 – Outreach Staff Van Chhum hosted an Outreach table at ACCESS INC's annual job fair showcasing the opportunities available at Mesa College.
- On April 13 – Outreach was invited to E3 Civics' High School annual college admissions day. Outreach staff Van Chhum and Nicolas Irving hosted an all morning college admissions workshop and updated the students on the new programs and services that are offered such as
- On April 15 – For the month of April, Outreach has conducted and hosted a number of campus visits from various schools within the feeder area and outside. Some of the visiting sites range from Ingenuity Charter, Mark Twain High School, Coronado High School, Poway High School, and High Tech High School. These campus visits consist primarily of what the visiting campus requests in regards to college. The Outreach Department has seen over two-hundred prospective students just on campus visits alone.
- On April 16 – Outreach student ambassador Jordan Nash and Dayna Strothers had the pleasure to participate in a student panel at Lewis Middle School. The two ambassadors shared their experiences on navigating through the community college system and how Mesa College could be a great fit for them. The ambassadors spoke to over fifty students.
- On April 17 – The Outreach Department was invited to host and provide a presentation at the Barrio Logan College Institute. Student ambassador Victor Cenicerros served as the lead presenter and provided a presentation to the students that were in attendance. Victor had the opportunity to share his experiences while assisting students with the application process.
- On April 27 – Outreach attended the annual Multicultural Festival; the entire community was in attendance. Outreach had the opportunity to engage and speak to community members in a more personable manner. The organizers of the Multicultural Festival provided Outreach the chance to engage and meet community members where they're most comfortable. Outreach staff engaged with over 2,000 community members!

#### *Promise:*

- Our district-wide Promise End of the Year Celebration took place at Mesa on April 29. All Year 2 Promise students received a program completion certificate.

### **Innovations & Data**

*Outreach* - We continued to partner with the Assessment & Testing Office to host our Pre-enrollment Bundle at the high schools. During the month of March and April we went out to our feeder high schools and assisted over 270 students, of which all completed their SSSP steps through assessment via the Placement Assistant. We are pleased to report that, in our efforts to better serve our incoming students and help them complete as many SSSP steps before they graduate, we expanded our partnership with Counseling to offer Pre-Registration Workshops at all of the high schools who participated in our Pre-Enrollment workshops. By offering Pre-Registration Workshops at the high school as part of our Pre-enrollment Bundle, we are able to remove a barrier for some of our high school students and they are able to complete their SSSP steps through the ed plan step

even before they graduate and without having to make an extra trip to Mesa. We are excited to be able to partner with Counseling to offer this service to our high school students.

Outreach concluded its Mesa Information Nights to prospective students and their families on April 22. The last Mesa Information Night was held at Access Inc., and it was a full house. During the course of this Spring effort we saw over 100 prospective students and their families. All attendees gained valuable insight into the programs and services offered to incoming students. We want to extend a warm "Thank You," to our Culinary Arts department whom so generously donated an assortment of pastries at all of our six information nights. We would also like to acknowledge our Dean of Student Affairs Victoria Miller for providing a warm welcome and to all of the Student Services departments who helped us close our Spring cycle in a big way: Financial Aid, CRUISE, Career, Transfer, EOPS, NextUP, DSPS, and Strong Workforce as well as our Mesa Ambassadors who served as student panelists, motivating students with their Mesa experience.

*Promise* - About 150 faculty members submitted progress report grades for 430 Year 1 Promise students. We also received positive feedback regarding the new process for collecting progress report grades and are excited to implement this process earlier in the semester moving forward.

### **Student Success Stories**

Outreach is proud to share two student success stories: o Student Ambassador Victor Cenicerros has been awarded a full athletic and academic scholarship to play baseball at Roger State University. o Student Ambassador Isidro Velez-Valenzuela has been awarded a full athletic and academic scholarship to play baseball at Cumberland University. We congratulate them on this great achievement!

Promise - 30 Year 2 Promise students have petitioned to graduate.

### **Policies & Procedures**

Promise - Applications are still being accepted for Class of 2019 high school graduates entering Mesa College in Fall 2019. Incoming students have until June 28 to apply. Once they complete their application, the district will screen their eligibility status before forwarding their information to the Promise at Mesa for the next program enrollment steps.

### **Special Recognition**

#### *Outreach*

A big shout out to ambassadors who were selected as scholarship recipients this year: Yesenia Jacobo, Jordan Nash, Victor Cenicerros and Nasreddine El Akkad. We are so proud of your achievements!

#### *Promise:*

- A huge shout out to Year 2 Promise student Yolanda Granados for being the student speaker and sharing her journey and how the Promise has played a role in her academic success. o
- Harley Sobreo received the Promise Leadership Award in recognition of his campus involvements and engagement in the Promise program.
- Christopher Gray received the Promise Scholar Award in recognition of his 4.0 GPA and engagement in the Promise program.

- The following Year 2 Promise students each earned 3 scholarships at the annual Scholarship Awards ceremony: Jaime Nieto Gutierrez, Harley Sobreo, and Christopher Gray.
- KUSI segment: Promise student Samantha Ceron-Draeger and Program Assistant Donnaly Atajar represented the San Diego Promise at Mesa College on a segment of KUSI news. Samantha discussed the impacts and benefits of the Promise and Donnaly talked about possible expansion of the Promise program thanks to California Assembly Bill No.2: <https://www.kusi.com/california-bill-would-expand-funding-to-community-colleges-to-provide-free-two-year-tuition/>

# STAR TRIO

## Events & Activities

Nghi Nguyen & Amalia Villagran attended the Regional Tutor Retreat@ City College April 5 & 6.

Held a Meet & Greet activity with the STAR Club who raised funds for the STAR scholarship. Ten students who had completed specific program requirements were awarded Café cards. Marichu Magana & Hieu Huynh volunteered at the Farmer's Market Marichu Magana, Thuan Le, and students Jasmine Lu and Amalia Villagran participated in the Spring Carnival for the children at the Mesa Child Development Center

## Innovations & Data

- Program Numbers: 233
- New: 93
- Cont.: 140
- 106 students came 619 times (604.13 hrs.) = 5.8 visits per student
- Supplies distributed: 187

## Student Success Stories

14 STAR TRIO students received Mesa scholarships

# Student Affairs

## Events & Activities

### Scholarship Ceremony

This year's scholarship cycle concluded with a luncheon celebrating the achievements of each student recipient. Overall, this cycle provided 172 separate scholarship awards through 96 individual opportunities; of the students receiving awards, 76 of them received more than one, and the total amount of funds provided by all awards was \$167,425. The switch from a Friday event during the evening to a Saturday event during the day proved to be a popular change for everyone involved, and the effectiveness of our still-new electronic check-in process continues to grow.

### Leadership Equity Action Development Lecture Series

The Spring 2019 Leadership Equity Action Development (LEAD) Series, led by Dr. Tanis Starck, wrapped up their final meeting in April and had 22 students successfully complete the course.

### NCRC Art of Inclusive Communication

The National Conflict Resolution Center hosted their second Art of Inclusive Communication workshop geared specifically towards students who are members of the San Diego Promise program. Attendance was excellent!

### Associated Students & Student Leaders

The Mesa College Associated Students hosted or sponsored a variety of events during the month of April, including the club-centered Carnival at the Commons; an open forum on rethinking disabilities called Approach Me; the two-day WomenX info fair on the LRC Quad; and a TEDx event titled "Making Machiavelli Weep" that included presentations by Prof. Albert Cruz, Dr. Tanis Starck, and Dr. James Nieh, as well as Mesa College students Eduardo Moncada and Shyla Day. In addition, Student Affairs worked with the Career Ambassador Malik Shabazz to host a Gender Expression & Identity Workshop that was open to everyone at Mesa College.

## Special Recognition

Thank you to Student Health and Mental Health Services. This team of dynamic and creative leaders hosted engaging events that are meaningful and powerful. Most recently the team coordinated Welcome to Vietnam which was an exceptional and engaging event. In addition both Suzanne and Linda have been working side by side with the Office of Student Affairs to provide wrap around services to assist with student success and mental wellbeing. We are proud to work with such a wonderful team!

# Student Development

## Events & Activities

San Diego Mesa College sent a delegate to the 2019 APAHE Conference which included Lorenze Legaspi, Alexi Balaguer, Katlin Choi, Jennifer Derilo, and Ailene Crakes. This year's theme is "Rooted in Community and Thriving in Partnerships". San Diego Mesa College was a conference partner and a silver sponsor. There were a variety of sessions that addressed critical topics to include the following: Reflective Leadership, AANAPISI Grant and UCI as an AAPI Thriving Campus, Moving from Participation to Co-Creation, Disaggregating CSU AAPI Student Data, Embracing Mixed Race API Identities, and many others.

Each one of us had various takeaways that we shared during our presentation at the Mesa Student Services Council Meeting on April 17.

Additionally, Ailene was a conference presenter and shared her experiences and transition from Faculty to Administration.

Sincere thanks goes to Mesa for their support for APAHE!

## Policies & Procedures

The Dean of Student Development met with Barbara Plandor, Ivonne Alvarez, Raquel Aparicio, and Karla Trutna to update the Let's Begin, Let's Finish publication to reflect new process for students. Thanks to Barbara Plandor for taking the lead on this project.

## Special Recognition

Special recognition goes to Barbara Plandor, Student Services Supervisor for 40 years of service at Mesa College!

Congratulations to the four counseling faculty who recently were promoted to Associate Professor/Counselor: Amber Alatorre, Nick DeMeo, Ramiro Hernandez, and Raul Rodriguez.

As we approach the end of the semester, many thanks goes to all the program coordinators and departments for celebrating students' accomplishments. Thanks to the following coordinators and their team for making the following events special:

Raza Grad - Amber Alatorre, Miriam Pacheco, Ramiro Hernandez, Patty Rodriguez, Raul Rodriguez

Spring 2019 Job Fair - Claudia Estrada-Howell, Alicia Lopez, Gity Nematollahi, Olivia Picolla, Deborah Salazar, Raquel Sojourner, and Mary Garcia

STAR Awards - Kristy Carson and team

Transfer Recognition Ceremony - Anne Hedekin, Claudia Estrada-Howell, Olivia Picolla, Gity Nematollahi, Mary Garcia

Veterans Recognition Ceremony - Ramiro Hernandez, Jennifer Phelps, and team

Many thanks to everyone for ensuring the smooth transition to Campus Solutions!

# Student Health Services

## Employee Updates

Maria Aurora San Pedro LMFT will be joining our group in May 2019. Maria will be working on Mental Health issues on campus and providing 1:1 care to students. Julian Nguyen, Mesa Peer Educator is leaving for Medical School after the semester ends. Vanessa Gambala FNP is going to be working at UCSD in the Pre-Anesthesia Unit as of June 1st. We will Miss her very much.

## Events & Activities

Mental Health education Mesa Student Health Services seeks to integrate mental health education into multiple programs and services on campus. We collaborated with our Communication Studies Professor, Veronica Gerace to produce a student poster and art presentation about mental illnesses, prevention, referrals and personal feelings. Psychology Professor Jaye Van Kirk and her students produced brochures in their Human Sexuality course on prevention of rape, sexual assault and domestic violence. The educational brochures were utilized at our recent Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse prevention event. We collaborated with Vietnamese Student Association, Professor Celia Orona from the English as Second Language (ELAC 23) students to educate students, staff and faculty regarding the Vietnamese culture, language and customs. The event focused on cultural esteem, a greater sense of understanding and connection between our campus community constituents. The event addressed ways for students to manage their emotional responses when they find themselves in different and often uncomfortable cultural situations. The event immersed the participant with native Vietnamese speakers.

We collaborated with Paradise Valley Hospital Psychiatrist Dr. Takesjia Niday MD to present an interactive educational gathering entitled "Let's Talk About Depression". Students, Staff, Faculty and Administrators (26) attended. Discussions ranged from manic depression to cutting.

Student Health produced an event focused on the prevention of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. Southern Indian Health presented and brought their Silent Witnesses. Psychology Professor Jaye Van Kirk provided student-made brochures on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault for the event.

## Innovations & Data

The Active Minds Club and their advisor Tracy Fried attended a statewide conference on April 20th. The Active Minds club seeks to reduce the stigma of mental illness on college campuses.

We have 722 in-office contacts this month. That's a record high number for us.

## Student Success Stories

Julian Nguyen, Peer Educator, will attend Medical School in the Fall 2019.

## Special Recognition

Student Peer Educator, Julian Nguyen for his persistence and perseverance. Congratulations on your acceptance to Medical School!

## Student Success & Equity

### Events & Activities

- President's Cabinet Retreat - April 5
- Approach Me: Rethinking Disability - April 9
- Community Conversation, Equity Presentation - April 12
- Meeting with Omar Passons, County of San Diego - April 22
- Draft of Equity Plan presented to campus constituencies.

### Innovations & Data

#### Direct Student Support:

As of April 2019 SSE reviewed 63 applications for assistance and was able to provide direct support to 58 of those students. In total SSE gave out \$7495. in support. \$4960 was in book support, \$2050 in food support, \$425 in transportation support (in addition to semester passes given out by EOPS) and \$60 in printing support.

#### The Stand:

During April The Stand had 2381 transactions and is currently serving 1434 individual students for the Spring semester.

The Stand: Farmers Market held on April 18th, we gave 9,366 pounds of produce and 3010 pounds of shelf stable goods to 675 households.

The Stand: Pop-up Market In April we continued working with The Ronald McDonald House as part of Feeding San Diego's Retail Rescue program. We are getting roughly 1000 pounds of food every Tuesday, which is passed out in approximately 20-30 minutes to 70-100 students. While everyone is welcome the pop-up market is primarily serving students.

# Transfer

## Events & Activities

- 11 transfer workshops
- Posse Foundation Recruitment Visit
- University of Redlands Lunch and Learn
- SDSU Admissions Next Steps Workshop
- SDSU Career Services Next Steps Workshop (2nd year offered)
- 11 University rep visits including Grand Canyon, Savannah College of Art and Design, SDSU, Suffolk, University of CA Merced, University of CA Irvine, and UC San Diego.

## Innovations & Data

Launched an Academic Renewal Workshop and a Flex option, "Spilling the Transfer Tea" The San Diego Education Consortium launched a new workshop, "Financing Your College Education"

## Student Success Stories

It is a wonderful thing to walk around the student services building and celebrate the transfer success of our students as transfer pennants are gracing various offices in the student services buildings. AS had 7 students accepted to UCB! Great! Over 600 accepted to SDSU and 7 to Woodbury school of architecture. Currently waiting for official numbers from UCSD.

## Special Recognition

Thank you to Gity and Amara for making the April Events and TRL were successful. They are invaluable assets to the Transfer Center! Also show out to the rest of the TCE team including the CAPs! We could not reach for the transfer and transfer without you!

## **Veterans & Records**

### **Employee Updates**

Participated in the Scholarship Banquet where our two Veterans of Mesa Scholarship recipients were recognized: Patrick Struszczyk and Xamayra Alvarez

### **Events & Activities**

Kelsey Graham, VAC member started an Operation Gratitude fundraiser to provide funds for care packages sent to our deployed troops. We were able surpass our goal of \$500. The fundraiser concluded this month.

### **Special Recognition**

Kelsey Graham for her leadership and excellent work with the Operation Gratitude Fundraiser.

## Vice President Student Services

### Employee Updates

We are pleased to welcome Karla Trutna into her permanent role as Outreach Coordinator! Congratulations Karla! You have and will continue to serve our community well!

### Events & Activities

- VP Hands participated in the following webinars/trainings: CSSO Webinar: A VP's Role in Leading Financial Aid; Student Centered Funding Formula Webinar Series; SDCCD Placement Assistant Training; Human Resources / Campus Solutions Business Process Review; Campus Solutions: What You Should Know As A Student Services Manager
- Leroy Johnson and Charlie Lieu conducted a webinar for the Pathway Navigation Workgroup for their online series: Community of Practice: Getting Started. We why and how we started the "Your Mesa Journeys" tool, Best Practices, Journeys Database, and Lessons learned. You can view the session here.
- Mesa Information Technology Committee presented 2019-2022 Strategic Technology Plan to PCAB.
- The M&M hosted an Egg Hunt in each department.
- The building's safety group is planning an ALICE (active shooter training) for late May.

### Innovations & Data

- On April 29th the District launched our Placement Assistant (PA). The District PA is a tool used to remotely assist with the placement of select students into math and English courses. I am excited to share that this new tool was modeled after Mesa's homegrown Placement Assistant, launched last Summer. I am incredibly proud of Mesa's team of innovative, student-centered faculty, classified professionals and administrators that made this possible.
- VP Hands was pleased to participate in conversations with Math and Instruction that have led to a CRUISE and Mathletics partnership and Personal Growth courses being piloted at a few of our feeder high schools.
- Live stream of the Mesa Graduation is available: <http://www.sdmesa.edu/mesalive/index.shtml>
- Emailed 578 Scholarship applicants to share "Your Mesa Journey" tool. This way students can explore support programs and services offered here at Mesa that can assist them on their educational journey.

### Student Success Stories

VP Hands recipients of the Hands Family Pay It Forward Scholarship were Isaacar Duarte and Yesenia Jacobo. These students embody the concept of paying it forward through service to their community. They have both had kindness extended to them and have paid that generosity forward to others. Both students were honored at our Annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony.

Classified Senate awarded 2 Classified Professionals with the Joyce Skaryak Classified Senate Scholarship. With a record number of applicants this year, the selection committee was proud to award Anastasia Doan (Exercise Science Athletic Trainer) and Jessica Holland (Fashion Design Student/NANC) the scholarships. These two

students exemplify the definition of lifelong learners, as they continue to pursue professional learning opportunities to better serve our students and departments at Mesa College.

### **Special Recognition**

VP Hands attended and/or provided a welcome for the following events and like to thanks the event coordinators for creating the conditions that matter for our students to succeed:

- Approach Me: Rethinking Disability Event, Carnival at the Commons, TedX Event: (Associated Students)
- Formerly Incarcerated Conference, CCC Dreamers Project Regional Meeting (EOPS) • Spring 2019 President's Cabinet Retreat
- Welcome to Vietnam, Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention, Let's Talk About Depression (Student Health)
- Fred McFarlane Lecture series event with special guest speaker, Dr. Martha J. Kanter, former Undersecretary of Education for President Barack Obama.
- Scholarship Ceremony Celebration
- Mesa College Honors Completion and Recognition Ceremony (Honors) • VAMP: Still We Rise (English)
- Faculty Recognition Ceremony
- End of the Year Promise Event (District)