



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

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



Monthly Update Highlights

Employee Updates

- Jose Aranda has been hired as Admissions' new SST to help support Mesa's Residency and International Teams.
- The Stand would like to welcome two new Basic Needs Ambassadors: Xandrix Gacusan and Marielle Salarda.
- Joining the General Counseling Faculty is Samantha Jimenez as a Project Assistant, former Mesa College graduate who is currently in a master's program at SDSU.
- DSPS welcomes Sandy Ricketts, Adjunct Counselor DSPS!
- Please join our EOPS Team in congratulating Amara Tang on her new positions at Cuyamaca College General Counseling and Miramar College Career Center.
- Outreach Ambassadors Zain Almasarani and Phoebe Truong received a number of Scholarship awards this April. Amazing work Zain and Phoebe!
- Vicki Hernandez has accepted a position outside of the District. We will miss her! The School of Student Development is in the process of filling an Acting Student Services Supervisor I for the Veterans and Records Office and the Veterans Success Center. The deadline to submit a letter of interest and resume is Friday, May 6th.
- The M&M Committee and Student Services Leadership Team are so excited to announce our New M&M Team Leads, Zulma Heraldez and Pahua Vang.

Events & Activities

- The Assessment office hosted a “Ready, Set, GO to Mesa” workshop to help students navigate their first steps at Mesa. Assessment had a number of students stop by and we were able to help them with their matric steps. Overall a great day!
- CalWORKs is working closely with SD County Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA) to have a representative come to SD Mesa College Campus and provide support in-person.
- The Career Center hosted a Virtual Career Fair on April 27th! Over 150 students and 50 employers were in attendance!
- The 2022 Commencement Ceremony will be held on campus on May 27th, 2022 AT 4:00 P.M. Students/Faculty/Staff are encouraged to visit the Commencement webpage for updates on details surrounding Commencement Day: <https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/commencement/index.shtml>
- The Scholarship Awards Ceremony was hosted on April 28 in Mesa’s Gym to celebrate the achievements of this year’s scholarship winners with light refreshments provided by the Mesa Culinary department.
- Student Health Services Director Suzanne Khambata, FNP, and her student Sara Cadorette, RN, CCRN, Doctor of Nurse Practitioner candidate at USD, facilitated a virtual COVID Education Seminar: *Stories from the Frontline*. Sarah bravely shared firsthand stories of her own experiences working in the Intensive Care Unit during the pandemic.
- Facilitators Ricardo Vidal, Deanna Cherry, and San Diego State University graduate student and Mesa alum Jordan Nash, have begun a process to reengage Black students by creating spaces designed to center their voices. In late April, forty-two Black students met on Zoom to share their experiences with anti-Blackness at Mesa and explore recommendations for how the college can create greater connection and accountability for growth. The students’ feedback will guide the work of a 30 member Mesa Transformation Team, whose mission will be to go deep and learn how to facilitate the difficult dialogues that have been delayed too long. We see in this new opportunities for all of us to grow, in spaces where we can practice with each other and not be afraid to speak our truth. The campus community is invited to embark on this journey with us, to display the humility and passion we all need to do the important work of ending anti-blackness at Mesa.

Innovations & Data

- The Stand Basic Needs Resource Center partnered with Student Affairs and the Mesa Bookstore to establish a process for assisting students with funds to obtain their graduation regalia.
- Handshake, our District-wide NEW student online job board is officially live! Students who attended SDCCD from Spring 2020-Present received an email on March 14, 2022, inviting them to activate their free student account. If you are working with a student who is experiencing issues accessing their Handshake activation email, or did not receive an email, please call the Career Center at 619-388-2777 or email us at mesacareer@sdccd.edu, including your name and student ID #.
- Counselor Guillermo Marrujo and Dr. Cynthia Rico have been in discussions with STEM and Humanities chairs and deans about possible Fall 2022 scheduling opportunities that could work best for our students.

- The results are in for the 2022 Scholarship cycle: Mesa College, through the Mesa Foundation, has awarded 168 student recipients with 231 individual awards from 105 distinct scholarship opportunities.
- In collaboration with the District, Student Services launched a \$200,000 Transportation Grant Campaign for students. 1,000 Mesa College students will receive \$200 grants
- The Mesa Pride Center, CARE Program, Veterans department personnel received training on the Constant Contact Emailing platform which offers tools for email like open tracking, a resend feature for emails that haven't been opened, and email design templates!
- Live Chat stats – April 2022:
 - 1583 Automated Responses provided by Olympia Virtual Chat
 - 162 Students assisted by Mesa Live Agents
 - Mesa Journeys Newsletter April issues
 - [April Issue #1](#)
 - [April Issue #2](#)
- Mesa and the District have added a [Mesa Student Support](#) link on all Mesa Canvas shells. Big thank you to Katie Palacios and District IT for helping to add this resource link for ease of access for our students.

Policies & Procedures

- We finalized the Student Services Remote Work Policy process for the remainder of the semester (see below) and have encouraged departments to think of departmental approaches to honoring this new policy.
 - Mesa College has determined that we will only approve ad hoc requests through June 30, 2022. Ad hoc is described as ideal for employees whose job duties require them to work in-person and may occasionally work on projects or assignments which may be completed remotely.
 - Student Services will approve up to one ad hoc workday per week.
 - Considerations for approval or denial may include impact on ability to serve our students with equity and excellence, staffing needs, peak times, and personnel matters, for example.
 - If or when approved, supervisors/managers will determine internal processes for remote work schedule options.

Student Success Stories

- The Peer Navigators are currently receiving college acceptance letters! We are extremely excited for them, as many have received acceptances to multiple colleges. They have made the program and campus proud!
- EOPS is so excited to recognize and celebrate over 160 EOPS graduates in the Class of 2022! Half of the students are graduating with honors.
- Year Two Promise student Jeson Cornu was named a 2022 Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) All-California Award Winner on the Second team.
- The Transfer Center reports that 981 students were accepted to SDSU for the Fall of 2022! Congratulations Mesa students!!!

Admissions

Employee Updates

- Jose Aranda has been hired as our new SST to help support our Residency and International Teams.

Innovations & Data

- In April, the Admissions office served students in the following capacity: emails (845), Google Voice (1), Phone (225), Zoom MTG (10), Allied Health inquiries (5), Cleared4 (22), CS password reset (26), HS Dual Enrollment registration/inquiries (63), ID cards (20), International prospective students/inquiries (7), IVY Chat (13), Jira (155), Other/miscellaneous (181), petitions (3), prospective students (47), Qless (52). Residency issues/inquiries (9), transcripts (35), updates (27), verifications for student enrollment/employment, (141).

Assessment

Events & Activities

- Jumpstart Your Success - The Assessment office hosted a “Ready, Set, GO to Mesa” workshop to help students navigate their first steps at Mesa. We had a number of students stop by and we were able to help them with their matric steps. Overall a great day!
- Pre-Enrollment Workshops - Assessment partnered up with Outreach to continue offering onsite Pre-Enrollment Workshops at Mesa’s feeder high schools. Assessment staff helped students update and understand their math and English milestones.
- Challenge exams - Students can schedule a challenge exam with the Assessment office. Please refer all students who are trying to clear prerequisites for summer math, Chemistry and language classes.
- Assessment and Promise - Assessment staff assisted the Promise Program in screening for students who still need to complete their Comprehensive Education Plan. This effort will help the Promise program to connect with all students who are currently missing a Comprehensive Ed plan.
- UCHS Presentation - Mesa’s Outreach & Assessment Departments visited University City High School for the first time to present a Pre-Enrollment Workshop and it was very successful. This workshop had the added bonus of 3 Outreach Ambassadors who graduated from University City HS and they were able to connect with familiar students and staff while assisting over 80 students in their matriculation steps.

Innovations & Data

- Email: 24
- Orientation: 27
- Placement Assistant: 58
- Unduplicated Student Count: 93

Special Recognition

- Big "Thank You" to Amy Bettinger for going above and beyond to support all of our Mesa bound students at the high schools.

AVANZA Student Engagement Center, Peer Navigator, and CRUISE Programs

Employee Updates

- The Peer Navigator Program is processing new hires for the 2022-2023 academic year. Names of each Peer Navigator will be presented once they are officially on-boarded.

Events & Activities

- Game Nights: Peer Navigators continued with community building by engaging their mentees through an in-person and online game night! Our online game night was held on Zoom on Tuesday, April 26 from 4:00p - 6:00p and our on-campus event was held throughout the day on Thursday, April 28 from 8:00a - 6:00p.

Policies & Procedures

- Peer Navigator training will take place in the month of June.
- In preparation for the upcoming Peer Navigator training, the PN handbook is in the process of being updated and revising to meet the demands of the program.

Student Success Stories

- Our team is currently receiving college acceptance letters! We are extremely excited for them, as many have received acceptances to multiple colleges. They have made the program and campus proud! We will provide a list of decisions with next month's report.

Special Recognition

- Many thanks and gratitude to Aurora San Pedro from Student Health Services. She has supported the Peer Navigator team tremendously this past year. Her visits during our weekly team meetings on Fridays have been essential to the well-being of the team, in promoting and normalizing mental health awareness and self-care. We are beyond thankful for Aurora's support!

Basic Needs

Employee Updates

- The Stand would like to welcome two new Basic Needs Ambassadors: Xandrix Gacusan and Marielle Salarda.

Events & Activities

- The Stand Continues to host the first Monday Mobile Market as a walk up event and the Third Thursday Farmers Market as a drive thru distribution.
- The Stand continues the Bolstering Confidence for a Safe Return workshop series. This months workshops were: How to Utilize The Stand, Cal-Works Info Session, and How to Stop Food Waste.
- The Stand continued seeing students through our direct student support program, We have served 119 students to date, providing them with books, supplies, foods, transportation and other resources to assist with basic needs.
- The Stand has continued to offer \$25 vouchers to 72 Fifty each week. To date have provided 238 individual students with vouchers for the spring 2022 semester.

Innovations & Data

- The Stand Basic Needs Resource Center partnered with Student Affairs and the Mesa Bookstore to establish a process for assisting students with funds to obtain their graduation regalia.
- The Stand Basic Needs Resource Center partnered with the Accounting Department and Business Services to help get students reimbursed for the out of pocket purchase of bus passes for the 21-22 academic year. Additionally we created a program for ongoing assistance with the purchase of bus passes.

CalWORKs

Events & Activities

- CalWORKs is working closely with SD County Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA) to have a representative to come to SD Mesa College Campus and provide support in-person (Face to Face). Topics includes, but not limited to Cash Aid, CalFresh, and Medical application, process, or issues. Workshop is open to the campus for prospective or new or current CalWORKs students. We will continue to provide our virtual information session that occurs every Mondays and Thursdays via zoom format from 11am-12pm. More information can be found on the Mesa CalWORKs website at <https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/calworks/index.shtml>
- Started to accept appointments for Summer 2022 Individual Training Plan (ITP), Book/Material Request forms and educational plans - Continuing to accepting CalWORKs applications and referrals - CalWORKs provides 1/week workshops through CalWORKs Canvas. This provides student with activity hours for those who need to provide any to their county case managers. - Outreach and recruitment through collaboration efforts with county contactors
- Public Consulting Group (PCG), ResCare, and Equus Workforce Solutions.
- Continue to provide via zoom format CalWORKs Drop-in Hours: Mondays & Thursdays (9am & 4pm) and Wednesdays (2pm) - Attended monthly CalWORKs Region X meeting. SD County Health Human Services Agency (HHSA), and SD county contractors Public Consulting Group (PCG), ResCare, and Equus Workforce Solutions. The goals are to continue strengthening pathways and support services for incoming and continuing CalWORKs students.
- Continued collaboration effort with EOPS/CARE program to provide support to prospective, new or continuing CalWORKs & EOPS/CARE students. Services include, but not limited to application and eligibility process, academic counseling, and recruitment efforts.

Policies & Procedures

- CalWORKs students can continue scheduling a CalWORKs appointments by emailing mesacalworks@sdccd.edu or by calling program phone at 619-388-2709 or by filling out a online google form on the CalWORKs website.

Career

Employee Updates

- Sadie Wager successfully put on her first ever virtual career fair with the use of our new online student job board platform, Handshake!
- Raquel and Kristy presented to Rising Scholars and CARE “Skills for Career Success” on April 12th from 12:30-1:30pm
- Raquel joined as a guest presenter for Spring 2022 Career Peer Workshop: Do What You Love - Assessments for Major & Career Planning on April 19th (1:30pm-2:30pm)

Events & Activities

- The Career Center hosted a Virtual Career Fair on April 27th! Over 150 students and 50 employers were in attendance!
- The CAP program hosted resume/cover letter zoom hotspots to help prepare students for the career fair!

Innovations & Data

- Handshake, our District-wide NEW student online job board is officially live! Students who attended SDCCD from Spring 2020-Present received an email on March 14, 2022, inviting them to activate their free student account. If you are working with a student who is experiencing issues accessing their Handshake activation email, or did not receive an email, please call our department at 619-388-2777 or email us at mesacareer@sdccd.edu, including your name and student ID #.

Policies & Procedures

- No more google voice! All Career Counseling and Career Ambassador appointments are being held via zoom. Students can schedule Career Counseling and/or Career Ambassador appointments by emailing our department email at mesacareer@sdccd.edu or by calling 619-388-2777.

Student Success Stories

- Students shared successfully finding employment after attending the career fair!

Counseling

Employee Updates

- Joining the General Counseling Faculty is Samantha Jimenez as a Project Assistant, former Mesa College graduate and currently in a masters program at SDSU.

Events & Activities

- Raquel and Kristy presented to Rising Scholars and CARE “Skills for Career Success” on April 12th from 12:30-1:30pm
- Raquel joined as a guest presenter for Spring 2022 Career Peer Workshop: Do What You Love - Assessments for Major & Career Planning on April 19th (1:30pm-2:30pm)
- Kristy will present to Hoover HS on CC/WBL Services on April 22nd on campus and in-person
- Raquel and Kristy developed a new Career Fair Student Toolkit: “Get Ready! Get Hired!”.
- Raquel and Kristy will be meeting with students at the Virtual Career Fair’s Resume Tent Events on April 25th and 26th.
- Raquel and Kristy will support students and employers the Virtual Career Fair on April 27th from 10am-1pm.
- Raquel and Kristy will present on Black Student Career Resources & Career Ready Guide for Black Student Success Week on April 28th (1-2pm).
- Career Center launched Career Services Canvas Shell (resource hub) for Mesa community access

Innovations & Data

- From April 1, 2022 to April 27 at 11:00 a.m. The Counseling Department has served the following: Drop-in's 1139 and Appointment 299 unduplicated counts.
- Counselor Guillermo Marrujo and Dr. Cynthia Rico have been in discussions with STEM and Humanities Chairs and Deans about possible fall 2022 scheduling opportunities that could work best for our students.

Special Recognition

- A shout out to Counseling Faculty Dr. Judy Sundayo and the team of supporters for a fantastic week "Festival of Colors" and all they do to support our students to be seen and heard. Another shout out to the Counseling faculty Team who are making RAZA Graduation possible for 50 students and their families: Lead Patricia Rodriguez Team Members: Amber Alatorre, Miriam Pacheco, Kristy Allred, Cesar Lopez, Jorge Villalobos
- A shout out to counseling faculty, Michael Temple, Raquel Sojourner, Terrence Hale, Kristy Carson, and Markus Berrien for the workshops April 15-28 honoring Black Student Success!

DSPS

Employee Updates

- DSPS welcomes Sandy Ricketts, Adjunct Counselor DSPS!

Events & Activities

- DSPS attended the campus community forums and the joint school meetings
- Counselors and Staff presented at the CCAP workshops
- DSPS Coordinator attending the state wide DSPS meeting and President Cabinet Retreat

Innovations & Data

- DSPS processed 81 new student applications and proctored 100 exams during the month of April
- DSPS will be introducing the Alternate Media module of the ClockWork system.

EOPS & Special Programs

Employee Updates

- Please join our EOPS Team in congratulating Amara Tang on her new positions at Cuyamaca College General Counseling and Miramar College Career Center. This is a bittersweet moment because it also means she is leaving our department. Amara—we are all so proud of you! You have been such an amazing colleague to so many of us and we thank you! Your Mesa EOPS family will miss you! Amara’s last day will be May 2, 2022. Congrats Amara!!

Events & Activities

- 4/12 | EOPS and Transfer Center collaborated to host an “Appeal Workshop for Denied Transfer Admission.” At this workshop, we shared resources and tips on how students could appeal their admission decisions.
- 4/13 | EOPS Counselor, Hadassah Nations hosted a “Choosing a Major: Holistic Career Investigation” Workshop. This workshop helped students to learn about the do's and don'ts of choosing a major, how to do career exploration, and how to choose a suitable major that's right for each individual student, and more.
- 4/20 | EOPS Counselor, J Kontos hosted a “Nursing 101” Workshop. This workshop prepared students on how to become a nurse, and focused on the 2-year ASN programs in San Diego along with San Diego State University's nursing program.
- 4/20 & 4/29 | EOPS hosted Summer 2022 Priority Registration Open Lab for students to drop-in and meet with an EOPS counselor to plan for Summer 2022 class registration.
- 4/25 | EOPS Counselor, Hadassah Nations hosted a “Coping with Stress in Times of Change” Workshop. In this workshop, students were able to identify the signs of stress, learn holistic methods of coping, and what to do when they’re feeling overwhelmed.
- 4/27 | EOPS Counselor, J Kontos hosted a “Learn about UC San Diego University Link Guarantee Program” Workshop. Students were able to learn about a unique transfer opportunity at UC San Diego for first time community college students (sign up during first year), former foster youth, and veteran students or active duty students.

Innovations & Data

- Fall 2022 EOPS Applications will be open and available on the EOPS website in July 2022.

Student Success Stories

- EOPS is so excited to recognize and celebrate over 160 EOPS graduates in the Class of 2022! Half of the students are graduating with honors.

Special Recognition

- Thank you to our Communications Team for supporting our team in planning for our Spring 2022 EOPS and Special Programs Achievement Ceremony for the Class of 2022 graduates!

Evaluations

Events & Activities

- The San Diego Mesa College 2022 Commencement Ceremony will be held on campus on May 27th, 2022 AT 4:00 P.M. Students/Faculty/Staff are encouraged to visit the Commencement webpage for updates on details surrounding Commencement Day: <https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/commencement/index.shtml>. Email and mail invitations are sent out in early April to eligible grads who have applied for graduation in summer 2021, fall 2021, spring 2022, and summer 2022.

Policies & Procedures

- Student Petitions: All student petitions and forms are electronic. However, most petitions require students to meet with a Counselor before submitting. Students can find the forms and submit them through our District's Form's and Document's site: <https://www.sdccd.edu/students/forms-and-documents.aspx>. For more information on the types of petitions, please visit the Evaluations Student Forms/Academic Petitions here: <https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/evaluations/forms-and-petitions.shtml>
- Graduation: Please encourage students to apply for graduation - applying for graduation is required for students earning a Degree and/or Certificate of Achievement. Below are the remaining 2021-2022 Apply for Graduation deadlines:
 - July 31, 2022 - Deadline to Apply for Graduation and be a Summer 2022 graduate. Students filing after this date will be Fall 2022 graduates.
- Students apply for their degree/certificate through their mysdccd portal under the "My Academics" tab. Students should follow deadlines above that align with their path. Please encourage students to meet with a Counselor and apply early. Students can watch this quick tutorial on applying for graduation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eI2S4GGSi7M>
- For any questions related to Evaluations, please contact us at mesaevaluations@sdccd.edu or 619-388-2680. No more google voice (for now).

Special Recognition

- Jennifer Park & Deborah Salazar for their dedication to our students and helping them through the student petition process, graduation, and commencement inquiries!

Financial Aid

Employee Update

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Events & Activities

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Innovations & Data

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Outreach & Community Relations

Events & Activities

Outreach

- April 6: Outreach hosted 9th, 10th and 11th graders from Madison High School to a Mesa college presentation followed by a campus tour. Students in attendance were interested in our Career Education programs. All 40 students were given a tour of our facilities and an introduction to our programs and campus.
- April 11: Outreach hosted a Pre-Enrollment workshop at Coronado High School. Outreach staff provided an overview of important programs and resources for incoming students followed by an application workshop. Over 30 students were provided assistance on completing the Admissions application. They all plan to attend Mesa in fall.
- April 12-21: Outreach in collaboration with Admissions has been hosting a series of CCAP workshops to assist students who will be dual-enrolling in Fall 2022. The schools that have been serviced and will continue to get serviced are Point Loma High School, Clairemont, Mission Bay, and Madison High School. The dynamic duo between Outreach and Admissions has serviced over 300 students and counting!!
- April 14: Outreach was invited to participate in the San Marcos High School College Fair. San Marcos specifically requested for our Career Education programs. Our student ambassadors took the lead on providing information regarding our programs to all students in attendance. Our student leaders shared this valuable information with over 1,000 students!!
- April 19: Outreach was given the opportunity to provide a Mesa overview to one of our community partners, ACCESS. Outreach staff provided information on why Mesa is the right fit for students to pursue their degree or gain skills and knowledge for a certain job skill or training.
- April 19: Outreach College hosted San Diego Center for Children. Outreach provided a Mesa college presentation followed by a campus tour. Students in attendance were interested in seeing what Mesa College has to offer. All 20 students were given a tour of our facilities and an introduction to our programs and newly renovated quad.
- April 20: Outreach hosted a Pre-Enrollment workshop at High Tech High Mesa. Outreach staff provided an overview of important programs and resources for incoming students followed by an application workshop. Over 20 Students were provided assistance and guidance on properly filling out the application to attend Mesa College in the fall.
- April 20: Outreach was invited to participate in the Coronado High School College Fair. Our student ambassadors took the lead on providing information regarding our programs to all students in attendance. Our student leaders shared this valuable information with over fifty students. Coronado High School has been very supportive for their students on their college options.
- April 21: Outreach was invited to participate in Pacific Coast Academy Virtual College Fair. Our student ambassadors took the lead on providing information regarding our programs to all students in attendance.
- April 22: Outreach was provided the opportunity to present and share some valuable information regarding our programs and services to Hoover High School in a fun and interactive

Kahoot. This visit was coordinated by MT2C's Program Coordinator, Mark Manasse - Thank you for this opportunity!

- April 23: The Linda Vista Multicultural Festival was back and in-person. After the festival took a two-year hiatus due to COVID, the coordinators brought the festival back with a bang! Outreach staff spoke to the community about our wonderful support programs and services and how we are here to assist them in their academic and college career. We were able to speak with over 2,000 community members.
- April 26: Mesa hosted a Pre-Enrollment workshop at University High School. Outreach staff provided an overview of important programs and resources for incoming students followed by an application workshop. Over 80 Students were provided assistance and guidance on properly filling out the application to attend Mesa College in the fall.

Promise

- We hosted 3 Promise information sessions during Jumpstart on April 9. The information sessions had a total of 80 participants and dozens of attendees visited our table during the Resource Fair.
- Promise students participated in a photo and video shoot on April 26. 50 total Promise students from Mesa, City, and Miramar attended to represent the program in new marketing materials.
- An additional 21 Promise students received a \$250 emergency grant and an additional student received a laptop courtesy of the Promise program.

Innovations & Data

Promise

- 106 students submitted DSPS Waivers or appeals for a reduced unit load to remain eligible for Spring 2022 of the Promise program while enrolled in less than 12 units.
- 416 Year 1 students submitted mid-semester progress reports online.

Policies & Procedure

- 102 Year 1 students and 68 Year 2 students were dismissed from the Promise program for being enrolled in at least 12 units without an appeal or DSPS Waiver on file. Students who were dismissed may appeal for re-admission until the end of the Spring semester.
- There is a new webpage for Incoming Promise Students that contains helpful links, details, and FAQs: <https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/promise/incoming-students.shtml>
- The priority deadline for Class of 2022 high school graduates entering Mesa College in Fall 2022 to apply for the Promise program is June 17, 2022.

Student Success Story

Outreach

- Outreach Ambassadors: Zain Almasarani and Phoebe Truong received a number of Scholarship awards this April. Amazing work Zain and Phoebe!

Promise

- Year 2 Promise student Jeson Cornu was named a 2022 Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) All-California Award Winner on the Second team.

Special Recognition

- Our Outreach Team of Ambassadors has started to receive acceptance letters. We are proud to share the following: Zain Almansari was accepted to University of California, Berkeley, University of New Mexico, and Cal Poly for Architecture. Kaileykielle Hoga was accepted to University of California, Santa Cruz. Keysy Mendez Lopez was accepted to the Veterinary Technology program at Mesa College. The team of OAs continue to eagerly await other admissions decisions!

Student Affairs

Events & Activities

Scholarship Results

The results are in for the 2022 Scholarship cycle: Mesa College, through the Mesa Foundation, has awarded 168 student recipients with 231 individual awards from 105 distinct scholarship opportunities. Note that a single student may receive up to three individual awards. The achievements of these student recipients will be celebrated at the Scholarship Awards Ceremony hosted on April 28 at Mesa College campus.

Scholarship Awards Ceremony

The Scholarship Awards Ceremony was hosted on April 28 in the Gym at Mesa College campus, a big change from previous years where the event was held at a local venue, or presented online during the first few years of the pandemic. Scholarship donors as well as Mesa College faculty, staff, and administrators will be present to celebrate the achievements of this year's scholarship winners, with light refreshments provided by the Mesa Culinary department.

Associated Students Elections

The Associated Students has collected applications for new elected student officials and will be holding their annual general elections starting the first week of May. Eighteen students submitted applications, making it a more competitive election period than we typically see at Mesa. We look forward to working with this group of interested student leaders as we transition into the fall semester.

Jumpstart

Mesa College returned to an on-campus event presentation for Jumpstart this year. As before, a variety of workshops were held after the introduction in the Gym, and these encountered somewhat mixed results; once again the Promise Program workshop was quite well-attended, with a total of about 70 students across all three sessions, while several workshops received no guests at all. Most workshops were somewhere in the middle, with the average total being 17.9 students per workshop. Overall, we estimate that 215 students attended the various workshops, with the Promise workshop accounting for the largest group. This year's Jumpstart also featured the return of the Departmental Info Fair, which included 30 separate departments and services areas from all corners of the campus. Our biggest takeaway from this year's Jumpstart from a planning perspective was to implement a better way for the guests to transition from the introduction in the Gym to the departmental info fair, campus tours, or workshops in other parts of Mesa College, which should improve general attendance at workshops while also streamlining our program of activities for the future.

Special Recognition

- Thank you to the Outreach Team including Karla Trutna, Vann Chhum, Donnaly Atajar plus Jacqueline Collins from Admin Services for their excellence during our JumpStart Your Success Event! We had an exceptional turnout and the student feedback was so positive due to the team's energy, care and dedication to support students we had an outstanding program!

Student Development

Employee Updates

- The School of Student Development is in the process of filling an Acting Student Services Supervisor I for Veterans and Records, and Veterans Success Center. The deadline to submit a letter of interest and resume is Friday, May 6th.

Special Recognition

- Many thanks to the Veterans Services Team for working together to collaborate and take care of all the services, activities, and celebrations given the current vacancies. Kudos to Ivonne Alvarez, Jordan Agricola, Laura Arellano, Adrian Tanjuaquio, Ha Dinh, and Gail Fedalizo.
- Thanks to Jordan Agricola for coordinating the first two sessions on Chow in the VSC. The sessions were a success, and the team plans to continue implementing this in the fall.

Student Health Services

Events & Activities

- Student Health Services Director Suzanne Khambata, FNP and her student Sara Cadorette, RN, CCRN, Doctor of Nurse Practitioner candidate at USD, facilitated a virtual COVID Education Seminar: Stories from the Frontline. Sarah bravely shared firsthand stories of her own experiences working in the Intensive Care Unit during the pandemic. Sarah's stories emphasized the tremendous impact that COVID has on patients, families, Nurses and our community. Suzanne provided COVID updates for San Diego county and California about the new COVID variants, data on unvaccinated vs. vaccinated deaths, and trusted websites to view current information about COVID-19.
- Aurora San Pedro continues to support the AVANZA Center Peer Navigator team by providing Mental Health support. This month's discussion focused on coping with change of taking classes and working in person, reflection on growth, and time management for preparedness during finals week. Creative connections and team building are additional goals of these virtual discussions with Peer Navigators.
- Laura Milligan, FNP presented at professor Kelsey Graham's health and exercise science class on avoiding pregnancy using abstinence; birth control options by using condoms, the Pill, NuvaRing/Annovera, Nexplanon/Implanon, Hormonal IUD (Mirena, Skyla, Kyleena, Lilette, Paraguard), Dpo-provera "the Shot"; and the less commonly used birth control method of sterilization/vasectomy, as well as Plan B and Emergency contraception. Laura also provided information on how to do a self-breast exam and breast cancer screenings. She also provided information about alternative sexual practices to the students.
- A collaboration between Student Health Services and Professor Veronica Gerace with her Health Communication Studies 135 class on a Mental Health stigma reduction event, called "Getting Real Inside and Out". Class 135 provided over a dozen poster art presentations on how the pandemic is affecting students physically and mentally. This event is sponsored by the Mental Health Support Fund.
- Suzanne Khambata FNP attended the County of San Diego Tuberculosis Elimination Initiative School/Colleges/University meeting. Suzanne is the Co-Chair of this committee that aims at Zero TB cases on campus. Highlights included a report by Suzanne on a Peer Educator position to assist in Tuberculosis Education at Mesa. Sarah Cadorette RN, Doctoral FNP Student at the University of San Diego is creating a Peer Education program for TB Elimination in conjunction with the County of San Diego Health and Human Services.

Innovations & Data

- Student Health is continuing to learn and update the electronic health records. With data collected through Mediat, Student Health served 122 students through telehealth mental health services. Medical services were available to all students for in-person and tele health appointments. With total 341 services to students, including in-person appointments, tele health appointments and front office services.

Policies & Procedures

- Linda Gibbins-Croft, LCSW attended Transition Age Youth (TAY) Behavioral Health Services Council meeting provided by the County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency about Adult Mental Health.

Student Success & Equity

Events & Activities

Mesa Transformation Team

- Facilitators Ricardo Vidal, Deanna Cherry, and San Diego State University graduate student and Mesa alum Jordan Nash, have begun a process to reengage Black students by creating spaces designed to center their voices. In late April, forty-two Black students met on Zoom to share their experiences with anti-Blackness at Mesa, and explore recommendations for how the college can create greater connection and accountability for growth. The students' feedback will guide the work of a 30 member Mesa Transformation Team, whose mission will be to go deep and learn how to facilitate the difficult dialogues that have been delayed too long. We see in this new opportunities for all of us to grow, in spaces where we can practice with each other and not be afraid to speak our truth. The campus community is invited to embark on this journey with us, to display the humility and passion we all need to do the important work of ending anti-blackness at Mesa.

Innovations & Data

- More than 60 plus students were identified to participate in a series of Black Student Focus Groups, these students were reached through direct email outreach. This is promising outreach and demonstrates that when messages are clearly stated and intentional, students can and will respond.

Special Recognition

- Congratulations to Jordan Nash for excellent work in the development and implementation of the Black Students focus groups. Great job, Jordan!!

Transfer

Events & Activities

- The Transfer Center continues to offer daily Transfer Talks and University Rep appointments. UCLA STOMP was hosted on April 8th.
- Appeals workshop with EOPS
- Getting ready for the Transfer Recognition Spotlight Video

Innovations & Data

Transfer Center Data	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Counselor Drop-In Appointments: 86• Counselor Additional Contact: 455• Transfer Center Drop-ins: 92• Chat Bot Conversations: 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transfer Talks: 16• Transfer Talks Participants: 40• EOPS Appeal Workshop Participants: 12

Policies & Procedures

- We encourage students to log into the Transfer Talks for quick questions. We are here to answer all things transfer and can schedule appointments if needed. Appointments and drop in are still conducted on Zoom.

Student Success Stories

- We found out 981 students were accepted to SDSU for the Fall of 2022! Congratulations Mesa students!!!

Veterans

Employee Updates

- We said goodbye to Vicki Hernandez this month and wish her the best in her new position. An acting opportunity has opened for her position.

Vice President Student Services

Employee Updates

- The M&M Committee and Student Services Leadership Team are so excited to announce our New M&M Team Leads, Zulma Heraldez and Pahua Vang!

Events & Activities

- Our April 2022 Mesa Student Services Council Meeting focused on our Remote Work Policy and Pride Center and Student Outreach presentations.
- M&M recognizes the importance of students having access to basic needs, and the role our community plays in supporting our students' success and wellbeing. During the week of April 25th-29th, M&M hosted an event, "It's Spring Cleaning Time!" to support The Stand Basic Needs Resource Center. All Student Services employees were encouraged to donate at least one item to The Stand. The Stand is accepting ongoing contributions of clean professional clothing items, gently used shoes, shelf-stable food within best by date, and unopened toiletries/personal hygiene products.
- VP Hands presented at the following events
 - California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance:
 - New Faculty Institute: All About Student Services and Equity
 - Cultural Unity Week: The Parker Edison Project Podcast
 - Campus Community Forum
 - President's Breakfast
 - Black Student Success Week: No Leaks: Securing the Pipeline for Black Student Success
 - Raza Grad: Welcome
- VP Hands attended/participated in the following activities/events
 - President's Cabinet Retreat
 - 2022 Jumpstart
 - Cultural Unity Week
 - Entrepreneurship Speaker Series
 - Black Student Success Week
 - Scholarship Awards Recognition Ceremony
 - Getting Real Inside and Out: Mental Health Stigma Reduction Poster Presentation
- VP Hands attended the following webinars/professional learning opportunities
 - 2nd Annual Black Research Symposium
 - 2022 System Webinars: Chancellor's Office

Innovations & Data

- In collaboration with the District, Student Services launched a \$200,000 Transportation Grant Campaign for students. 1,000 Mesa College students will receive \$200 grants.
- The Mesa Pride Center, CARE Program, Veterans department personnel received training on our Constant Contact Emailing platform which includes tools to track emails, resend those that haven't been opened, and design templates. If your department is interested in learning this free tool, contact Charlie Lieu @ clieu@sdccd.edu

- Launched [2022 Rite of Passage](#) registration form
- Updated [The Stand web page](#), adding easy to navigate buttons and reorganized resources
- Addition of the [Mesa Student Support](#) link on all Mesa Canvas shells. Big thank you to Katie Palacios and District IT for helping to add this resource link for ease of access for our students.



- Live Chat stats – April 2022:
 - 1583 Automated Responses provided by Olympia Virtual Chat
 - 162 Students assisted by Mesa Live Agents
 - Mesa Journeys Newsletter April issues
 - [April Issue #1](#)
 - [April Issue #2](#)
- Want to include your announcements in the Mesa Journeys Newsletter? Please send it to: mesajourneys@gmail.com

	Category	Arrived	Removed	Left	No-Show
QLess Data	1-Apr-22	0	0	0	0
	4-Apr-22	494	3	9	9
	11-Apr-22	540	1	8	3
	18-Apr-22	458	0	9	11
	25-Apr-22	101	0	8	6
		1593	4	34	29

Policies & Procedures

- District Student Services Council supported the approval of a series of policies aligning SDCCD policy numbers with statewide polices (ex. Policy 3100 will now become Board Policy 5500).
- We finalized the Student Services Remote Work Policy process for the remainder of the semester (see below) and have encouraged departments to think of departmental approaches to honoring this new policy.
 - Mesa College has determined that we will only approve ad hoc requests through June 30, 2022. Ad hoc is described as ideal for employees whose job duties require them to work in-person and may occasionally work on projects or assignments which may be completed remotely.
 - Student Services will approve up to one ad hoc workday per week.
 - Considerations for approval/denial may include impact on ability to serve our students with equity and excellence, staffing needs, peak times, and personnel matters, for example.
 - If or when approved, supervisors/managers will determine internal processes for remote work schedule options.
- We determined that we will provide HEERF grants in the Summer.