



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 ♦ CalWORKs Career ♦ Counseling ♦ DSPS ♦ EOPS ♦ 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

- This month Admissions celebrated 3-anniversary milestones for our staff: LaKeita Platts celebrated 15 years at SDCCD; Trung Huyhn celebrated 5 years at SDCCD; and Dulce Arroyo celebrated 5 years at SDCCD
- Congratulations to Amy Bettinger on her 5 Year Classified Service Award!!
- Lisa Naungayan, congratulations!!! Happy 35th anniversary!
- Deborah Salazar from Evaluations was given her 15 years of service award!
- Guadalupe Bueno celebrated her 15th anniversary as a classified employee, while Julissa Samano celebrated her 20th anniversary as a classified employee.
- Congratulations to Student Success and Equity project assistants Van Pham, Mustaf Sufi Adde and Michael Sanders who all graduated from SDSU!

Events & Activities

- The Assessment office reached out to all high school students who attended Jumpstart to make sure that they had the appropriate assessment and counseling information for their next steps.
- Alicia Lopez presented information about Career Services, Internships, and Work-Based Learning during the International Student Employment Workshop.
- The Raza Grad Committee, comprising Amber Alatorre, Patty Rodriguez, Ramiro Hernandez, Miriam Pacheco and Raul Rodriguez, had another successful event for our LatinX students.

- CalWORKs hosted ongoing weekly "Zoom Cash Aid" Drop-In Sessions, every (Mon. & Thur.) from 11am-12pm. The SDCCD CalWORKs Programs (City, Miramar, Continue Ed., & Mesa) and the San Diego County Health Human Services Agency (HHSA), have been providing assistance to student in applying for Cash Aid, CalFresh, and medical assistance.
- DSPS and MTC2 hosted a meet and greet for the two departments. It was well attended and provided an opportunity to collaborate and provide resources for our joint students.
- Best practices were introduced for working with students who experienced foster care in college classrooms and on-campus by a professional who experienced foster care, Christian Green.
- The Borderless Scholars Team met with the RISE Club president to plan activities that can benefit engagement for the Club. (RISE stands for Rising Immigrant Scholars through Education. The RISE Club is student lead and supports undocumented, AB 540, Dreamer, DACA, Non-DACA, students from mixed-status families, faculty/staff, and allies as well as the community at large.)
- The Mesa College 2021 Virtual Commencement Ceremony was held on Friday, May 28, 2021. The campus can view the Virtual Commencement Ceremony on the Commencement website [here](#).
- In addition, students graduating are invited to participate in the Car-mencement drive-thru grad parade on June 4th - students can register [here](#).
- Faculty/Staff interested in volunteering can register [here](#).
- The deans of Student Development and Exercise Health Education, Dance, and Athletics presented during the President's Cabinet Retreat on OPP, the Olympian Pathways Prototype, an example of Student Success Teams.
- Student Health Services created a series of Listening Circles, *Mesa Cares*, for students who are connected to Palestine and affected by the ongoing global events.
- Veterans held a Virtual Veterans Recognition Ceremony on May 21st which included graduating student veterans and their family and friends.
- Charlie Lieu and Charles Shimazaki provided Constant Contact training to following departments: Outreach/Assessment, The Stand/Basic Needs, EOPS, and CRUISE.

Innovations & Data

- In collaboration with Second Year Promise and ADVOC8, the Peer Navigator program is piloting a second-year program to better support students' transition. Students who opt in will receive one-on-one mentorship, drop-in hours or reserve to just get emails. Peer Navigators will serve as liaisons to support second-year CRUISErs. The program is also collaborating with Kapwa, Umoja and the Puente program to provide PN support to special pop programs.
- Outreach ambassadors completed over 1,300 phone calls to invite students to pick up a Passion Planner and also check in regarding any questions Promise students had about the program or Mesa College.
- The Mesa Journeys database and Constant Contact system are connected. After a student completes the Mesa Journeys assessment and opts-in to receive information on the programs/services that were recommended to them, their email will automatically be imported into Constant Contact!
- Check out the new webpage for [Kapwa](#), a learning community taught through an Asian Pacific Islander (API) lens.

Call to Action Updates

- Admissions continued to reach out to new Black students from Spring 2021 to ensure they knew deadlines, registration times, and class schedule information for Summer 2021.
- Peer Navigators shared on-campus resources with their African American / Black CRUISErs. All efforts were captured and saved on a comprehensive list for future teams to refer and use.
- Due to historic and structural racism and other forms of systemic barriers for Black students including lower graduation numbers, the Evaluations department at San Diego Mesa College continues to address racial inequity by hosting our Apply for Graduation Parties this spring semester. The Evaluations Team will continue this work through summer and hold graduation parties and assist with Counseling zoom sessions to support students with certificate/degree completion. More details on these events to come!
- Pilar Ezeta and Financial Aid continue to successfully hold Zoom meetings with our African American / Black students. The sessions have become very popular and the spots fill quickly.
- The Promise program is collaborating with the BFCC to host two workshops for incoming and current Black/African American Promise students. These workshops will focus on transitioning to college and course planning.
- A special three-part series tailored to Mesa athletes and facilitated by the Urban Restoration Counseling Center was held, titled, "Handling Reality While Playing Your Best Game." In part, the series centered on aligning mental health with physical health and maintaining balance.

Policies & Procedures

- EOPS is currently accepting Fall 2021 applications for EOPS, CARE, NextUp, FAST Scholars, Borderless Scholars, Project Restart, and STAR TRIO! Visit www.sdmesa.edu/EOPS to learn about programs' requirements and to apply.

Student Success Stories

- Over 190 EOPS students graduated with an associate degree or certificate, and/or are transferring to a university.
- Student Pablo H. shared the following words with the EOPS team: "When arriving at Mesa College in 2017, I didn't have the resources that I needed to do well in school without having to worry about parking permits, buying my own books, meal plans, counseling, and college applications. I thank God for allowing me to find EOPS and Borderless Scholars Programs where they took me in as their own."
- 38 STAR TRIO students will be graduating with an AA/AS degree and transferring to a 4-year university.
- One of EOPS' FAST Scholars won the prestigious UC San Diego Chancellor's Associate Scholarship and will attend UC San Diego in the Fall of 2021! Only three students are allowed to be nominated from each school. This is truly a wonderful honor and distinction!

Admissions

Employee Updates

- This month we celebrated 3-anniversary milestones for our staff: LaKeita Platts celebrated 15 years at SDCCD; Trung Huyhn celebrated 5 years at SDCCD; and Dulce Arroyo celebrated 5 years at SDCCD

Events & Activities

- Career Development on Campus:
 - Classified Professionals
 - Sweets with Prez San Diego Mesa College
 - Campus Community Forum Classified Service Award
 - Reflect and Connect with Dr. Judy Sundayo Recital Hour

We would have loved to attend more events...but registration for Summer 2021 began on Monday, May 3 and we have been working diligently on supporting our students on their enrollment.

Innovations & Data

- Our CCAP Team, Cesar Gaxiola and Celine Ahearn placed 1,046 DocuSign service indicators for our HS students as we prepare for Fall 2021 enrollment.
- In total, we had 2,541 recorded student interactions for May.
 - These included:
 - Allied Health- May- 493 emails
 - Admissions General Emails: 974
 - Jira- 196 tickets
 - Residency- 257
- We were also busy on our two phone systems, by answering 983 calls on our Admissions phone tree at 619-388-2682 and over 500 on our Google Voice line 619-327-9194 (where students can and do leave voicemails and text).
- We also supported Retail Management in the enrollment of their 27 summer students and 10 PACE students.
- Elizabeth Jones and Rena Alspaw enrolled 86 dual enrollment high school students and Jose Aranda enrolled 14 MET students as part of our MOU.

Call to Action Update

- We continued to reach out to our new Black students from Spring 2021 to ensure they knew deadlines, registration times, and class schedule information for Summer 2021.
- We continue to have great discussions in regards to the importance of becoming anti-racist especially as we look at moving from the Fear zone, to the Learning Zone and into the Growth Zone.

- We also looked at an opportunity to work on our removing barriers to our Black students in regards to the Drop for Non Payment.

Policies & Procedures

- A couple of procedures and updates to MySDCCD kept us busy this month. We were first to let the district know that pre-requisites were not being registered in the system preventing students from enrolling. We helped manually enroll many of our Group 1 and Group 2 students. We also worked with District on enrolling students from the waitlist.
- We continue to work with the District office on our Drop for Non Payment process by giving input of what data is needing on the query of students who will be impacted. After experiencing the first drop in MySDCCD, we have also provided more information on how to improve the process for the next drop coming in June.

Student Success Stories

- 113 Veterans were impacted by the Drop for Non-Payment, and thankfully, we were able to enroll all of them back into their courses!!

Special Recognition

- A BIG THANK YOU to the entire Admissions Team for their flexibility and ability to pivot as MySDCCD encountered BIG issues that impacted our students and their summer enrollment. We specially acknowledge: Dulce, Karina and Celine for volunteering parts of their weekend to support our students.

Assessment

Events & Activities

- May 2021 Assessment Office Projects:
 - Challenge exam requests increased this month once summer registration opened.
 - Jumpstart Follow-Up - The Assessment office reached out to all high school students who attended Jumpstart to make sure that they had the appropriate assessment and counseling information for their next steps.
 - Assessment continues to assist the Outreach Department with follow-up to all new students to make sure that their assessment levels and orientation steps are completed.

Innovations & Data

- Unduplicated Student Count – 316
- Orientation - 34
- Email - 81
- E-CHAT - 23
- Placement Assistant – 79

Call to Action Update

- Assessment attended the KAPWA Scholarship Summit where this year's theme, "Uplifting Voices of the Next Generation" focused on the APIA community's goal of striving for equity and justice.

Special Recognition

- Congratulations to Amy Bettinger on her 5 Year Classified Service Award!!

AVANZA Student Engagement Center, Peer Navigator, and CRUISE Programs

Employee Updates

- 2020-21 Team: Peer Navigators successfully crossed the finish line! We are proud of their accomplishments and happy to share their transfer plans below.
- 2021-2022 Team: Thirteen new Peer Navigators will begin their journey starting June 7th! The following students have accepted their invitation to join the team: Alondra Alvarez, Amanda Silva-Alvarez, Andrea Garcia, Andrew Arevalo, Dominic Jauregui, Erin Doherty, Jay Banda, Joey Cruse, Kim Rodrigues, Narae Kim, Priti Khan, Thea Lernhardt, Thomas Nguyen

Events & Activities

- May 14 - Peer Navigator Closeout: Peer Navigators invited their mentees to attend their final meeting. PNs thanked their CRUISErs, reflected on the wild year and encouraged them to consider the second-year PN pilot.

Innovations & Data

- In collaboration with Second Year Promise and ADVOC8, the Peer Navigator program is piloting a second-year program to better support students' transition. Students who opt in will receive one-on-one mentorship, drop in hours or reserve to just get emails. Peer Navigators will serve as liaisons to support second-year CRUISErs. The program is also collaborating with Kapwa, Umoja and the Puente program to provide PN support to special pop programs.

Call to Action Update

- Peer Navigators shared on-campus resources with their African-American/Black CRUISErs. All efforts captured and saved on a comprehensive list for future teams to refer and use.

Student Success Stories

- The following Peer Navigators are transferring! UCSD: Gloria Gonzalez (Lead PN); and Mariel Micael; UC Berkeley: Noah Rojas-Domke; SDSU: Chris Fisher, Guadalupe Mendez, Jocelyn Mendez, Truc (June) Nguyen, Koffi Adjalle, Nick Howell, Vianey Gomez

Special Recognition

- Alexi Balaguer has supported our team and program every step of the way. Her attention to detail created new and multiple ways for us to better support students. In addition to her initiative, Alexi's humor and easy-to-approach nature created a very enjoyable (online) environment. We couldn't have done it without her!

CalWORKs

Events & Activities

- Ongoing weekly "Zoom Cash Aid" Drop-In Session, every (Mon. & Thur.) from 11am-12pm. The SDCCD CalWORKs Programs (City, Miramar, Continue Ed., & Mesa) and the San Diego County Health Human Services Agency (HHS), have been providing assistance to student in applying for Cash Aid, CalFresh, and Medical.
- Continue CalWORKs Drop-in session for new and continuing students every Fridays from 9am-12pm.
- Continue attending CalWORKs Region X monthly meetings that included SD County Health Human Services Agency (HHS), and SD county contractors (Public Consulting Group (PCG), ResCare, and Equus Workforce Solutions. With the goal being to continue strengthening pathways and support services for incoming and continuing CalWORKs students.
- Continued sending out CalWORKs newsletters to all current CalWORKs students about campus monthly events and State CalWORKs program updates through CalWORKs Canvas
- Continue to accept new students into the program
- Starting to accept new student and make Individual Training Plan (ITP) appointment for the Summer session

Innovations & Data

- Currently have 20 active CalWORKs students.

Call to Action Update

- Continue working with the Black Faculty Counselors Collective to promote workshops for Black/African American students.
- Continue to post Black Lives Matter Resources & Workshops in CalWORKs Newsletter & CalWORKs Canvas Announcements.
- Continue to promote Sawubona Canvas shell in the CalWORKs Newsletter & CalWORKs Canvas Announcement.

Policies & Procedures

- Continue collaboration efforts with SDCCD CalWORKs programs to discuss changes to CalWORKs WTW Student Reform of 2021 (SB 1232).
- Continue implementation of the new CalWORKs WTW Student Reform of 2021 (SB 1232).
- SB 1232: The San Diego County CalWORKs program has a set study time hours that will be supported on the students CalWORKs Individual Training Plan (ITP). Other new (SB 1232) changes, the San Diego County CalWORKs department will be able to disseminate full-time and part-time CalWORKs student's set Book grants 10 days before classes begin. If cost of book exceeds the allowed set amount, student will be able to request additional funds.

Student Success Stories

- One student is graduating with a Certificate of Performance in RE.

Career

Events & Activities

- On May 14th, the Alicia Lopez presented information about Career Services, Internships, and Work-Based Learning during the International Student Employment Workshop. Thank you, Adrienne Dines, for inviting us to this event. It's always a pleasure to meet with your students.

Career Peer Program

- On May 14th, Career Peer Ambassadors, Helen Ma and Lara nNapasa, attended the APIA Kapwa Scholars Virtual Summit on May 14th from 10am-2:30pm. The theme is Uplifting the Voices of the Next Generation. APIA stands for Asian Pacific Islander American.
- May 19, 2021, Career Peer Ambassador, Sadie Wager, attended the Pathways Fellows Student Leadership Summit. This meeting is for the student leaders at Mesa College to share their ideas and experiences. This student-led event is the first of its.
- The Career Peer Ambassadors, Helen Ma and Malik Shabazz, completed a series of career presentations in collaboration with Jorge S. Hernandez, UCSD TRIO Outreach Programs Coordinator, this semester. UCSD TRIO Outreach Programs invited us to meet with their students. They are providing programming to get their students ready for summer jobs and internships, scholarships, and more. The CAP team decided on offering a series of three career readiness workshops to high school students in the UCSD TRIO program who are starting Mesa College in the Fall.
- Career peers provided the following workshops to high school students:
 - 4/26/2021 "So You Wanna Build a Resume and Cover Letter?" Part 1
 - 5/3/2021 "Do You Have an Interview Coming Up?"
 - 5/17/2021 "So You Wanna Build a Resume? The Sequel!"
- Thank you to the Career Peer Ambassadors who facilitated a variety of CAP Hiring Information Sessions to students interested in the Career Peer Ambassador position this month.

Innovations & Data

New Employer Contacts Mesa Job Network

- A total of 7 new employer contacts were made during this month through our online job board, "Mesa Job Network."
 - 1. 1st Meridian Care Services 2. Allstate Insurance 3. ARE Animal Rescue 4. Batch & Box Signature Cookies 5. Best Western Island Palms 6. Clairemont Lutheran Church 7. Dog Days Ranch

Job Postings on Mesa Job Network

- A total of 40 jobs were posted by employers on the online job board to hire Mesa students and alumni. Students can create an account on <https://www.collegecentral.com/sdmesa/>
- To learn more about the online job board and other career resources for students, visit the "Career Connect Newsletter." Newsletters are located on the Career website in the reports webpage. Remote Career Center Data

Remote Career Center Data

- Student Career Contacts reported on SARS: Total of 66 (point of contacts)
- Remote Career Counseling Appointments: Total of 41
- Live Chatbot Conversations with Students: 21

Career Peer Program

- The Career Peer Ambassadors -
 - Completed 11 online student sessions: 10 resume sessions & 1 cover letter session
 - Collected 5 post assessment surveys.
 - Comments received from student participants:
 - Lara- She was very efficient and helpful, what she taught me will help me for a long time as I add onto my resume and submit it to places of work.

Call to Action Update

- As part of our Call to Action, we have been more intentional in our outreach effort to traditionally marginalized students (i.e. African American/Black, Latinx and DSPS students).
- As of May 20th, we have conducted 5 Meet and Greet/Career Presentations to: -
 - Raul Rodriguez's PERG 120 course for Puente students, 27 students
 - Candace Katungi's Blas 100 and 140A courses, 28 students for each course, total = 56 students
 - DSPS Department, 15 Faculty and Staff
 - Michael Temple's Perg 140 course/an event during Black Student Success Week, total = 9 people Total = 107
- On June 10th, we plan to run a MBTI Activity for the Peer Navigators. We have conducted other Career Services presentations and workshops for a few other Mesa instructors and offered workshops during Career Fest week but these presentations mentioned above relate to our Call to Action Plan.
- Career Peer Ambassadors Student Services Call to Action Update:
 - Our Career Peer Ambassadors created and facilitated 6 career-related workshop presentations "Spring 2021 Career Peer Workshop Series" from February 16th - March 23rd aimed to help students learn about job search strategies, interview preparation and networking in a virtual environment, essential personal branding tools, and career readiness skills and resources. We successfully reached a total of 119 participants.
 - Although our student turnout was amazing, we had only 7 of 119 of participants self-report they identified as African American/Black.
 - In addition:
 - 9 of 119 participants self-report they identified as Asian/Pacific Islander.
 - 11 of 119 participants self-report they identified as Hispanic/Latinx.
 - 8 of 119 participants self-report they identified as White/Caucasian.
 - We hope to have reached more African American/Black students since we created and shared a newsletter with hyperlinks for students to access the

workshop presentations and session recordings through our Career Center website. We also emailed our internal student lists who opted in to receive information from the Career Center.

Student Success Stories

- We have many success stories of students transferring. This is the season of smiles for the TCE!

Special Recognition

- THANK YOU to Helen Ma, Sadie Wager, and Malik Shabazz for presenting the Career Before Ed Plan subgroup projects progress regarding the Career Canvas Shell, Career Presentation Trainings, and Resume Video project to the Onboarding and Career Before Ed Plan Workgroup of Mesa Pathways this month in May. You are doing a fabulous job on these projects that you have worked on since Fall of 2020.

Counseling

Events & Activities

- The Raza Grad Committee, comprised of Amber Alatorre, Patty Rodriguez, Ramiro Hernandez, Miriam Pacheco and Raul Rodriguez, had another successful event for our LatinX students. Congratulations!
- Through the leadership of Professor Anthony Reuss, Academic Senates have been mobilized to help with our extended evaluation process.

Innovations & Data

- Drop-In students: 1428
- Student Appointments: 323
- Total: 1696

Call to Action Update

- Published the 2nd edition of the 'Counseling Connection' newsletter

Student Success Stories

- Many students have been helped!

Special Recognition

- Jennifer Phelps and Vang Thao for their excellent work with the Counseling Equity Committee

DSPS

Events & Activities

- DSPS and MTC2 hosted a meet and greet for the two departments. It was well attended and provided an opportunity to collaborate and provide resources for our joint students.
- DSPS and the Allied Health Program Directors met to review data and share information about how we can support students with disabilities who are enrolled in the Allied Health programs.
- Erika Higginbotham (DSPS Coordinator) and Isaac Arguelles (DSPS Counselor) attended the President Cabinet retreat on May 4th and the DSPS Advisory meeting on May 11th.
- DSPS Counselor, Joe Pritchett, assisted General Counseling with their pre-registration workshops.

Innovations & Data

- During the month of May, DSPS proctored 13 exams for Instructors; processed 40 new student applications and 33 online appointment requests.

Call to Action Update

- DSPS was able to share our Call to Action at our May 11th Advisory meeting and hosted a zoom "break out" room with various campus and community partners; including students to engage in conversations around our Call to Action.

Policies & Procedures

- DSPS is in the first phase of implementing Clockwork-a fully online office management system. We would like to thank Classified Professionals Manny Jacobo, Erick Escalante and Peter Markall for all their work in preparing over 2000 physical files to be scanned.

Special Recognition

- DSPS would like to recognize all of the DSPS students who are graduating this spring and wish them well on all future endeavors.

EOPS

Employee Updates

- Lisa Naungayan, congratulations!!! Happy 35th anniversary! Your EOPS Family loves YOU and appreciates everything you do. Thank you!
- Ivonne Meza's last day with Mesa EOPS is on Thursday, June 17th. We are excited to share that she will be serving as the new Program Analyst for EOPS/NextUp at Miramar College! Ivonne, congratulations on your new position! Thank you for always going over, above and beyond for our students, programs, team, college, and community! We will miss YOU dearly.

Events & Activities

EOPS

- 5/3/21 | Summer 2021 Priority Registration Open Lab - EOPS students were able to drop-in to meet with an EOPS counselor for assistance with registering for Summer 2021 classes.
- 5/4 & 5/11 | The Holistic Student Series: Make It YOU - During this workshop, students learned the significance behind adding a personal touch to achievement items, and began decorating their graduation caps!
- 5/10/21 | EOPS & Special Programs Distribution Event for Student Graduates - Our EOPS team mailed a total of over 34 achievement items to our student graduates, including an EOPS cap & gown, sash, certificate, and other giveaways!
- 5/14/21 | EOPS and Special Programs Virtual Achievement Ceremony: "Your Future is Bright, Light Up Your Path" - We hosted our first virtual achievement ceremony dedicated to acknowledging and celebrating our Class of 2021 graduates! The program included a keynote speaker, student speakers, recognition of student graduates presentation, and more! We had over 50 participants join us on Zoom!

CARE

- "Coffee with Karen" CARE Check-in
- CARE Circle Network meetings (statewide)
- CARE students who attended second contact received grant
- All students attending second appointment received a gas card
- Collaboration with CalWORKs for recruitment purposes

NextUP & FAST Scholars

- Every Monday | Q & A: Learn About Logistics of NextUp. Presented by Program Technician Melissa Zavala. We are currently hosting open office hours for the FAST & NextUp programs at San Diego Mesa College designed to support the educational goals and well-being of current and former foster youth. This will be a space and open forum for foster youth allies, community members and anybody who is interested in learning more about the program logistics, resources or engage with staff.

- 5/12/21 | Poetry as an outlet. Presented by Dr. Stokes. Poetry workshop for NextUp & FAST Scholars, this time led by Scholar and Activist, Sy Stokes. This poetry workshop will show students how poetry can be used as a storytelling method and help students take charge of their own narrative.
- 5/17/21 | Professional Development: Presented by Christian Green. Best Practices were introduced for working with students who experienced foster care in college classrooms and on-campus. Presented by a professional who experienced foster care, Christian Green.

Borderless Scholars

- Ongoing | A weekly event held every Monday and Friday of Spring 2021. Undocu-Circles is a space for the undocumented community & allies to come together and share conversations around topics pertaining to current events, legislation updates, resources, feelings, and much more. Everyone is welcome!
- 5/6/21 | Monthly Mesa College Dreamer Students Work Group Meeting. Everyone is welcome! The purpose of this workgroup is to link efforts that are happening across campus and collectively develop and strengthen support services for current and prospective Mesa Dreamer students. If you would like to become part of the Mesa College Dreamer Students Work Group please contact EOPS and Special Programs Director, Leticia Diaz at ldiaz@sdccd.edu.
- 05/4/21 | Borderless Scholars continued to engage in collaboration with JFS/ HELS to promote FREE Immigration Legal Services to our Borderless Scholars Students. To learn more about this service, please contact the EOPS Office to speak to one of our Borderless Scholars Team members: www.jfssd.org/HELs.
- 05/28/21 | Borderless Scholars Team met with the RISE Club president to plan on activities that can benefit engagement for the Club. RISE stands for Rising Immigrant Scholars through Education. The RISE Club is student lead and supports undocumented, AB 540, Dreamer, DACA, Non-DACA, students from mixed-status families, faculty/staff, and allies as well as the community at large. Any interested student in becoming part of this amazing club, either as a member or as an officer please contact Borderless Scholars Counselor Rosa Palacios at rpalacios@sdccd.edu for more information.

Project Restart

- Project Restart Basic Needs workshops/check-ins
- Attend Rising Scholars CCC Counselor meetings
- Collaboration meeting with Rising Scholars network • Collaboration with Project Rebound at SDSU • Attend monthly Region X SDICCCA meeting
- UCSD Underground Scholars Info Session

STAR TRIO

- 5/11/21 | STAR TRIO hosted workshops to support students reduce stress and feel balance during finals season. Students learned about what being grounded and centered is and ways to reduce stress.

Innovations & Data

Borderless Scholars

- FREE legal immigration consultations with an attorney are available for students and employees! Mesa College and Borderless Scholars are partnering with Jewish Family Services to offer FREE legal immigration consultations! In the month of March, 11 legal consultations where our students received these free services from our partners were completed. To learn more about this service, please contact the EOPS Office to schedule an appointment with a Borderless Scholars Counselor or visit our website at www.jfssd.org/HELs.

Policies & Procedures

- We are currently accepting Fall 2021 applications for EOPS, CARE, NextUp, FAST Scholars, Borderless Scholars, Project Restart, and STAR TRIO! Visit www.sdmesa.edu/EOPS to learn about programs' requirements and to apply.

Student Success Stories

EOPS

- Over 190 EOPS students graduating with an associate degree, Certificate, and/or transferring to a university.
- Below are some comments shared by our graduating students on how our EOPS program and services have supported their educational journey:
 - "EOPS helped me a lot on my educational goal and accomplishment of my Associate Degree for Transfer. The counselors are amazing! They helped me with energy. Professor Nellie has helped me tirelessly on my journey by giving me advice and counseling. EOPS supported me in buying my books."
 - "It is the best program I joined since I became a student."
 - "EOPS was an incredible resource and support during my journey."
 - "The counseling and different workshops have really helped me in becoming more familiar with Mesa College and the financial opportunities have helped me focus on my classes much better and not worry about the costs of books and supplies for my classes."
 - "EOPS had been supporting me through lots of guidance for education, easy accessibility to counseling and so on."
 - "Educational system in the United States is much more different from in Viet Nam, my hometown. When I do not know how to apply to any universities, how to write personal essays, how to manage my time to study as well as possible, how to get a great educational plan, etc, EOPS staff help me do everything. They are always willing to answer any questions. I feel comfortable once I come to see you. I easily share all my stories, about studying, about difficulties in my life. Before applying to UC, I was afraid of not being accepted. But Brian encouraged me a lot, and he strongly believed that I

would be successful. He said I could do it if I wanted. I will never forget what you have done for me to support my educational journey.”

NextUp & FAST Scholars

- NextUp scholar Paizlee Spring 21 EOPS Scholarship awardee
- FAST Scholar Samantha was accepted to UCSD as well as UCSB for Fall 2021. Her academic goals include becoming a Biology Professor.
- FAST Scholar Alumni R Bolden and current FAST Scholars Aaron Pischke participated in the Black Student Success despite COVID!
- FAST Scholar Yvonne Pina obtained full time employment as a case management for justice impacted men. Upon completing her degree her place of employment stated she could receive a promotion o Spring 21 & Summer 2021 Graduates
- FAST SCHOLARS
 - Samantha Dyer- Transfer in Biology and receiving Associates Degree for transfer in Biology
 - Tatiana Siwy- Applying to Health Information Technology Program
 - Makayla Scott- Transfer to SDSU in Urban Studies - Urban Planning, Design, and Management and LAS-Soc/Beh Sci-Social Science
 - Crystal Paez- Accepted to UCSD
 - NextUp Scholars Paizlee Davis- Associates in Building Construction Technology and transfer to National University Construction Management
 - Annemarie McGovern- LAS-Sci St-Biological Science

Borderless Scholars

- Student Pablo H. shared the following words with our team: When arriving at Mesa College in 2017 I didn't have the resources that I needed to do well in school without having to worry about parking permits, buying my own books, meal plans, counseling, and college applications. I thank God for allowing me to find EOPS and Borderless Scholars Programs where they took me in as their own. This is where I was able to meet one of the best people out there! I thank Leticia for seeing potential in me despite knowing me for a short amount of time. I thank Rosa, Clemente, and Danna for helping me and guiding me expand my educational path into UC Davis. This program is truly more than helping students with financial needs, mental needs, and educational needs, it is FAMILY. Favorite Quote: "Your True Friends will support your dreams and encourage you if they truly believe in you".
- Student Xochilt shared the below words with our team: Personally, I have honestly loved being part of the Borderless Scholars. I am a first-year student, but they have been a huge help for me. They have helped me create my schedule multiple times and have given advice regarding which prerequisite classes I should take. Overall, I think it's a great program as it provides students with helpful resources and helps undocumented students like me achieve their academic goals. Favorite Quote: "The greatest success we'll know is helping others succeed and grow" - Gregory Scott Reid

- Congratulations to 23 of our Borderless Scholars students who will either be Transferring or Graduating! Your hard work and dedication goes unnoticed! Your success is our success and we are proud! Congratulations Class of 2021!

STAR TRIO

- 38 STAR TRIO students will be graduating with an AA/AS degree and transferring to a 4-year university.
- 12 students have been awarded multiple scholarships from the Mesa Foundation this Spring.
- STAR TRIO would like to congratulate Anne Anh Dinh for being awarded the STAR TRIO Scholarship!

Special Recognition

- The EOPS and Special Programs Team would like to acknowledge the following for going above and beyond to support our students. Our Distribution Event and Virtual Achievement Ceremony would not have been possible without the support of the following: Stockroom / Shipping and Receiving, College Facilities, Business Office, Outreach Office, College Bookstore, Career, Transfer, & Evaluations Office, The Office of Communications, Hai Duong (Event Photographer), Pablo Vela (Designer of our Virtual Backgrounds), Dr. Pamela Luster, Dr. Ashanti Hands, Larry Maxey, and Student Services!
- HUGE THANKS to our Achievement Ceremony Planning Committee! Thank you for all you do for our students: Nellie Dougherty, Nicole Judd, Amara Tang, Ivonne Meza, Denise Arco, and Leticia Diaz!
- Thanks to Borderless Scholars Team for their amazing teamwork and collaboration in facilitating meaningful and successful virtual events to support our students.

Evaluations

Events & Activities

- Deborah Salazar was given her 15 years of service award! Congratulations, Dee! You are a true rockstar to our students. Thank you for all you do to support our department.

Events & Activities

- The Mesa College 2021 Virtual Commencement Ceremony was held on Friday, May 28, 2021. The campus can view the Virtual Commencement Ceremony on the Commencement website [here](#).
- In addition, students graduating are invited to participate in the Car-mencement drive-thru grad parade on June 4th - students can register [here](#).
- Faculty/Staff interested in volunteering can register [here](#).

Innovations & Data

- All student petitions and forms are electronic. 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 [here](#).
- The remaining 2020- 2021 Apply for Graduation Deadlines are as follows:
 - July 31, 2021 - Deadline to Apply for Graduation and be a Summer 2021 graduate.
- Students filing after this date will be Fall 2021 graduates. Please note, students must 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.

Call to Action Update

- Due to historic and structural racism and other forms of systemic barriers for Black students including lower graduation numbers, the Evaluations department at San Diego Mesa College continues to address racial inequity by hosting our Apply for Graduation Parties this spring semester. The Evaluations Team will continue this work through summer and hold graduation parties and assist with Counseling zoom sessions to support students with certificate/degree completion. More details on these events to come!

Policies & Procedures

- Please refer to the Evaluations Student Petitions [page](#) when working with a student to see if they are eligible for a particular petition.
- How to students check their graduation status? Students can apply and view their graduations status through their student portal. Under the "My Academics" tab on the College Student Dashboard, click "View Graduation Status". Students should work with a Counselor if they are unclear of their status.

- When do students graduating in spring 2021 receive their diploma? All eligible students who applied for graduation for spring 2021 and complete requirements will receive their diploma in the mail late July. Students should update their address before the spring semester ends.
- How to submit official transcripts from previous institutions and other notes: Please encourage students to submit official transcripts before or during their first semester. All official transcripts must be on file before applying for graduation and being awarded a degree. Institutions that are only mailing transcripts should be mailed to the following address: San Diego Community College Transcript 3375 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 100 San Diego, California 92108 Students should email tinqury@sdccd.edu about 1.5 months after submitting transcripts to check if transcripts have been received. Once ALL transcripts are received, students can submit a “Request for Transcript Evaluation” form. Evaluations take 90 BUSINESS days. Students who only need to clear Pre-requisites can do so with Counseling.
- Update to the District Evaluator Alphabet (for internal use):
 - Thu Nguyen...A,H,V
 - Christina Hambrick...B,F,N
 - Daniel Borbon Ibarra...C,D
 - Mary (Maggie) Stone...E, G
 - Helen Houillion...I,K,M,Y,Z
 - Hilda Osuna...J,L,T,U
 - Ryan Zimmerman...O,P,Q,R
 - Christina Monaco...S,W,X

Student Success Stories

- Congratulations to all upcoming spring and summer 2021 graduates! You have worked so very hard to get to this point. Once an Olympian, always an Olympian!

Special Recognition

- The entire Commencement Team! Thank you!

Financial Aid

Employee Updates

- Jessica celebrated her 2nd month anniversary as our new SSA / Foster Youth Liaison. Jacob Martin and Thuy Nguyen reached their 9th month as SAT - FA. Guadalupe Bueno celebrated her 15th anniversary as a classified employee, while Julissa Samano celebrated her 20th anniversary as a classified employee.

Events & Activities

- 2021-2022 OSHER Scholarship application period began and it closes by the EBD on July 17, 2021.

Innovations & Data

- During the month of May (1 week to go) we disbursed \$202,128 in federal and state aid funds to eligible students. Submitted for disbursement the release of the remaining \$12,000 in MSI grants to students and \$124,750 in CRRSSA/CARES II funding to students. More release of funds are scheduled before the end of the semester.

Policies & Procedures

- The SAP Appeal's Committee will see the policies and procedures manual updated. The Department of Education made changes to the Return of Title IV policy. Meetings will start during the last week of May, as implementation is effective for the 21-22 academic year.

Call to Action Update

- Pilar continues to successfully hold zoom meetings with our African American students. They have become very popular, and the spots fill our quickly.

Student Success Stories

- We will be refunding to one of our students the first Iraq-Afghanistan Service Grant, designated by the Department of the Defense for students whose parents died in combat in Iraq or Afghanistan. We still need to fix some loose ends but the student will get grant funds. We worked in collaboration with Admissions and Records and the Rad Tech program to assist a student and satisfactorily resolve a Cal Grant overpayment. Thank you to all who assisted, guided the student and provided options.

Special Recognition

- A very special and loud recognition to Pilar and her work with Call to Action, to the FA office staff, Victor DeVore, Marina Jordan, VCES Susan Topham, Nancy Lane, Lynn Dang, Lilibeth (Lili) Rodriguez, Natosha (Tosh) Susoeff, Emmanouil (Manolis) Powell, James (Jim) Blair and countless others working behind the scene helping in the collection of required documents for the annual audit. To Dean Miller and VPSS Hands, making sure that if help was needed they would be available to help in any way they had the ability to do so. To all my deepest appreciation.

Outreach & Community Relations

Events & Activities

Outreach

- Pre-Enrollment Workshops (May 1 – May 30): The Outreach team had the opportunity to provide Pre-Enrollment workshops to Mission Bay High School, Coronado High School, Mt. Everest Academy, Point Loma High School, Madison High School, and University High! Due to popular demand, Outreach is going to hold additional sessions towards the end of May and early June. Outreach and Assessment Outreach continue to provide ongoing services for students within the service area with information regarding milestones, Counseling services, overview of programs and resources, and application support.
- May 1 – May 30: The Journey to Mesa College is an on-going series of presentations in collaboration with Financial Aid, Career Education, Career and Transfer. The programs in attendance have the opportunity to share their department services. The series is open to community partners, students, and their families. For the month of April, we hosted two English sessions and one Spanish session.
- May 1 – May 30: The Journey to Mesa College is an on-going series of presentations in collaboration with Financial Aid, Career Education, Career and Transfer. The programs in attendance have the opportunity to share their department services. The series is open to community partners, students, and their families. For the month of April, we hosted two English sessions and one Spanish session.
- May 19: Outreach staff Karla Trutna was invited to present at the Districtwide SD Promise (Spanish) Night. During this session, parents and prospective students had the opportunity to learn more about the SD Promise program: eligibility, benefits, and requirements. Following the presentation, students were able to apply to the SD Promise program with the support of an ambassador.

Promise

- The Promise program was selected as a recipient of Passion Planner's Community Empowerment Program and received 550 free planners. In addition to Promise students, planners were distributed to students from UMOJA/Mesa Academy, EOPS, Kapwa/Asian Pacific Diversity, and Raza Grad during a weeklong drive-through distribution.
- We hosted our last two Promise Coffee Hours of the semester. Our final session, which focused on helping students create a finals study schedule using their Passion Planners, had 160 attendees.
- We hosted 3 Promise Info Sessions for Twain High School and met with a total of 21 students.
- We hosted a general Promise Info Session and had the opportunity to meet with prospective students and their families. Help us spread the word, here is the link to register: <http://bit.ly/sdpmesainfo21>
- We hosted 3 Finals Study Sessions for students to find community with fellow students as they studied for exams, wrote papers, and worked on final project.

- Mesa had the opportunity to participate in the Districtwide Promise Kickoff session, held May 25. Outreach Ambassador: Nhulong Vo had the opportunity to present on MySDCCD. Mesa hosted a special breakout room to meet with students and share on Promise requirements, social media, campus engagement requirement, EOPS, Counseling, Summer CRUISE, and Mesa Journeys.
- All graduating Promise students were invited to pick up their San Diego Promise graduation medal during a drive-thru distribution on May 24 and 25. All Year 2 Promise students were also invited to pick up their San Diego Promise program certificate of completion.

Innovations & Data

- Outreach ambassadors completed over 1,300 phone calls to invite students to pick up a Passion Planner and also check in regarding any questions Promise students had about the program or Mesa College.

Call to Action Update

Outreach & Promise

- The Promise program is collaborating with the BFCC to host two workshops for incoming and current Black/African American Promise students. These workshops will focus on transitioning to college and course planning.

Policies & Procedures

Promise

- We are still accepting applications to the San Diego Promise program for Class of 2021 high school graduates who will be attending Mesa College full-time in Fall 2021. The priority deadline is June 11, but application will be accepted until the beginning of the Fall 2021 semester. Application details and relevant links can be found here: <https://sdccd.edu/promise/getstarted>
- Year 1 Promise students who are enrolled in 12 units over the Summer may have their enrollment and student health fees covered by the Promise program (if not covered by other forms of financial aid). Students had to notify Donnaly Atajar by Thursday, May 20 to ensure they would not be dropped for non-payment. If students paid out of pocket, then a reimbursement will be processed.
- Year 1 Promise students who were dismissed for not having a financial aid application on file will have extra time to resolve their issues and be readmitted to the program. The Promise program is working with Admissions and Financial Aid to assist students with identifying and resolving their specific issues.
- Year 1 Promise students who were dismissed for being enrolled in less than 12 units for Spring 2021 have the opportunity to appeal for readmission. The deadline to appeal is July 19..

Special Recognition

Promise

- Avyssa Aboutorabi was selected to receive this year's Promise Leadership Award. Selena Luong was selected to receive this year's Promise Scholar Award.
- Special congratulations to Rosela Mae Gallardo for being selected as the Annette Bening Promise Scholarship recipient.

Student Affairs

Events & Activities

- Associated Students Elections
 - The Mesa College Associated Students successfully completed their campaign and election cycle for the Spring 2020 semester, electing their new Associated Students President and five student senators. We would like to welcome our incoming President Natalia Trinh, and Senators Nargis Ahmadil, Forest Corbett, Daniayarit Garcia, Wencit Quino Hersh, and Cat Uyen Le. We look forward to working with them during the new academic year!
- Scholarship Awards Presentation
 - Due to the continuation of pandemic mitigation measures, the presentation of scholarship awards for the 2020-2021 scholarship cycle was again hosted in an online format on Wednesday, May 12. A zoom webinar served as the live portion of the presentation, with Mesa College administrators and select students addressing guests on the importance of scholarships before the actual pre-recorded video presenting the awards. The presentation was very well-received overall by the student attendees, who had nothing but thanks and gratitude to express in the chat throughout the presentation.
- Virtual Commencement Presentation
 - The Mesa College Virtual Commencement presentation was released on Friday, May 28, at 3:00pm. This commencement presentation included graduate slides for more than 640 graduating students, as well as video segments from Chancellor Constance Carroll, The Board of Trustees, President Pamela Luster, Associated Students President Taylor Carpenter, and many other honored officials from Mesa College and the SDCCD. Special thanks must again go to the Mesa College Audio-Visual Team and select members of the Commencement Planning Committee for their unique and essential contributions to the final product.

Special Recognition

- Thank you to the exceptional Virtual Commencement Planning Team 2021! This team was creative, collaborative and eager host a memorable celebration for our students! THANK YOU team COMMENCEMENT: Joel Arias, Jacqueline Collins, Claudia Estrada, Frank Fernandez, Zulma Heraldez, Jennifer Kearns, Courtney Lee, Charlie Lieu, Rob Meyers, Victoria Miller, Jennifer Park, Carlos Pelayo, Olivia Picolla, Anabel Pulido, Connie Renda, Tina Ricalde, Deborah Salazar, Ryan Shumaker, Pablo Vela, Carlos Wales, and Nancy Wichman.

Student Development

Events & Activities

- The Deans of Student Development and Exercise Health Education, Dance, and Athletics presented during the President's Cabinet Retreat on OPP – the Olympian Pathways Prototype, an example of Student Success Teams.

Call to Action Update

- Provide leadership and support on the Call to Action through dialogue on DEI in various meetings and presentations. Discussion of equity-minded practices and ways to advance Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and challenging programs and areas to examine ways they can take action beyond supporting DEI efforts.

Special Recognition

- Many thanks to the Raza Grad Team - Amber Alatorre, Miriam Pacheco, Patty Rodriguez, Ramiro Hernandez, Raul Rodriguez, Cynthia Rico, Agustin Rivera, Jennifer Phelps, Christie Allred for a beautiful event celebrating our Raza Grad Class of 2021.
- Many thanks to Amber Alatorre, Jennifer Derilo, and Katlin Choi for organizing the Kapwa Scholars Virtual Summit 2021 - Uplifting the Voices of the Next Generation.
- Many thanks to Vicki Hernandez, Leroy Johnson, Ramiro Hernandez, Helen Dinh, Gail Fedalizo, Laura Arellano, Sibel Sahebjamei, and Adrian Tanjuaquio for helping support and organize the Virtual Veterans Recognition Event.
- Thanks to Karina Sandoval, Dulce Carolina Lopez, Celine Ahearn, and Raquel Aparicio for all the help provided to support students and classes impacted by the challenges with the system errors, rosters, and enrollment.
- Big thanks to Ivonne Alvarez for her leadership and support for student veterans impacted by the drop for non payment report.

Student Health Services

Events & Activities

- A special three-part series workshop was especially tailored to the Mesa athletes facilitated by Janel King LMFT, Chief Executive Officer of Urban Restoration Counseling Center, on "Handling reality while playing your best game". The series included aligning mental health with physical health and maintaining balance. This workshop was made available for athletes to drop in for three consecutive Fridays, with co-hosting support from Student Health's mental health counselor John Guinn, LMFT and Linda Gibbins-Croft, LCSW.
- Student Health Services created a series of Listening Circles, *Mesa Cares*, for students who are connected to Palestine and affected by the ongoing global events. Linda offered a drop in event on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 for students to come together to share their thoughts and feelings through a virtual space. Student Health provided a safe and supportive space for students who may want to talk, express and come together in community. Professors requested for Student Health to provide a few more Listening Circle forum until the end of May, Linda made sure that Student Health will be providing two more forums.
- Suzanne Khambata FNP, Director of Student Health invited Dr. Gregg A. Lichtenstein, MD, MBA, Subject Matter Expert for the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency to provide COVID-19 Public Health & Medical Updates to Classified staffs at the Classified Appreciation Week event. Participants included classified senates and staff received current COVID Statistics updates, be able select most effective masks, review the effectiveness of currently approved vaccine and the role of boosters and discuss the early use of medication to reduce the severity of COVID-19 disease.
- Linda Gibbins-Croft provided a QPR (Question, Persuade and Refer) Zoom presentation for practical and proven suicide prevention training to the tutors of the Mesa College Tutoring Center, which included student tutors and part-time tutors.
- Student Health's weekly groups came to an end for spring semester of 2021. Student support groups:
 - Be Calm: a stress management, anxiety reduction and practicing coping strategies group.
 - Come As You Are LGBTQIA: a group to discuss and connect with as well as to support people who are LGBTQIA and allies.
 - Connection Games: a fun interactive group through Jackbox games with Zoom.
 - Black Student Forum: a group to express, share personal point of view and challenges. The groups were a great pathway for students to know more about the mental health counselors. Students were able to connect to the counselor before requesting an individual session. Student Health hope to continue the weekly groups in the Fall semester.
- Even though our weekly groups have ended, Student Health will still be supporting the student through the finals week with drop-in Be Calm sessions with Linda and John. They will be providing techniques to manage stress and reduce anxiety while preparing for the final exams.

Innovations & Data

- Student Health is currently working on setting up a patient portal and notifications for students to use as an online service through Mediat. Mediat will assist Student Health on building more templates and forms for medical and mental health use. Mediat Counseling set up will fully have all forms loaded for usage.
- In May, we served 747 students with medical and mental health needs virtually, along with seeing Athletes and Allied Health students for their in-person health physicals and vaccines.

Call to Action Update

- Urban Restoration Center provided a series of 3 presentations supporting Mesa Athletes on maintaining mental balance.

Policies & Procedures

- Linda 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.
- Linda attended the Central/North Central Behavioral Health Collaborative Meeting through the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency to inform the attendees the services that Mesa College Student Health Services provide to current students.

Special Recognition

- Special Recognition this month goes to Dr. Calvin Wong. Dr. Wong has helped many Allied Health Students and Athletes with obtaining their physical exams, bloodwork and vaccinations. This allowed students to have very low prices on these items and excellent care.

Student Success & Equity

Events & Activities

- Facilitated an Equity workshop with the Pathways Fellows
- Participate in President's Cabinet Retreat
- Facilitated Feel, Heal & Be Real Student Session
- Participated in EOPS Virtual Recognition Ceremony and Drive Through
- Hosted a Special Session of SET Committee focus on AAPI Student Support
- Participated in RAZA Grad Drive Through Program
- Presented to P-CAB on Equity Institute

Innovations & Data

- The Stand continued with providing drive thru versions of the Mobile Market and Farmers Market. Each event is providing 40-50lbs of produce and shelf stable food for free to those who attend. We are averaging 250 households at each event.
- The stand has reinstated its partnership with 72Fifty to provide hot meals to Mesa students. In the month of May we provided 60 students with \$50 vouchers to 72Fifty.

Student Success Stories

- Both Raza and EOPS organized and facilitated successful drive through recognition programs.

Special Recognition

- Congratulations to Project Assistants; Van, Michael and Mustaf who all graduated from SDSU!

Transfer

Events & Activities

- We are working the Transfer Recognition Spotlight Video. Please send students with successful transfer news our way so they can be included. <http://bit.ly/TransferAccepted> We will highlight a few 4-year school transfer success stories as well!

Innovations & Data

Transfer Center Data

- Counselor drop-in Appointments: 28
- Counselor Appointments: 24
- Counselor's Additional Contact: 524
- Transfer Workshops: 17
- Transfer Tuesdays and Thursdays: 6
- Drop-ins: 180
- Chat Bot conversation: 37
- Microsite info emails: 2500 students
- TRS email: 80

Call to Action Update

- Continuing our Workshop Wednesdays with Mary Eden and Mary Garcia.
- Workshop Wednesdays will transition to open lab sessions for students everyday Monday through Thursday from 12 to 1. We will do outreach to advertise new hours. Mary G and Mary E will host sessions on Monday and Wednesday. Anne will host Tuesday and Thursday open lab helpdesk sessions.

Policies & Procedures

- The Foundation Innovation Grants for Transcripts and Fee Waivers will be implemented in the Fall. More to come we are working on the details.
- A new Fall 2021 Transfer Options Video Workshop and accompanying PowerPoint has been posted to our Transfer Center Webpage and YouTube Channel.

Student Success Stories

- We are receiving many updates on transfer admissions. While we celebrate or transfer students it is also an opportunity to share some 4 year college graduation success stories as well! We have great news about a DACA and first-generation student who graduated from USD this weekend. She worked hard at Mesa College and successfully completed USD in 2 years with her degree in Mechanical Engineering. She will make us MESA PROUD!! She is one among many!
- One of our FAST Scholars won the prestigious UC San Diego Chancellor's Associate Scholarship and will attend UC San Diego in the Fall of 2021! Only three students are allowed to be nominated from each school. This is truly a wonderful honor and distinction!

Special Recognition

- Thank you to the Transfer Career Evaluations Team for their incredible support of the transfer center as we work diligently to provide students with excellent transfer guidance! It is a team effort.

Veterans

Events & Activities

- Veteran Services handed out graduation stoles and gift boxes to graduating veterans.
- We also had our Virtual Veterans Recognition Ceremony on May 21st. We had a total of 40 people attend our ceremony which included graduating student veterans and their family and friends

Innovations & Data

- We have been receiving summer VA benefit paperwork from students. Our Virtual Front desk has been assisting our students with general VA benefit questions. The month of May we have had over 120 visits to the Virtual Front Desk that our student work studies work at during the day. We have communicated with over 1500 students either by email, phone, Hotspots or through the Virtual Front Desk.

Call to Action Update

- We are recruiting for a new group of students to be part of our work study team. We are excited to be collaborating with Athletics and Counseling (the Black Faculty Counselor Collaboration & Counseling Equity Committee) to place students.

Student Success Stories

- 17 out of 19 of our students who attended our recognition will be continuing their education at a four-year university while the other two will be entering the job market in a sustainable career. These are only a few of our graduating student veteran success stories.

Special Recognition

- To all who helped make the Veterans Recognition Ceremony one to remember and putting our students first.

Vice President Student Services

Employee Updates

- The Executive Board of the San Diego Chapter, American Association for Women in the Community Colleges recognized Ashanti Hands as a member of the Inaugural Women of the Year Awards
- Congratulations to our new Classified Senate Board members for 2021-2023 (Eva Parrill, Sahar (Mona) King, Anda McComb, Alan Goodman, Catherine Cannock, Ellen Engels, Carla Grossini-Concha, Aracely Bautista, Andrea Lelham, Celine Ahearn, Alicia Lopez, and Anabel Pulido). Thank you for stepping up to fill these leadership roles!

Events & Activities

- Hosted a Reopening | Return to In Person Activity Update and Q&A for the Student Services community
- M&M Committee
- VP Hands presented | participated in the following events:
 - Rite of Passage Ceremony for Black Graduates and Transfer Students
 - Mesa College Commencement Ceremony
 - President's Cabinet Retreat
 - Raza Grad Drive Thru Ceremony
 - Veterans Recognition Graduation Ceremony
 - The Stand Mobile Market
 - EOPS and Special Programs Virtual Achievement Ceremony
 - Campus Community Forum
- VP Hands attended the following activities/events:
 - Virtual Scholarship Ceremony
 - Classified Service Awards
 - Golden Scissors Virtual Fashion Show
 - Kapwa Scholars Virtual Summit
- VP Hands attended the following webinars/professional learning opportunities
 - San Diego CCD Investigator/Hearing Officer Hybrid Certification Training
 - CORA Webinar: Racial Equity in College Athletics'
 - Chancellor's Webinar Series
 - SDCCD - Let's Get Real: Courageous Conversations
 - CSSO Recovery & Reopening Strategies
 - National League of Cities Mayors' Institute: Cities Addressing Basic Needs to Promote Postsecondary and Workforce Success
- Motivation and Moral (M&M) Committee
 - The M&M Team hosted a fun Star Wars themed Virtual Escape Room on Tuesday, May 4th!

Innovations & Data

- Charlie Lieu and Charles Shimazaki provided Constant Contact training to following departments: Outreach/Assessment, The Stand/Basic Needs, EOPS, and CRUISE.
- The Mesa Journeys database and Constant Contact system are connected. After a student completes the Mesa Journeys assessment and opts-in to receive information on the programs/services that were recommended to them, their email will automatically be imported into Constant Contact!
- Charlie Lieu and Joel Arias presented information on Mesa's Olympia Chatbot to campus VPSS at SDCCD
- New webpage for [Kapwa](#), a learning community taught through an Asian Pacific Islander (API) lens.

Call to Action Update

- Presented on Student Services Call to Action efforts at our Spring 21 President's Cabinet Retreat
- Launched process to collect information for our *Call to Action* End of the Year Report
- Student Services hosted 1 Feel, Heal & Be Real Dialogue session

Policies & Procedures

- Submitted HEERF II Funding Proposals for Student Services
- Coordinated promotion efforts for SDCCD's Summer 21 drop for non-payment process (which was recently relaunched after several years of being dormant.)