



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 & 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

- CalWORKs is happy to announce that it has hired two new CalWORKs Adjunct Counselors, Jennifer Vo and Van Pham. They are both excited and eager to start working and supporting our current and new CalWORKs students.
- Sadie Wager has stepped into a leadership role as the Career Ambassador Program Coordinator. For any questions regarding the CAP program, please connect with Sadie at swager@sdccd.edu. In addition, our three newest Career Ambassadors will complete their training during the first week of November and will begin holding student appointments. More information on the program and newest team members can be found [here](#). For all other Career Center related questions, please contact Acting Supervisor, Olivia Picolla at opicolla@sdccd.edu
- The Counseling Department has two new adjuncts: Maci Gerber, who will be supporting the Transfer Center and Vanna Jarrous, who will be supporting the International Student Program.
- Outreach is excited to welcome our new Project Assistant, Kaylyn Talia.
- Financial Aid and Outreach are also pleased to welcome three Project Assistant: Delany Lizarraga, Wendy Lizarraga-Hidalgo, and Lawson Hardrick III. These joint positions will provide more targeted financial aid support to our Promise students.
- Student Affairs welcomed a new Student Engagement Leader, Anthony Chhum, onto the team. Anthony is a Mesa College graduate who has experience working with students at Mesa through Mesa's Outreach program. We look forward to working with him this year!

- Dean of Student Development Ailene Crakes has been invited to serve as a mentor/coach in the 2021 SDCCD Leadership Development Academy Program.
- Welcome to Transfer's new adjunct Maci Gerber. Maci started just in time for Transfer season with a strong transfer background.
- The Veterans office are excited to announce that the department has two new NANC employees: Jordan Agricola and Alexandro Rodriguez.
- We congratulate Johanna Aleman on being selected as the SSSO/Basic Needs Coordinator.

Events & Activities

- The Assessment Office partnered with the Promise Program to offer a "Succulents & Self-Care" event for students on October 28 and 29th.
- Fridays in October: Second Year Peer Navigator Pilot: In collaboration with ADVOC8 and Second Year Promise, the Peer Navigator Program continues to develop its pilot to create a pipeline for a smoother transition to a second year. Initial feedback from participants (who opted into the pilot) have expressed support for a potential third year. Currently, Promise only provides scholarships for the first two years.
- In October, DSPS honored Disability Awareness month. DSPS partnered with San Diego Mesa College Equity and Engagement Librarian, Edeama Onwuchekwa, to develop a Disability Resource Guide. The DSPS team attended the Kay Ulanday Barrett workshop and provided an update during the joint school meeting.
- Our Borderless Scholars Project Assistant Yolanda Granados Nicacio hosted an Advance Parole Workshop. Advance Parole is a legal document that grants a DACA Recipient permission to travel outside the United States. The workshop was held with information about her personal experience of traveling outside the US as DACA Recipient and her personal experience of applying for AP.
- Borderless Scholars Counselors: Rosa Palacios and Clemente Ayala offered an UndocuAlly Training. The UndocuAlly Trainings took place on Friday, October 22nd of the Undocumented Student Action Week. The UndocuAlly Training was for Educators interested in cultivating a safe and welcoming space for current and prospective Mesa College Undocumented, AB 540, Dreamers, DACA Recipients, Non-DACA, and students from mixed status families. The workshop was followed by a student panel.
- Mesa College Outreach is officially and physically back at the sites within the surrounding area. We have begun our process to assist students with their financial aid applications and provide them information regarding our programs and services. Ambassadors have been placed in a majority of our high schools.
- Student Affairs and Associated Students are pleased to announce the results of the emergency election conducted at the beginning of fall. Wencit Quino Hersh has been elected as AS Vice President, and the following students have been elected as AS Senators: Daniela Castellanos, Elisa Correa, Husnia Ahmadi, Manuela Cerciello Rahbari, Maryam Fazel, Omar Rodriguez Mendoza, Osten Carlton, Phoebe Truong, Sophia Summer Fiorini, and Tara Yousefi Nejad.
- Aurora San Pedro, LMFT met with the AVANZA Peer Navigators "Mental Health Liaisons." She discussed managing mental health issues while conducting virtual interactive learning.
- On October 26th Johanna Aleman and Michael Sanders presented to the campus community forum "Student's Fundamental Right to Basic Needs." A huge shout out to our Basic Needs

Ambassadors Mustaf Adde, Ericka Banda, Robyn Bolden, Sergio Osuna, and Michael Sanders for a moving panel discussing the work they do for The Stand and what it means to them.

- The Transfer Center is deep in transfer season. The focus of all transfer programs are application open labs and 30 minute transfer follow up appointments. The Center offers open labs for CSUs and UCs four days a week except holidays and weekends.
- The Veterans Success Center opened its doors for services on October 18th.
- Veterans have partnered with The Stand to have frozen food in the Veterans Success Center freezer for student veterans and military affiliated students.
- M&M hosted a variety of Halloween themed events and activities including an in-person Student Services Halloween Party “Witching Hour” at the Counseling Lobby, a Zoomed-In Guessing Game on Zoom, the “Weight, weight! Don’t Tell me!” Pumpkin Patch Guessing Game, a Padlet and a Halloween Costume Contest. Prizes were awarded to winners of games and activities. Thank you all for participating!
- Student Services hosted our monthly Feel, Heal and Be Real dialogue series. This is a safe space for students, staff and faculty to discuss issues of social justice and equity.
- With support and leadership from the VPSS, Mesa -
 - hosted a site visit for members of the California Association of Black School Educators (CABSE). The event was designed to understand programs we have in place targeting K-12 students with a focus on Dual Enrollment, to include career pathways, student support programs and any equity initiatives or programs in place for Black and African American students.
 - awarded \$31,750 in Vaccination Incentive Grants. We will hold monthly drawings through Fall.
 - awarded \$2,222,000.00 in HEERF Emergency Relief Grants. Additional campaigns will take place throughout the semester.

Innovations & Data

- STAR TRIO proactively reached out to program students who were not enrolled in Fall, to support them find a late start class and assist them with resources to get them back to Mesa College.
- Financial Aid disbursed \$370,462 in State and Federal aid funds to students.
- Through a partnership with California Community College Foundation, San Diego Mesa College has 15 CalFresh Peer Ambassadors to help support and encourage students to apply for CalFresh. They are completing their training with the CCC foundation and will begin doing outreach in November.

Policies & Procedures

- Admissions helped create an alert system to inform Mesa’s high school feeder schools when their high school students taking college courses at Mesa need an academic intervention.
- The unit override petitions business process has been updated to streamline the process and allow for a more student centered approach that removes barriers. Thanks to District Student Services Council for supporting the faculty feedback.

Student Success Stories

- Our Lead Peer Navigator is receiving a lot of recognition for his hard work with the team!
 - "I also appreciated Dom checking in on me last week."
 - "I wanted to recognize Dominic for reaching out to me last week, it meant a lot to tell someone on the team of what I've been going through."
- Mesa EOPS Alumni Success Story: Shanell Logan was an EOPS student while attending Mesa College during the pandemic. She is currently a transfer student at UCLA and an administrative assistant for an academic consulting firm called Accepted Consulting. She works with current and former transfer students who are at different stages in their academic career and she helps them with the transfer and graduate school admissions process. Shanell shared with us that her work is inspired by the support from Mesa EOPS, and she hopes to give back to her community!

Admissions

Employee Updates

- Ivonne Alvarez had a fantastic vacation at the beginning of October.

Events & Activities

- We attended Friday SLO Talk Six Steps for SLO Implementation - Assessment, rubrics and grading, how to make it work in tandem on Friday, November 1st, in preparation for Program Review.
- On Monday, October 4th, we also attended the Program Review Research and Data Training. We joined our colleagues at the President Cabinet Meeting on Tuesday, October 5th.
- We listened to inspiring poetry by Tony Medina on Wednesday, October 6th.
- That same week, on Friday, October 8th, we attended the Pathway to the Presidency/Chancellor: From Grassroots to Grasstops, where Chancellor Cortez and Acting Chancellor Daisy Gonzales shared their initial moments of leadership.
- We continued to represent SD Mesa at our SDUSD/SDCCD Joint Partnership Workgroup meeting to discuss how to support high school students wanting and needing to take CCAP/ACP courses. We also discussed Pathways at this meeting.
- We attended the SDCAAWCC Navigating the Next Step Panel Series - Navigating Promotions & the CC Hiring Process. We met with all of the SDUSD CCAP/ACP liaisons on Wednesday, October 20th, to discuss fall deadlines and planning for spring enrollment.
- On Thursday, October 21st, we participated in the SHIFT training: Centering Care for In-Person Return. We continue to attend M&M events, classified senate meetings, and SD Mesa Forums.

Innovations & Data

- In October, we answered 609 calls on our phone tree and supported our Google Voice phone line students. We replied to 346 emails and printed 45 student ID cards. We saw 234 students at our counter using QLess. Our staff continues to support students on Ivy chat, where we had 356 conversations in the last 30 days.
- We also met with Joel to provide data for the sdmesa.edu/spring website, and partner on an easier mode of providing dates going forward.

Policies & Procedures

- We continued to improve our partnership with Kearny HS by updating our practice of their early graduates from high school to regular college students for Spring 2022.
- We also helped create an alert system to inform our high school feeder schools when their high school students taking college courses at Mesa needed an academic intervention.

Special Recognition

- We want to recognize the fantastic work of our residency team: Trung Huynh, LaKeita Platts, and Alexis Calderon, on clearing out the sdmesaresidency@sdccd.edu email and supporting our students face to face Monday-Thursday during our I-400 open hours.

Assessment

Events & Activities

- The Assessment Office partnered with the Promise Program to offer a “Succulents & Self-Care” event for students on October 28 and 29th.
- The Assessment staff continues to support Mesa’s Live-Chat option and saw a marked increase in student use this month.
- Challenge Exams for the Spring Semester are officially underway!

Innovations & Data

Assessment Data	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• E-Chat: 90• ELAC: 1• Email: 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Orientation: 21• Placement Assistant: 71• Challenge Exams: 1• Unduplicated Student Count: 124

Special Recognition

- Shout out to Amy and Jocelyn for making the Promise: Succulents and Self-Care a success!

AVANZA Student Engagement Center, Peer Navigator, and CRUISE Programs

Events & Activities

- **October: Peer Navigator Virtual Help Desk**
Online, drop-in hours to help students with anything and everything Mesa related.
- **October 21: PN Game Night!**
Virtual space designed to engage students and help build community through online games, ranging from trivia to "guess the drawing."
- **October 25 and 26: PN Monthly Workshop**
Time Management and Self-Care
CRUISERS were encouraged to attend to learn about prioritizing, as well as practicing how to take care of yourself. The workshop was presented via Zoom and well attended.
- **Fridays in October: Second Year Peer Navigator Pilot**
In collaboration with ADVOC8 and Second Year Promise, the Peer Navigator Program continues to develop its pilot to create a pipeline for a smoother transition to a second year. Initial feedback from participants (who opted into the pilot) have expressed support for a potential third year. Currently, Promise only provides scholarships for the first two years.

Innovations & Data

- Drop-in Hours for Second Year CRUISERS on Fridays. Virtual hour is designed for second year students to stop by and get connected with a Peer Navigator who provides support and guidance. Adjustments are made during monthly check in.
- **Peer Navigator - Kapwa, Puente, Umoja Liaison**
Designated Peer Navigators working with each special pop/learning community have created an online space to have students drop in, build community, and enhance each programs' values.

Student Success Stories

- Lead Peer Navigator is receiving a lot of recognition for his hard work with the team!
 - "I also appreciated Dom checking in on me last week."
 - "I wanted to recognize Dominic for reaching out to me last week, it meant a lot to tell someone on the team of what I've been going through"

Special Recognition

- Shout out to the HEERF/Edquity App approach! One of our students was able to get a new car battery! She is on her way to school and work.

CalWORKs

Employee Updates

- CalWORKs is happy to announce that we have hired two new CalWORKs Adjunct Counselors, Jennifer Vo and Van Pham. They are both excited and eager to start working and supporting our current and new CalWORKs students.

Events & Activities

- CalWORKs & HHS Workshop occurs every Mondays and Thursdays on Zoom from 11am-12pm. Workshop will assist with new and current students that may need assistance with the CalWORKs or CalFresh or Medical application process and can assist with any questions or concerns students may have about their case. More information on Mesa CalWORKs website.
- Current CalWORKs Drop-In Sessions takes place on Wednesday from 2pm-3pm. More CalWORKs Drop-In session to come in November.
- 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.
- Monthly meeting with SD county contractor's case manager from Public Consulting Group (PCG). In an effort to streamline the outreach and recruitment efforts with PCG Center, East, and South.
- Continued collaboration effort with EOPS/CARE Program for new or continuing CalWORKs students. This includes follow-ups and recruitment efforts.
- Continued posting State CalWORKs program updates through CalWORKs Canvas
- Continued to accept new CalWORKs students into the program
- Continued to accept appointments for Fall Individual Training Plan (ITP), Book/material Request forms and educational plans.

Innovations & Data

- CalWORKs is currently serving 22+ students
- CalWORKs is continually accepting new students on a weekly bases
- New and current student continue to thrive with the online CalWORKs counseling services

Special Recognition

- Special thanks goes to Grace Aumoeualogo, current Adjunct CalWORKs Counselor, who has gone above and beyond in assisting in training the two new CalWORKs counselors. Thank you Grace!

Career

Employee Updates

- Sadie Wager has stepped into a leadership role as the Career Ambassador Program Coordinator. For any questions regarding the CAP program, please connect with Sadie at swager@sdccd.edu. In addition, our three newest Career Ambassadors will complete their training during the first week of November and will begin holding student appointments. More information on the program and newest team members can be found here: <https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/career-center/career-peer-ambassadors.shtml>
- For all other Career Center related questions, please contact Acting Supervisor, Olivia Picolla at opicolla@sdccd.edu

Events & Activities

- Career Co-Coordinators supported students with Career exploration in the following events:
 - Psychology 201 class - Oct 8th
 - Mesa Tutor Training - Oct 13th
 - Promise Program's Coffee Hour – Oct 21st
 - Candace Katungi's Black Studies course - Oct. 28th

Innovations & Data

- The San Diego Community College District is transitioning to a new online student job board powered by Handshake. The Career Center at San Diego Mesa College is no longer utilizing, Job Network. All student accounts that were created have now ended, effective, August 31, 2021. Handshakes estimated launch is November - more details to follow.
- There will be a soft launch in early November - more details to follow. For the most up to date information, this will be included on the Career Center website here: <https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/career-center/job-internships/index.shtml>. While we are transitioning job boards, the Career Center & Work-Based Learning team is still here to support students with their employment needs. Together, we have have compiled a list of current job openings for companies looking for immediate hires. To view available current positions, please click here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1b7KLWZ6Zxm_MlfLeWj7yuYZYjnS9x_2Dw9_vbK4irlo/edit#gid=618465475
- For additional support and assistance with job searching and preparing application materials, please contact the Career Center at 619-800-3556 to schedule an appointment.

Policies & Procedures

- All of our appointments are still being held via Zoom. Students can schedule Career Counseling and/or Career Ambassador appointments by emailing mesacareersdccd@gmail.com or by calling 619-800-3556.

Special Recognition

- The entire Career Center team: Career Co-Coordinator, Raquel Sojourner & Kristy Carson
Career Ambassadors: Sadie Wager, Lara Napasa, Jocelyn Dorantes, Amy Redding, and Jose Ortega.

Counseling

Employee Updates

- Happy to bring to the Counseling Department family two new adjuncts: Maci Gerber, who will be supporting the Transfer Center and Vanna Jarrous, who will be supporting the International Student Program.

Innovations & Data

- During the month of October, several counselors took part in presenting during the Latinx Heritage Month. Kudos to Patty Rodriguez, Christian Chavez and Dulce Garcia.
- In addition, the Black Faculty Collaborative offered four webinars for the students.

Special Recognition

- A shout out goes to the team in helping with the dual enrollment program: MET and Kearny Fast Track
- Congrats also extended to the team of faculty in writing and securing funding--AANAPISI (Counseling Faculty, Amber Alatorre as part of this team)

DSPS

Events & Activities

- In October, DSPS honored Disability Awareness month. DSPS partnered with San Diego Mesa College Equity and Engagement Librarian, Edeama Onwuchekwa, to develop a Disability Resource Guide. The DSPS team attended the Kay Ulanday Barrett workshop and provided an update during the joint school meeting.

Innovations & Data

- In the month of October, 64 new DSPS student applications were received. 78 students utilized the online appointment and general information form and 9 alternate media requests were processed. DSPS supported instructional faculty with proctoring 104 exams during the month of October.

Policies & Procedures

- DSPS is in the final implementation stages for Clockwork (fully online student file management system) and will "go live" on November 15th. The DSPS team spent 2 weeks in October training on the new program.

EOPS & Special Programs

Events & Activities

EOPS

- 9/1/21 | EOPS staff and counselors attended a professional development webinar, “Sounding the Alarm: Addressing the Declining Representation of Black Students in California’s Community Colleges”
- 9/7-8/21 | EOPS team members participated in the M&M Student Services Welcome Back Event! The snacks were yummy and very appreciated. Thank you Student Services Leadership Team and M&M Committee!
- Oct. 15-17 | Amara Tang attended the Classified Professionals Conference 2021: The Heart of Education in Las Vegas.
- 10/19/21 | Transfer 101 Workshop: EOPS hosted this workshop for students to learn about what is required to transfer to a 4-year University.
- 10/19/21 | Nursing 101 Workshop: EOPS hosted this workshop to help students prepare for how to become a nurse. We focused on the 2-year ASN programs in San Diego along with San Diego State University's nursing program.
- 10/21/21 | Manifesting Your Dreams Workshop: EOPS hosted this workshop for students to learn how they can use the power of intention, visualizations and gratitude to realize their dreams.
- 10/25/21 | Time Management for Today’s Students Workshop: EOPS hosted this workshop for students to learn ways to help maximize their time to help minimize stress, improve grades and provide a clearer path towards their success.
- 10/26/21 | Financial Aid Workshop: In collaboration with the Mesa College Financial Aid Office, the STAR TRIO, EOPS and Special Programs hosted a Financial Aid Workshop! We covered frequently asked questions on the 2022-2023 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form and the California Dream Act (CADAA) Application.
- Oct. 27, Nov. 3, Nov. 4 | Spring 2022 EOPS Priority Registration Open Lab: EOPS students were able to drop-in to meet with an EOPS counselor for assistance with registering for Spring 2022 classes.
- Oct. 28-29 | EOPS Classified Professionals and Counselors attended the Fall 2021 Virtual CCCEOPSA Conference: Reinforcing Our Vision for Success: Pathway to Healing and Hope

CARE

- Outreach and recruitment through EOPS applications
- All students receive a gas card after 2nd contact appointment
- Grants distributed to all students making 1st contact appointment
- Collaboration with “Soroptimist Live Your Dream Scholarship” opportunity
- CARE monthly Workshop Series

NextUP & FAST Scholars

- October 4, 11, 18 & 25 - The FAST and NextUp scholars programs were chosen to receive free organic and fresh produce through collaboration with TerraMesa garden on campus. We are able to provide fresh produce such as spinach, tomatoes, potatoes, egg plants, squash and more to all FAST and NextUp scholars weekly.
- October 5, 12, 13, 20, 26,27- Transfer App Case Management: Support student through transfer app process
- October 5- CSUSM Ace Scholars Presentation: Inform students of university based resources for students who have experienced foster care
- October 21- UCSD Presentation: Inform students of university based resources for students who have experienced foster care
- October 25- Associates' Degree Workshop: Conceptualize the associate degree process to support students with understanding degree requirements and resources

Rising Scholars

- Attend Rising Scholars CCC Counselor meetings and workshops
- Collaboration meeting with Rising Scholars statewide network
- Collaboration with Project Rebound at SDSU
- Attend monthly Region X SDICCCA meeting
- Recruiting new students through EOPS applications
- Rising Scholars monthly Workshop Series
- Collaboration with Student Services Restorative Justice events
- Assist Rising Scholars students with transfer applications through workshops with UCSD Underground Scholars and SDSU Project Rebound

Borderless Scholars

- On ongoing Basis | Borderless Scholars in collaboration with JFS/HELs (Jewish Family Services/ Higher Education Legal Services) continue to promote FREE Immigration Legal Services to 451 Borderless Scholars Students. To learn more about this service, please contact the EOPS Office to speak to one of our Borderless Scholars Team members or access the following link to schedule an appointment: www.jfssd.org/HELs.
- 10/5/21 | Our Borderless Scholars Project Assistant Yolanda Granados Nicacio hosted an Advance Parole Workshop. Advance Parole is a legal document that grants a DACA Recipient permission to travel outside the United States. The workshop was held with information about her personal experience of traveling outside the US as DACA Recipient and her personal experience of applying for AP.
- 10/18-22/21 | The Mesa College Borderless Scholars Team partnered with the Dreamer Support Programs at the District, City College, Miramar College, and CE to offer a series of virtual events during the Undocumented Student Action Week, October 18-22, 2021. Undocumented Student Action Week (USAW) is a system wide campaign created to provide information, support, and advocacy for our undocumented students.

- 10/05/21 | Borderless Scholars Team held a Financial Aid CA Dream Act Application Workshop. The Financial aid workshop was tailored for current and prospective Undocumented Students. The attendees learned about the Dream Act Application, CCPG, Grants, and Scholarship opportunities. The workshop was presented by our Borderless Scholars counselor Clemente Ayala.
- 10/22/21 | Borderless Scholars Counselors: Rosa Palacios and Clemente Ayala offered an UndocuAlly Training. The UndocuAlly Trainings took place on Friday, October 22nd of the Undocumented Student Action Week. The UndocuAlly Training was for Educators interested in cultivating a safe and welcoming space for current and prospective Mesa College Undocumented, AB 540, Dreamers, DACA Recipients, Non-DACA, and students from mixed status families. The workshop was followed by a student panel.
- 10/22/21 | Our Borderless Scholars Team held a panel for an open dialogue about the SDCCD Undocumented student experience. The panel was facilitated by our Borderless Scholars Project Assistant Yolanda Granados, the participants were students from Mesa, Miramar, City and CE campuses.
- 10/21/21 | Borderless Scholars Team held a Transfer Workshop. The workshop was tailored for current and prospective Undocumented Students. The attendees learned how to submit their transfer Application, what requirements are needed to apply, and how the process works. The workshop was presented by our Borderless Scholars counselor Rosa Palacios.
- 10/15/21 | Borderless Scholars Team offered a RISE Club information session. 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.

STAR TRIO

- STAR TRIO Counselor Coordinator, Chris Kalck, attended to the New TRIO Director Training to stay updated with the latest regulations for TRIO SSS programs.
- 10/12/21 - STAR TRIO Counselor, Lucio Lira, participated in the Latinx Heritage Month events by presenting about the practice of inclusive language in social settings in both English and Spanish.
- 10/26/21 - STAR TRIO collaborated with EOPS and the Financial Aid Office to provide a workshop to support student completing their Financial Aid and California Dream Act Applications.

Innovations & Data

NextUP & FAST

- Fall 2021 enrollment numbers
 - FAST Scholars Enrolled 27
 - NextUp Scholars Enrolled 22
- Pre Admitted New Potential FAST & NextUp Scholars
 - FAST & NextUp Scholars 58

- Foster Youth SDCCD Email
 - Contacted 23 new potential FAST/NextUp
- Contacted Outreach to be able to participate and present at the High School Counselor Conference
- Started the process of Outreach Video with SDCCD district PIO
- Sent NextUp and Fast Scholars survey to all feeder high schools
- Currently collaborating with SD Mesa Outreach to be included in Outreach Activities
- Will be sending NextUp and Fast Scholars flyers to senior teachers at our Feeder Schools
- Will be attending the College Connection meetings for region 10

Borderless Scholars

- FREE legal immigration consultations with an attorney are available for students and employees! Mesa College and Borderless Scholars are partnering with JFS/HELs to offer FREE legal immigration consultations! 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.sdmesa.edu/EOPS. <https://www.jfssd.org/our-services/refugees-immigration/higher-education-legal-services/>

STAR TRIO

- 150 students are currently being served in STAR TRIO, 42 are new students and 108 are continuing students.
- STAR TRIO has processed 83 new student applications for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Policies & Procedures

STAR TRIO

- STAR TRIO is proactively reached out to program students who were not enrolled in Fall, to support them find a late start class and assist them with resources to get them back to Mesa College
- STAR TRIO is outreaching to Mesa learning communities to develop strategies on how to better support their students.
- STAR TRIO is accepting application for the academic year 2021-2022. Students can apply online by visiting our STAR TRIO website.

Student Success Stories

EOPS

- Mesa EOPS Alumni Success Story: Shanell Logan was an EOPS student while attending Mesa College during the pandemic. She is currently a transfer student at UCLA and an administrative assistant for an academic consulting firm called Accepted Consulting. She works with current and former transfer students who are at different stages in their academic career and she helps them with the transfer and graduate school admissions process. Shanell shared with us that her work is inspired by the support from Mesa EOPS, and she hopes to give back to her community!

NextUp & FAST Scholars

- We have 6 FAST and NextUp students who have experienced foster care participating in our Inaugural Transfer Academy for the month of October.

Special Recognition

- A special thanks to the awesome Mesa College departments that continuously collaborate with our Borderless Scholars Program. Thank you for the amazing teamwork, the support, and collaboration in facilitating meaningful, and helpful information for our Dreamer students.
- We would like to give a huge thank you to the students who participated in the Undocumented Student Panel. Thank you for sharing your stories and empowering our students with your voices.
- Thank you to Anne Hedekin and Transfer Center for hosting transfer application labs for our EOPS students and providing helpful resources!

Evaluations

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: <https://www.sdccd.edu/students/forms-and-documents.aspx>.

Policies & Procedures

- Please encourage students to apply for graduation - applying for graduation is a required step for students earning a Degree and/or Certificate of Achievement. Below are the 2021-2022 Apply for Graduation deadlines:
 - October 1, 2021 - Deadline to Apply for Graduation ONLY for students transferring to a CSU in Spring 2022 who are completing an Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or an Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T). Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT).
 - November 15, 2021 - Deadline to Apply for Graduation and be a Fall 2021 graduate. Students filing after this date will be a Spring 2022 graduate.
 - February 15, 2022 - Deadline to Apply for Graduation for students transferring to a CSU in Fall 2022 who are completing an Associate in Arts for Transfer (AA-T) or an Associate in Science for Transfer (AS-T). Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT).
 - March 15, 2022 - Deadline to Apply for Graduation and ensure your name will be included in the commencement program. **Students filing after this date, but before April 30, 2022 will still be Spring 2022 graduates, but their name may not be in the Commencement Program.**
 - April 30, 2022 - Deadline to Apply for Graduation and be a Spring 2022 graduate. Students filing after this date will be a Summer 2022 graduate.
 - 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. Student's can watch this quick tutorial on applying for graduation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eI2S4GGSi7M>
 - 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. Student's can watch this quick tutorial on applying for graduation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eI2S4GGSi7M>

- 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

Financial Aid

Employee Update

- We welcomed Delaney Lizarraga, shared Project Assistant with Outreach.

Events & Activities

- Jessica Gaffney participated in the Next-up FA workshop.
- Skyler Dennon provided the monthly SAP workshop and a PG 120 class presentation.
- Gilda Maldonado participated in the CCCC Combating Application, Enrollment and Financial Aid Fraud Workshop and continues to respond to internal auditors requests.

Innovations & Data

- We disbursed \$370,462 in State and Federal aid funds to students.

Special Recognition

- Kudos to the staff that have filled out the gap in helping with phones and at the counter.

Outreach & Community Relations

Employee Updates

Outreach

- Outreach is excited to welcome our new Project Assistant, Kaylyn Talia. We are also pleased to welcome three Project Assistant joint positions with Financial Aid: Delany Lizarraga, Wendy Lizarraga-Hidalgo, and Lawson Hardrick III. Our joint positions will provide more targeted financial aid support to our Promise students.

Events & Activities

Outreach

- After careful consideration and planning with the high schools within our feeder area. It is safe to say that Mesa College Outreach is officially and physically back at the sites within the surrounding area. We have begun our process to assist students with their financial aid applications and provide them information regarding our programs and services. Ambassadors have been placed in a majority of our high schools.
- October 6: Outreach had the opportunity to participate in a college fair hosted by Santana High School. Outreach staff provided handouts and information regarding programs and services as well as information about Financial Aid. The outreach team met with over 500 prospective students.
- October 12: Outreach had the opportunity to participate in the HCSTEM Library Fair. Outreach staff provided a presentation on the importance of STEM, also provided handouts and information regarding programs and services as well as information about Financial Aid. The outreach team met with over 20 prospective students and their family.
- October 20: Outreach participated in Madison High Schools Annual Symposium. Outreach staff provided a fun and interactive KAHOOT on some general info regarding Mesa College and the sister campuses. The staff provided goodie bags with handouts and information regarding programs and services as well as information about Financial Aid. The outreach team met with over 100 prospective students.
- October 28: Outreach hosted a Financial Aid Workshop at High Tech High School. Outreach staff assisted students with their financial aid applications and answered any general concerns students may experience. Outreach serviced over 60 prospective students.
- October 28: Outreach Ambassadors, Phoebe Truong and Ami Lobue provided a campus tour to esteemed guests: The California Association of Black School Educators (CABSE). Our Ambassadors were able to conduct the tour and share on their student experience. Thank you Phoebe and Ami!!

Promise

- We hosted our first fall semester Promise Coffee Hour. We had a great turnout, good conversations and Promise students were able to prepare for midterms. Year 1 students also received guidance on how to complete and submit their mid-semester progress report.
- We collaborated with Assessment to hold our first "Succulents & Self-Care: Nurturing the plant in me" event. We held (2) sessions, October 28 and 29th. Students joined us for an hour of conversation, food and potting succulents. Through caring for a plant, our Promise students

were able to connect on how it translates to caring for themselves. Our Mesa Foundation Innovation grant funded this activity – THANK YOU!

- So far, we have distributed 47 laptops to Promise students! We will open this opportunity again in Spring semester.

Innovations & Data

Promise

- We have received 395 Year 1 Progress Report submissions as of October 28.

Policies & Procedures

Outreach & Promise

- Year 1 Promise Students must submit their self-reported mid-semester Progress Report grades by Friday, November 5. We will extend the deadline for students who have not submitted it yet.
- Students who have not submitted a 2021-2022 FAFSA or CA Dream Act application (or have their application in suspense) must successfully submit one by then end of Fall semester.
- The Promise application for early high school graduates will be available November 1st. The deadline to apply is January 24. Go to our Promise webpage for more information:
<https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/promise>

Student Affairs

Employee Updates

- Student Affairs welcomed a new Student Engagement Leader, Anthony Chhum, onto the team. Anthony is a Mesa College graduate who has experience working with students at Mesa through Mesa's Outreach program. We look forward to working with him this year!

Events & Activities

- Fall AS Elections
 - We are pleased to announce the results of the emergency election conducted at the beginning of fall. Wencit Quino Hersh has been elected as AS Vice President, and the following students have been elected as AS Senators: Daniela Castellanos, Elisa Correa, Husnia Ahmadi, Manuela Cerciello Rahbari, Maryam Fazel, Omar Rodriguez Mendoza, Osten Carlton, Phoebe Truong, Sophia Summer Fiorini, and Tara Yousefi Nejad. This election was successful in filling the necessary senator seats for the AS to continue conducting business during the 2021-2022 academic year, and we are happy to have them aboard.

Student Development

Employee Updates

- Dean of Student Development has been invited to serve as a mentor/coach in the 2021 SDCCD Leadership Development Academy Program.

Policies & Procedures

- The unit override petitions business process has been updated to streamline the process and allow for a more student centered approach that removes barriers. Thanks to District Student Services Council for supporting the faculty feedback.

Special Recognition

- Many thanks to Jordan Agricola, Alexandro Rodriguez, and Vicki Hernandez for their tireless efforts preparing for the October 18 opening of the Veterans Success Center.
- Thanks to Johanna Aleman for establishing a partnership with Veteran Services to offer healthy meals to our student veterans.
- Many thanks to Alex Napoles for all the technical support provided to student services areas to ensure a smooth transition for opening and return to campus.

Student Health Services

Events & Activities

- Linda Gibbins-Croft, LCSW facilitated a workshop on How to Organize for a Successful Semester. Students were able to learn about setting up a calendar to organize projects, study time and exams, manage stress and anxiety, schedule time to relax, and control social media usage. Professors were excited to share with their students and hoped to see this workshop at the beginning of each semester.
- Come As You Are, LGBTQIA group is having different topic discussions every Wednesday at 2:00pm. This month's topic was: How can LGBTQIA allies be supportive? What support do you want? What is your pronoun? Value of self-expression. Join Linda as she creates a safe and inclusive support space for people who identify as gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgender, queer, non-binary, intersex and asexual.
- Aurora San Pedro, LMFT met with the AVANZA Peer Navigators "Mental Health Liaisons." She discussed managing mental health issues while conducting virtual interactive learning. Her presentation focused on how to build self-awareness and time management and how to speak with fellow students/mentees who need further Mental Health support was reviewed during the meeting. Review health routines, discussions around building self-awareness, and implementing self-care.
- John Guinn, LMFT provided a workshop for Mesa student athletes on basic mental tips including anxiety, depression and coping skills. Athletes were sent to the SD Mesa Student Health Services website for resources on mental health and physical health.
- Linda Gibbins-Croft will provide 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 more new student tutors and part-time tutors.

Innovations & Data

- Student Health provided 98 seasonal influenza vaccine for students. There are no costs for current students in the San Diego Community College District to get a flu vaccine from Mesa Student Health. Student Health will be providing flu vaccines to the Mesa Allied Health program as well.
- The Mediat electronic health record student patient portal is available on the Student Health website. Mental health counseling and medical services are fully using Mediat for charting on students.
- Student Health has fully transitioned over to the electronic health records. With data collected through SARS and Mediat, Student Health served 581 students this month. We are available for all students for in-person and tele health appointments.

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.

Student Success & Equity

Employee Updates

- Krystal Muncha has transitioned from the Basic Needs Department to supporting EOPS.
- Allison Crakes has transitioned from the Basic Needs Department to supporting DSPS.

Events & Activities

- On October 26th Johanna Aleman and Michael Sanders presented to the campus community forum “Student’s Fundamental Right to Basic Needs.” A huge shout out to our Basic Needs Ambassadors Mustaf Adde, Ericka Banda, Robyn Bolden, Sergio Osuna, and Michael Sanders for a moving panel discussing the work they for The Stand and what it means to them.
- Kicked off district partnership with the Black Student Success Workgroup.
- Presented at P-Cab with HSI and CEL.

Innovations & Data

- Direct Student Support - The Stand continued seeing students through our direct student support program and have been providing students with books, supplies, foods, and other resources to assist with basic needs.
- Market distributions -The Stand is continuing to host the Farmers and Mobile markets as a drive thru model on the third level of the campus parking garage. These events are typically held the First Monday and Third Thursday of each month. We continue to encourage everyone to volunteer to support these events either by volunteering or informing students about the events.
- 72 Fifty – The Stand has continued to offer \$25 vouchers to 72 Fifty each week. To date have provided 154 individual students with vouchers.
- Kitchens for Good – The Stand is receiving 200 frozen meals per a week to hand out to students for free. The Stand has partnered with the Exercise Science Department to get 100+ meals out to student athletes. The Stand continues to supply Exercise Science with meals for the student athletes and just began stocking the freezer in the VSC with meals for our student veterans.
- Workshops - The Stand has continued a series of workshops under the theme of Bolstering Confidence for a Safe Return. In October the specific workshops included topics on “Why You Need The Stand” and “Healthy & Nutritious Cooking”. The workshop selection has expanded to include workshops being provided by EOPS, Star TRiO, DSPS and Financial Literacy. Additionally The Stand has partnered with Feeding San Diego CalFresh team and SD City College to offer once a month CalFresh workshops where students can get hands on support and meet with county personnel to help get signed up for benefits.

Student Success Stories

- CalFresh Ambassadors – Through a partnership with California Community College Foundation, San Diego Mesa College has 15 CalFresh Peer Ambassadors to help support and encourage students to apply for CalFresh. They are completing their training with the CCC foundation and will begin doing outreach in November.

Special Recognition

- We congratulate Johanna Aleman on being selected as the SSSO/Basic Needs Coordinator.

Transfer

Employee Updates

- Welcome our new adjunct Maci Gerber. We are excited to have her on the team. She started just in time for Transfer season. Macie comes to us with a strong transfer background.

Events & Activities

- The Transfer center is deep in transfer season. The focus of all our programs are application open labs and 30 minute transfer follow up appointments. We offer open labs for CSUs and UCs four days a week except holidays and weekends.

Innovations & Data

Transfer Center Data	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Counselor Drop-In Appointments: 33• Counselor's Additional Contacts: 355• Transfer Center Drop-ins: 122	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chat Bot Conversations: 25• CSU/UC Open Labs: 17• CSU/UC Open Lab Participants: 215

Policies & Procedures

- Please encourage students to attend an open lab if they have questions. Email is not the best format as if it is time sensitive we may not get to them within 24 hours. There are many new resources on our web page including a fully revamped YouTube Channel. Transfer students can get 24 hour access to transfer resources for the CSU/UC and Common application platforms.

Student Success Stories

- Transfer students in general have been finding us and getting the support they need to complete their Fall 2022 applications.

Special Recognition

- Thank you so Gity, and all the TCE folks for supporting our October November transfer schedule. Also a big thank you to the general counselors who have logged on to support students during our application open labs.

Veterans

Employees

- We are excited to announce we have two NANCE who started with us. Jordan Agricola and Alexandro Rodriguez.

Events & Activities

- We have hosted a Veterans Readiness and Employment Counselor this month to talk with our student veterans about employment and education benefits.
- We have partnered with The Stand by having frozen food in the Veterans Success Center freezer for student veterans and military affiliated students.
- The Veterans Success Center opened its doors for services on October 18th.

Innovations & Data

- We have processed over 800 VA Education benefits this semester. We have also communicated with another 200 students via email and phones.
- Since the Veterans Success Center has been opened we are averaging 5 students a day coming in to receive services or looking for a quiet place to study.

Student Success Stories

- Since we have opened the VSC and partnered with The Stand we have been able to provide food for students who are struggling as well as a place for them to come and hang out during the day. Some of the students has been grateful for us being open and providing them a place to charge their phones and computers.

Vice President Student Services

Events & Activities

- Our October 20th Mesa Student Services Council Meeting focused Program Review, Pathways: Student Success Teams, and the Student Services Dashboard. A draft of our notes, can be found on our [Agenda & Minutes](#) page.
- Motivation and Morale Committee
 - M&M hosted a variety of Halloween themed events and activities including an in-person Student Services Halloween Party “Witching Hour” at the Counseling Lobby, a Zoomed-In Guessing Game on Zoom, the “Weight, weight! Don’t Tell me!” Pumpkin Patch Guessing Game, a Padlet and a Halloween Costume Contest. Prizes were awarded to winners of games and activities. Thank you all for participating!
- Student Services hosted our monthly Feel, Heal and Be Real dialogue series. This is a safe space for students, staff and faculty to discuss issues of social justice and equity.
- With the VPSS’s support and leadership, Mesa hosted a site visit for members of the California Association of Black School Educators (CABSE). The event was designed to understand programs we have in place targeting K-12 students with a focus on Dual Enrollment, to include career pathways, student support programs and any equity initiatives or programs in place for Black and African American students.
- Student Services funded registration fees for the 10th Annual Virtual Men of Color Student Leadership Institute.
- VP Hands presented at the following events
 - Navigating The Next Steps: Career and Leadership Panel (AAWCC)
 - Affinity Group for Black Women Virtual Sistah Circle: Thriving and Blossoming (SDCAAWCC)
 - Campus Community Forum
- VP Hands attended/participated in the following activities/events
 - Fall 2021 Presidents Breakfast
 - 5th Annual Undocumented Student Action Week activities
 - City College’s HUBU Conference
 - Shift: Centering Care For In-Person Return
- VP Hands attended the following webinars/professional learning opportunities
 - ACCJC: ISER Training
 - Pathways Student Success Teams Workshop
- Classified Senate distributed name tags to campus personnel.

Innovations & Data

- Awarded \$31,750 in Vaccination Incentive Grants. We will hold monthly drawings through Fall.
- Awarded \$2,222,000.00 in HEERF Emergency Relief Grants. Additional campaigns will take place throughout the semester.
- Provided Live Chat training to Career Ambassadors
- Provided Constant Contact training to DSPS, Borderless and Raising Scholars, and BFCC
- Rolled out advance Constant Contact training to Student Services personnel

- TV stand and monitors installed at Admissions and Financial Aid office to allow students to see their place in QLess line
- Sent out e-marketing campaigns for Live Chat, QLess, and Mesa Reads: Restorative Justice
- QLess stats: 618 students served by our student service departments using QLess
- Live Chat stats: 274 students assisted by Mesa Live Agents

Policies & Procedures

- As part of our efforts to streamline processes within the district, the Unit Override Petition process has been updated to allow Counselor approval.
- In partnership with District, established a religious exemption process for students.