

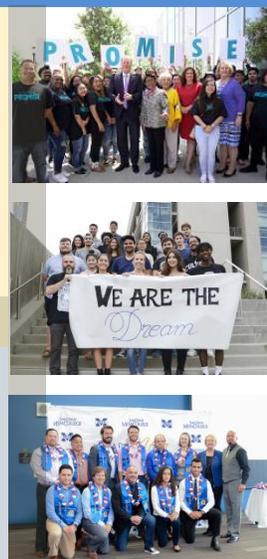


Student Services Monthly Updates are designed to tell our story of providing pathways that inspire, engage and empower our diverse students to learn and succeed. These updates also track our support of Mesa's journey of becoming the leading college of equity and excellence. We encourage you to review 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

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Monthly Update Highlights

Employee Updates

- Linda Gibbins-Croft LCSW is our new Counseling Coordinator. Linda previously served as an Adjunct Faculty Counselor at Mesa and as a Therapist at Scripps Health outpatient center. For the past 2 years, Linda served as a supervising Therapist at Southern Indian Health in Alpine. Linda brings a high level of expertise in managing symptoms of high acuity mental illness, depression and anxiety.
- We said goodbye to Deyanira Precido-Bayardo as she pursues her career in teaching/counseling and welcomed Alexis Calderon to the Residency/International office. We are excited to have her join our Admissions team!
- Quintin Wortham, Lead Peer Navigator, has successfully transitioned and embraced his role as a leader. He has reached out to each Peer Navigator to check in and ask how he can best support them. The program is in good hands with Quintin :-)
- Sasha attended the California Community College Chancellors Office's CalWORKs Directors training. Some of the discussion centered on how the CalWORKs program will be in lined with Guided Pathways. The Four Pillars of Guided Pathways was clarified (Clarity of Path, Enter the Path, Stay on the Path, and Ensure Learning).
- Next UP (Formally known as CAFYES) is ecstatic to add Nanyamka Hill to the team of experts serving foster youth at Mesa College. Nanyamka has over 10 years of experience serving foster youth at Cuyamaca College and she's excited to bring her expertise to San Diego Mesa College as the Adjunct Counselor serving Next Up students.

- We welcome Lilibeth (Lili) Rodriguez as our new FA Technician. Lili has been an SSA in the Financial Aid Office responsible for the Cal Grant / Chafee programs as well as processing the CA Dream Act applications. She will remain as part of the FA ERP team.
- On September 1st, Olivia Picolla started her new role as the evaluations department Student Services Technician.
- Nasreddine El Akkad and Isidro Velez-Valenzuela joined the Outreach team in September as Student Ambassadors.
- Robin Bolden came on board as a project assistant to support the Stand operations. Welcome, Robin.

Events & Activities

- The Majors @ Mesa Day is a new event added during Career Week. Students heard from current faculty and students about different programs and majors available including career opportunities within specific majors. Thank you so much to all faculty for their program participation. You made the event successful by showcasing your program and engaging meaningfully with our Mesa students and the visiting high school students from Madison H.S. and Kearny Mesa H.S. The event was coordinated by the new Work Based Learning Team.
- In September, the Internship Coordinator facilitated four group workshops with STEM Core students to identify potential internship opportunities based on their individual skills and career interests, create Job Network, LinkedIn, & Portfolium accounts. Likewise, he facilitated three resume and internship search workshops to provide STEM Core students with the right tools to understand the components and structure of a resume as well as how to search for internship opportunities.
- The department held its first meeting of the Counseling Role Paper Rewrite Committee.
- After years of not having a club for foster youth, we are pleased to announce FAST Scholar Club is an official club serving foster youth at San Diego Mesa College. Emilio Carranza-Davis (President) and Yesenia (Vice President) are leading our FAST Scholars Club to a bright and successful future. The club has an average of 12 students attending meetings on a weekly basis and they're advocating for space on campus for foster youth.
- Mesa Promise students volunteered at the Promise gala: An Evening with Annette Bening to Benefit the San Diego Promise and were described as "professional, courteous, and represented Mesa well." Year 2 Promise student, Harley Sobreo, spoke on behalf of Mesa Promise and introduced Chancellor Carroll at the event.
- Student Affairs partnered with the office of Outreach to provide on-campus voter registration support during the Constitution Day celebration. In addition, non-profit organizations dedicated to encouraging college students to register and vote were included in the Club Rush lineup.
- Assessment participated in the Spirit Week office decorating contest and won third place for "Dreams Under Construction" masterminded by Amy Bettinger.

Innovations & Data

- In September, DSPS supported students with 1,198 drop-in services and 312 appointments.
- STAR TRIO is reviewing the potential barriers to our program due to our application process and orientation requirements.
- San Diego Mesa College was among the fifty-nine California Community Colleges to receive grant funding to expand Veterans Resource Center. San Diego Mesa College will be awarded \$200,000.00 to support Mesa's Veterans Resource Center. The grant funding was awarded to eligible colleges through a competitive process.

- State-wide, there is a new ADT initiative Association of California Colleges and Universities. Many will begin a providing a seamless admissions process for student with the ADT.
- Established Mesa's EEO/504/Disciplinary Officer position was approved at the September 13th Board of Trustee Meeting. This is the first classification of its kind within the District.
- The Promise Program launched an electronic Progress Report tool on September 21st. Promise students will have until Oct. 12 to submit a progress request. Instructors will have until Oct. 19 to complete a progress feedback report.

Mesa Pathways

- The Mesa Pathways Committee (MPC) extended an official invitation to the entire campus community to engage our Pathway's work. Our success depends on our collective work towards common goals and structured, open processes. In short, this work cannot be done without you! To figure out how you can join a Mesa Pathways Inquiry Team (aka "Bubble") choose a link or links, below.

[Shared Metrics](#)

[Improved Basic Skills](#)

[Guided Major and Career Exploration](#)

[Inclusive Decision-Making](#)

[Proactive and Integrated Student and Academic Supports](#)

[Clear Program Requirements](#)

To learn more about Mesa/Guided Pathways, please click [here](#).

Policies & Procedures

- The Evaluations staff has been trained on new Cal State Apply applications and are supporting students during their transfer process.
- The Chancellor's Forum: Progress, Issues and Plans 2018-19 (including information on our new Student Centered Funding Formula) can be found [here](#).

Student Success Stories

- Mesa College student Zehra Altimimi, effectively participated in multiple meetings with our Internship Coordinator to get ready to attend the Fall 2018 Internship Fair. Zehra, a first generation college student, a Promise Grant recipient, and a refugee from Iraq was able to update her resume, received a 1:1 internship readiness session, participated in all the activities during the Career Week, and worked on her interview skills – all in September!. Because of her efforts and guidance of Mesa Internship Coordinator, the student was invited to continue the application process with Takeda, the largest pharmaceutical company in Japan and Asia and a top 15 pharmaceutical company in the world.
- A Student came in to see a counselor and briefly shared the financial struggles her and her husband are facing this semester. She goes to school full time, while her husband works as a driver. They discussed applying for CalFresh and The Stand to support her while she is here on campus and ensure she has food. Right after the session, she visited The Stand to get breakfast for herself and the CalFresh rep happened to be there! She connected to the CalFresh rep and the rep processed her application and got her set up the very next day!!

Admissions

Employee Updates

We said goodbye to Deyanira Precido-Bayardo as she pursues her career in teaching/counseling and welcomed Alexis Calderon to the Residency/International office. We are excited to have her join our Admissions team!

Events and Activities

LaKeita Platts presented international application information to the Stafford House International.

Innovations & Data

189 students were seen in person for Residency, International Students, Allied Health and Petition to Challenge. The staff processed 264 forms manually to assist students with their registration. The total enrollment for the ACP and CCAP high school programs is 1,812.

Assessment

Innovations & Data

Assessment provided the following services:

- Placement Assistant: 81
- ELAC: 5
- Orientation: 37

Special Recognition

A huge shout out to Amy Bettinger, the mastermind behind our third place win in the Mesa College Spirit Week office decorating contest. "Dreams Under Construction" was the award winning theme!

AVANZA Student Engagement Center, Peer Navigator, and CRUISE Programs

Employee Updates

Peer Navigator team is complete with no new changes to report.

Events & Activities

Sept. 18

Campus Conexiones: Monthly Speaker Series

Featuring Dr. Leticia Lopez, monthly speaker series aims to motivate students through the narrative of our Latinx community.

Sept. 20 & 24

Peer Navigator Monthly Workshop:

Time Management & Study Skills

Maria Ochoa and Kenny Nguyen presented a monthly workshop offering suggestions on how to best navigate priorities and manage deadlines. Both workshops were offered at different dates/times to offer more options for students.

Sept. 26

Peer Navigator Event: Game Night

Tournament play, snacks, music, and students! The first game night was successful and offered new wave video games (Wii) and retro board games (Connect 4) for CRUISErs. The evening was successful and offered new students a glimpse of events to come to AVANZA.

Innovations & Data

Surveys distributed reflect a need for more student programming. One suggestion from our last monthly speaker series was to feature administrators.

Student Success Stories

The following came from a survey:

"Serena [Delleney - PN] was super nice when I needed help on my resume and gave me a couple suggestions."

Policies & Procedures

Developing ...

Special Recognition

Quintin Wortham, Lead Peer Navigator, has successfully transitioned and embraced his role as a leader. He has reached out to each Peer Navigator to check in and ask how he can best support them. The program is in good hands with Quintin :-)

CalWORKs

Employee Updates

We look forward to adding two work study students to better support with student retention, program growth, and office coverage for the Spring Semester of 2019

Events & Activities

- We have admitted and provided CalWORKs Orientation to 18 new student for Fall 2018
- Sasha attended the California Community College Chancellors Office's CalWORKs Directors training. Some of the discussion was centered on how the CalWORKs program will be in lined with Guided Pathways. The Four Pillars of Guided Pathways was clarified (Clarity of Path, Enter the Path, Stay on the Path, and Ensure Learning).
- Sasha continues to attend CalWORKs Region X meetings to collaborate with regional partners, develop best practices in the outreach effort and to further grow the CalWORKs program.
- Although the CalWORKs department works with student receiving TANF/Cash Aid benefits, several students have stopped by our office looking for support in applying for CalFresh, which we have been able to successfully help them along.

Innovations & Data

- Today we have 40 students in the CalWORKs Program
- In September we had 3 new students
- In August we had 13 new students
- We have 17 continuing students
- We have 7 returning students (at one time was at Mesa and then left and now are back)
- In Fall 2017 total: 37 total students.
- CalWORKs is continuing to accept students throughout the semester.

Student Success Stories

Several of our students are in courses together and have been supporting each other with studying and navigating county processes.

Special Recognition

Special recognition goes to Pahua Vang for being a support in program processes and growth.

Career

Events & Activities

Career Center Presentations:

- Career Center staff members were invited to present in classrooms to provide Career Services and Transfer Services Overview presentations. Thank you to Maria George from the Allied Health Department and to Mary Garcia from the Counseling and Career/Transfer/Evaluation Departments for inviting us to meet your students.
- We were also invited to provide Social Media, MBTI Personality, and Resume Workshops in classrooms. Thank you to Cristina Carrillo, Denise Munoz, and Terrence Hale for inviting us to connect with your students.

Fall 2018 Career Week Events: Résumé Tent & Clothing Closet

Resume Tent

This year, we partnered with WorkAbility III, and we are thankful for their time in providing résumé review appointments to students. Thank you to Krystle Taylor Coordinator of WorkAbility III and her team for joining us on both days in helping students prepare their résumés. We also would like to thank our very own Career Ambassadors for assisting students with résumé reviews as well. 30 students attended the events.

Clothing Closet: Monday, September 24th and Tuesday, September 25th

Every year we offer the “Résumé Tent & Clothing Closet” event. The purpose of the event is to help prepare students for the career fair. We provide 15-20 minute on-the-spot Résumé reviews. We also partner with The Stand and provide free professional clothing items to students and assist with choosing items.

Majors @ Mesa Day Fair on Tuesday, September 25th

The Majors @ Mesa Day is a new event added during Career Week. Students heard from current faculty and students about different programs and majors available including career opportunities within specific majors. Thank you so much to all faculty for their program participation. You made the event successful by showcasing your program and engaging meaningfully with our Mesa students and the visiting high school students from Madison H.S. and Kearny Mesa H.S. The event was coordinated by the new Work Based Learning Team.

A total of 27 programs participated in this event including:

- Anthropology
- Architecture
- Business Administration
- Chemistry
- Chicana and Chicano Studies
- Child Development
- Communication Studies
- Computer and Information Sciences
- Counseling
- Dance
- Dramatic Arts
- Fine Art
- History
- Humanities and Religious Studies
- Italian
- Journalism
- Languages
- Mathematics
- Multimedia
- PATH: (Preparing Accomplished Transfers to the Humanities)
- Personal Training
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Study Abroad
- Sustainability
- Web Development

How to Succeed at a Job & Internship Fair Panel Tuesday, September 25th

This workshop provided students whether they were new to the job and internship search process or a seasoned professional with career fair strategies to improve their efforts and increase their chances of obtaining an interview. We had an employer panel of 5 representatives from different companies who shared their best practices with students. A total of 40 students attended this event.

Internship Fair on Wednesday, September 26th

This event was added to Career Week to help students connect with employers who are specifically recruiting for internship opportunities. A total of 15 companies joined us at Mesa College; a total of 108 registered students attended this event and met with recruiters.

Fall 2018 Job Fair on Thursday, September 27th

Every semester we host a job fair to provide students the opportunity to meet with recruiters looking to hire Mesa students. This semester, 53 companies joined us to recruit Mesa students. We had about 134 registered students and an estimate of over 1,000 student participants at the job fair held outside the Mesa Commons.

Innovations & Data

A total of 35 new contacts were made this month through our online job board.

- Absorption Systems CA
- Antonio Stefano
- Best Western Premier Hotel Del Mar
- Bibigo International, LLC
- Biogeneral
- Calafia Oak Financial Management Group
- ChiroTouch
- Cobham Advanced Electronic Solutions
- Fredericka Manor
- Girl Scouts San Diego
- Inside Prospects Inc.
- Kiddie Commute
- La Mesa Spring Valley Schools
- Logico LLC
- Luna Grill
- National City Chamber of Commerce
- New York Life
- PostalAnnex Mission Valley
- Poway Unified School District
- Rady Children's Physician Management Services
- San Diego County Library
- Script Exploring Academy
- Sidecar Doughnut and Coffee
- Snapology of San Diego
- Sophia + Sam Eco-Boutique
- Spanish Immersion
- SpiritKids Sports
- SpitzLift Manufacturing
- Stellavise, Inc
- Streamlyne
- Sycuan Casino and Resort
- Telaeris, Inc.
- The Louie Ortiz Group
- Tucci Boutique
- Vitality Bowls

Internships:

- In September, the Internship Coordinator facilitated four group workshops with STEM Core students to identify potential internship opportunities based on their individual skills and career interests, create Job Network, LinkedIn, & Portfolium accounts. Likewise, he facilitated three resume and internship search workshops to provide STEM Core students with the right tools to understand the components and structure of a resume as well as how to search for internship opportunities.

- The Internship Coordinator, in collaboration with Work-Based Learning Coordinators, presented the “Work-Based Learning & Internships” Flex Workshop to faculty.
- During September 13 and 14, IC he attended the New World of Work Training at San Diego Miramar College, becoming a certified New World of Work trainer. With this achievement, the Career Center will start providing Workshops for students on 21st Century Skills (soft skills).

Student Success Stories

Mesa College student Zehra Altimimi, effectively participated in multiple meetings with our Internship Coordinator to get ready to attend the Fall 2018 Internship Fair. Zehra, a first generation college student, a Promise Grant recipient, and a refugee from Iraq was able to update her resume, received a 1:1 internship readiness session, participated in all the activities during the Career Week, and worked on her interview skills – all in September!. Because of her efforts and guidance of Mesa Internship Coordinator, the student was invited to continue the application process with Takeda, the largest pharmaceutical company in Japan and Asia and a top 15 pharmaceutical company in the world.

Employer thank you note to our Internship Coordinator:

Hi Pavel, Thank you for inviting us! I ended up talking to about 80 students and many seemed very interested in interning or volunteering. It was one of the most successful outreach events I’ve been to in terms of attendee interest, so thank you for that! Congratulations on a great event! I look forward to partnering more in the future.

Best,
Marina Varano
Outreach & Engagement Coordinator
The San Diego River Park Foundation

Special Recognition

The Career Center would like to thank all of our staff for making Career week possible. Special recognition goes to Alicia Lopez, Olivia Picolla, and Amara Tang. Additionally we would like to thank Shawn Fawcett, Katlin Choi, and Pavel Consuegra for helping us in coordinating the Majors and Internship Fairs. THANK YOU!

Counseling

Events & Activities

- SDICCA Intern Meeting with Laura Mathis doing an excellent job.
- The department held its first meeting of the Counseling Role Paper Rewrite Committee.
- Chair attended two meeting involving National University. The biggest takeaway was that Mesa will work collaboratively with N.U. to make sure that our students have a nurturing environment that will facilitate their success at N.U.

Innovations & Data

- Drop-Ins: 1220
- Appointments: 536
- Total: 1681

Special Recognition

- A special shout out to our Music department for their beautiful singing in our building!
- All of our counseling department deserves recognition!

DSPS

Events & Activities

- DSPS conducted a training for the Classroom and Graduate tutors
- DSPS faculty participated in the Counseling and Financial Aid workshop

Innovations & Data

- In September, DSPS supported students with 1,198 drop-in services and 312 appointments.
- 339 test were proctored in the DSPS proctoring center
- 102 students utilized the DSPS High Tech Center for a total of 650 hours
- 31 alternate media requests were processed

EOPS/CARE

Employee Updates

Next UP (Formally known as CAFYES) is ecstatic to add Nanyamka Hill to the team of experts serving foster youth at Mesa College. Nanyamka has over 10 years of experience serving foster youth at Cuyamaca College and she's excited to bring her expertise to San Diego Mesa College as the Adjunct Counselor serving Next Up students.

Events & Activities

- EOPS Region X EOPS meeting SDSU
- Region X Counselor Summit

FAST Scholars and Next Up collaborated with San Diego State University for our "Aztec Bowling Night". Mesa College students were provided with a campus tour, information about SDSU Guardian Scholars Program, and an opportunity to network with SDSU Guardian Scholars. The purpose of the event was to provide prospect students to have a personalized campus tour, learn more about the camp and resources available. The event was inspired by a student who transferred to SDSU after graduating from SD Mesa as a FAST Scholars. The student, Daniella, said she was inspired to attend SDSU after participating in an on campus tour and meeting guardian scholars at SDSU. Our goal each year is provide foster youth with an experience at SDSU that will inspire them to transfer and receive resources which will allow them to graduate debt free.

After years of not having a club for foster youth, we are pleased to announce FAST Scholar Club is an official club serving foster youth at San Diego Mesa College. Emilio Carranza-Davis (President) and Yesenia (Vice President) are leading our FAST Scholars Club to a bright and successful future. The club has an average of 12 students attending meetings on a weekly basis and they're advocating for space on campus for foster youth.

Innovations & Data

The digital committee met and now we have a Twitter Account, a new FACEBOOK Account and an Instagram Account. We will be updating and promoting activities, spotlighting students and promoting campus events.

Student Success Stories

A Student came in to see a counselor and briefly shared the financial struggles her and her husband are facing this semester. She goes to school full time, while her husband works as a driver. They discussed applying for CalFresh and The Stand to support her while she is here on campus and ensure she has food. Right after the session, she visited The Stand to get breakfast for herself and the CalFresh rep happened to be there! She connected to the CalFresh rep and the rep processed her application and got her set up the very next day!!

Evaluations

Employee Updates

On September 1st Olivia Picolla started her new role as the evaluations department Student Services Technician.

Events & Activities

The department participated in Spirit Week and supported Career and Transfer events this month.

Innovations & Data

Summer 2018 Diplomas have been ordered and are in the process of being sent out to students.

Student Success Stories

Summer 2018 degrees and certificates are being mailed out to students. Congrats Olympians!

Policies & Procedures

The Evaluations staff has been trained on new Cal State Apply applications and are supporting students during their transfer process.

Special Recognition

A special recognition goes out to our Evaluations staff. Olivia Picolla and Deborah Salazar played a pivotal role in executing the Career Centers "Career Week" events.

Financial Aid

Employee Updates

We welcome Lilibeth (Lili) Rodriguez as our new FA Technician. Lili has been an SSA in the Financial Aid Office responsible for the Cal Grant / Chafee programs as well as processing the CA Dream Act applications. She will remain as part of the FA ERP team.

Events & Activities

With the incredible assistance from Mesa Ambassadors, Johanna from the Equity Office, Facilities staff, Dean Miller and VPSS Hands and their staff, we were able to assist by allowable means the Accounting Office for the in person seamless distribution of over \$3.7 M to approximately 2800 financial aid Mesa students.

For the 1st time in 14 years, and for the right reasons, we did not host the Fall Financial Aid Information Fair due to scheduling conflict with the check distribution.

Innovations & Data

Parent borrowers will no longer have to complete a loan request/paper application. Parents will use the Department of Education site to apply and we will download the loan application and credit evaluation information. We are still ironing out a few steps, but this will reduce the confusion for many parents.

Student Success Stories

Our success stories are dependent on so many people, especially the effort and willingness of District Finance staff to help above their traditional procedures and process the loan checks for two students who had already being technically evicted from their rental units. The students were persistent in their desperation and both got their funds in time to make their commitment and have a stable place to call home.

Policies & Procedures

ERP has us in constant motion as we learn best practices and new procedures to operate and provide our students with the necessary assistance.

Special Recognition

Since there are so many and from so many departments that deserve a special recognition. A BIG SHOUT OUT to everyone who played a direct or indirect role in the distribution of the financial aid checks, it couldn't have been done without your unselfish work and interest to see this through, especially to Lynn Neault and the District's Finance Department (Michael Ledesma, Thu Trim, Rowena Rodriguez and I'm sure and unknown number of other staff). To the FA staff who rotated in doing what needed to be done and help and to Mesa's Student Accounting Office staff, who had never had to deal with such high volume of students coming to pick-up their checks and kept going on always with a smile.

Outreach & Community Relations

Employee Updates

- Nasreddine El Akkad and Isidro Velez-Valenzuela joined the Outreach team in September as Student Ambassadors.
- Student Ambassadors and Outreach Staff participated in the now monthly District Student Ambassador Trainings, this recent training was held on September 28th at San Diego City College. Student ambassadors from across the District were given an overview and tour of the following programs: Radio, TV and Film, HVAC, Machine Technology, Photography, Nursing and Cosmetology.
- On September 26th, Outreach Staff attended the following meeting at Grossmont College: A New Funding Opportunity: Adoption and Integration of Onboarding Practices with Guided Pathways. During this meeting, Outreach learned about the regional strong workforce program and how beneficial this program will be for our students. Outreach is looking forward to contributing to this work.

Events & Activities

Outreach:

- Outreach Ambassadors conducted individual tours for over 30 people in the month of September, showcasing Mesa College's programs and services and why Mesa College is the right fit for them.
- 9/14 - Outreach with the assistance of the Admissions Department hosted Stafford House International. Students from France were given a campus tour, a Mesa College welcome presentation, and a presentation on the international students admissions process. Admissions staff presented and answered questions students had about the process.

Promise:

- 9/20 - Mesa Promise students volunteered at the Promise gala: An Evening with Annette Bening to Benefit the San Diego Promise and were described as "professional, courteous, and represented Mesa well." Year 2 Promise student, Harley Sobreo, spoke on behalf of Mesa Promise and introduced Chancellor Carroll at the event.
- 9/28 - Promise hosted our first Midterms Study Hall of the semester and the five students who joined us said that they were grateful to have a dedicated time and place to study with snacks and fellow Promise students. There will be 3 more Midterms Study Halls this semester (10/3, 10/5, and 10/9).

Innovations & Data

Promise:

Year 1 (18-19) Cohort: 696 Promise students

Year 2 (17-18) Cohort: 144 Promise students

We are always in search of volunteer opportunities for Year 2 students to complete their community service requirement. If you have a need for student volunteers for your department or group, please reach out to datajar@sdccd.edu!

Policies & Procedures

Promise: We began our Progress Report Process to fulfill requirement with Year 1 students, which is being conducted completely online. Year 1 received an email on September 20th outlining the process to request progress reports from their professors with a link to the online request form. So far, 182 students have submitted requests for their instructors to complete Progress Reports. 270 grades have been submitted by instructors. Students have until October 12 to submit requests and instructors have until October 19 to submit grades. Students in other programs that require Progress Reports have the option to submit a copy of that Progress Report in lieu of the online form.

Special Recognition

A very special shout out to the entire Outreach team who put together a highly entertaining and interactive office display for the Spirit Week office decorating contest. Outreach ESPN provided highlights of prior games and our predictions of the outcome of the homecoming game. Their efforts led our department to a 2nd place finish! Congratulations to all!

STAR TRIO

Innovations & Data

- Office Lab use visits and appointments: 662
- Supplies: provided: 276

Policies and Procedures

We are reviewing the potential barriers to our program due to our application process and orientation requirements.

Student Affairs

Events & Activities

Club Rush

Fall Club Rush occurred as usual in September and saw the participation of 21 student clubs and organizations. Groups were encouraged to step-up their presence this semester through active demonstrations or presentations that communicate the nature and message of their clubs and, while obviously this will look different depending on which group is presenting themselves, quite a few groups represented themselves very elaborately. This was especially true for the new Martial Arts Alliance group, which did mixed martial arts demonstrations, and the Fashion Club, which had a variety of their materials and techniques for craft on display. All participating groups were able to sign up at least a few new members, and four student groups (Martial Arts Alliance, Business, Fashion and Chinese Culture Club) received more than fifty signups each over the three-day event.

Spirit Week

Spirit Week is a series of activities and events on campus that promote and support the semester's Homecoming Game, which in this case took place on Saturday, September 22. There are three main components to Spirit Week: the Office Decorating Contest, administered by the Classified Senate, the Spirit Rally, implemented under the direction of Student Affairs in cooperation with many other campus departments, and the Homecoming Tailgate Party, which is a student-centered event sponsored by the Mesa College Associated Students that immediately precedes the Homecoming Game itself. This year the President's Office was declared the official winner of the Decorating Contest, with Outreach and Testing & Assessment coming in a close second- and third-place, respectively. The very brief Spirit Rally held on the Thursday before the game was packed with attendees, including many players from our team and other members of athletic programs. Finally, the Tailgate Party was attended by more than two hundred students, family and other members of the public.

AS Elections

The Mesa College Associated Students held in-house elections during September, seeking to fill vacant seats on their student senate. The current roster for the AS features a full executive body, 14 senators, 1 Student Judicial Review Board Member, and 7 appointed positions.

Constitution Day

Once again the Thomas Jefferson School of Law (TJSL) conducted a moot court presentation as the centerpiece event of Mesa College's mandatory celebration for Constitution Day. This year the case being presented was *Timbs vs Indiana*, a case which dealt with seizure of private property by the government and the extent to which seizing private property is allowed. The event was well-attended, and the guest speakers from TJSL expressed their eagerness to return again next year for another presentation.

Register to Vote

Student Affairs partnered with the office of Outreach to provide on-campus voter registration support during the Constitution Day celebration. In addition, non-profit organizations dedicated to encouraging college students to register and vote were included in the Club Rush lineup.

Assistance with Distribution Process for Financial Aid

Student Affairs staff provided direction and support during the Financial Aid check distribution special occasion, most directly by organizing and implementing enhancements to the distribution center aimed at making the experience more enjoyable for the students. Student Affairs in particular was so impressed with the impact received by operating the Bookstore's popcorn machine that we plan to acquire one of our own for use during Student Affairs and Student Services major events.

Staff Development

Disciplinary and Compliance Officer Claudia Perkins began attending a course of study titled "Culturally Responsive Teaching & The Brain," the goal of which being to promote authentic engagement and rigor among culturally and linguistically diverse students. A secondary goal of the course is to bring restorative justice principles into the conduct process.

Student Success Stories

Congratulations to Baktash Olomi for serving as the Chair of the Associated Students Tailgate Party. It was a great success that was engaging, celebratory and spirited. Baktash and the entire AS Team demonstrated great leadership. THANK YOU!

Special Recognition

Thank you to the facilities crew for helping set up, organize and clean up the entire Homecoming Tailgate and Football game. Our facilities crew lead by Jacqueline Collins and Eddie are so thoughtful, organized and always thinking ahead. We appreciate you. Special THANK YOU to Mesa College Accounting Team and Financial Aid. Both Teams led the Financial Aid Check distribution with great collaboration and excellence. It was a smooth success. Students waiting in line were pleased with the organization and friendly faces greeting them. THANK YOU Ambassadors and Student Affairs Interns for helping create the warm and welcome feel. Clearly Mesa College Student Services are an incredible team putting Students First!

Student Development

Employee Updates

- Congratulations to Olivia Picolla for her recent promotion as SST for Transfer, Career, and Evaluations.
- Congratulations and welcome to Alexis Calderon for her recent position as SST in Admissions, supporting Residency.

Policies & Procedures

San Diego Mesa College was among the fifty-nine California Community Colleges to receive grant funding to expand Veterans Resource Center. San Diego Mesa College will be awarded \$200,000.00 to support Mesa's Veterans Resource Center. The grant funding was awarded to eligible colleges through a competitive process.

Special Recognition

- Thank you to Ramiro Hernandez for his hard work coordinating this year's Veterans Week Activities, along with LaWanda Foster and Adrian Tanjuaquio.
- Thank you to Ramiro Hernandez, Claudia Estrada, Pavel Consuegra, Shawn Fawcett, and Katlin Choi for supporting our Veterans of Internship Program at Mesa.
- Thank you to the Transfer, Evaluations, and Career Center team for a job well done with this year's Career Week Activities along with this year's Fall 2018 Career Fair. Events such as the Resume and Free Professional Clothing Closet, along with workshops such as How to Succeed at a Job and Internship Fair Panel, along with the Majors Fair, Internship Fair, and the Job Fair are wonderful events that help support and prepare students for their success. Thank you to the TEC Team along with the WBL team for their hard work and support!

Student Health Services

Employee Updates

Linda Gibbins-Croft LCSW is our new Counseling Coordinator. Linda previously served as an Adjunct Faculty Counselor at Mesa and as a Therapist at Scripps Health outpatient center. For the past 2 years, Linda served as a supervising Therapist at Southern Indian Health in Alpine. Linda brings a high level of expertise in managing symptoms of high acuity mental illness, depression and anxiety.

Events & Activities

Suicide Prevention Week September 10th through 13th:

- Mark Malebranche RN PhD and Mesa Vista Psychiatric Hospital Community Outreach provided suicide prevention strategies and referrals to students in front of the Mesa Commons.
- Tracy Fried MSW, Rebecca Lee LMFT and student Peer Educators provided "Kindness Rocks". This was a rock painting event along with purposeful conversations to reduce stress, talk about depression and learn new skills.
- We encouraged students to sign on to Kognito, an avatar based method to learn how to talk with students who might be suicidal.
- We handed out stress balls and head 'massagers' along with relaxation techniques.
- We held two QPR classes in September: one with Lori Senini RN and one with Michelle Madden from Survivors of Suicide Loss. QPR is free to the College and is easy to arrange. Everyone is welcome to request a speaker (email Suzanne at skhambat@sdccd.edu).
- Rebecca Lee LMFT met with Mesa Athletes who are grieving after the unexpected loss of their teammate.
- Tracy Fried MSW is collaborating with Sade Burrell and the Former Foster Youth program. Tracy is providing education on Self Care 101 (mental health).

Danielle Lauria PA provided flu vaccinations for Allied Health students.

Innovations & Data

- In September Nurses, Therapists and a Physician served 782 students.
- We held our first mass vaccination flu shot event vaccinating 270 students in one day. Students from the University of San Diego Nurse Practitioner program and San Diego City College Nursing school provided support with questionnaires, vaccinations and post vaccination education. We are grateful for the support of San Diego City College and University of San Diego faculty for supporting their students at the event. Mark Malebranche RN PhD, a Navy Veteran, provided flu vaccinations for Mesa Veterans in the Student Veterans Resource Center.
- Active Minds is now an official club at Mesa. Students have signed up to be officers and they held their first club meetings in late September.
- This is our second semester where Dr. Calvin Wong MD has had an open schedule for 8, rather than 4 hours. Our trial in Spring 2018 revealed a slow yet upward climb for student participation. This semester, Dr. Wong is completely booked at least 80% of his time.

Special Recognition

Special Recognition goes to Mark Malebrache RN, PhD who has worked ever so hard arranging and performing Suicide Prevention week and mass flu vaccinations this month. Mark is tirelessly ordering items, reserving space and planning collaborations. Thank you Mark!

Student Success & Equity

Employee Updates

Robin Bolden came on board as a project assistant to support the Stand operations. Welcome, Robin.

Events & Activities

- CalFresh held its first outreach and CalFresh recruitment effort, 36 applications were submitted and 22 other students receive enrollment assistance.
- SSE participated in and presented at the President's Breakfast.
- Facilitated SDICCCA Fellows training on student services.

Transfer

Events & Activities

The Transfer Center helped students complete Spring 2019 CSU Apps, UC Tags and hosted a Mini College Fair for the San Diego Education Consortiums (SDEC). Transfer Center Coordinator Attended the CSU Counselor's conference.

Innovations & Data

- Mesa is a member of SDEC which is consortium of all private schools and community colleges in the area. We are going through a rebranding and website redesign process which was a class project by students at The Art Institute.
- State-wide, there is a new ADT initiative Association of California Colleges and Universities. Many will begin a providing a seamless admissions process for student with the ADT.
- Mesa hosted its first Fall Fair on 9/19 with 15 schools. Many of these schools are in SDEC and offer some type of transfer advantage with the ADT. This is a great option for local students who are denied from SDSU and UCSD.
- It takes a village to transfer a student! Some transfer numbers...
 - Mesa's transfer rate is 42%
 - Students who indicate they want to transfer is 53%.
 - 49% of students are transfer prepared but do not transfer. If you are working with students please encourage them to see a counselor and visit the transfer center. We want to close this gap and get students the support they need to meet their goals.
 - We have 34 ADT that are eligible for SDSU
 - TC hosted 10 university Rep Visits and workshops in September

Student Success Stories

UCSD had first day of class on 9/27! Congrats to all the UCSD transfers!

Policies & Procedures

We are launching a CSU application workshop this year to assist large groups of students with the application vs. inundating the transfer center space and hopefully giving the staff a break.

Special Recognition

Thank you to Gity for doing a great job on Transfer Day planning. Thank you to Olivia for all the amazing flyers and posters and all other support work she does for transfer. Jacob and Eric have been diligently working to support all our TCE events and manage students at a busy time. Big thanks to the entire TCE team.

Veterans & Records

Employee Updates

Mesa VIP has started recruiting for Spring 2019 internships. We already have over 20 applicants in just a few days of opening the online application.

Events & Activities

Preparing for Veterans Week Celebration and finalizing some of the events.

Vice President Student Services

Employee Updates

- In her capacity as Campus Solutions College Liaison, Vice President Hands notified Dean's, Managers and Supervisors of the new timeline for the rolling go-lives, along with key milestones and plans. Highlights included notification that all scheduled Campus Solutions trainings sessions will be rescheduled.

Events & Activities

- VP Hands attended *An Evening with Annette Bening to Benefit the San Diego Promise*. Ashanti was honored to be a part of the check presentation in the amount of \$75,000 for funds raised through the SD Mesa Foundation Promise Match. For more information about the event click [here](#).
- VP Hands hosted our Center for Urban Education Advisory Committee Meeting with a focus on Equity Efforts Assessment – Planning for Equity. Topics included an update on the status of our equity efforts assessment process, finalizing and implementation plan for our Mesa Equity Crosswalk and discussion of CUE's Equity Planning Initiatives: From Student Equity Plan to the Integrated Plan Report.
- VP Hands provided a Student Services overview at our annual SDICCCA Internship Training.
- The M&M team hosted a Back to School Brunch. Pancakes were enjoyed by all.
- Mesa representatives (Monica Romero, Gabriel Adona, Ramiro Hernandez, Hai Hoang, Charlie Lieu, and Patricia Rodriguez) attended the Navigating Student Success Technology Workshop presented by the Regional Strong Workforce Program. The team conducted a technology opportunity assessment and created a technology and student information flow map. This helped to identify successes and growth we made through the use of technology as well as identified challenges and opportunities for improvement.

Mesa Pathways

- The Mesa Pathways Committee (MPC) extended an official invitation to the entire campus community to engage our Pathway's work. Our success depends on our collective work towards common goals and structured, open processes. In short, this work cannot be done without you! To figure out how you can join a Mesa Pathways Inquiry Team (aka "Bubble") choose a link or links, below.

[Shared Metrics](#)

[Improved Basic Skills](#)

[Guided Major and Career Exploration](#)

[Inclusive Decision-Making](#)

[Proactive and Integrated Student and Academic Supports](#)

[Clear Program Requirements](#)

To learn more about Mesa/Guided Pathways, please click [here](#).

Innovations & Data

- VP Hands coordinated a meeting with National University's President and Director of Community College Pathways and Mesa College leadership to discuss ADT's and the many ways we can learn from one another. National University is seeking to support our community college students as they pursue their Bachelor's Degree. National University has developed ADT pathways and is offering a 46% tuition reduction scholarship for CCC students who have earned their ADT or Transferable Associates degree in the past 12 months. Student Development will continue dialogue regarding options and opportunities.
- Established Mesa's EEO/504/Disciplinary Officer position was approved at the September 13th Board of Trustee Meeting. This is the first classification of its kind within the District.
- Worked with Dean Maxey and District Offices to finalize our SD Food Bank partnership. This partnership will fall under Student Equity and will allow us to expand our services surrounding food insecurity.
- A total of 121 questions were entered through the Student Services Questions Project. This information will be combined with questions attained from other systems to further improve the navigation of our web content.
- The Promise Program launched an electronic Progress Report tool on September 21st. Promise students will have until Oct. 12 to submit a progress request. Instructors will have until Oct. 19 to complete a progress feedback report.
- The Mesa Journeys Team (Claudia Estrada, Leroy Johnson, Genevieve Esguerra, Trina Larson, Joel Arias, and Charlie Lieu) presented the improvements made to the "Your Mesa Journey Tool" at the September MSSC meeting. We are looking forward to launching the tool in October!

Policies & Procedures

- Chancellor's cabinet agreed to waive enrollment fees for all concurrently enrolled students. The District is making the changes to our forms/application.
- The Chancellor's Forum: Progress, Issues and Plans 2018-19 (including information on our new Student Centered Funding Formula) can be found [here](#).

Special Recognition

- A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the Student Services Questions Project!
- I would like to extend a special thanks to Anthony Alfuentes, Jacqueline Collins, Lynn Dang, Genevieve Esguerra, Frank Fernandez, Gilda Maldonado, Vicki Miller, and Zed Schultz for working so closely with me and district student services to implement a check distribution process that connected students with financial resources in ways that prevented further delays. This team manually distributed an estimated 1,800 checks to students over the course of four days. I thank each of them, and members of their teams, for creating a seamless, efficient and student-centered process.