

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

President's Cabinet

March 17, 2026 | 2:15 – 3:45 p.m. | MC 211 A

1) CALL TO ORDER: Ashanti Hands, President

2) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

<p>a) District and Campus Updates: President Hands shared the following updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) San Diego Mesa College has been named by the U.S. Department of State as a Top Producer of Gilman Scholars (2001–2025). This designation recognizes how Mesa College continues to support students in gaining transformative international experiences that build academic, professional, and intercultural skills. Dr. Hands recognized Dora Schoenbrun-Fernández as one of the leads for this effort. 2) The 36-hour work week pilot ends on April 3, 2026. There are no plans to extend beyond that date. All of the data from this pilot will be reviewed. 3) The summer 4/10 schedule will begin on June 1, 2026 and end on August 7, 2026. 4) The Spring Chancellor's Forum will be held at Mesa College on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. in MC 211 A/B. 5) Last week Mesa College received a Congressional Certificate of Recognition from Congresswoman Sara Jacobs in recognition of our Black-Serving Institutional designation. We are working with her on some congressional funding and spending to support child care for evening student parents. 6) Jumpstart event was held last weekend; kudos to Student Affairs and all of the staff that helped coordinate, creating space for that event, and attended to be there to answer questions from the students. Dr. Hands encouraged those in the future to host a table for their school/department. 7) Today is Vice President of Administrative Services Lorenze Legaspi last President's Cabinet meeting. Ashanti thanked him for his service. This Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at the C building Gazebo area there will be a reception in honor of Lorenze. Director Jacqueline Collins will serve as Acting VPA until we find a permanent replacement. 8) Today at Chancellor's Cabinet the Campus Climate Survey was discussed. The Chancellor will reference it at the Forum. 9) Dr. Hands served as keynote speaker this morning at the Dual Enrollment Equity Conference. 	<p>Ashanti Hands, President</p>
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3) STANDING REPORTS – GOVERNANCE

<p>a) Associated Students: Associated Students representative, Tonya Trusova, shared that next week, March 23-25, is Student Advocacy Week in the Quad. This will be a series of events hosted by Mesa AS; the goal is promote student leadership and advocacy. This event is designed to bring students together to welcome</p>	<p>Tonya Trusova, AS Representative</p>
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<p>them to the campus and provide information on student government.</p>	
<p>b) Classified Senate: Classified Senate President, Ayana Woods, shared the following updates: 1) CS is hosting a t-shirt contest; all can submit a proposal, but it is specifically geared toward classified professionals. 2) Classified Service Awards event will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on the Quad.</p>	<p>Ayana Woods, President</p>
<p>c) Academic Senate: Academic Senate President, Mary Gwin, shared that the Senate met on March 9, 2026. The next meeting will be held March 23, 2026 and they will be discussing the possibility of Canvas Nuventive Connection.</p>	<p>Mary Gwin, President</p>
<p>4) INSTITUTIONAL REPORTS</p>	
<p>Faculty Hiring Priority Committee: The First Reading of the Faculty Hiring Priority List was presented at President’s Cabinet. The second reading will be brought forward to the April 7, 2026 President’s Cabinet meeting.</p> <p>Budget Allocation Recommendation Committee (BARC): The second reading of the BARC list was presented by Vice President of Administrative Services, Lorenze Legaspi. A second reading was held; no changes were made to the original document presented on 3-3-26.</p> <div data-bbox="64 1201 760 1356" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Action Item: A motion was made to accept the BARC Resource List by Cynthia Rico; Second: Ian Duckles. The motion carried with 12 in favor and one abstention.</p> </div> <p>Basic Needs Brief: Real College California Survey on Housing and Food Insecurities: Vice President Student Services Larry Maxey, Dean Leticia Diaz, and Administrative Technician Pahua Vang presented a Basic Needs brief which included information on the Real College Survey, data on the Spring Semester 2025 Basic Needs insecurity at Mesa College, disproportionately impacted students, national outlook, and The Stand Basic Needs Resource Center.</p>	<p>Isabel O’Connor, Vice President, Instruction Mary Gwin, President, Academic Senate</p> <p>FHP Ranking List: https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/FHP_Requests_Ranking_Pcab_3-17-26.pdf</p> <p>Lorenze Legaspi, VPA</p> <p>Budget Allocation Recommendation Committee – Second Reading . BARC Scoring 2026 https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/BARC_2026_Scoring_3-3-26.pdf</p> <p>Larry Maxey, Vice President, Student Services Johanna Aleman, Basic Needs Coordinator Pahua Vang, Administrative Technician</p> <p>Basic Needs Presentation: https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/Basic_Needs_Real_College_Presentation_Pcab_3-17-26.pdf</p>
<p>5) OPERATIONS</p>	
<p>a) Instructional Updates: Vice President of Instruction, Isabel O’Connor, shared the following updates:</p>	<p>Isabel O’Connor, VPI</p>

- 1) Enrollment for the second 8-week classes is strong, about 6,000 FTES.
- 2) Deans/Chairs are busy planning summer and fall.
- 3) Report from the Chancellor's Office for the statewide enrollment for fall and it was up 2.4% statewide in terms of headcount. The FTES was up by 5%+.
- 4) Trends being seen across the state has shown increasing enrollment and seeing a lot more funding from the outgoing Governor. Also seeing a decline in ESL non-credit, particularly in the LA area and North Orange County and also a decline in some computer science program enrollments across the state because of the effects of AI on programming. Also, increases in some career-tech areas.
- 5) Dr. O'Connor is now serving as part of the Chancellor's Office workgroup on bachelor's degrees as of yesterday. Chancellor Christian is pushing for a lot of the bachelor's degrees legislation – there are five bills advancing.
- 6) Minority-serving institution (MSI) – some discussions on the funding drying up – the state is struggling on how we continue this work on behalf of our students. There is a proposal to use a clause on Title V that states you can remove positions counting against the 50% that are unrestricted general funded but there are not classroom related; this will provide temporary relief but you have to use general funding.
- 7) There is no knowledge of what is going to happen with the MSI Funding; congress appropriated the funds but they have not been allocated.
- 8) Dr. O'Connor recognized Dean Storey and the faculty and coordinators at the Veterinary P-Building for their Dog Wash event.

b) Student Services Updates: Vice President of Student Services, Larry Maxey, shared the following updates:

- 1) VPSS Maxey thanked all for their hard work for the Jumpstart event held on March 14, 2026. It was nice to see 250 of our incoming students from various feeder high schools as well as CE was represented. It was nice to experience the CE attendance and that transition/pipeline is happening and that we continue to feed it.
- 2) The online orientation is switching to a new online platform; it will be down during spring break.
- 3) Smile season events that showcase and honor the success of our students. Commencement is our primary event, but VPSS Maxey highlighted on screen the affinity groups and their celebrations. Link: <https://www.sdmesa.edu/student-support/graduation-and-commencement/community-award-ceremonies.shtml>

c) Administrative Services Updates: Vice President of Administrative Services, Lorenze Legaspi, shared that we are installing classroom QR codes to auto-dial for

Larry Maxey, VPSS

Lorenze Legaspi, VPA

emergency immediate attention. Stickers will be distributed to all of the classrooms; VPA Legaspi thanked Director David Fierro and his team.

d) Institutional Effectiveness Updates: Dean Hai Hoang presented updates for Roadmap 2 and PIEC.

e) Mesa Comprehensive Campaign: Director Stellmacher thanked those that enrolled in a focus group; these will be held next week. You may still register for a focus group. At a future President's Cabinet meeting she will share the findings of those focus groups.

Hai Hoang, Dean, Institution Effectiveness

IE Presentation:

https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/IE_Update_Pcab_3-17-26.pdf

Krista Stellmacher, Director of Dev. / Entrepreneurship

All-Campus Events:

Chancellor's Forum at Mesa College: Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., MC 211 A/B
Spring Break, March 30 – April 3, 2026

Mesa College Scholarship Awards: Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 4:30 p.m. Check-In, Mesa Gym

Honors Celebration, Thursday, April 30, 2026: 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., D-101

Raza Graduation, Friday, May 1, 2026, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m., Mesa Quad

DSPS Graduation Ceremony, Tuesday, May 5, 2026: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., LRAS 110

Speech & Debate Showcase, Tuesday, May 5, 2026: 5:00 -7:00 p.m., G-101

Veterans' Recognition Ceremony, Wednesday, May 6, 2026: 4:30 – 7:00 p.m., MC 211 A/B

Mesa Research Conference: Friday, May 8, 2026: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., M+S building

Rite of Passage: Monday, May 11, 2026, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., City College, A Patio

EOPS & Special Programs, Wednesday, May 13, 2026, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m., Quad

Transfer Recognition Luncheon: Thursday, May 14, 2026, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., MC 211 A/B

AAPI Recognition Ceremony: Friday, May 15, 2026, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., Mesa Quad

Lavender Celebration: Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:00 p.m., D-101

Classified Service Awards: Wednesday, May 20, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Mesa Quad

Golden Scissors Fashion Show, Friday, May 22, 2026, 4:30 – 7:30 p.m., Mesa Quad

PTA Pinning Ceremony: Friday, May 22, 2026, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., MC 211 A/B

SD Mesa College Commencement, Friday, May 29, 2026, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., Merrill Douglas Stadium

Proposed Classicon, June 2 – 4, 2026, UnSung Hero and Luncheon on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m., MC 211 A/B

Spring 2026 Semester Pcab Meetings: 2/3, 2/17, 3/3, 3/17, 4/7, 4/21, 5/5 Pcab Retreat, 5/19

*Institutional Committees / Special Reports / Spotlight:

2/3/26: Veterans' & Records Department & Veterans Success Center (J. Agricola)

2/17/26:

3/3/26: Mesa DE Committee (K. Palacios; K. Lacher); AI Update (A. Gurganus); BARC first reading (L. Legaspi)

3/17/26: FHP First Reading (I. O'Connor); Real College (L. Maxey); BARC second reading (L. Legaspi)

4/7/26: FHP Second Reading (I. O'Connor); Sustainability (W. Ray); Proposed Roadmap Roadshow first reading

(H. Hoang; L. Legaspi)

4/21/26: ESC Update (M. Rodriguez); CDAIE (J. Villalobos); Proposed Roadmap Roadshow second reading (H. Hoang; L. Legaspi)

5/5/26: President's Cabinet Retreat: 2:15 – 5:00 p.m., MC 211 A/B

5/19/26: End-of-Semester Operations Updates: CEL Presentation (J. Johnson); Survey Results (K. Stellmacher)