



Hello Mesa College Community!

Weekly Update from Prez Hands provides a brief overview of the exciting efforts taking place within our community. The updates are also a great way to tell our collective story of success, and to document our journey of becoming the Leading College of Equity and Excellence. Enjoy!

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OFFICE OF THE *President*



I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the incredible Mesa College Team that participated in last week's special Board of Trustees meeting. Their preparation, presence, and partnership made it possible for us to showcase the very best of Mesa, our people, our programs, and our unwavering commitment to students.

Every detail reflected your care. From the thoughtful presentations and seamless logistics to the warmth with which we welcomed our guests, this team helped create an experience that truly embodied our theme of being rooted in purpose, grounded in equity, and growing together.

I want to acknowledge the many hands that made the evening possible. My deep appreciation goes to our presenters, VPs, President's Office, district and college AV and technology teams, Facilities, the Culinary Arts program, and everyone who assisted with hospitality, gift bags, room preparation, photography and behind-the-scenes coordination. Our collective work ensured that the Mesa story was told with clarity, heart, and excellence.

This team showed what it means to serve with purpose and to create the conditions that matter for students to succeed.



Save-the-Date: Holiday Luncheon

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Time: 11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Mesa Commons Room: MC 211 A/B

Vegetarian entrée available and Vegan plates available upon request

President's Cabinet Retreat

On Tuesday, we brought together an expanded group of Mesa College leaders for our fall President's Cabinet Retreat, a space to pause, connect, and lead with clarity during a moment that asks a lot of all of us. Our focus for the afternoon:

- ✦ Grounding ourselves in purpose
- ✦ Naming who we need to be as leaders right now
- ✦ Celebrating the spirit of our work
- ✦ Reflecting on the tensions and opportunities across the college
- ✦ Engaging in collaborative planning that moves our comprehensive fundraising campaign and Mesa2030 forward

Mesa College is strengthened by the collective wisdom of our participatory governance partners, faculty, classified professionals, administrators, and student leaders who were present and fully engaged. I am grateful for this gathering and for the heart, the hope, and the hard work attendees brought into that space.



Conference Deadline Extension

President Hands invites you to apply to attend the **African American Male Education Network & Development (A²MEND) 19th Annual Summit**, held **March 5-6, 2026**, at the Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach, CA. This year's theme, **Sacred Work: (Re)membering, (Re)storing, (Re)birthing Black Men and Boys**, will cultivate the importance of re-establishing the black male success in the community college and their presence in the community as a whole.

Apply by Sunday, November 30, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. [Access the online application form for the A2MEND Conference.](#)

Applications will be reviewed by the Conference and Travel Committee and forwarded to the President for final approval.



[Click here](#) to view the November 2025 Edition of the DEIA News.



BOARD REPORT

[Click here](#) to view the November 13, 2025 Board Report.



SAN DIEGO
Community College District

City College · Mesa College · Miramar College
College of Continuing Education

STEPS TO TAKE IF YOU SEE ICE ON CAMPUS

1. **NOTIFY** the following SDCCD offices:
Chancellor: (619) 388-6957, or
General Counsel: (619) 388-6589
SDCCD Police: (619) 388-6405

2. **ENCOURAGE** students to remain in
their classroom or a private office of a
trusted individual.
(continued on back)

3. WITNESS
Stand by as a witness, if you feel
comfortable doing so. You are legally
entitled to record enforcement activities
as long as you do not directly interfere.

4. RESPOND IF ASKED
"I am not authorized to speak with you,
answer your questions, or provide access
to any people or facilities per SDCCD
policy. Only the District Chancellor and
General Counsel have authority to assist
you. You may contact the Chancellor or
General Counsel at: 3375 Camino del Rio
South, Suite 300 or 330 San Diego, CA
92108, (619) 388-6957 or
(619) 388-6589."

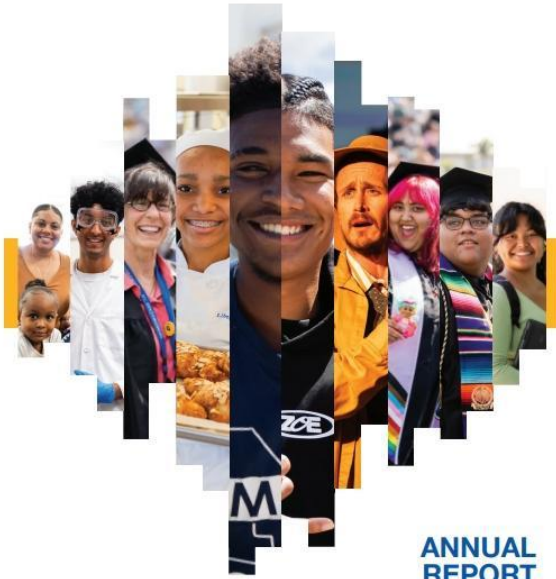
- Do not give consent for them to enter facilities.
- Do not physically interfere with an officer.

Please take a few minutes to look over the safety cards shared at Convocation that outline what to do if an ICE-related incident occurs on campus. These materials provide clear guidance for employees on how to respond and report appropriately.

All U.S. flags in the District will be flown at half-staff, in accordance with the U.S. Flag Code and the direction of Governor Gavin Newsom, until sunset, November 20, 2025, the day of former vice president Dick Cheney's interment.

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

IGNITE YOUR LIGHT



ANNUAL
REPORT
2024/2025

Download Mesa College's Annual Report ►
www.sdmesa.edu/officeofcommunications



Equity in Action Ignite Your Light

At San Diego Mesa College, 2024–2025 was a year of purpose, progress, and pride. Guided by our commitment to equity and excellence, our students made history, our faculty inspired innovation, and our community rose to every challenge. From championship wins and groundbreaking research to high-quality instruction, new student centered spaces, and programs that foster belonging, Mesa continues to lead with heart and vision, creating conditions where every student can thrive.



Ashanti T. Hands, Ed.D.

President, San Diego Mesa College



◀ Scan the QR code to explore our Annual Report
see how Mesa is turning vision into real world impact

[Click here](#) to view the Annual Report 2025-2026.

OFFICE OF *Instruction*

Intersession and Spring 2026

Our students are enrolling! For Intersession, 274 additional students enrolled since last week, making our FTES 261 and our total headcount 2,034. We are making good progress towards our enrollment targets. This is also the case for Spring 2026, where since last week, we gained 954 FTES with 3,080 additional students enrolling. Our headcount for Spring is 9,383 and we are a little over halfway to meeting our FTES enrollment goals. While we have a holiday next week, the system is still open for registration, so we hope to see continual increases in headcount and FTES.



The Mesa Library & Learning Resource Center (LRC) will be **closed for Thanksgiving Break from Monday, November 24 through Friday, November 28**. The LRC will resume regular Fall hours on **Monday, December 1**:

Monday – Thursday: 8:00 am – 8:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm
Closed on Weekends & Holidays

For questions, please contact at 619-388-2696 or email MesaLibrary@sdccd.edu.

OFFICE OF *Student Services*

Mesa College Student Affairs, in collaboration with the Basic Needs Resource Center, Associated Students & Student Health Services, is thrilled to announce a week of events from **November 17th through November 20th** in honor of **Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week**! This week is an annual program where people come together from across the country to draw attention to the problems of hunger and homelessness through education, service, fundraising, and advocacy.

We still need faculty and staff volunteers **from 4:30pm to 6:00pm** for the Thanksgiving Feast, so **if you are available to volunteer and help serve at the event then please follow this link to sign up!** Your support is greatly appreciated!

Join us for music, holiday opportunity drawings, and delicious food prepared by the Mesa Culinary students. The event is open to all members of the Mesa College community at no cost whatsoever.



Thanksgiving Feast

Hosted by the Associated Students

Please join us in kicking off the holiday season!

This event celebrates the spirit of gratitude and togetherness by providing **free food, games, entertainment, and opportunity drawings** for all students.



Join Us

November 20
3:00 - 6:00pm
Mesa Commons
MC-211



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

The Thanksgiving Feast is a joyful way to **kick off the holiday season** and bring students, staff, and faculty together as one Mesa family.

For more information please contact:
Courtney Lee
clee@sdccd.edu or call 619-388-2699

Request for disability related accommodations should be made no later than 5 (five) working days prior to the event at 619-388-2699



Mesa College entered an MOU partnership with the Consulate of Mexico in San Diego to implement the “Ventanilla de Orientación Educativa- The Educational Window” at the Consulate office in order to provide information regarding education to the Mexican nationals or persons of Mexican origin living in the state of California, specifically in the county of San Diego. San Diego Mesa College began offering information and step by step support about the process of pursuing higher education on Friday, November 14, 2025. Mesa will have weekly ongoing representation at the Consulate of Mexico in San Diego. For more information, please contact Leticia Diaz at Ldiaz@sdccd.edu.

New Issue Alert

[Click here for the latest Mesa Journeys Newsletter!](#)

The Mesa Journeys newsletter gives a more in-depth look at all the great things that are happening on our campus. We encourage all faculty and staff to pass this along to our students, and also to sign up to receive these newsletters straight to their inboxes! Click below to sign up and for more information about Mesa Journeys:

<https://linktr.ee/mesajourneys>



[Click on the flyer to enlarge](#)

Native American Heritage Month

NOVEMBER 17-20, 2025

NOVEMBER 1-30
SB BUILDING
3RD FLOOR

Stories of Native American Women's History
A display highlighting the stories of our Native American women and their roles in shaping Native American history.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 4
SB-111
1:00pm-3:00pm

Native American Student Club Meeting: Film Screening
The Mesa College Native American Student Club will be screening a fun action film at their November monthly meeting. Students interested in joining the club are encouraged to attend for more information.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12
LRC-229
1:00pm-2:00pm

Indigenous Languages of Latin America
Come and learn about the array of indigenous languages spoken in Latin America. We will focus on indigenous languages spoken in Mexico. At the end we will learn some basic phrases in Nahuatl!

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12
D102
11:30am-12:00pm

Where We Reside
Informational Presentation about the federal San Diego County, their history and current way of life. It will also contain an interactive component, encouraging students to investigate what tribal lands they reside on, where they were born, or where they grew up, if not from San Diego.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 18
14-306
10:00am-11:00am

Transfer 101
It's never too early to think transfer. We are here to support you on the journey. Learn about the transfer pathway from Community College to 4-year university. The Transfer Center will provide an overview of the transfer process and resources available to students.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 19
BT-101
2:15pm-3:45pm

What's the Deal with Thanksgiving?
Presentation on the origins and history of Thanksgiving, with an emphasis on the relationships of Native Americans with the holiday in the past and the present.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20
MESA FLAG POLE
10:00am-10:30am

Kumeyaay Flag Raising
To demonstrate our collective commitment to society, we take the historic option of raising the Kumeyaay flag in celebration and recognition of the Native peoples of this region. Raising and displaying the flag symbolizes our commitment to our indigenous communities and the Kumeyaay people.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20
MESA QUAD
11:00am-12:30pm

Native American Heritage Month Resource Fair
Join us! This event is celebrating indigenous cultures, traditions, and contributions. There will be resources and informational booths promoting awareness, education, and community engagement. There will be indigenous guest speakers and performances.

sdmesa.edu/native-american-heritage-month
For more information or accommodations, contact: ladiaz@sdccd.edu.

Veterans Celebration Week

NOV. 7th - 20th, 2025

Friday, Nov. 7th
Scholarship FOR Veterans Golf Tournament
12 pm
Cotton Wood Golf Course
We have some slots available for any student veterans that may be interested in participating. Please contact ntalio@sdccd.edu for more details.

Monday, Nov. 10th
Celebrating Mesa's Vets
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
K-103
Join us for lunch in the VSC as we celebrate our faculty, staff, and students who have served our nation.

Wednesday, Nov. 12th
Career Day
11:15 am - 12:15 pm
K-103
Career Panel of local veteran professionals who have created career pathways in diverse industry sectors. Lunch will be provided.

Thursday, Nov. 13th
Veteran Resource Day
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
K-103
Interact with representatives from some of the local programs and services that are available to help you in a wide variety of areas. Lunch will be provided.

Monday, Nov. 17th - 20th
Mindful Moments: The Joy of Painting
Office Hours
K-103
Take a break from classes and join us at the VSC throughout the week in a self-directed activity where you will have access to painting supplies and a 10 x 10 canvas to paint on.

For more information, please contact Veteran Services Team at SDMesaVets@sdccd.edu
Veterans Center, K-103

www.qr.com/q/SDMesaVets

The Student Veterans Emergency Fund: bit.ly/veteransemergencyfund

HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS Awareness Week

NOVEMBER 17-20, 2025

MON 11/17	TUE 11/18	WED 11/19	THUR 11/20
Backpacks & Smiles Mon-Thur 10AM - 5PM Learn practical steps and resources to help and help. The Stand K106/K106 Mesa Scholarships Preview 2:30pm-3:00pm Applications open now! get a sneak peek at the scholarship process. ASG 14-409 Nutrition Made Easy 5-7pm Drop off clothing donations or create limited items to spread warmth to those in need. The Stand K106/K106	Heart Circle 12-2pm Explore prayer through prayerwriting and support mental health. The Stand K106/K106 Family Resource Center (FRC) Room 113 2:30pm-3:00pm Zoom: 848 5955 5322 Knit Together Donation Event 5-7pm Drop off clothing donations or create limited items to spread warmth to those in need. The Stand K106/K106	CalWORKs Parent Cafe 10am-11:30am Connect with Student Parents, enjoy brunch, and build community in a child-friendly space on Mesa's campus. Free Farmer's Market 10:00am-1pm Eat healthy, save money. Free fresh produce & more. Mesa Quad Family Resource Center (FRC) Room 113 2:30pm-3:00pm Zoom: 848 5955 5322 Knit Together Donation Event 5-7pm Drop off clothing donations or create limited items to spread warmth to those in need. The Stand K106/K106	Free Farmer's Market 10:00am-1pm Eat healthy, save money. Free fresh produce & more. Mesa Quad Family Resource Center (FRC) Room 113 2:30pm-3:00pm Zoom: 848 5955 5322 Knit Together Donation Event 5-7pm Drop off clothing donations or create limited items to spread warmth to those in need. The Stand K106/K106

Student Health Services
Location: 14-209, M-Th, 10am-5pm, F 11am-12pm
Student Health Services supports your physical and mental well-being with free or low-cost care, health education, and confidential support for enrolled students. Call 619-388-2774 for an appointment.

Seasonal Flu Shots
Location: 14-209, M-Th, 10am-5pm, F 11am-12pm
Free flu shots for students at Student Health Services (14-209). Call 619-388-2774 for an appointment.

Stand
The Stand: Connect with students facing basic needs insecurity by providing free food, clothing, and other essential resources. Students can also meet with a Basic Needs Counselor for direct support.
Apply Today!
M-Th 10am-5pm, F 11am-12pm

Ways to help:
The Stand: Connect with students facing basic needs insecurity by providing free food, clothing, and other essential resources. Emergency funds, including food, clothing, and other essential resources, are available for students facing basic needs insecurity.

Donation:
If you are in need of food or undergarments, visit The Stand, K106. While supplies last.

Sponsored by The Stand: Basic Needs Resource Center, Associated Students, Student Health, CalWORKs, Career Center, and Student Affairs. Contact: Sharon.Donay@sdccd.edu

GET TO KNOW SDSU PROJECT REBOUND

Join us in learning about resources available at SDSU, including Project Rebound – a program dedicated to bridging the gap between incarceration and higher education.

Explore financial assistance programs, as well as transfer pathways to SDSU, and start building a network of staff and peers!

Thursday, November 20, 2025

12:30pm – 2:00pm

**Rising Scholars Center,
Room 14-204**

Food will be provided



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

@mesarisingscholars
(619) 388-5107
MesaRisingScholars@sdsu.edu

<https://bit.ly/SDSUProjectRebound>

THE LAST RIDE

YOU CONTROL MORE LIVES THAN YOU THINK

November 19th 10:30am-2pm

LRC Quad

Jaws of Life Demonstration | Impairment Simulators
Educational Resources | DUI Driving Course
Guest Speakers | Flu Shots
Free Food

A drug and alcohol prevention event presented by:
SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE
Student Health Services

Request for disability related accommodations should be made no later than five working days prior to the event.
Call (619) 388-2774
Contact Skhambat@sdsu.edu for more info

FALL 2025 SEMESTER FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Available to Mesa Community
Please bring reusable bags

1st Monday of each month 1pm-2pm Mesa Quad	3rd Thursday of each month 11am-1pm Mesa Commons Breezeway
August 4th	August 28th (4th Thursday)
September 2nd (Tuesday)	September 18th
October 6th	October 16th
November 3rd	November 20th
December 1st	December 18th

Attention: STUDENTS!
Connect your CSID card to your San Diego Food Bank ID card. Inquire at the food distribution.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP! MESA COLLEGE TECH HUB



CONNECTING CAMPUS THROUGH TECH

The Tech Hub is designed to provide convenient, walk-up technology services for our students, faculty, and classified professionals.

OUR SERVICES

- Wi-Fi & Access:** Help connecting to SDCCD Wi-Fi.
- Canvas & Tools:** Setup and troubleshooting for Canvas, Zoom, Pronto, and more.
- Accounts & Login Help:** Password resets, Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), SSO issues.
- Email:** Microsoft Outlook.
- General IT Support:** SDCCD devices, software, and digital resources.

NEED HELP?
STOP BY THE TECH HUB IN THE STUDENT SERVICES LOBBY, FIRST FLOOR (I-400)
MON-THURS: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
FRI: 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

CONTACT US OR SCAN THE QR CODE
619-388-7000
<https://help.sdsu.edu>



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE | Transfer Center

Transfer Application Support

UC Application | CSU Application | Common Application

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER:

VIA ZOOM:

- Mondays, 3 - 5 PM
- Fridays, 10 - 12 PM

Register for a Zoom Session:
bit.ly/TransferAppZoom2025



IN-PERSON Room BT-207

- Tuesdays, 12 - 2 PM
- Thursdays, 1 - 3 PM

Register for an In-Person Session
bit.ly/TransferOpenLab25



*Please Note: When registering for an In-Person Session you must select the date you plan to attend.
There will be no labs the following dates: 10/9, 11/1, 11/27, 11/28

CSU USEFUL LINKS:
APPLICATION:
www.ca1state.edu/apply

CSU APPLICATION GUIDE:
<https://tinyurl.com/csuguide25>

UC USEFUL LINKS:
APPLICATION:
apply.universityofcalifornia.edu

UC APPLICATION GUIDE:
<https://tinyurl.com/ucguide25>

mesatransfer@sdsu.edu (619) 388-2473 14-306 (3rd Floor Student Services Bldg.)

Know Your Rights & Emergency Preparedness
Workshops for Undocumented Families

Virtual Workshops

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS! EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Learn about immigrant rights and family safety planning.
Facilitated by SDCCD and Higher Education Legal Services.
This workshop is open to all allies.

Each workshop is from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Join Us on Zoom

<https://sdsu.edu.zoom.us/j/85424752391>

Oct. 15, 2025

Nov. 19, 2025

Dec. 10, 2025

All workshops will be in English with translation services in Spanish and Haitian Creole



HIGHER EDUCATION
LEGAL SERVICES
A program of social justice

For more information, or to request disability services (at least five business days in advance), contact Dean Lillian A. Garcia at lgarcia002@sdsu.edu.

OFFICE OF Administrative Services

Although the deadline for hardware and software requests has passed, the **Print and Mail Services Department** is still accepting requests. However, **priority will be given to those submitted before the deadline.**

Print and Mail Services Department — Print Turnaround Times

- Black & White (Instructional):** Two working days

- **Full Color:** Minimum four working days
- **Large Format:** Minimum six working days

Notes:

- Pick up at **MC-217**.
- For **inter-office mail delivery**, allow **two additional working days**.
- During the **two weeks before and after the first day of instruction**, allow **three additional working days**.
- Jobs with due dates beyond the delivery timeframe (including mail delivery) will be held at **MC-217**.

For more information, please [click here](#).



It's that time of year—the **Classified Senate Fall Fundraiser** is officially here! This year's theme, "**Pals with a Purpose**," ties beautifully into our focus on being *Rooted in Purpose, Grounded in Equity, and Flourishing Together*. It's the perfect way to spread a little joy across campus—one plush pal at a time. Think of it as a tiny act of kindness with a big heart: you can send a **plush friend**, a **sweet treat**, and a **personalized note** of encouragement to a colleague, student worker, friend, family member, or yourself. Whether you want to brighten someone's day, show appreciation, or just make someone smile, these pals are ready for delivery!

How many can you collect?

Here's what you can send (Sample pal examples are at the end):

\$4 – "Mini Pal"

A small plushie friend + a Sweet Treat + a *personalized* message

\$5 – "Midi Pal"

A medium-sized sea creature plush + a Sweet Treat + a *personalized* message

\$6 – "Full Pal"

A dino-sized plush friend + a Sweet Treat + a *personalized* message

The proceeds from this fundraiser help us uplift and invest in our Classified Professionals by supporting the Classified Senate Scholarship and Travel Fund.

How to Purchase Your Pal with a Purpose:

[Complete the order form](#) by **November 30**.

Pick one of the four message card designs (shown below) and write your note.

Submit payment by December 5.

Submit payment:

Cash or check (payable to *San Diego Mesa Classified Senate*) to

Eileen Hayward – A-101

Thieny Trinh – A-109

Jennifer Phelps – BT-203

Ayana Woods – I4-306

Alison Mona – S-300

PayPal: sdmesa.classified.senate@gmail.com

For payment questions, contact our Classified Senate Treasurer, **Eileen Hayward**, at ehayward@sdccd.edu.

Every purchase directly supports the **Classified Senate Scholarship**, the **Classified Travel Fund**, and meaningful professional development and events for our Classified Professionals. Thank you for helping us uplift our Mesa Family—one plush pal at a time. 🧡



The NCI Cohort recently hosted an inspiring **Career Panel** featuring current and former classified professionals from Mesa College! Panelists shared their unique journeys—highlighting the challenges, milestones, and rewarding moments that have shaped their careers. Their stories encouraged our participants to dream big, explore growth opportunities, and define their own paths within the district.

In the second half of the session, representatives from **SchoolsFirst** led an informative and eye-opening presentation on **retirement planning**—reminding us that it's *never too early* to invest in our future. They shared helpful insights on financial wellness, investment options, and long-term preparation.

It was an uplifting and empowering session filled with learning, laughter, and inspiration. We can't wait to bring it back again next year!



[Click here](#) to view the Bond Projects Update Report for Mesa.

OFFICE OF *Institutional Effectiveness*

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness is excited to announce the launch of the redesigned **Awards Dashboard**, a new interactive tool that provides detailed insights into the awards earned by students at Mesa College.

This dashboard allows users to:

Explore award trends across programs and student groups.

Evaluate efficiency metrics, including time to completion and units earned.

Analyze equity gaps to determine whether awards are being earned proportionally across student populations.

These insights help track program effectiveness and inform strategies that guide students toward timely completion with fewer excess units.

You can access the **Awards Dashboard** [here](#).

To schedule a demo, ask questions, or provide feedback, please contact acaetanofournier@sdccd.edu and ncortes@sdccd.edu.



FOUNDATION CORNER

A space to learn about our latest efforts to connect partners who share our passion for education with opportunities to give. See how fundraising can help you, our students, and Mesa's mission.

[Learn More](#)

**BREAKING BARRIERS.
EMPOWERING MINDS.
TRANSFORMING FUTURES.**



Want to learn more about grant seeking?

View the flex workshop hosted by Dr. Michael Lettieri, who is leading grant writing efforts, and Krista Stellmacher, CFRE and Director in service to the Office of Resource Development and Foundation.

[View Recording](#)

Participatory Governance

To learn more about our Associated Students, Academic Senate, and Classified Senate, please visit the links below:

[Associated Students](#)

[Academic Senate](#)

[Classified Senate](#)

In The Know

For additional information on what is happening on campus and in our community - visit the links below:

[Mesa College Newsroom](#)

[Mesa College Events Calendar](#)

Ashanti Hands, Ed.D.

President | San Diego Mesa College

Creating conditions that matter for our students to succeed!

7250 Mesa College Drive, A-104, SD, CA 92111 | 619.388.2721

[Mesa College](#) | [Student Support Services](#)

