

Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 3:11 PM

Subject: Weekly Update from Prez Hands - Week of October 05, 2026



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!

OFFICE OF THE *President*



Mesa Fashion Club Sparkles in KPBS Feature

San Diego Mesa College's Fashion Club was recently featured by KPBS in a video highlighting the growing bedazzling trend and a recent student workshop. The feature showcases Mesa students and Fashion Club officers in action, while also highlighting Professor Lyndsey McKeen's professional bedazzling work for the Sacramento Kings.

Check out the [KPBS feature on Instagram](#) to see Mesa's creativity sparkle!

Help Us Pack the Pantry!

Did you know nearly 1 in 2 college students face food insecurity? We're on a mission to change that. Today marks the kickoff of the 8th Annual Pack the Pantry Food Drive!

We've partnered with Cal Coast Credit Union and the San Diego Food Bank to provide healthy, nutritious meals to students who need them most. ❤️

[Click here to learn how you can help](#)



The [2025–26 Facts on File](#) is now available, providing key data and information about the San Diego Community College District and its colleges. San Diego Mesa College's section begins on page 12 and highlights information specific to the college and our community.



Innovation Grants

2027 Innovation Grants are now available! Applications are due by November 2. Read up on the application, process, and eligibility [here](#).



The **Learning Opportunities for Transformation (LOFT)** is excited to share information and opportunities for learning! **One Mesa. One Mission.** We're rooting for you this semester! 🌱

Click here for the latest [Never Stop Learning](#) issue.

OFFICE OF *Instruction*

ENROLLMENT *update*

Fall 2026 FTES is 6,166 and our headcount is 21,952. For Fall 2026, we are 101.9% towards meeting our goals and anticipate being able to meet our targets even with changes in enrollment and fraudulent "bot" students being removed. As for Fall 2026, the numbers have increased, and we have 0.18% more students this week compared to last week.



Stay updated on the latest developments of our Olympian Athletes!

<https://www.gosdmesa.com/landing/index>

OFFICE OF *Student Services*



Connecting Veterans to Career-Enhancing Internships

On September 29th, 2026, Ariel Guzman, Business and Technology Internship Coordinator from our Mesa Impactship Program/Veterans Internship Program (MIP/VIP) answering questions for students in our VSC. Mesa VIP provides student veterans with the exposure to career-enhancing experience through internships and provides financial incentives after the completion of the internship program.



Warrior Foundation Freedom Station

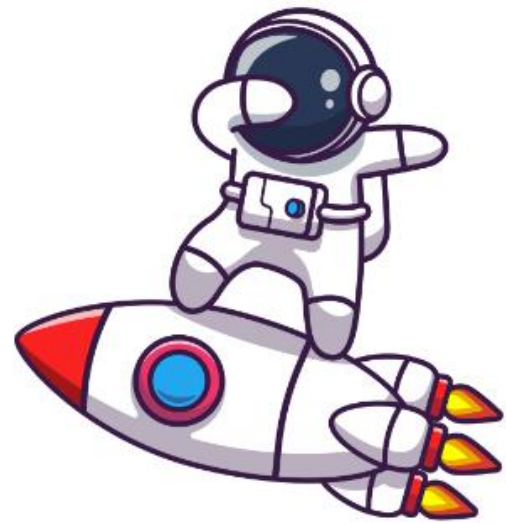
The Veterans Success Center visited the Warrior Foundation Freedom Station to take a peek into their housing cottages and meet their team for possible collaborations. They are a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing medically retired service members with transitional housing, mentorship, wellness programs, career guidance, and outdoor therapy activities.

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>



Transfer Day will be hosted Thursday, October 8th, 2026 at 10am-1:00pm, outside Mesa Commons and Quad. We hope to see you there!



Start your morning with pancakes and a purpose—every plate helps support Mesa College's Veterans Emergency Fund!



Deadlines to earn a degree or certificate are October 1 for Fall ADT earners and November 15 for all other Fall degrees and certificates



Show your Mesa pride at the **We Are Mesa Pep Rally 2026** on Wednesday, October 21 at 12:00 p.m. in the Quad!



Celebrate Filipino American History Month at Mesa with events honoring Filipino culture, history, and community throughout October!



For More Events, Click on the Links Below

[From Community to Capacity: Building and Sustaining LGBTQIA+ Employee Resource Groups](#)

[Fall 2026 Housing Series: Ready, Set, Rent!](#)

[Finding Your Future: Scholarship Success Lab](#)

[Fall 2026 Art Focus](#)

[Fall 2026 CalFresh MediCal, Drop In Sessions](#)

[Fall 2026 Financial Literacy Workshop](#)

[USD x Rising Scholars](#)

[Undocuadvocate Professional Development Training](#)

[Fall 2026 Graduation and Commencement Workshops](#)

[Fall 2026 Student Parent Healing Circle](#)

OFFICE OF *Administrative Services*

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

C-CERT

SAFETY FAIR

10:15 AM GREAT SHAKEOUT
DROP, COVER, & HOLD ON

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

11 AM-1 PM

MESA QUAD

JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT

- ★ CAMPUS COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (C-CERT)
- ★ FIRST AID ★ CPR ★ AED ★ EMERGENCY RESOURCES
- ★ CAMPUS & PUBLIC SAFETY ★ DUI SIMULATOR ★ AND MORE

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT MATT FAY AT MFAY@SDCCD.EDU

SAFETY TRAINING WEEK

A Safer Campus Starts with You

Join us for a single training session or the full series

OCT 12 FIRE SAFETY TRAINING
2:30-4:30pm
Limited slots available

OCT 13 FIRST AID/EVAC CHAIR TRAINING
2:30-4:30pm

OCT 14 BREATHLESS CPR AND AED TRAINING
2:30-4:30pm

Sign Up on the Mesa Safety Website

To view upcoming safety trainings, visit the Safety webpage in the Mesa website and scroll down to the [#Safety Training](#) section and click the dropdown icon.

October 12th, 2026 (2:30-4:30pm)

[Fire Safety Training](#)

October 13th, 2026 (2:30-4:30pm)

[First Aid and Evacuation Chair Training](#)

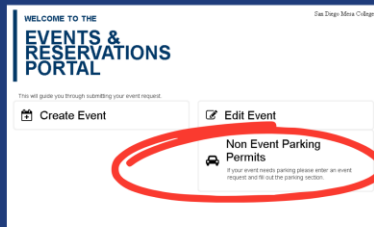
October 14th, 2026 (2:30-4:30pm)

[Breathless CPR and AED Training](#)

In addition, please save the date for the **Safety Fair**, which will be held on **Thursday, October 15, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Quad.**

NON-EVENT PARKING PERMIT REQUEST FORM

NEW!



WWW.SDMESA.EDU/EVENTS

This form can be used for parking permit requests that are **NOT** related to an event and do not require additional resources or a space/room (i.e. community clinic, meetings in dept. conference rooms, guest speakers during a class, etc.)

- Must be entered two weeks in advance
- Requests require manager approval, similar to Event Requests
- Can be used for single or group permits

Parking related to events will need to be entered as part of an Event Request.

Events Office Hours

Wednesdays at 11:00am

Join for event help every Wednesday from 11:00-12:00pm. Find the zoom link on the Events and Operations webpage. Or scan the QR code here.



DESIGN CENTER RENOVATION

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Phase 0 Winter Intersession: January 2027

Restrooms Z-400 & Z-100

Phase 1 Spring Semester: February - May 2027

Buildings Z-400 & Z-100

Phase 2 Summer Intersession: June - August 2027

Buildings Z-300 & Z-200, Courtyard

Phase 3 Fall Semester: August - December 2027

Buildings Z-500 & Z-600



Construction use parking

SAN DIEGO
MESA COLLEGE



New Retention Dashboard Now Available!

The Institutional Effectiveness Office is excited to launch the new [Mesa College Retention Dashboard](#), which tracks first-time college students and their retention across terms. Explore retention trends across student populations, identify equity gaps, and support data-informed strategies for student success. Find and explore the **Retention Dashboard** under **Student Learning & Momentum** on the **Institutional Research/Data Dashboards** page.

IE Office Hours

A DEDICATED TIME TO THINK
THROUGH YOUR DATA TOGETHER



QUESTIONS?

We're here to help.



DATA?

Let's explore it together.



IDEAS?

Let's work through them.

*We look forward to being
your data thought partner.*

Flex #34535

Every Tuesday
12:30–1:30 p.m.



1st & 3rd Tuesdays:

In person in the
IE Conference Room (A-109)



2nd & 4th Tuesdays:

Via Zoom
Meeting ID: 872 4762 5082



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.**



Celebrating the Impact of the Inaugural Olympian Open!

The numbers are in: This July, Athletics raised over \$74,000 through the first-ever Olympian Open golf event. The Foundation was proud to serve as the fiscal agent and partner in connecting the community to this part of our mission. Kudos to the many coaches, staff, leaders, students, and volunteers who made the event such a success and a shining example of equity and excellence for all golfers and guests.

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

Taste of Mesa

FRI, OCT. 30 5:00 pm Culinary Outlook, MC-208

GET YOUR TICKET

givebutter.com/taste-of-mesa-2026



On Friday, October 30, 2026, San Diego Mesa College will host our annual “Taste of Mesa”, the premier cooking-show style fundraiser benefiting the Culinary Arts Management Program. Taste of Mesa will feature internationally-inspired cuisine and cook-off competitions between alumni, students and an advanced baking team. Join us at 5 pm at Mesa Commons for an evening of food, inspiration, and community!

Purchase tickets here: <https://givebutter.com/taste-of-mesa-2026>

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](#)

Non-Participation in Immigration Enforcement Activities

Please remember that our district has an official immigration policy, [AP 3415](#). This policy directs all inquiries regarding immigration enforcement to the District Chancellor and District General Counsel. If you receive a confirmed report of immigration enforcement on campus, please contact:

- SDCCD Chancellor's Office (Greg Smith): 619-388-6957 | chancellor@sdccd.edu
- SDCCD General Counsel (Ljubisa Kostic): 619-388-6589 | lkostic@sdccd.edu

You are not expected to engage with immigration enforcement or place yourself or others at risk. If approached by immigration officials, you may respond: "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." To stay informed and prepared:

- Update your emergency contact information in the [MySDCCD portal](#)
- Download the [SDCCDsafe App](#)
- Refer to the [District's Immigration Resources page](#)
- Continue to read campus emails and official updates

San Diego Mesa College has a clear, coordinated Immigration Enforcement Response Plan centered on our Emergency Management Response Team, led by the President and including College Communications, Vice Presidents, Facilities and Operations, OEHS, and the Campus Community Emergency Response Team, in coordination with SDCCD Police. Recognizing that every incident is unique, this structure ensures we are prepared to act quickly and compassionately with clear communication, coordinated safety measures, and robust support for students and employees should an incident occur.

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](#)

