



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE (SDMC)

ACADEMIC SENATE (AS)

October 13, 2025

Room MC 211 A/B

2:20PM – 4:20PM

MEETING AGENDA

DRAFT

- I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME** by Academic Senate President Mary Gwin:
Parliamentarian – TBD /Timekeeper – TBD/Speaker Coordinator – TBD
- II. APPROVAL OF DRAFT AGENDA:**
- III. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**
- A. Associated Student Government (ASG):** President & Student Trustee Jeremiah Palomino/ASG Vice President Cornor Alexander Jr/
PTK President David Merino
- B. Classified Professionals:** President Ayana Woods/Vice President Alison Mona
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** 3 Minutes Maximum for Each Speakers
- V. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES:** September 29, 2025
- VI. GUEST:**
- A. SDMC Vice President of Instruction (VPI) Isabel O'Connor:**
- VII. REPORTS:**
- A. Committee Reports:** 3:15PM
1. Senate Executive Committees:
- a. *Academic Affairs (AA) Committee:* Chair Dave "DAS" Odasso (1 Minute)
 - b. *Professional Advancement Committee (PAC):* Chair Danica Moore(1 Minute)
 - c. *Committee of Chairs (COC):* Chair of Chairs Ian Duckles (1 Minute)
 - d. *Curriculum Review Committee (CRC):* Faculty Co-Chair Justin Estep (2 Minutes)
 - e. *Program Review Steering Committee (PRSC):* Faculty Co-Chair – TBA (No Report)
 - f. *The Committee for Diversity Action, Inclusion & Equity (CDAIE):* Chair Edeama Jonah (5 Minutes)
 - g. *SDMC AS Task Force on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI):* Chair Ryan/Mongelluzzo (1 Minute)
 - h. *Other Committee Reports:* Environmental Sustainability Committee (ESC) Michelle Rodriguez (1 Minute)
2. Senate Executive Officer Reports:
- a. *Vice President:* Veronica Gerace (1 Minute)
 - b. *Secretary:* Katlin Choi (1 Minute)
 - c. *Treasurer:* Thekima Mayasa (1 Minute)
 - d. *Senator at Large #1:* Ryan Mongelluzzo (1 Minute)
 - e. *Senator at Large #2:* Vacant
 - f. *CTE Liaison:* Vacant
 - g. *Immediate Past President:* Andrew Hoffman (1 Minute)
 - h. *President:* Mary Gwin (10 Minutes)
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS:** 3:45PM
- IX. OLD BUSINESS:**
- A. Resolution 2025.9.1 - Supporting Strong Workforce – Second Reading:** Russell/Wait
- XI. ROUND TABLE TOPIC:** Addition of an Adjunct Faculty Representative – Senate Exec Committee
- XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:** 4:00PM
- A. Common Course Numbering - COMM C1000 (Formerly COMS 103 – Oral Communication):** Malinis
- B. UPCOMING Communications Studies Events:** [LINK](#)
- C.** The next SDMC Academic Senate meeting is October 27, 2025 from 2:20PM – 4:20PM in Room MC 211 A/B.
- D.** The next Academic Affairs Committee meeting is October 20, 2025) from 4:15PM – 5:30PM in Room A 117.
- E.** The next Committee of Chairs (CoC) meeting is October 22, 2025 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room MC 211 A/B.
- F.** The next Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) meeting is October 16, 2025 @ 2:15PM in Room LRC 435.
- G.** The next SDMC AS Exec meeting is October 20, 2025 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room A 117.
- H.** The next Professional Advancement Committee meeting is October 15, 2025 @ 2:30PM in Room A117.
- X. ADJOURNMENT:**



SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE (SDMC)

ACADEMIC SENATE (AS)

September 29, 2025

Room MC 211 A/B

2:20PM – 4:20PM

MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

Present:

Academic Senate President Mary Gwin, Carlynne Allbee, Henry Browne, Katlin Choi, Jennifer Cost, Ian Duckles, Justin Estep, Erin Evans, Jennifer Frost Moreno, Veronica Gerace, James Hinton, Andrew Hoffman, Geoff Johnson, Jesse Keller, Mariam Kushkaki, Sam Lee, David Lizarraga, Thekima Mayasa, Ryan Mongelluzzo, Danica Moore, Roger "Rusty" Nichols, Dave "Das" Odasso, Edeama Onwuchekwa Jonah, Miriam Pacheco, Scott Plambek, Anthony Reuss, Scott Suarez, Mychal Odom, Ngoc "Kim" Tran, Richard Unis, Karen Wait, Michael Williams and Guest SDMC Dean of Student Success & Equity Leticia Diaz and Professor Jayla Lee and Professor Rachel Russell

Absent:

Isaac Arguelles-Ibarra, Nellie Dougherty, Alex Holowicki (Proxy to Evans), Dante Jones, Wendell Kling, Laura Maki, Michelle Rodriguez (Excused), Jessica Sardo (Proxy to Moore) and Louis Valenzuela

I. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME by Academic Senate President Mary Gwin @ 2:26PM.

Parliamentarian – TBD /Timekeeper – TBD/Speaker Coordinator – TBD

II. APPROVAL OF DRAFT AGENDA:

Move to Approve:

M/S

Moore/Duckles

UNANIMOUS

Holowicki

(Proxy to Evans)

Sardo

(Proxy to Moore)

III. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: None

A. Associated Student Government (ASG):

President & Student Trustee Jeremiah Palomino/Vice President Cornor Alexander Jr.

B. Classified Professionals: President Ayana Woods/Vice President Alison Mona

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- A.** The SDMC "Students for Justice in Palestine" President and Vice President made public comments regarding divestment from the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS). They encouraged faculty to visit the website to learn more and sign the pledge at <https://www.calstrsdivest.org/>.

V. APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES: September 15, 2025

- A.** Geoff Johnson reported he will submit a brief summary of his September 15th Public Comments for the meeting minutes.

Move to Approve with the Addition of Geoff Johnson's Public Comments :

M/S

Moore/Johnson

30 APPROVE

Holowicki

(Proxy to Evans)

Sardo

(Proxy to Moore)

3 Abstain

Mayasa

Onwuchekwa Jonah

Odasso

VI. GUEST:

A. SDMC Dean of Student Success & Equity Leticia Diaz – 2025 - 2028 SDMC Student Equity Plan:

2025 -2028 SDMC Equity Plan and Executive Summary 2025 - 2028 .pdf

1. Executive Summary:

- ☐ **Student groups for whom goals have been set**
- ☐ **Goals set for these student groups**
- ☐ **Initiatives that the community college or district will undertake to achieve these goals**
- ☐ **Resources that have been budgeted for that purpose** (referring to goals/key strategies in this 2025-28 Student Equity Plan)
- ☐ **Community college district official to contact for further information**
- ☐ **Detailed accounting of how funding was expended** (expenditures from 2022-25 Student Equity Plan)
- ☐ **Assessment of the progress made in achieving identified goals** (goals and outcomes from 2022-25 Student Equity Plan)

2. SEP committee meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of each month. Reach out to Dean Cynthia Rico or Dean Leticia Diaz to join.

VII. REPORTS:

A. **Committee Reports:**

1. Senate Executive Committees:

- a. *Academic Affairs (AA) Committee:* Chair Dave "DAS" Odasso (No Report)
- b. *Professional Advancement Committee (PAC):* Chair Danica Moore
 - The next submission deadline is 5:00PM on October 8th for the October 15th meeting.
- c. *Committee of Chairs (COC):* Chair of Chairs Ian Duckles
 - Ian Duckles provided a report.
- d. *Curriculum Review Committee (CRC):* Faculty Co-Chair Justin Estep
 - Justin Estep provided a report.
- e. *Program Review Steering Committee (PRSC):* Faculty Co-Chair Eliza "Liza" Rabinovich
 - Liza Rabinovich provided a report.
- f. *The Committee for Diversity Action, Inclusion & Equity (CDAIE):* Chair Edeama Onwuchekwa Jonah
 - Edeama Onwuchekwa Jonah provided a report.
- g. *SDMC AS Task Force on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI):* Chair Ryan Mongelluzzo
 - Please contact Ryan Mongelluzzo if you would like to attend our next meeting.
- h. *Other Committee Reports:* None

2. Senate Executive Officer Reports:

- a. *Vice President:* Veronica Gerace
 - Veronica Gerace provided a report and presented a plaque of appreciation for service to SDMC Academic Senate to SDMC Immediate Past AS President Andrew Hoffman.
- b. *Secretary:* Katlin Choi (No report)
 - SDMC AS President Mary Gwin thanked Katlin for filling the long vacant position.
- c. *Treasurer:* Thekima Mayasa
 - Please consider signing up for \$5.00 or more SDMC AS Faculty Monthly Dues to fund our Student Scholarships.
- d. *Senator at Large #1:* Ryan Mongelluzzo
 - Ryan Mongelluzzo provided a report.
- e. *Senator at Large #2:* Vacant
- f. *CTE Liaison:* Vacant
- g. *Immediate Past President:* Andrew Hoffman (No Report)

- h. *President: Mary Gwin*
 As reported by Mary Gwin:
 "Mary Gwin reported the following items.
 She represented the faculty at the Board of Trustees meeting on 9/11/25 and brought up issues regarding guest speaker's liability insurance requirement and contract faculty pay. The requirement for liability insurance was withdrawn. AS can't do anything about pay. It is AFT that negotiates that so please fill out their RAF survey. Adjunct pay for senators and adjuncts on standing committees is available.
 The Brown Act presentation at the last senate meeting was informative, but she needs to follow up with a couple of questions.
 At the meeting with the President and Vice Presidents, the issues of campus safety, campus response to ICE, and the faculty travel reimbursement were discussed. They are working on the campus response to ICE. They want us to get our travel paperwork entered and approved on PeopleSoft by March.
 The fall 2025 Plenary Resolution packet will be made available. If anyone has feedback on the resolutions, Mary Gwin can bring it back to the Area D meeting and at the plenary. We have enough travel money to send pay for one senator's registration at the fall Plenary in La Jolla. Send your name and statement of interest to Mary Gwin by 10/3 if you want to attend."

Resolutions Packet - Fall 2025 Plenary Session /October 10th Area "D" Meeting Resolution Packet: [LINK](#)

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Resolution 2025.9.1 - Supporting Strong Workforce – First Reading: Russell/Wait

Move to Advance the Item as "Old Business" to next SDMC AS Meeting on October 13, 2025:

M/S	Mongelluzzo/Johnson	UNANIMOUS
		Holowicki
		(Proxy to Evans)
		Sardo
		(Proxy to Moore)

IX. OLD BUSINESS: None

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A.** SDMC Chancellor Greg Smith 2025-2026 Forum – Tuesday (September 30, 2025) from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room MC 211 A/B ([LINK](#)).
- B.** Communication Studies Professors Veronica Gerace and Jayla Lee announced upcoming department events: [LINK](#)
- C.** Jennifer Cost announced an upcoming SDMC AFT Event for Classified and Faculty on October 14th from 11:00AM – 1:30PM in LRC Room 435.
- D.** The next SDMC Academic Senate meeting is October 13, 2025 from 2:20PM – 4:20PM in Room MC 211 A/B.
- E.** The next Academic Affairs Committee meeting is October 20, 2025) from 4:15PM – 5:30PM in Room A 117.
- F.** The next Committee of Chairs (CoC) meeting is October 8, 2025 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room MC 211 A/B.
- G.** The next Curriculum Review Committee (CRC) meeting is October 2, 2025 @ 2:15PM in Room LRC 435.
- H.** The next SDMC AS Exec meeting is October 6, 2025 from 2:30PM – 4:00PM in Room A 117.
- I.** The next Professional Advancement Committee meeting is October 15, 2025 @ 2:30PM in Room A117.

X. ADJOURNMENT @ 3:50PM.

Move to Adjourn:

M/S	Gerace/Allbee	UNANIMOUS
		Holowicki
		(Proxy to Evans)
		Sardo
		(Proxy to Moore)

Submitted by Katlin Choi & Sue Saetia
 Approved by the SDMC AS:



Resolution 2025.9.1: Support of Career Services: Rachel Russell/Karen Wait (Updated 09/23/2025)

Move: Mongelluzzo

Second: Johnson

Whereas, San Diego Mesa College commits to supporting student equity and excellence,¹ and the breadth of career services currently offered to students requires sustained investment in programs that provide equitable access to career exploration and preparation throughout their academic journey² and recent statewide reductions in California Community Colleges' Strong Workforce Program funding have resulted in a 25% reduction of SWP funding for Mesa,^{3,4} therefore significantly affecting Mesa's ability to sustain essential career services programs, including the Career Peer Ambassadors, Mesa College Health and Wellness Community Clinic, Mesa Impactship Program, and Work-Based Learning Faculty Liaisons;⁵ and

Whereas, the Career Peer Ambassadors play a crucial role in expanding the reach of Career Services by providing peer-to-peer support, particularly among first-generation and underrepresented students;⁶ and students who received Career Counseling between 2021-23 had a 5% higher course success rate than students who did not receive counseling;⁷

Whereas, the Mesa College Health and Wellness Community Clinic provides Allied Health students from medical assisting, physical therapy assistant (PTA), and dental assistant programs with hands-on experiential learning opportunities prior to beginning clinical rotations; and the Clinic offers Physical Therapy and Dental health care services at a significantly reduced cost for adults and children who are uninsured or underinsured in our San Diego Community;⁸ and has been recognized by the district;⁹ and

Whereas, the Mesa Impactship Program (MIP) is an innovative, equity driving workforce development initiative that connects underserved students across all programs with paid, credit-earning internships, and comprehensive career support;¹⁰

Whereas, Mesa's Work-Based Learning (WBL) Liaison Program leads the district in ensuring that career preparation is woven into the fabric of academic life through dedicated academic school liaisons, strategic employer partnerships, and integrated experiential learning;¹¹ and students who participated in WBL activities had higher success and completion rates than students who did not;¹² and

Be it Resolved, that the San Diego Mesa College Academic Senate urges the administration to prioritize sustained support and resources for the Career Peer Ambassadors, the Mesa Impactship Program, the Community Clinic, and Work-Based Learning Liaison programs;

Be it further Resolved, that the San Diego Mesa College Academic Senate urges the administration to engage in transparent and inclusive budgetary planning that clearly outlines funding priorities and aligns with strategic plan objectives. This planning should actively uphold and prioritize existing high-impact, equity-driven programs in its decision-making processes

If you have any problems accessing the links below, please reach out to Rachel Russell rrussell@sdccd.edu.

Notes

1. [San Diego Mesa College's Mission, Vision, & Values](#)
2. Such programs directly align with [Mesa 2030 Strategic Plan](#) and [2022-2025 Student Equity Plan](#), specifically the Completion Objective 2 to "*develop cross-functional teams that support student success and integrate career and transfer counseling*," as well as the Pathways and Partnerships Objective 3 to "*increase community engagement, experiential learning, integrated career planning, and workforce training*."
3. [SDCCD Spring 2025 Action Item Update: Districtwide SWP Discussion & Planning](#)
4. In 2024–2025, the State Legislature approved a \$305 million reduction to SWP funding over the next five years. This results in a decrease of approximately \$10.5 million for SDCCD (\$7.6M Local, \$2.9M Regional), with Mesa College experiencing a nearly 25% reduction. [Strong Workforce Program Call to Action](#), October 2024
5. Presentation to SDCCD Leadership, "[San Diego & Imperial Counties Community Colleges Regional Strong Workforce](#)", November 21, 2024.
6. In 2024-25, Career Peer Ambassadors hosted 355 appointments for resume and cover letter writing, interview preparation appointments, job board assistance; and 32.1% of students who attended appointments identify as Hispanic/Latine and 8.2% identify as Black/African American. [Career Peer Ambassador Program Report](#), 2018-2025
7. In 2021-23, students who received career counseling had a 79% course success rate and a 2.98 GPA. Students who did not receive career counseling had a 74% success rate and a 2.73 GPA. [Mesa College Career Counseling Student Services Outcomes Data Dashboard](#)
8. In 2024-25, the community clinic served 720 dental appointments and 122 physical therapy patients, totaling over \$100,000 in pro bono services and over 500 hours of hands-on student training.
9. [Mesa College clinic a 'win-win' for community, students](#), SDCCD Newsroom, August 21, 2024.
10. MIP supports 150-200 students per semester of whom over 51% identify as Black/African American or Hispanic/ Latine and over 70% are Pell Grant recipients
11. In 2023-24 this program supported 452 courses and 921 sections that provided WBL activities to 11,481 students, ranging from guest speakers, informational interviews, and classroom projects, doubling the previous year's engagement. [SDCCD Work Based Learning Dashboard](#)
12. Students who participated in WBL activities had higher success (77.5%) and completion (90.8%) rates than students who did not (75%, 89.2%) [SDCCD Work Based Learning Dashboard](#)

Presented to the Academic Senate: September 29, 2025

Approved by the Academic Senate:

Please Save the Date

LET'S
TALK

COMMUNICATION
STUDIES

Everyone, please join Communication Studies Students as they work to build community and improve relationships at Mesa. Our students hope to encourage our campus members to engage in meaningful dialogue about topics that affect us all. Location and More Details to Come.

- October 15th - 9:35 - 11am
- November 13th (Time TBA)

Please contact Prof. Veronica Gerace and Prof. Jayla Lee if you have questions.



Join the San Diego Mesa College Communication Studies Department in welcoming

David Litt, Former Speechwriter for President Obama!

David, a New York Times Best Selling author, will discuss connecting with one another, even when we have differences.

Attendees who register in advance by October 15th, will receive a free copy of his latest book. Book signing immediately following the event.

When: Thursday, October 30, 2025

Time: 11:15am - 12:30pm

Where: MC-211

Register to Attend

<https://bit.ly/DavidLitt-SDMesaCollege>

Contact Professor Veronica Gerace with questions and disability related accommodation requests at least 5 business days in advance.

