

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

President's Cabinet

September 16, 2025 | 2:15 – 3:45 p.m. | MC 211 A

1) CALL TO ORDER: Ashanti Hands, President

2) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

a) District and Campus Updates: President Ashanti Hands shared the following updates:

Ashanti Hands, President

1) Dr. Hands shared that a press release was sent that San Diego Mesa College received a HEED award, Higher Education Excellence and Distinction award which is a national honor given Insight Into Academia magazine. This award recognized Mesa College for an outstanding commitment to academic excellence, belong, and community-building across all levels of campus life. Mesa College will be featured in the October 2025 issue of Insight Into Academia magazine. President Hands recognized Dean Leticia Diaz and Judy Sundayo who have been very critical in elevating our story.

2) Dr. Hands thanked Alex Berry and Beth Cain who helped served as liaison and coordinate the first visit from the Partnership Resource Team (PRT) to meet with focus groups in preparation for preparing an Innovation and Effectiveness Plan supported by an IEP grant. The focus is on how we can better serve our adult learners and the PRT will take the information gathered at the first visit and work on identifying actionable recommendations that Mesa College can consider for implementation. The second visit will be in December; there is also an opportunity for members of our community to participate in a national conference that focuses on adult learner enrollment and success.

3) At the Board of Trustees' meeting last week, 16 firms were selected for Measure HH Design and Build project. Of those were two firms that will be working very closely with Mesa College. Our two projects are the Sports / Kinesiology Sciences Complex and the Performing Arts / Administration / Parking Structure. Two Kickoff meetings will be held; one this week and one next week.

4) The Chancellor's Forum is next Tuesday, September 30, 2025, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., MC 211. The Chancellor will focus on budget, Bond projects, collective bargaining, legislative advocacy, and the District's fundraising campaign followed by a Q&A.

5) Next month, Wednesday, October 8, 2025, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., at CE North City, is the Town Hall at which information will be shared with the whole District.

6) Mesa College's first DEIA Newsletter was launched on September 15, 2025. The timing of this newsletter focuses on our commitment to do this work, see our students, and creating space where everyone can have opportunities to succeed and share their gifts and talents. Dr. Hands acknowledged Edeama Jonah for creating this newsletter.

6) Information from the Chancellor was shared last week in regards to notification from the Department of

<p>Education about the discontinuance of MSI funds. Two grants, an AANAPISI and HSI at City College that fell under those discretionary funds. There were also two grants that Mesa College has for AANAPISI and HSI, which are in their final year. Based on our analysis of which we received we felt that those would be protected. Today we received notification about the discontinuance of our AANAPISI grant, effective September 30, 2025. We are still checking on the HSI grant and also anticipating what else might we expect (such as STAR TRIO) and where we stand.</p> <p>This morning at Chancellor's Cabinet, discussions were held on what can be done for the two grants that we knew would be discontinued. \$60 million in the budget by the State and those funds were allocated to community colleges who could use those funds to offset the impacts from the decisions by the Federal Government. Our District's portion of the \$60 million is about \$2 million. The two grants at City College would take that full amount. RE: the AANAPISI and HSI at San Diego Mesa College, there is still a commitment to make sure we can provide the services to our students for the duration of those grants through this academic year. Discussions are continuing on staffing for those grants and the programming. There will be additional information shared as soon as they have the details.</p> <p>7) The goal of submitting our ACCJC Report on September 15, 2025 – we have been working with District to make sure our information aligns and but needed some time to check that information connects in the report. The new date is September 22, 2025 which is well in advance of the October 21, 2025 deadline.</p>	
3) STANDING REPORTS – GOVERNANCE	
<p>a) Associated Students: Cornor Alexander, Associated Students Vice President, shared the following updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) AS Senator applications were due yesterday. They will review these at their Wednesday meeting. 2) Cornor is focusing on getting student attendance at shared governance meetings. 3) Homecoming Pep Rally is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. at the Mesa Quad. AS are giving it a “Halloween spin” on their theme. 4) Reflect, Restore, and Unite week will be held in October. 	<p>Cornor Alexander, Vice President</p>
<p>b) Classified Senate: Ayana Woods, Classified Senate President, shared the following updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) CS held their first Senate meeting a few weeks ago and Senate photos were taken. 2) Ayana thanked Dean Leticia Diaz for attending their Senate meeting and presenting the Student Equity Plan. 3) There are events in the planning stages. 	<p>Ayana Woods, President</p>

<p>4) There is a call-out for classified professionals to sign up for a committee.</p>	
<p>c) Academic Senate: Mary Gwin, Academic Senate President, shared the following updates:</p> <p>1) Mary extended an invitation to Associated Students VP Cornor Alexander to attend one of their Senate meetings.</p> <p>2) AS held their retreat on September 5, 2025; Mary thanked VPI O'Connor for the funding for refreshments. VPA Legaspi provided funds for gift cards. They discussed operations and general Senate concerns.</p> <p>3) The Senate Exec met on Monday, September 8, 2025.</p> <p>4) Yesterday they held their first Senate meeting. They passed a resolution from the last academic year following a second reading. It was a resolution urging the District and administration to expand and support professional development opportunities for teaching and learning on our campus. She thanked VPI O'Connor who provided some funds for this so the cuts were not as steep as they were at the end of the spring semester but they need more support for teaching and learning.</p> <p>5) At their Senate meeting, they approved the District GE proposal from the GE Taskforce.</p> <p>6) Ljubisa Kostic, District general counsel, attending their meeting and provided a review of the Brown Act.</p> <p>7) Mary thanked President Hands for attending their Senate meeting and provided campus updates.</p>	<p>Mary Gwin, President</p>
<p>4) Institutional Reports</p>	
<p>a) 25-28 Student Equity Plan – Second Reading: The Student Equity Plan was presented for the second reading. There were no feedbacks from the first reading.</p> <div data-bbox="66 1283 760 1598" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Action Item: A motion was made to accept to approve the Student Equity Plan for 2025-2028 by Veronica Gerace; Second: Ayana Woods. The motion was approved unanimously. This document will go to the Board of Trustees meeting on October 30, 2025 in partnership with all the community colleges in our district to present the equity plans to the governing board for approval.</p> </div> <p>b) Enrollment Management Committee – Second Reading: The Enrollment Management Committee proposal for a revised roster was presented for the second reading, There were no feedbacks from the first reading.</p>	<p>Cynthia Rico, Dean Student Development Leticia Diaz, Dean, Student Success and Equity</p> <p>Student Equity Plan 2025 – 2028: https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/Student_Equity_Plan_2025-2028_Pcab_9-16-25.pdf</p> <p>Isabel O'Connor, Vice President, Instruction Michael Harrison, Assistant Chair, Languages Tara Hardee Teodoro, Dean, Instruction</p> <p>Enrollment Management Committee Participatory Governance Group – Proposed Roster Revisions: https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-</p>

<div data-bbox="66 92 760 287" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Action Item: A motion was made to accept to approve the revisions to the Enrollment Management Committee roster by Cynthia Rico; Second: Monica Romero. The motion was approved unanimously.</p> </div> <p>c) AANAPISI Update: The presentation included AAPI Fast Facts, AANAPISI Update (with an annual performance report), and next steps for AANAPISI week, AAPI Community of Practice (CoP), and AAPI resources.</p> <p>d) Budget Update: VPA Legaspi shared the SDCCD 2025-2026 budget that was adopted at the 9-11-25 Board of Trustees meeting.</p>	<p>documents/Enrollment Management Committee Roster 9-16-25.pdf</p> <p>Leland Simpliciano, AANAPISI Program Activity Manager</p> <p>AANAPISI Presentation: https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/AANAPISI_presentation_PCAB_9-16-25.pdf</p> <p>Lorenze Legaspi, Vice President, Administrative Services</p> <p>Budget Update: https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/FY_2025-26_SDCCD_Adopted_Budget_Pcab_9-11-25_Lorenze.pdf</p>
<p>5) OPERATIONS</p>	
<p>a) Instructional Updates: Vice President of Instruction, Isable O'Connor, shared the following updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Mesa College's FTES is very strong; we have passed the first census for the full term classes. Instruction is working with SDCCD for fraudulent enrollments. Headcount: 21,452; Mesa College is 103% of the fall FTES target; we continue to hold strong at 16 efficiency. 2) Dr. O'Connor thanked Tara Hardee Teodoro, Dean of Instruction, for sending reports on our enrollment. At the second 8-week session they will start sending additional reports. The second 8-week is really strong; they are supporting retaining students who have a full plate of units but want to take more so that they advance. 3) Oscar the steer has now been transported to a facility in Los Angeles. The program curriculum has objectives to work with bovines, so they are preparing to purchase mini-cows in the spring semester. 4) Dean Storey announced that Fabletics who will provide scrubs to students, first beginning with dental and VTEC, that will have the Mesa logo. They will hold a photo shoot. 5) Dr. O'Connor recognized Mark Manasse who has returned from a one year sabbatical. <p>b) Student Services Updates: Vice President of Student Services, Larry Maxey, shared the following updates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) October 13, 2025 the District will be transitioning to Full single sign-on to all of the students. Students will 	<p>Isabel O'Connor, VPI</p> <p>Larry Maxey, VPSS</p>

now need to have their SDCCD email address which they will now receive at the beginning of the enrollment process. IT has stated they will communicate this to the students.

2) Principals' Roundtable was held on Friday, September 12, 2025, some counselors also attended. A data presentation was given and in the special admit to enrollment programs it was found there was no disproportionate impact for LatinX and African American students. Now the goal is to find out why and document the work that made this possible.

3) Africa Education Summit 2026: Mesa College will be sending five individuals (faculty and classified professionals). Information will be sent out the next weeks to those who have been selected to attend that trip in Ghana (March 19-21, 2026).

4) On behalf of Johanna Aleman VPSS Maxey announced the first CalFresh party on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., BT-218.

c) Administrative Services Updates: Vice President of Administrative Services, Lorenze Legaspi, shared the following updates:

1) To support the upcoming single sign-on, tech hubs are deployed in all the campuses (in Student Services Building at Mesa).

2) VPA Legaspi announced the guest lecturer and speakers process has been worked out with the District and we will not go back to our waiver process.

3) Mes2030 Roadmap Part 2: The first taskforce meeting is tomorrow; VPA Legaspi thanked those who expressed interest in this group.

4) Measure HH Kickoff Meetings: the Athletic Complex Kickoff meeting is tomorrow, September 17, 2025; and the Performing Arts / Administration Complex will be held on September 24, 2025. Attendees will meet the teams and begin to see the work, design, and programming of these two large projects.

d) Institutional Effectiveness, Acting Dean for Institutional Effectiveness, Nancy Cortés, shared the following updates:

1) IE received the information they needed from the District with the assistance from Monica Romero. There were only a handful of syllabi that did not match and were sent back to the Deans for revision. The extended internal deadline is now September 22, 2025; the site visit is October 27, 2025.

e) Mesa Comprehensive Campaign: Director of Development and Entrepreneurship, Krista Stellmacher, shared the following updates:

1) RE: the survey with the QR code will be sent again with a deadline.

Lorenze Legaspi, VPA

Nancy Cortés, Acting Dean, IE

Krista Stellmacher, Dir. Dev. / Entrep.

2) Spirit of Mesa is on Friday, October 10, 2025. This week a video production crew will be on campus. They need silent auction items.

3) The Fundraising Bootcamps: These training sessions led by the District begin on September 10, 2025 on the topic of Seizing Your Opportunity – Your Place in the Fundraising Landscape which covered the importance of community colleges.

All-Campus Events:

Chancellor's Forum: Tuesday, September 30, 2025, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., MC 211 A/B

Chancellor's Town Hall: Wednesday, October 8, 2025, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m., CE @ North City (Live-streamed and recorded)

Spirit Of Mesa: Friday, October 10, 2025, 4:30 p.m. reception; 5:30 p.m. program/dinner, Mesa Quad

Homecoming Week: October 20-25, 2025, Game 10/25/25 6:00 p.m., Merrill Douglas Stadium

BOT Meeting at Mesa College: Thursday, November 13, 2025: Campus presentation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., Regular meeting 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Holiday Reception: Wednesday, December 3, 2025, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., MC 211 A/B

Fall 2025 Semester Pcab Meetings: 9/2, 9/16, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18 (Pcab Retreat), 12/2, 12/16

*Institutional Committees / Special Reports / Spotlight:

9/2/25: Student Equity Plan first reading (C. Rico, L. Diaz); Enrollment Management Committee first reading (I. O'Connor, M. Harrison, T. Hardee Teodoro, D. Budzynski)

9/16/24: Study Equity Plan second reading (C. Rico, L. Diaz); Enrollment Management Committee second reading (I. O'Connor, M. Harrison, T. Hardee Teodoro, D. Budzynski); AANAPISI update (L. Simpliciano), Budget Update (L. Legaspi)

10/7/25: BARC (L. Legaspi); HSI Updates (T. Parsons)

10/21/25: Pathway to Law Wrap-Up (M. Rodriguez); Mesa Technology Plan – first reading (D. Fierro)

11/4/25: Basic Needs (J. Aleman)

11/18/25: Presidents Cabinet Retreat at North City Campus (Aero Drive – 2:15 – 5:00 p.m.)

12/2/25: Mesa Technology Plan – second reading (D. Fierro)

12/16/25: End-of-Semester Operations Updates

Note: The President's Cabinet full agendas with notes will be processed following each meeting and posted on the President's at: <https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/cabinet-documents.shtml>