

# We

## SPECIAL ISSUE



City College  
Mesa College  
Miramar College  
Continuing Education

## BUILDING A STRONGER WORKFORCE

Story on page 06





# FUELING OUR ECONOMY

As educational trendsetters, we see every day how the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) is impacting the regional economy while transforming the lives of its students. Nowhere was this more evident than during spring commencements at San Diego City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges, and San Diego Continuing Education (CE). This year, the SDCCD awarded a record 11,732 degrees and certificates to students, representing the largest graduating class in the District's history.

This special issue of *With Excellence (WE)* magazine illustrates how the District's success lies in working hand in hand with business and labor leaders to build our regional economy.

These partnerships can be seen at City College, which is piloting an innovative initiative with Naval Information Warfare Systems Command, formerly known as SPAWAR, to groom STEM students for work at the organization — both while they are in school and after they graduate — as part of a larger effort geared toward building a pipeline of trained cybersecurity professionals.

These partnerships also can be seen at Mesa College, which is embarking on a new venture with

the San Diego Unified School District in creating a pipeline of teachers whose demographics reflect the students they serve. These partnerships can be seen at Miramar College's Southern California Biotechnology Center, which for more than a decade has worked closely with the life sciences industry in honing the skills of teachers, students, and those already in the field to ensure that San Diego remains at the leading edge of the biotechnology sector. These partnerships also can be seen at CE, where automotive certificate programs are filling a shortage in the workforce.

The SDCCD is the largest provider of workforce training in the region, and the accumulated impact from the added skills of former students currently employed in the San Diego County workforce amounts to an estimated \$4.4 billion to the regional economy each year, enough to support more than 36,000 jobs. While residents with a high school diploma or GED will earn an average annual salary of \$35,100 during the midpoint of their working career, former SDCCD students with an associate degree will earn \$45,700 on average at the midpoint of their career.

Just as important as their economic contributions, District students and alumni are also a part of the fabric of the San Diego community. These people, who fill jobs in health care, defense, education, STEM fields, and various service industries, make a difference every day in the lives of those around them.

Students from the health information management (HIM) program were awarded their bachelor's degree during Mesa College's commencement ceremony.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Constance M. Carroll".

Chancellor Constance M. Carroll, Ph.D.



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## PRIDE TOGETHER

On Saturday, July 13, the San Diego Community College District was out in force, with a float and over 300 marchers, including members of the Board of Trustees, faculty, administrators, classified professionals, and students from City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges, Continuing Education, and various District Offices, such as College Police. The District is proud to support the LGBTQ community in many ways, including participation in the annual San Diego Pride Parade. Throughout the route, alumni could be heard cheering on participants from the crowd of more than 320,000 people that lined the streets along University and Fifth Avenues in Hillcrest leading into Balboa Park.

▶ Check out SDCCD's highlight video from Pride!  
[youtu.be/FuPM6NMIOq4](https://youtu.be/FuPM6NMIOq4)





## BUILDING THE HUMANITIES

A three-year, grant-funded initiative aimed at building a stronger pipeline of students majoring in humanities disciplines and transferring from San Diego City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges to UC San Diego has been extended until spring 2020.

Funded through a \$2.59 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the joint initiative known as Preparing Accomplished Transfers to the Humanities (PATH) includes student outreach, peer mentoring, and transfer guidance; a five-week Summer Academy in the Humanities to prepare San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) students as they transition to UC San Diego; and strengthening ties among faculty at the two institutions. Core humanities disciplines include English, history, languages and literature other than English, linguistics, classical studies, philosophy, and expands further to encompass visual and performing arts, as well.

The PATH program began in September 2016 and was set to conclude August 31 of this year, but leftover funds will allow for an



extension through March 2020. Meanwhile, administrators at the District and UC San Diego are in the process of applying for a new Mellon Foundation grant that would further extend the program.

The 2016 Mellon grant was the largest ever received for humanities in the history of the SDCCD.

According to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, the number of bachelor's degrees conferred to students majoring in the humanities fell 8.7 percent from 2012 to 2014. The National Center for Education Statistics, meanwhile, reports the number of bachelor's degrees conferred in English

has declined more than 33 percent from its high of 63,914 in 1970-71, and the number of bachelor's degrees in philosophy and religious studies has plummeted nearly 18 percent from a high of 12,830 in 2010-11.

In comparison, bachelor's degrees awarded since 2000 in visual and performing arts, which is considered a humanities and liberal arts discipline, continue to rise at four-year colleges, according to a study published this summer by the Community College Research Center.

Just 6.1 percent of bachelor's degrees that were conferred in 2014 were in core humanities disciplines.

## GETTING WISE AT MESA COLLEGE

Tim Wise, who has traveled to more than 1,000 college campuses and published several books over the past 25 years, made a stop as the keynote speaker during San Diego Mesa College's convocation on August 15, and again later that evening during a ticketed public event on campus. The prominent anti-racist writer and educator spoke to some 300 faculty and classified professionals about creating a culture at Mesa College that supports and sustains equity programs already in place, such as the school's Fostering Academic Success & Transitions (FAST) Center, which opened at the start of the fall semester to support youths formerly in foster care, and The Stand, which has provided 125,036 pounds of foods to 7,595 households

in the community. "The challenge is to create a 'true' community college of belonging," Wise said while urging those in attendance to recreate and co-create, along with students, systems of equity at Mesa College.



### TIM WISE RETURNS

If you weren't able to catch Tim Wise at Mesa College he will be returning to San Diego to speak at:

**MIRAMAR COLLEGE  
OCTOBER 18  
6:30-8:30 p.m. | Room L-105**

Registration and more information is available at, [bit.ly/2IUwwrZ](http://bit.ly/2IUwwrZ)



# WELCOME TO THE CIRCUS

San Diego City College students put to practice what they had learned during their special effects makeup courses during the May 3 Fantasy Fusion: Cirque du Lumen event on campus. Walking the runway were models transformed by students into monsters, villains, superheroes, sideshow acts, and everything in between. Students can earn a certificate of performance from City College by taking Makeup for the Stage (Drama 124), Beginning Special Effects Makeup for Stage and Film (Drama 144A), and Beginning Special Effects Makeup Practicum (Drama 146A), which combine lecture and hands-on work. Intermediate courses also are available.

Clockwise from top: Special Effects Makeup student Limora Lazarus transformed model Nycko Murillo into an alien of her design called Helix; model Kassia was turned into a reptilian woman by student Victoria Orduna; and student Javi Moreno, on his own doing, became the Ringmaster before introducing each of the models as they walked down the red carpet during the Fantasy Fusion showcase. Photos by David Brooks



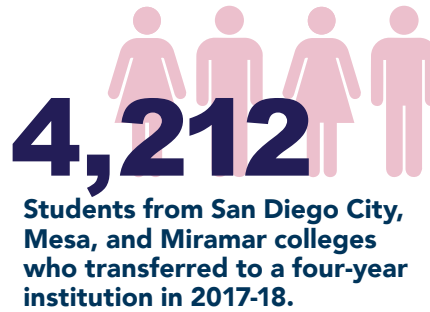


# MOVING ON

More San Diego Community College District students are transferring to a four-year institution, with prestigious destinations such as UC Berkeley and UCLA among the top choices, according to a new report.

In all, 4,212 students at San Diego City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges transferred to a four-year institution in 2017-18, the most recent year for which statistics are available. That's 319 more students than the previous year, and 854 more than 2013-14.

Here are the top 10 transfer destinations for our students, with the percentage of students from the San Diego Community College District opting for each school:



# A GROWING PROMISE

For the 2019-20 academic year, 3,252 students signed up to take part in the San Diego Promise program at San Diego City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges, making it among the largest free community college programs in California.

The San Diego Promise began as a pilot program supported by private funds in 2016 with an inaugural cohort of 186 first-time, full-time students whose freshman year came tuition free. Fundraising allowed the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) to raise that number to 664 participants in 2017-18. After a 2017 state law, Assembly Bill 19, provided funding for California's community colleges to cover an eligible student's initial year of college, the San Diego Promise expanded to 2,042 participants in 2018-19 and included two years of tuition and fees for all first-time, full-time students.

In addition to financial assistance, the San Diego Promise

provides counseling and hands-on support to help students develop and stick to a plan to meet their educational and career goals. Eighty-four percent of last year's Promise participants are students of color who saw higher success rates than their non-Promise peers.

To further boost student completion, and thanks to the generosity of donors, the San Diego Promise this year, for the first time, accepted a limited number of part-time students who met specific criteria. As a result, the program now includes some returning students from the 2018-19 cohort who cannot continue to attend full-time due to work or family commitments; former San Diego Continuing Education students who are not in college for the first time; and former foster youth or veterans who are not recent high school graduates. To learn more, visit [sdccd.edu/promise](http://sdccd.edu/promise).





## SPECIAL REPORT

# A WORKING SDCCD IS KEY RESOURCE OF TALENT IN

By Mark Cafferty

Through our work, the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corp. (EDC) sits at the center of a unique collaboration of leaders in business and education who are transforming San Diego County into a catalyst of innovation and cementing our place as a key player in the global economy.



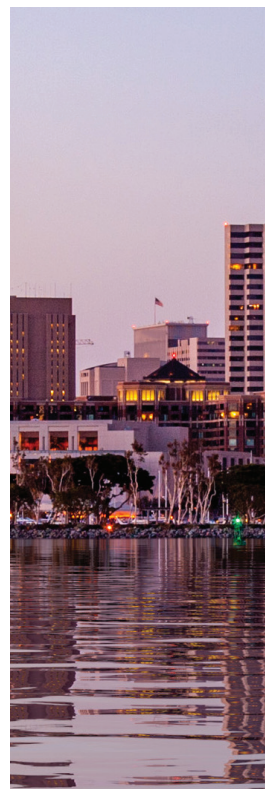
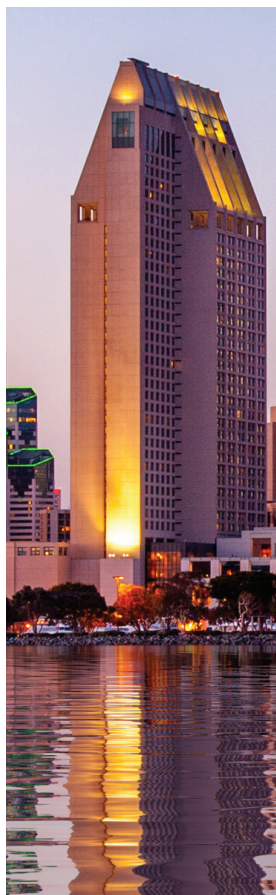
A few years ago, National Geographic featured San Diego as the only American locale — among the ranks of Amsterdam and Bucharest — in its acclaimed documentary series, “World’s Smart Cities,” because of our strong technology sector, abundance of innovators,

commitment to green practices, and unparalleled quality of life. The region is home to binational partnerships, a successful port with a global orientation, a strong military presence, an abundance of diversity, and a growing pool of talent. And we have some of the

nation’s best colleges and universities, including the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) — the largest provider of workforce development in the region.

All are contributing to an economy that can compete with metropolitan areas across the state and nation. As a 2016 study produced by the Downtown San Diego Partnership and UC San Diego Extension Center for Research on the Regional Economy states, “America is in the midst of an urban renaissance. College graduates, families and retirees are flocking to cities to jumpstart their careers, raise their children and enhance their lifestyles.”

Nowhere is that more true than in San Diego, where, by 2050, the region is expected to grow by





# PARTNERSHIP

## CRITICAL LOCAL INDUSTRIES

approximately 1 million residents and 500,000 jobs. More than half of those living in our thriving downtown have a bachelor's degree or higher, including nearly one in five who have a graduate degree.

None of these milestones would be possible without the collaboration of business, industry, education, labor, and community groups. Both the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corp. and the SDCCD are committed to building a stronger, more inclusive San Diego, and the SDCCD is continuing to impact our economy in ways too many to count.

This fall alone, the District is launching almost two dozen new degree and certificate programs in areas ranging from computer information sciences to video game design and development, with public administration, community health work, and fermentation management in between. This kind of forward thinking is why the District, its three colleges, and its seven Continuing Education campuses are

pumping more than \$4 billion into our regional economy each year and why it continues to grow as a key resource of talent in such critical industries, such as life sciences, health care, cybersecurity, and advanced transportation.

The need is profound: the region has added more than 25,000 jobs in the past year and many of our leading tech-heavy firms continue to have openings for hundreds of well-paying positions.

I have been fortunate to spend more than a quarter century in a profession dedicated to supporting career advancement and economic opportunity for American workers. At EDC, we are more focused than ever on creating a talent-driven economy and thriving households throughout our region. I am honored to be working with the SDCCD, a district serving 100,000 students — 98 percent of whom will stay in the area and continue contributing to the success of the regional economy once they graduate.



### Breaking Down the (Fire)Wall

*Partnership provides STEM students with experience, jobs in cybersecurity. Page 08*



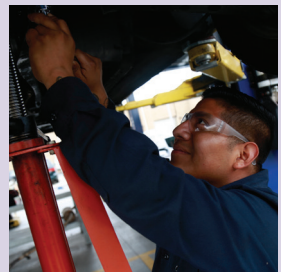
### Building a Teacher Pipeline

*Partnership aims to increase educator diversity to be more reflective of students they teach. Page 12*



### Down to a Science

*Southern California Biotechnology Center serves as an onramp to careers in biotech, life sciences. Page 14*



### Shifting into a New Career

*Auto Technician Program provides skills training, connecting employers with students. Page 16*







**This page:** Former City College student Yesenia Ponce dons a virtual reality headset in the Battle Space Exploitation of Mixed Reality Laboratory at Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) Pacific, where she will work while earning her bachelor's degree.

**On right:** Ponce tries out a digital touch display at NIWC Pacific's Command Center of the Future. (Official U.S. Navy photos by Aaron Lebsak)



# BREAKING DOWN THE (FIRE)WALL

## Partnership provides STEM students with experience, jobs in cybersecurity

San Diego City College graduate Froylan Maldonado can't believe his good fortune. Even before he transferred to UCLA this fall to further his studies in computer science and mathematics, Maldonado signed on to work with the San Diego-based Naval Information Warfare Systems Command, formerly known as SPAWAR, during breaks from school and once he graduates. He is one of 16 City College STEM students selected for an initial cohort taking part in a groundbreaking new partnership between Naval Information Warfare Systems and the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) in which the naval agency will provide opportunities for tuition assistance and career growth.

"When I heard about this program, I'm thinking they probably only want to target superstars, why are they looking at us community college students?" said Maldonado, 22, who was raised by a single mom. "It seemed too good to be true. The hardest part for any student is finding a job once you're out of school. I already have one waiting for me when I graduate."

With record-low unemployment and a shortage of trained industry professionals, Naval Information Warfare Systems officials say they must become more creative in building and sustaining their ranks. The company's partnership with the SDCCD goes beyond City College and includes working with San Diego Continuing Education (CE) in offering certification programs aimed not only at expanding the skills of Naval Information Warfare Systems employees, but also training returning adult learners.

In addition, Naval Information Warfare Systems and the SDCCD's Military Education arm will target military members returning to civilian life and wanting to learn about cloud computing, cryptology, network security, software development, and artificial intelligence — all with an eye on strengthening a pipeline of high-tech, STEM-centered employees. Additionally, the organization is looking at further expanding the program to include contractors.

The partnership also fits into a larger SDCCD vision of working with business and industry in order to provide students with more opportunities to find good-paying careers.

"This is an example of organizations coming to us for help in creating a pipeline of well-trained professionals and training of incumbent employees," SDCCD Vice Chancellor of Instructional Services Stephanie Bulger said. "They see us as a valuable partner in workforce development."

### ADDRESSING A SHORTAGE

Naval Information Warfare Systems Command designs, develops, and maintains communication and information systems for the Navy. Its areas of expertise include cyberspace operations, space systems, air traffic control, and surveillance. At the core of its mission is cybersecurity, an area that is seeing a critical shortage of qualified professionals. According to a 2018 ISACA State of Cybersecurity report (ISACA is an acronym for the Information Systems Audit and Control Association), more than one in four respondents surveyed said it takes at least six months to fill a new cybersecurity position, and the industry is facing a shortage of nearly 3 million cybersecurity professionals worldwide.

San Diego County, meanwhile, is home to an estimated 8,500 cyber-related jobs, and Naval Information Warfare Systems is the largest employer of cybersecurity professionals in the region.

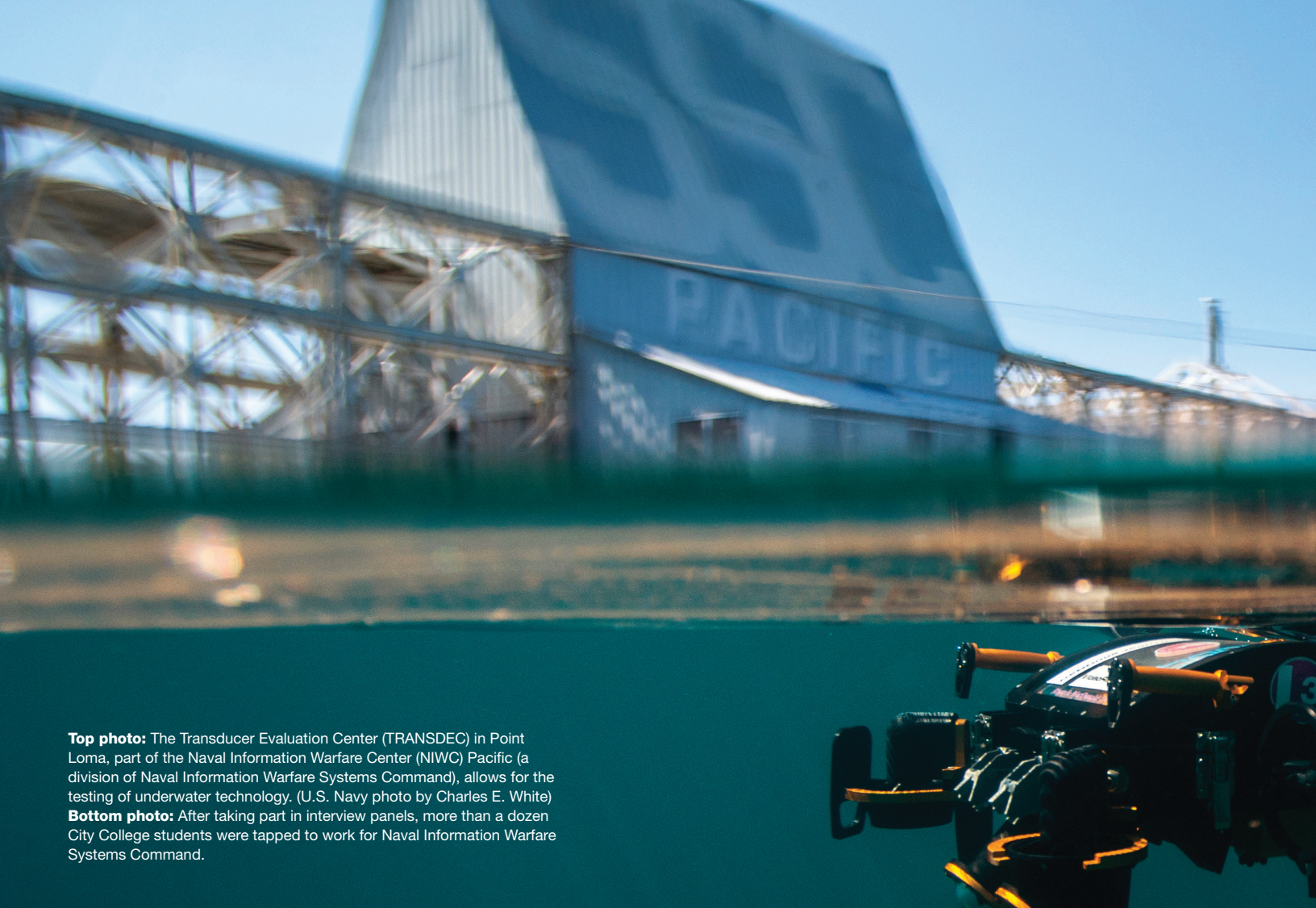
To address the shortage of qualified professionals, the San Diego Cyber Center of Excellence, California Cyberhub, the California Department of Industrial Relations — Division of Apprenticeship Standards, and Able-Disabled Advocacy began hosting a series of meetings in 2017 with employers, educational leaders, and others to explore possible solutions. That was followed in March 2018 by a meeting and roundtable discussion that included representatives from several community colleges from around the county.

"When you go to school, you don't necessarily get any work experience. So to get this kind of an opportunity to work in a field you'd like to go into, and get a taste of what it's like, is amazing."

—YESENIA PONCE







**Top photo:** The Transducer Evaluation Center (TRANSDEC) in Point Loma, part of the Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) Pacific (a division of Naval Information Warfare Systems Command), allows for the testing of underwater technology. (U.S. Navy photo by Charles E. White)  
**Bottom photo:** After taking part in interview panels, more than a dozen City College students were tapped to work for Naval Information Warfare Systems Command.

“The San Diego Community College District saw an opportunity, took the initiative and ran with it,” said Lisa Easterly, Chief Operating Officer at the San Diego Cyber Center of Excellence.

The template that was created from those talks included a STEM student’s dream: paid tuition, part-time work during the academic year, and full-time employment during the summer — culminating with full employment upon earning a bachelor’s or postgraduate degree.

“Imagine being a community college student and almost overnight knowing your path, knowing what your future will be, knowing what you’re going to do and where you’re going to work, and you haven’t even graduated yet,” said Professor Rafael Alvarez, who heads City College’s Math, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Program.

The SDCCD, Naval Information Warfare Systems, and City College — most notably the City College Transfer/Career Center — spent months organizing a recruitment fair at the downtown

campus to identify participants for the program’s initial cohort. On April 17, more than 30 City College students were granted interviews. The 16 who were recruited are undergoing security clearances, working with human resources specialists, and being assigned to specific projects.

“We have never done anything like this in the past,” said Angela Hanson, Director of human resources for Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) Pacific, a division of Naval Information Warfare Systems Command. “We have never done a recruiting event at a community college before.”

Once a student becomes a Naval Information Warfare Systems employee, he or she is eligible for benefits that include a subsidized education. Meanwhile, students will be hired for positions paying up to \$43,000 annually (working full time) while they go to school. Graduates with a bachelor’s degree can earn an initial annual salary of more than \$73,000 with the potential of boosting that to more than \$125,000 per year.

Yesenia Ponce was one of the initial 16 City College students selected. “It’s just unheard of,” said Ponce, a 24-year-old City Heights resident.

Majoring in electrical engineering, Ponce graduated in May with an associate degree for transfer in pre-engineering and mathematics.







She was planning to enroll at Cal State Dominguez Hills this fall until she was tapped by Naval Information Warfare Systems. She plans to transfer to the University of San Diego next fall.

"This is huge," Ponce said. "When you go to school, you don't necessarily get any work experience. So to get this kind of an opportunity to work in a field you'd like to go into, and get a taste of what it's like, is amazing. And then there's a job waiting for you when you graduate with your bachelor's degree? That's just unbelievable."

#### A PERFECT MATCH

Why isn't Naval Information Warfare Systems, which is also developing a partnership with San Diego Mesa and Miramar colleges, and Continuing Education, instead targeting a prestigious university to build its workforce?

"The ever-growing cybersecurity talent demand requires a continuum of skill sets and experience from recent graduates to transitioning service members to seasoned Ph.D.s," Easterly said. "Hands-on, certificate and two-year degree programs are critical for bridging the gap, and partnerships between academia and industry are key to ensuring the cyber workforce is prepared for the evolving cyber threat landscape."

The impetus to work with local community colleges came from Jack Cabana, a native Chula Vista who serves as Director of Corporate Operations for NIWC, Pacific. Cabana, said Hanson, is committed to providing opportunities for people from traditionally underserved communities, the same populations served by community colleges.

"It's all part of giving back," Hanson said.

Mimi Rosado, Division Head, Total Force Management at NIWC Pacific, emphasized that City College student employees will not be making coffee or answering the phones. "This is not an administrative internship," she said. "We are giving these students meaningful work in their field alongside experts in the industry, which allows them to grow their experience before they graduate."

Naval Information Warfare Systems officials concede there is some risk in hiring a community college student who may cut short his or her educational journey before earning even an associate degree. To cut down on that risk, Naval Information Warfare Systems will track students to make sure they're adhering to their education plans. Students also must maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or higher, must be enrolled in at least six units, must be a U.S. citizen, must obtain and maintain a security clearance, and must be majoring in either science, technology, engineering, or mathematics.

"Our goal is to make sure they graduate because it's a win for everyone," Rosado said.

City College graduate Maldonado has no doubt he will. After all, he will need an advanced degree to reach his dream of working as a software developer or mathematical modeler.

"My NIWC Pacific paperwork is being processed, I'm heading to UCLA, and (I spent) the summer in Pennsylvania doing research (via a National Science Foundation Grant)," Maldonado said. "It's all pretty remarkable." **WE**





# BUILDING A TEACHER PIPELINE

**Partnership aims to increase educator diversity to be more reflective of students they teach**

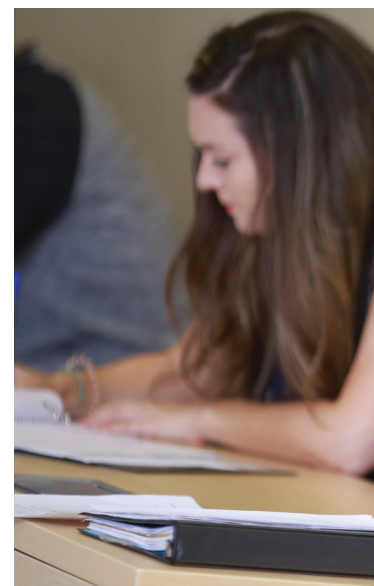
San Diego Mesa College is partnering with the San Diego Unified School District, San Diego State University, and National University to mold a new generation of K-12 educators from diverse backgrounds that reflect the students they teach.

The Teacher Pathway Inclusion Program was launched in April and calls for a bevy of support services in creating a seamless route for high school students to earn a bachelor of arts degree and teaching credential, with an emphasis on filling a growing need in science, math, and special education. Mesa College will aim to enroll 50 students transitioning from San Diego Unified each year, with a goal of transferring 30 of those students to National University after two years. San Diego Unified staff is tasked with identifying potential future educators from the ranks of middle and high school students, providing them with the counseling and support needed to reach their goals.

In addition, Mesa College is partnering with San Diego State University on a separate, but related, five-year, federally-funded initiative to grow the number of students transferring into SDSU's bilingual credential program. Mesa College is hoping to send between 20 and 30 students per year to SDSU through the initiative.

"We need to get more teachers of color into our schools," said Mesa College Professor Laurie Lorence, who is among those in the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) coordinating the Teacher Pathway Inclusion Program. Indeed, a recent study from the nonprofit Learning Policy Institute found teachers of color boost the academic performance of students of color.

"We want to bring teachers to the classroom who come from the community and who mirror the community," said Mesa College Vice President of Instruction Isabel O'Connor.





The initiatives come as California is issuing a record number of interim and emergency credentials to teachers to help fill a growing number of staffing shortages. Eighty percent of California public school districts taking part in a Learning Policy Institute survey said they experienced a shortage of qualified teachers for the 2017-18 school year. The more than 10,000 interim credentials, permits, and waivers issued in 2015-16 were more than double the number issued just three years earlier.

The Teacher Pathway Inclusion Program — funded by Stephen Cushman of the Cushman Foundation, Peter Ellsworth of the Legler Benbough Foundation, and National University — is the more comprehensive of the initiatives.

San Diego Unified students in the program will take dual enrollment courses that count toward both their high school and college diplomas. By providing future teachers free college courses in high school, a free college education at Mesa College through the San Diego Promise, and discounted bachelor's degree and teaching credential at National University (no one in the program would pay more than \$7,000 per year and most will have their National University tuition covered through grants and scholarships), more doors are being opened for a growing number of prospective teachers of color.

"Many of the students we're going after are students who never saw college as an option," O'Connor said.

The Teacher Pathway Inclusion Program has been under development for the past few years in coordination with National University and its Sanford College of Education, which is the largest single producer of teaching credential candidates in California and among the largest schools of education in the country.

"We have been engaging in faculty and administrator discussions, everybody is vested and is working in tandem on how to best prepare students as they transition and on how to make sure they succeed," said O'Connor.



The results will be almost immediate. Among the dual enrollment courses taught to participating high school students is a tutor-training class. Those who complete the course are eligible to serve as high school tutors.

"We're all excited about putting this together because it is a comprehensive approach requiring the collaboration of San Diego Unified, the SDCCD, and National University to make sure we adequately support students from underrepresented communities as they embark on their journey toward becoming tomorrow's teachers," said National University President David Andrews, who previously served as Dean of the School of Education at Johns Hopkins University.

A key to making sure the initiative succeeds, Andrews said, is in providing the guidance when a student transitions from one education system to another.

Mesa College has long had a partnership with San Diego Unified. The Mesa College Teachers Education Program, for example, was created a generation ago because too many new teachers, not fully aware of the challenges that come with working in a public school system, were leaving the profession within their first two years. The Teachers Education Program is geared toward cutting that number by providing students a taste of the profession before they transferred to a university and secured a teaching credential. Approximately 200 to 300 students enroll in the Teachers Education Program annually, Lorence said. Pedagogy courses include Math for Elementary School Teachers, Music for Elementary School Teachers, Physical Education for Elementary School Teachers, and Teaching as a Profession.

Lorence termed the Teacher Pathway Inclusion Program a social justice initiative, and courses taught at Mesa College could include U.S. History from a Black Perspective, or Literature from a Chicana/o Perspective.

"Part of building a strong workforce is the development of a diverse teaching pipeline," said San Diego Unified's Cheryl Hibbeln, who serves as the District's executive director for school innovation and integrated youth services and who has been working closely on the project. "Through a formal partnership between the San Diego Unified School District, Mesa College and National University, San Diego Unified students will have the opportunity to be supported through the rigorous process of reaching a debt-free college graduation while earning a bachelor's degree and a teaching credential with the hope that they will return to their local communities as teachers

"This is a great three-way agreement that will benefit the workforce, that will benefit San Diego Unified, and that will benefit (Mesa College) in supporting students during their critical years in college. And, it will benefit National University, which is a leader in teacher training," O'Connor said. **WE**



Mesa College Professor Laurie Lorence is among those at the SDCCD helping to coordinate the Teacher Pathway Inclusion Program in partnership with San Diego Unified School District and National University.



# DOWN TO A SCIENCE

Southern California Biotechnology Center serves as an onramp to careers in biotech and life sciences

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**“I have nothing but good things to say about Miramar College and the Southern California Biotechnology Center. It changed my life.”**

— Tracy Naputi

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Thanks to Miramar College's Southern California Biotechnology Center, Tracy Naputi learned the skills necessary to secure a job at San Diego-based Inova Diagnostics.

Tracy Naputi was looking for a better future. She found one through San Diego Miramar College's Southern California Biotechnology Center, which provided her with the skills, training, and education that led to a new career as a quality control analyst for San Diego-based Inova Diagnostics.

“I had gone through a divorce and I was raising five kids on my own,” recalled Naputi, who now serves on the Southern California Biotechnology Center's Advisory Board. “I was a manager at McDonalds and I didn't want to be working that hard and not have enough to provide my kids what they need. So I went back to school. And I went back to school because I wanted to provide them with a better life than what I was giving them.”

Established in 2004, the Southern California Biotechnology Center is a regional hub that serves as an onramp to careers in biotech and the life sciences while also providing a setting for industry professionals and local science teachers to hone their skills. Initiatives include a California Institute for Regenerative Medicine Internship Program that places college students in paid positions at a stem cell-focused laboratory while attending school; the Life Sciences Summer Institute High School Internship Program that trains up to 50 high school students each summer in laboratory skills before placing them in seven-week internships at one of San Diego's world-renowned scientific research institutes; and the regional Amgen Biotech Experience, a professional development program that includes participation by 250 science teachers each year where they learn how to introduce a cutting-edge biotechnology lab curricula each year.

“We are having a huge impact on the biotech and life science industries in the region,” said Kimberly Teston, a Miramar College faculty member who serves as director of projects at the center.

Now the Southern California Biotechnology Center is embarking on a new partnership with local high schools that will offer dual enrollment courses aimed at preparing high school students to transfer to Miramar College for certificates of completion and associate of science degrees, not to mention



internships vital for solid careers in the region's thriving biotechnology sector.

Formally known as the STEM San Diego Biotechnology Pipeline Partnership, the initiative, funded through a \$1.4 million state grant, will be managed by the Southern California Biotechnology Center in collaboration with the San Diego Unified School District, the Biocom Institute, and Rx Research Services. The effort will include industry mentors and other resources as it strives to eliminate equity gaps among traditionally underserved populations.

"We will be getting students from the time they walk into high school, wrap our arms around them, and guide them until they have a job interview and are working in the industry," Teston said. "They will have opportunities for internships when they are in the 11th and 12th grades through Biocom, and when they get to Miramar (College) they will have guaranteed job interviews and possibilities for apprenticeships."

The STEM San Diego Biotechnology Pipeline Partnership is building on an earlier venture, the Supply Chain Experience Scholarship Program, which served 40 local community college students from underserved populations who participated in 100 hours of hands-on learning

of quality control and manufacturing practices, visited local biotech companies, and met with counselors. Ten of the students secured paid life science internships, and all 40 were awarded scholarships through a grant funded by the San Diego Foundation.

The need for such efforts is profound. San Diego County is one of the top industry clusters in California for biotechnology, with more than 48,000 people working in the life science industry, according to Biocom. The number of middle-skill jobs, which require workers to have training beyond high school but less than a bachelor's degree, is expected to grow by 8 percent through 2021.

"There are plenty of positions in the local biotechnology-life science industry where you don't need a Ph.D. and where you don't need a bachelor's degree," Teston said.

Naputi can vouch for that fact. After earning an applied biotechnology certificate in 2010, Naputi was planning on finishing the analytical chemistry associate degree program and transferring to California State University San Marcos.

"It didn't quite work out that way," she said. "I landed my job from a 'practice interview' I made myself go out and have with the company I now work for. I started out as a lab assistant in manufacturing and worked my

At a biotech event at Miramar College, high school teachers, including Gideon Shakked (right) and Jiovanna Hermosilla (below), learned how to conduct science experiments they can then demonstrate for students in the classroom.



way up to Chemist II before transferring to our Quality Control Department, where I'm now responsible for doing the final testing of our finished products before they are released to our customers."

The job at Inova Diagnostics pays more than \$60,000 annually.

"I have nothing but good things to say about Miramar College and the Southern California Biotechnology Center," Naputi added. "It changed my life." **WE**



# SHIFTING

## INTO A SUCCESSFUL NEW CAREER

Andrew Na was out of work, collecting unemployment, and dealing with a used 2001 Hyundai that was in the shop more than it was on the road. But life changed after he decided to enroll in San Diego Continuing Education's (CE) free Auto Technician Program.

Almost as soon as he earned his certificate, Na landed a job as a junior mechanic at Mission Hills Automotive. Within months, he was promoted to a new post as a service adviser. Then he was hired as an instructional assistant and automotive technician at CE, where his job now involves connecting employers with students completing their skills training at the Educational Cultural Complex (ECC).

"Continuing Education's Automotive Technician Program opened me up to so many different opportunities," Na said. "Not only did I learn new skills, but now I know what to do when my car breaks down."

Continuing Education offers several free automotive certificate options, including the Automotive Technician Program, the Service Advisor Program, the Auto Body and Paint Technician Program, the Auto Upholstery Program, and the Quick Service Inspection Program — all of which can lead to good-paying jobs. The average wage of auto service technicians and mechanics topped \$47,000 annually in San Diego County in 2018, according to federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. Service advisers can earn more. And journeymen auto body paint technicians can earn up to \$80,000 annually.

"You could make really good money doing this kind of work and going into this kind of career," said Andrei Lucas, CE's dean of Automotive Skills and Technical Trades, who also serves as Resident Dean of the ECC.

From automotive skills to computer technology, fashion design, construction, and culinary arts, CE provides skills that put people to work. In all,

it awards more than 6,000 vocational program certificates each year. And, like all of CE's job-preparation efforts, the automotive certificate program's success is rooted in its collaboration with industry professionals, not to mention its experienced faculty and staff. The Automobile Club of Southern California, the Automotive Service Councils of California, and Sunroad Automotive are among the companies represented on San Diego Continuing Education's automotive certificate advisory board. Industry partners include Subaru, Penske, and Mercedes-Benz.

In fact, CE is now a Subaru factory training and certification facility. And all programs are certified by the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence, meaning graduates are qualified to work at virtually any auto dealership in the country, Lucas said.

Programs can be completed in as little as 13 weeks. The Automotive Technician Program, which students attend for 25 hours per week for nine months, is the longest. And the 23 units of classes can be transferred to San Diego Miramar College for an associate degree that means even better pay.

Demand is high. A typical class attracts between 25 and 30 students, said Lucas, who added that CE is working with the San Diego Unified School District to offer automotive technology courses at Mira Mesa High School.

"We measure success by our students who are prepared to earn a good living in the Southern California automotive industry," Lucas said.

Just ask Andrew Na. **WE**



Clockwise from top left: After finishing Continuing Education's free Auto Technician Program, Andrew Na was hired as an instructional assistant and automotive technician at the Educational Cultural Complex (ECC). Automotive paint students prepare a car in the painting chamber at the ECC. Juan Rodriguez and Jennifer Prewer enrolled in the Auto Upholstery Program so that they could re-upholster seats for their 1965 Ford Ranchero. Roman Torres installs a muffler as part of the automotive certificate program at the ECC.







# TEAMWORK

## FOR WORKFORCE TRAINING

The importance of giving business and industry a voice cannot be overstated. In recognition of this, the San Diego Community College District's (SDCCD) Corporate Council provides a forum for its corporate partners to work with the District in addressing the myriad workforce challenges in one of the strongest regional economies anywhere.

Corporate Council members include the likes of AT&T, California Coast Credit Union, Manpower, General Dynamics NASSCO, Rady Children's Hospital - San Diego, SDG&E, Sharp HealthCare, Biocom, and Cyber Center of Excellence. Quarterly meetings are held at the SDCCD's headquarters in Mission Valley, and discussions include updates on District developments from Chancellor Constance M. Carroll, a question-and-answer session, and a presentation from a guest speaker who details a particular program.

The SDCCD continues to succeed in its mission of providing high-quality education and workforce training in large part because of its corporate partners. With Excellence recently tapped three individuals from Corporate Council member businesses to share their experiences.



### KARMIN NOAR

The Biocom Institute

Biocom is the largest and most experienced leader and advocate of California's life science sector. It works on behalf of more than 1,200 member companies to drive public policy, build a network of industry leaders, create access to capital, and collaborate with others in developing cutting-edge workforce development and STEM education programs. As such, Biocom makes an ideal partner for the San Diego Community College District's Corporate Council.

"Community colleges are a great resource for introducing new students to the industry or to upskill those in the current workforce," said Biocom Institute Executive Director Karmin Noar. The Biocom Institute accelerates the growth of the life science ecosystem through workforce development and STEM education programs. "A key benefit of the Corporate Council is having regular updates and the awareness of what initiatives are taking place at our colleges. It gives us a seat at the table."

Community college played a role in shaping Noar's path. A product of Los Angeles, Noar attended West Los Angeles College when she was still attending high school. She then moved south and earned a bachelor's degree in political science and ethnic studies from UC San Diego and later a master's degree in education from Pepperdine University. Before joining Biocom Institute in March, Noar worked for nearly four years as Director of Programs at the San Diego Workforce Partnership.

Partnering with the SDCCD helps ensure that workforce training is in line with industry needs, Noar said.

"Some of the biggest needs are in the middle skills jobs in biomanufacturing and quality control," she said. "Those are good-paying jobs in which you do not need an advanced degree."







## **NHU TRAN**

San Diego Gas & Electric Co.

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) has been a longtime partner of the San Diego Community College District, and Nhu Tran, SDG&E's Community Relations Manager since 2015, is keeping that tradition alive.

"The company believes we should look like the people we serve, and working with the District is part of an overall effort at doing everything we can to make sure we have a diverse and skilled pool of talent in the region available to work at our energy infrastructure company utility," she said.

SDG&E's many efforts include annual charitable donations to San Diego Continuing Education's Gateway to College and Career initiative and the Miramar College Vets-2-Jets program, which, since 2013, has helped hundreds of disabled veterans overcome barriers to academic success. SDG&E's participation in the Corporate Council, Tran said, helps the company engage the future workforce.

"The San Diego Community College District's Corporate Council provides an opportunity for companies in the region to identify needs and provide the resources to develop an educated, well-trained talent pool," she said.

Tran's roots in San Diego run deep. Born in Vietnam, Tran immigrated to the United States with her family when she was 3. She grew up in San Diego where, at Mira Mesa High School, she served as student body president, peer counselor, and captain of the nationally-ranked cheer team. She is also a San Diego State University alumna. Prior to joining SDG&E, she worked with the San Diego Padres community relations/external affairs team for 19 seasons.

## **DR. NICHOLAS HOLMES**

Rady Children's Hospital – San Diego

Rady Children's Hospital – San Diego has been a member of the Corporate Council for just one year, but it has been collaborating with the District for much longer. The region's only medical center dedicated exclusively to pediatric health care and San Diego's only designated pediatric trauma center works closely with Mesa College and its Allied Health programs, offering numerous internship opportunities to health information management students. Several Rady Children's personnel work as adjunct professors, and numerous former students from throughout the District have built careers at the hospital.

"The Corporate Council is a great way to connect with the region's corporate community as well as the San Diego Community College District in developing a workforce for the future," said Dr. Nicholas Holmes, Rady Children's Hospital – San Diego's Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

Like the SDCCD, Dr. Holmes is committed to service. He concluded his 14-year Navy career as head of the Urology Department at Naval Medical Center San Diego. He has been at Rady Children's for the past eight years, with positions including Department of Surgery Chair, Medical Director of Surgical Services, Acting Surgeon in Chief, and Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

"San Diego Rady Children's Hospital is an integral part of the community, and being part of the community means being involved," he said.







## A SUPPORTIVE PATH ON THE WAY TO UC SAN DIEGO



Pamela De Leon found support through City College's MESA Program and as a San Diego Promise student.

Many high school seniors dream of attending a four-year college or university right after they graduate. However, for many, the path doesn't lead directly there.

In 2017, Pamela De Leon graduated from University City High School and applied to UC San Diego. While not accepted, De Leon was not deterred from setting a goal of one day attending her dream university.

"I had a strong desire to go to UCSD," said De Leon, a human biology major and the first in her family to attend college. "I chose City College because it was close to home, offered the major I wanted, and it would help me transfer."

On her path to UC San Diego, De Leon found support from the start.

At City College, she joined the Math, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Program — an academic and transfer support program for students in math, engineering, and science majors. The MESA Program empowers students with the culture needed for success in a higher education setting, including strategies for approaching their education, plus equips them with the attitude and mindset needed for learning.

"Pamela is certainly a rising scholar and leader in our MESA Program, and she truly owns our learning culture," MESA Director Rafael Alvarez said. "Her language of success includes self-advocacy, emotional intelligence, mental toughness, and goal focus."

De Leon is now in her second year at City College as a student in the San Diego Promise, a program that provides two years of free tuition for first-time, full-time students. She expects to graduate in 2020 with an associate degree in human biology.

"Promise is great," she said. "I was able to get

priority registration for the classes I needed and funding also included book grants. I also took advantage of other student support services like EOPS (Extended Opportunity Programs and Services), the Learning Resource Center, and open office hours of my professors to help me be successful at City College."

Through the MESA Program, De Leon had the opportunity to participate in a summer internship program in the Department of Pharmacology at UC San Diego. Her research there consisted of testing different versions of vitamin C to decrease the activity of an enzyme found in glycolysis — the first step in the body's process of breaking down glucose to extract energy for cellular metabolism.

"My research involves lowering the activity of phosphofructokinase (PFK-1), an enzyme found in the pathway of glycolysis," De Leon said. "I hope that others can use my findings for future cancer research."

De Leon's fascination for the sciences and passion to help people began long before she arrived at City College. Her interest in human biology was sparked during a lesson in elementary school about the human body. To capitalize on that enthusiasm, she hopes to transfer to UC San Diego and pursue a career as a physician with the possibility of opening her own practice.

In addition to her summer internship supporting her goal of transferring to UC San Diego, on July 7, De Leon's hard work was recognized by MANA de San Diego at the organization's annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony. At the event, she was presented with a \$500 scholarship sponsored by City College — the second time she has received the scholarship.





# CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES FOR THE RESILIENCY FUND

Over the summer, San Diego Mesa College, in conjunction with the San Diego Mesa College Foundation, embarked on an ambitious fundraising campaign. The vision was to create a “Resiliency Fund,” a source of money intended to help students with emergency or urgent expenses. The goal of the Resiliency Fund campaign is to raise funds in order to create a sustainable long-term financial reserve that could be used to assist students in need, and thereby decrease their risk of dropping out of class or college altogether.

“Raising these funds will transform our ability to provide our most vulnerable students with the support they need,” said Mesa College President Pamela T. Luster. “Our goal is for this campaign to culminate in the dedication of a new resource center on campus where students can go to get access to food, clothing, financial aid, and other needed resources to ensure that they succeed.”

Mesa College has been working diligently to address the most basic needs of students. From opening up food and clothing pantry The Stand in early 2017, to debuting the monthly free Farmers Market in 2018, to providing emergency funds for car repairs and hotel vouchers, Mesa College has assisted thousands of students with obtaining access to essentials such as food, clothing, transportation, and housing. Through this work, the college identified a need to do more.

Since 2016, Mesa College has participated in the Hope Center’s California Community Colleges #RealCollege Survey, which in March 2019 showed that nearly 50 percent of Mesa College students are struggling with food insecurity while an additional 18 percent lack permanent housing. For these students, one unexpected expense can put their entire education at risk. Moved by the results of the study, Mesa College leaders and Foundation board members envisioned a scenario whereby students could have access to needed funding, without jeopardizing their college educational goals.

The goal is ambitious: raise \$250,000 to create a Resiliency Fund that would provide one-time emergency loans and grants to students experiencing financial setbacks that may put them at risk of dropping out. One hundred percent of donations to the Resiliency Fund will go directly to students, and provide them with financial assistance for expenses such as textbooks and supplies, car repairs, such as flat tires, hotel vouchers, and/or food.

In preliminary conversations with potential donors, and when the Resiliency Fund debuted in August during the Mesa College Fall 2019 Convocation, response has been positive. Several donors have stepped forward to provide nearly \$75,000 as “match funding” to incentivize others to give, and others have already submitted donations and pledges.

San Diego Mesa College  
2019 commencement.

To learn more and donate, visit  
[sdmesa.edu/ResiliencyFund](https://sdmesa.edu/ResiliencyFund).







## TRANSFER STUDENT, VETERAN ATTENDS YALE UNIVERSITY



Twenty-four-year-old graduate Andres Guerra has become the second veteran to transfer from San Diego Miramar College to Yale University in the past two years. Back in 2017, Summer Lee was admitted as part of the Eli Whitney Students Program. Guerra joined Yale University in the fall as part of the same program.

The former Marine Corps corporal is from a family of Honduran immigrants who live and work in Miami, most of whom are employed as home cleaners and construction workers. While not the first to attend college in his family, he is the first to attend an Ivy League school.

“Honestly, I don’t think my mom even knew what Yale was when I first told her that I got in, but my grandmother, who migrated here in the 1960s, knew and she was very happy,” Guerra said. “My family really struggled when first arriving in America. My acceptance to Yale wasn’t just a testament of their hard work, but also a testament of the American Dream that I served this nation to uphold.”

Guerra’s path to Yale University was anything but smooth. He admits to neglecting his academics while in high school in Miami, yet he knew he needed to honor his family’s hard work and dedication.

“I couldn’t understand my family’s struggle until I graduated high school,” Guerra said. “I realized that my family came here to better themselves, and my grades weren’t doing them any justice. I needed discipline and order in my life, so I joined the Marine Corps, though I always knew I would go back to school.”

Guerra spent the next five years in the Marines and, while stationed at MCAS Miramar, he began taking courses at Miramar College in 2015. Four years later, he graduated with an associate degree for transfer in

communications in May 2019. He applied to UC San Diego, UC Berkeley, Columbia, Brown, and Yale. After being accepted to all, Yale and the Eli Whitney Students Program offered him the best opportunity.

“The financial aid package was the best at Yale,” he said. “Yale will cover the entire cost of attending, give me free lunches and provide me with a \$9,000-a-year housing allowance, so I am able to save my GI Bill for use on a master’s degree.”

The Eli Whitney Students Program is designed for individuals with high academic potential who have had their education interrupted longer than five years at some point during their educational careers. Yale accepts between two and nine Eli Whitney Students per year.

Guerra is studying anthropology at Yale. He hopes to join the Ivy League Veterans Council and use his success to build a platform for other veterans who want to continue their education.

“I want to put out more awareness to other veterans, because I think they sell themselves short when it comes to education,” Guerra said. “They often say ‘Well, I will just go to a for-profit college or a local state school,’ and while there is nothing wrong with that, if you put in the time and effort to be in the Marine Corps, you might as well get the best benefit you can out of it. I want to promote that this narrative is real and is possible.”

In addition, Guerra hopes his fellow veterans will take advantage of the Service to School program, which he credits for his acceptance to Yale. “They are a resource that every veteran should use when applying to universities.”

Guerra looks forward to bumping into veteran and fellow Miramar alumni Lee someday on the Yale campus.





# CLASSES HELP MARINE VETERAN WITH BRAIN INJURY ACHIEVE HIS GOALS

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a leading cause of death and disability among children and adults in the nation. The Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) noncredit/non-fee classes at San Diego Continuing Education (CE) support people with recovery from brain trauma, stroke/aneurysm, brain tumor, brain infection, and anoxia.

Continuing Education's ABI program is led by faculty who have expertise in the field of brain injury, including speech pathologists, rehabilitation counselors, recreation therapists, and counselors.

Marine Corps veteran Mario Sanders enrolled in CE's ABI program after suffering a head trauma during a severe motor vehicle collision in 2016. He remembered the military as fast-paced recalling, "you have to be quick on your feet. There is no time to sit back and think you have to be reactive or people could possibly die." He explained that nowadays his memory and thinking skills are delayed. He needs extra time for everyday activities such as walking and taking exams.

Continuing Education's ABI curriculum equips students with the tools needed to achieve daily tasks and long-term goals to support their transition back into education and a career. Classes emphasize rebuilding a sense of self through cognitive retraining, personal development, communication, academic skills, vocational exploration, coping strategies, creativity development, and advocacy awareness.

Following his accident, Sanders was transferred from active-duty service to the Wounded Warrior Battalion at Camp Pendleton, where, during therapy, he learned about CE's free ABI program.

"If I hadn't discovered this program, I don't think I would be as accepting with my brain injury as I am now," Sanders said. "When I was discharged from the hospital, I believed school was definitely not for me anymore. I'm now attending San Diego Miramar College, something I never would have done."

Sanders is enrolled at both CE and San Diego Miramar College and also will complete an associate degree for transfer in kinesiology.

In addition to changing lives in the classroom, students, faculty, and administrators of CE's ABI program raised almost \$20,000 for the San Diego Brain Injury Foundation (SDBIF) during the 12th annual surviveHEADSTRONG Walk for Recovery in spring 2019. The yearly fundraiser promotes public awareness and social advocacy relating to brain injury and provides support, education, and resources to brain-injury survivors and their family members and caregivers. Continuing Education has raised more than \$190,000 since the inception of SDBIF's campaign in 2008.

Continuing Education's ABI classes are open-entry, open-exit; students can enroll at any time. Classes take place at the Continuing Education at Mesa College Campus and the Educational Cultural Complex located in southeast San Diego.







# WRITING HER STORY AT MESA COLLEGE

*Aleah Jarin moved from the San Joaquin Valley town of Manteca two years ago to attend San Diego Mesa College and transfer to San Diego State University. Mission accomplished. Jarin graduated from Mesa College in May with a 3.9 GPA and began the next chapter in her higher education journey this fall at SDSU, where she will study journalism. At Mesa College, Jarin, 20, became active with the San Diego Community College District's Honors Program because she was looking for more from her college experience.*

*With Excellence recently talked to Jarin about life at Mesa College and her future.*

**Q.** What most surprised you about Mesa College after you began attending?

**A.** I was surprised by the amount of resources Mesa has for students, such as (Extended Opportunity Programs and Services) EOPS, The Stand, the free farmers markets, etc. There are so many things available for students to take advantage of and to help ease their college experience.

**Q.** What stands out most about your two years at Mesa College?

**A.** My involvement with the Honors Club stands out most to me because I feel that through this club, I've made my mark at Mesa. Being a part of this club has shown me how capable I am of taking on a leadership role.

**Q.** Most memorable moments at Mesa College?

**A.** Writing for the Mesa Press, the school's student-run newspaper, was pretty memorable. It felt good to be a part of something that has been around at Mesa for a long time. Also, as a journalism major, I felt like I was finally diving into my respected field.

**Q.** Biggest challenge?

**A.** Making the decision to take on honors courses in addition to working, running a club, and keeping my grades up was a pretty big challenge for me. I wasn't sure if I'd be able to balance everything, but with time and reassurance, I was able to handle my busy schedule and make it work.

**Q.** What will you miss most about Mesa College?

**A.** My daily routine and seeing friends and professors that I have created close relationships with. Mostly, I will miss the overall sense of care and community that you feel as soon as you step onto campus. At Mesa, everyone is so encouraging. The staff and faculty truly care about each student's success. President Luster has done a good job at making Mesa feel like one big family. She and this campus will be dearly missed!





## Year Founded

The San Diego Community College District was established in 1972. However, both City College and Continuing Education trace their starts to 1914 and celebrated centennials in 2014. Mesa College and Miramar College opened in 1964 and 1969, respectively.

## Overview

The SDCCD is the largest public institution of higher education in San Diego — serving approximately 100,000 students annually. The District's three colleges, City College, Mesa College, and Miramar College, offer associate degrees and certificates in occupational programs that prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities, and to enter the workforce. Mesa College also offers a bachelor's degree in health information management. Within the District are seven Continuing Education campuses, which total as the largest provider of noncredit education in California. The District's service area is approximately 196-square miles within the city of San Diego.

## Budget

Total: \$679,335,337

The adopted budget included \$5.6 million for the state's Strong Workforce Initiative to continue to support Career Education course offerings at the District.

## Employees

Total: 5,964



The mission of the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) is to provide accessible, high-quality learning experiences to meet the educational needs of the San Diego community.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### HOW STUDENTS ARE TAKING CLASSES

Enrollments by mode of instruction

On-campus: 96,212 79%

Online: 25,352 21%

Sections offered by mode of instruction

On-campus: 4,436 85%

Online: 807 15%

- Of the 13,943 degrees and certificates awarded to students graduating from San Diego City, Mesa, and Miramar colleges, and San Diego Continuing Education in 2018-19, 3,714 were associate degrees. That is an overall increase of 5 percent from the previous year, including up 15 percent at City College and up 8 percent at Miramar College.

### ENROLLMENT

Fall 2018 community college students: 45,005

Fall 2018 continuing education students: 22,942

Military-related students served:

Active duty, veterans, dependents: 12,225

**Gender:**

Male: 48%

Female: 52%

**Age:**

24 and under: 59%

25+: 41%

### STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

African American: 7%

Asian/Pacific Islander: 11%

Filipino: 5%

Latinx: 39%

White: 30%

Other: 6%

Unreported: 2%

**Visit [sdccd.edu](http://sdccd.edu) for more information.**

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Questions, comments? We'd love to hear from you.

Email us [cpr@sdccd.edu](mailto:cpr@sdccd.edu).





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# KEEPING THE PROMISE

A GIVING DAY IN SUPPORT OF THE SAN DIEGO PROMISE



# GIVING DAY

October 22, 2019

LEARN MORE ABOUT KEEPING THE PROMISE AT **SDCCD.EDU/GIVINGDAY**

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