



## Global Awareness

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD



An awareness of the world around us and how it affects our lives is an important component of the education students receive at Mesa Community College. When we educate ourselves about the plight – and successes – of those outside ourselves, we build understanding of our place in the world, and how our interconnections with others are made real. We build empathy, and our natural human curiosity takes us to the next step: we search for solutions. Whether it's students from around the world living in our community and taking classes at MCC, the college taking tangible steps towards recycling and sustaining the planet, or raising public awareness about the plight of African women and children, MCC presents students with multiple opportunities each year to experience what it means to live in an interdependent world.

In the online report you'll find information on:

- International Education
- U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs program
- Human Trafficking
- Making the Invisible Visible
- Environmental Awareness & Sustainability

To see the full report visit [mesacc.edu/report](http://mesacc.edu/report)



## Programs & Partnerships

STAYING ON THE CUTTING EDGE



Mesa Community College takes its name and mission seriously. Since our beginnings more than 50 years ago, MCC has provided programs and undertaken partnerships geared to serve the communities, residents and students we serve. From undergraduate research initiatives and advanced manufacturing training to urban horticulture, ecological conservation and meeting the specific requirements of Mesa residents at the Community Outreach Center, MCC continues to search for new ways to meet the area's changing higher education needs.

In the online report you'll find information on:

- Undergraduate Research
- Arizona Advanced Manufacturing Institute (AzAMI)
- Center for Urban Agriculture
- Mesa Counts on College
- Conservation
- IT Innovations
- Service to Specialty Populations
- American Indian Institute
- ThinkBIG Apprentice Program



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## MCC Hall of Fame

### You're Invited!

Join us at MCC's first annual Hall of Fame event, created in part to celebrate the college's 50th anniversary. We will honor alumni, community members, and MCC employees whose personal and professional accomplishments and positive contributions to the college and community set them apart.

Thursday, November 5, 2015  
6:00 p.m. – Reception  
7:00 p.m. – Awards Ceremony

Mesa Community College Theatre  
Southern and Dobson Campus  
1833 W. Southern Avenue Mesa, AZ 85202

Free and Open to the Public / RSVP Requested  
To view fuller bios of our honorees and RSVP, please visit [www.mesacc.edu/awards](http://www.mesacc.edu/awards).

### 2015 Honorees

#### MCC DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD

- Lyn Dutson, Retired Faculty in Theatre and Speech
- Duane Oakes, Faculty Director for the Center for Community and Civic Engagement

#### COACHES AWARD

- Tony Cirelli, Baseball

#### ATHLETE'S AWARD

- Robert Edward (Bob) Jacks, Tennis, 1967
- Ronald Grant Powell, Tennis, 1966

#### SERVICE AWARD

- Diana Occhiuzzi, Volunteer for Mesa Community College, Arizona Department of Education, and various community organizations; Retired High School Teacher

#### ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT

- Deborah Bateman, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors for National Bank of Arizona
- Hermenigilda (Hilda) Luna, Director of Radiation Oncology at Banner MD Anderson Cancer Center
- Jennifer Duff, President and Owner of Lobina Lures and Jef International, Inc.
- Keith Ballard, Director of Music for Southwest Middle School; Noted speaker, presenter, and music educator
- Terence Azbill, Chief of the Office of Special Investigations for the Arizona Department of Economic Security



Fall 2015

# Alumni & Friends

A Publication for the Mesa Community College Alumni Association



## Fostering Positive Change

2015 REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY

“For more than 50 years, MCC has been dedicated to student success, and we have an obligation to hold fast to the best of our past and move swiftly to the best of the future.”

It starts with a resolute commitment to serve students, the community and businesses of Mesa and the East Valley for the next 50 years. This is the perfect moment for all of us to rededicate ourselves to even greater accomplishments for the future.

I call this rededication to our purpose Building an Exceptional College, measured by student outcomes and community impact. In MCC's Report to Our Community you will find examples of this effort, an endeavor that is

ongoing, far-reaching, and designed to perpetuate itself for the good of our students and communities long into the future. This issue of Alumni & Friends provides a brief overview of MCC's Report to Our Community; the full version is available online at [www.mesacc.edu/report](http://www.mesacc.edu/report).

This is our moment in time. A pause after 50 years of dedicated service to say thank you, to relive our successes, and plan for many more.



Shouan Pan, Ph.D.  
President



## Student Success

A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE



Mesa Community College students distinguish themselves in and out of the classroom. Taking lessons learned during instruction, MCC students take the knowledge they attain and excel, whether it's through Phi Theta Kappa's international dominance in honor society competitions, All-Arizona and All-USA Today academic scholars, the community college honor society of the National Communication Association, League of Innovation National Literary competitions, Kennedy Center awards for MCC music and dramatic arts students, or national championships in Men's Baseball and Women's Basketball (both in 2014). Every semester MCC students provide proof of exceptional learning outcomes.

In the online report you'll find information on:

- Phi Theta Kappa Awards & Scholarships
- All-Arizona and All-USA Community College Academic Scholars
- NASA Scholars
- Athletics
- Sigma Chi Eta
- Student Literary Competition
- Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Student

To see the full report visit  
[mesacc.edu/report](http://mesacc.edu/report)



## Community Engagement

CREATING MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS



Mesa Community College takes its name and mission seriously. Since our beginnings, MCC has built its reputation on serving and engaging our communities in unique, collaborative ways. We host schoolchildren each year to teach them water safety. We've partnered with the Mesa-East Valley Rose Society to construct the largest rose garden in the Desert Southwest, now a Mesa landmark. Our public planetarium is a lab for students and hosts free public viewings of the heavens. We raise millions of dollars for student scholarships. We engage and serve the local business community with programs and courses for their current and future employees. For more than 20 years, MCC has underscored world hunger with Empty Bowls, an event that supports local efforts to feed the disadvantaged.

All of these efforts have garnered accolades from prestigious institutions like the Carnegie Foundation, among others, but that's not why we endeavor to do good work. We do all of these things to be good stewards of public resources, to be the best neighbor we can be, and because we care about where we live and the communities and citizens we serve.

In the online report you'll find information on:

- President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll
- Carnegie Foundation
- Student Learning for Civic Capacity Grant
- Water Safety Day
- Empty Bowls
- Acclaimed Rose Garden
- Planetarium
- Fundraising, Financial Aid & Scholarships



## Our Future

BUILDING AN EXCEPTIONAL COLLEGE



MCC is proud of its 50-year legacy of serving citizens of the East Valley. As we move forward, we are striving to become an exceptional community college with national standing, measured by student outcomes and community impact. Building an Exceptional College is founded on four specific goals and measurements: sustained reputation; success for all students across all programs and disciplines; recognition as a leader in innovation; and distinction for civic and community engagement.

Operating within a fast-changing higher education landscape, MCC will be called upon to improve institutional outcomes with ever greater efficiency. Guided by the One Maricopa governing philosophy, MCC will work in closer partnerships with sister institutions within the Maricopa County Community College District. While contributing to system-wide mission and goals, MCC can also draw upon system resources and strengths to better serve the community needs of Mesa.

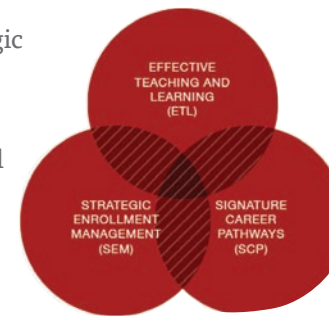
### The Road Ahead

The future direction for the college is determined through strategic planning: a dynamic, collaborative, and continuous process designed to ensure the long-term viability of our institution for our students and community and the effective and efficient use of public resources. Our Strategic Plan serves to translate our vision, leading the way to success in our local and global community, to reality.



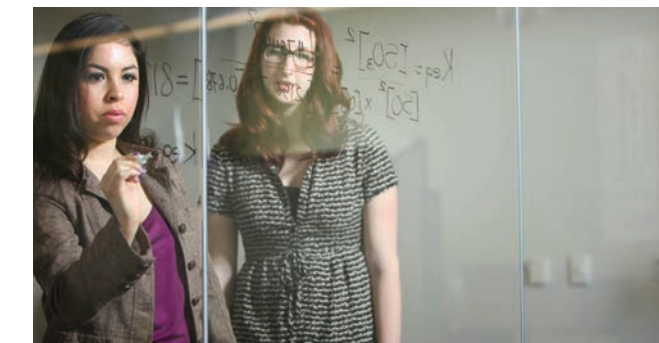
MCC's newly adopted Strategic Plan articulates three main priorities that form the foundation for Building an Exceptional College: Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM), Effective Teaching and Learning (ETL), and Signature Career Pathways (SCP). Paired with our Academic Master Plan, Facilities Plan, and Operational and Budget Plan, MCC is well prepared.

As we look toward the future, the needs of our service area have grown more complex. Mesa Public Schools is already a minority majority district, and the percentage of MCC's Latino student population has been on the rise and is projected to increase steadily. The college is committed to becoming a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). We are laying the groundwork to apply for federal funds that will enable us to expand our capacity to better serve Latino and other under-served populations.



Additionally, nearly two-thirds of incoming MCC students test into one or more developmental courses in reading, mathematics and English. As a result, more resources have to be allocated to help students underprepared for college coursework. In order to stay responsive throughout a student's MCC experience, from beginning to end, MCC must maintain resources at all levels of learning proficiency so that success is attainable for all students.

Detailed information about several key planning areas are outlined in this section of the online report as well as some of the key data used to ensure that our planning efforts are based on realistic projections. It takes the right kind of data and thoughtful inquiry to reach our ultimate goal of Building an Exceptional College.



### Strategic Planning

MCC's Strategic Plan for 2015-18 is based on a new set of three main priorities: Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM), Effective Teaching and Learning (ETL), and Signature Career Pathways (SCP).

### Maricopa Priorities

Mesa Community College is part of the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD), one of the largest community college systems in the country. MCCCD began a process of self-assessment and prioritization of all programs and services in 2013. This process, known as Maricopa Priorities, will support collectively realigning resources to help MCC thrive as an institution.

### Academic Master Plan

The Academic Master Plan is a guide to planned management of educational programs and services that address the ever-changing needs of our community. Industry demands, changing demographics, and competition are the forces that are driving current changes, and they will lead us to adopt new content for teaching and learning and methods of delivery.



### Facilities Planning

By the end of 2015, MCC will have all construction and remodeling complete from the 2004 bond. More than \$115 million worth of improvements, remodeling and new construction now graces the Southern & Dobson and Red Mountain campuses, as well as the Downtown Center.

### Student Learning Outcomes

The techniques and tools MCC uses to assess learning outcomes for students has evolved and now includes the 4C's for student learning outcomes: Communication, Civic Engagement, Critical Thinking, and Cultural and Global Engagement.

### Student Performance

MCC tracks student performance in a number of ways; MCC's graduation rates have improved dramatically, degrees awarded has risen, and MCC graduates and transfer students do exceptionally well at Arizona's public universities.



### Statistical Snapshots

In this section of the online report you will find charts, graphs and narrative that detail student demographic and budget trends from 2008-09 to 2014-15.