

Resolution 2025.11.1: Vote of No Confidence SDMC Vice President of Administrative Services: Gwin

Move: Johnson

Second: Sardo

Whereas there are no established campus safety plans or emergency response plans readily available to the San Diego Mesa College faculty or staff a year and a half after the suicide of the child of a student on the campus¹;

Whereas there has been a severe lack of collegial consultation with faculty about safety, despite the existence of a safety committee²;

Whereas reported facility repair requests are either unacknowledged or very slow to be fulfilled with no updates to affected faculty or staff³;

¹ 1) For example, our “Emergency Management” webpage is blank except for the phrase “coming soon.” See <https://www.sdmesa.edu/college-services/safety/emergency-management/index.shtml>; 2) Here is a safety presentation from Administrative Services presented at the 10/7 President’s Cabinet meeting. The presentation begins on slide 7 and ends on 13. None of the slides offer a safety plan, but slide 13 shows a diagram. At the PCAB meeting we were told we were at Phase V. No explanation for what the diagram means was given. See https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/Admin_Services_and_Safety_Presentation_Pcab_10-7-25.pdf; 3) At the 10/21 President’s Cabinet meeting, a second safety presentation was made. This presentation had more detail, but was still unclear. It was revealed that 183 page document had been released to the deans in Teams, but this document proved to be unhelpful. For example, the emergency plans in the document do not work well for classroom buildings and the diagrams are flawed. The training options also do not work well for classroom buildings. See https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/office-of-the-president/presentation-documents/Campus_Safety_Resources_Events_Operations_Pcab_10-21-25.pdf

² The safety committee has met twice in the last year and a half. The next meeting is scheduled for 10 am on Thursday, 11/13. This is a peak teaching time, so most faculty cannot attend. <https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/committees/safety-committee.shtml#section4>

³ There are too many to recount, but here are three examples. The common theme is that no action is taken until the issue is brought up directly or publicly, even though the issues were reported through proper channels. 1) There was a leak in the Learning Resource Center, for example, on July 11, 2025. There has been a four-month delay in repairs to the bathroom and breakroom areas on the 4th floor due, in part, to product delays. The 3rd floor student study area was damaged because of the leak as well, and damaged furniture was stacked up in the area for two months after the leak. Dirty carpet tiles were also stacked up on a study table and removed three months after the leak. (The carpet tiles were removed after this issue was publicly mentioned.) The faculty/staff currently have been without a breakroom and restroom on the 4th floor, impeding access to a refrigerator and microwave. Faculty and staff have had to go to other buildings because of the lines and conditions in the remaining restrooms. 2) An ant infestation and malfunctioning air-conditioning were reported repeatedly to facilities, but no action was taken until the Academic Senate President, Mary Gwin, reported the issue directly to Lorenze Legaspi, the Vice President of Administrative Services on 9/24/25. 3) The

Whereas Title 5 § 53200 (c) of California Education Code articulates the “academic and professional matters” concerning the recommendations which Academic Senates are entitled to make to their respective administrations, “processes for institutional and budget development” is one of the specific line items listed in this code, and faculty have been excluded from these institutional and budgetary processes⁴;

Whereas after repeated requests the Vice President of Administrative Services, Lorenze Legaspi, fails to offer coherent explanations as to why the General Fund Unrestricted budgets across campus have been cut and why speakers, vendors, and subscriptions from the 2024-2025 academic year have not been paid or were paid after being put into delinquent status⁵ and fails to offer operating budget information;

facade to the elevator on the 3rd floor of the SB Building shattered in mid-2019. This was fixed sometime during the weekend of 11/1/2025 after more than six years.

⁴ 1) Mesa specific budget information is not made available to the campus by the Vice President of Administrative Services. Only the general adopted budget has been presented to President’s Cabinet in the last three years; 2) The Budget Allocation and Recommendation Committee (BARC) is the committee that is offered as evidence for meeting the ACCJC standard III.D.2, “The institution’s mission and goals are the foundation for financial planning, and financial planning is integrated with and supports all institutional planning. The institution has policies and procedures to ensure sound financial practices and financial stability. Appropriate financial information is disseminated throughout the institution in a timely manner.” p. 246 of the 2023 San Diego Mesa College Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER). The report states that “The College shares timely information with the campus community through the Budget Allocation and Recommendation Committee, the Budget Committee of the College. Budget information is shared through this participatory governance committee with representatives from constituencies across campus.” p. 247. The description of the committee is that it is “... is designed to engage on (sic) focused work in the development of principles, recommendations, and priorities for the College’s General Fund Unrestricted Budget. Recommendations are brought directly to President’s Cabinet. The committee’s goals are:

- To develop a General Fund Unrestricted “operating budget” that carries out the Mission of the College as delineated in the College Educational Plan
- Develop and direct the process for long and short-term strategic planning
- Review and assess the impact of budget reductions/increases
- Justify the level of any additional funding in program allocations required to provide an appropriate schedule of classes and level of service
- Justify the level of any reduction in funding in program allocations
- Keep represented constituents apprised of the budget development process and solicit input as needed.” p. 247 See <https://www.sdmesa.edu/accreditation/accreditation-2023/ISERSDMesa08012023FinalV2.pdf> and the 2017 ISER pp. 380-395, 440 <https://www.sdmesa.edu/about-mesa/accreditation/accreditation-reports/documents/SDMC%20ISER%202017%20ACCRED%20NO%20APPENDIX.pdf>.

This committee does none of these things, does not meet regularly, does not always include faculty, and does not keep regular, accurate minutes. Furthermore, after asking the Vice President of Administrative Services, Lorenze Legaspi, about BARC’s development of a General Fund Unrestricted “operating budget”, review and assessment of impacts of budget reductions, the lack of justification for the reductions in programs allocations across campus, and the lack of information on campus budget development processes on 10/15/25, the Vice President of Administrative Services first advised the Academic Senate President that he had no knowledge of the BARC goals listed above, but then in the same conversation explained that BARC does not do these things anymore and that he was going to remove the goals from the website. It is not clear whether faculty was involved in this decision because minutes from the 10/7/25 meeting where the Vice President claims this decision was made are not posted as of 11/4/25.

⁵ Here are some examples, though, there are many more. The Constance Carroll Humanities Institute budget was inexplicably cut and then inexplicably restored after a series of emails with Vice President of Administrative Services about BARC and why there is no general fund unrestricted operating budget. Speakers for the Humanities Institute and other programs were either not paid or were paid only after several months. For example, 4Imprint, Free Form Clay, and Blick Art Supply are vendors who were so past due that they withheld business until our accounts were brought up

Whereas campus safety, facilities, and budgets and budgetary processes are within the domain of the Office of Administrative Services on the San Diego Mesa College campus, the Office of Administrative Services is headed by the Vice President of Administrative Services, Lorenze Legaspi, and the actions or inactions of this office represent mismanagement, lack of consultation, and lack of transparency such that the continuance with the status quo produces more harm to the institution and ultimately, to students ;

Be it resolved that the San Diego Mesa College Academic Senate declare a vote of “no confidence” in the Vice President of Administrative Services, Lorenze Legaspi;

Be it further resolved that the San Diego Mesa College Academic Senate urge President Ashanti Hands to engage in better management of emergency procedures, engage in collegial consultation with the Senate, and to work toward more transparency of policies, procedures, processes, and budgets across campus.

Presented to the SDMC AS: November 10, 2025

Approved by the SDMC AS: December 1, 2025

Please find the vote delineation on page 4:

to date. The membership with CA-Law that allows our affiliation for the Pathways to Law School program was paid after being several months delinquent. No explanations for why these issues and others occurred have been clear.

**SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE (SDMC)
ACADEMIC SENATE (AS)**

Resolution 2025.11.1: Vote Of No Confidence - SDMC VPA (December 1, 2025)

	MEMBER		Approve	Disapprove	Abstain	Not Present	
1	Carlyne	Allbee	1				
2	Isaac	Arguelles-Ibarra	1				
3	Sandra	Belew	1				
4	Henry	Browne	1				
5	Katlin	Choi	1				
6	Jennifer	Cost	1				
7	Nellie	Dougherty	1				
8	Ian	Duckles	1				
9	Justin	Estep			1		
10	Erin	Evans	1				
11	Jennifer	Frost Moreno		1			
12	Veronica	Gerace		1			
13	Mary	Gwin	1				
14	James	Hinton			1		
15	Andrew	Hoffman	Meeting Chair during the vote.				
16	Alex	Holowicki	1				
17	Geoff	Johnson				1	Not Present
18	Dante	Jones			1		
19	Jesse	Keller				1	Not Present
20	Wendell	Kling	1				
21	Mariam	Kushkaki	1				
22	Sam	Lee				1	Left Meeting Early
23	David	Lizarraga	1				
24	Laura	Maki				1	Not Present
25	Thekima	Mayasa		1			
26	Ryan	Mongelluzzo	1				
27	Danica	Moore	1				
28	Rusty	Nichols	1				
29	Das	Odasso	1				
30	Edeama	Onwuchekwa Jonah			1		
31	Mychal	Odum		1			
32	Miriam	Pacheco	1				
33	Scott	Plambek		1			
34	Anthony	Reuss	1				
35	Michelle	Rodriguez	1				
36	Jessica	Sardo	1				
37	Scott	Suarez	1				
38	Nqoc "Kim"	Tran	1				
39	Richard	Unis			1		
40	Louis	Valenzuela				1	Not Present
41	Karen	Wait	1				
41	Michael	Williams	1				
* *			26	5	5	5	41
	MEMBER		Approve	Disapprove	Abstain	Not Present	

UPDATED: December 3, 2025