

MESA/MPS/UndocuSTEM

Newsletter Fall 2025 - Week 3

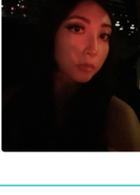
Your Week 3 with MESA: Growth, Support & Opportunities!

Welcome to week 3! Join us for *Transfer Made Simple: Steps to Your 4-Year Future* on Oct 7, 1:30-2:30 PM at the MESA Center (S54). This workshop provide tips and advice on transferring, all students welcome, no matter where you are in your transfer journey. **Need help with midterms?** Drop by MESA for tutoring, study support, and a great community. **Explore the opportunities below and sign up for what excites you –let's make this quarter strong together!**



Meet our MESA Tutor Yadira Lopez!

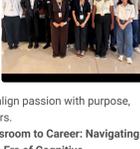
Hi! I'm Yadira, a statistics tutor for the MPS program. I enjoy hiking and horror movies. I first took statistics as a major requirement and ended up loving it. That led me to this tutoring opportunity! I'm currently a nursing major, but I'd always dreamt of being a teacher. While I chose a different path, I'm grateful for the chance to support others in their learning through this role.



MESA Highlights!

MESA De Anza at the Engineering Diversity Conference!

Last weekend, MESA De Anza students dived into the **11th Annual Conference for Engineering Diversity** at San José State University – a day bursting with innovation, insight, and inspiration. Through workshops like **Ikgai: How to Break Free from the Job Hunt and Realize Your Dreams**, **Engineering Your Path: Navigating STEM, Building Your Network, and Owning Your Personal Brand**, and **Behind the Scenes of AI Job Search: How LLMs Are Changing the Way We Find Work** – among many others – students learned how to align passion with purpose, build confidence in STEM, and prepare for the future of AI-driven careers. They also gained practical guidance from sessions such as **From Classroom to Career: Navigating the Transition from College to Industry and Navigating a Career in the Era of Cognitive Industrialization**, discovering how to adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing engineering world. By connecting with professionals from Amazon, LinkedIn, Dell, Cisco, and more, MESA De Anza students left the conference inspired to dream boldly, lead with purpose, and engineer a more inclusive future. 🚀



MESA/De Anza College Events

Patolli & Probability: Chance through the Eyes of Mesoamerican Civilizations

Celebrate Latine/x Heritage Month by exploring an introduction to probability by taking a journey to a time from 200 BC to the early 16th century where various Mesoamerican civilizations played the game Patolli in North and Central America. Play this Mesoamerican game, connect with peers, learn about resources, and have fun!



When: Thursday, October 9th

Where: Start in the Physical Sciences & Technology Village S55 and play at any hosting sites
Office of Equity, Social Justice & Multicultural Education MLC 250
Higher Education for AB540 Students UndocuSTEM ECOT 1
MESA/MPS S54

Student Success Center's Math, Science & Technology Resource Center S43

Time: Two sessions will be offered at 11:30am-1:30pm and 1:30-3:30pm

Everyone is welcomed to join!

Explore Chemical & Materials Engineering at SJSU

Virtual information session:

Why Choose Chemical & Materials Engineering at SJSU?
Programs: BS (4-year), MS (2-year), BS+MS (5-year)

- Biotechnology & Biomedical Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Materials Processing & Nanotechnology
- Oil & Gas, Pharmaceuticals, and more!

Date and time:

- Friday, 10 October, 2025 | 4-5 PM
- Thursday, 6 November, 2025 | 4-5 PM

Register for Zoom Link: <https://forms.gle/pRhcLch1avLk3BVv5>



Breaking Barriers: A First-Generation Engineer's Journey from Oaxaca to Innovation

Rafael's career spans Genentech, Johnson & Johnson (surgical robotics), and now Innovative Sensor Technology in Las Vegas. As a first-generation student and formerly undocumented, he shares his journey to inspire others to pursue their dreams in engineering and beyond.

Date: Thursday, 16 Oct 2025

Time: 6:00-7:00 PM

RSVP to Receive Zoom Link!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1IKsyk2q331825tqlxlm19zpxtyhsbtK2aU7m04fvrlM/prefill>



MESA Transfer Workshops!

Learn about the do's and don'ts, tips and tricks about the transfer process. What does a strong PIQ response look like? How do UC campuses evaluate applications in their admission decision? Everyone welcome!

- **Drop-in For students preparing UC TAGS** (25 Sep 2025, 1:30-2:30PM, MESA Center S54)
- **Transfer Made Simple: Steps to Your 4-Year Future** (7 Oct 2025, 1:30-2:30PM, MESA Center S54)
- **Mastering Your PIQs: Tell Your Story, Stand Out speaker:** UCB (28 Oct 2025, 1:30-2:30PM, MESA Center S54)
- **6&13&20 Nov 2025 Drop-in For students preparing Transfer Application** (1:30-2:30PM, MESA Center S54)

RSVP Form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1G3c9DdWwK9LagJOKB6s96SYZpiradBUBy-0Q5FCxAY/prefill>



MESA FALL CONFERENCES

Below are a few Conferences opportunities for MESA Students. Registration fees and accommodations (when out of state) will be provided by the MESA Program. ONLY MESA Students are allowed to apply. Deadline to register is Sept 26.

For opportunities that have limited space, all applicants will be evaluated, with preference given to students who have participated in the program.

RSVP Form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1A0INDmNxIxlqaaqWpc5VW272K5p7JAVDmEcbq18TK/prefill>



- **2026 Fall Conference for Diversity in Engineering @ SJSU** (4 Oct 2025 at SJSU). (Free, please register on your own. We just want to have an idea of who is going).

For more information: <https://www.sjsuced.org/>

- **Conference UC Davis Pre Health Conference** (18 Oct 2025 at UC Davis). (15 Spots Available)

For more information: <https://prehealthconference.ucdavis.edu/>

- **SACNAS conference** (30 Oct 2025 at Columbus, Ohio). (8 Spots Available)

For more information: <https://www.sacnas.org/conference>

- **Conference American Chemical Society Western Regional Meeting** (25-28 Oct 2025 at 170 South Market Street, San Jose, California 95113). (5 spots available)

For more information: <https://www.acs.org/events/all-events/2025-western-regional-meeting-wym.html>

MESA STEM Talks presents "From housecleaning to Hardware Engineering"-Rebeca Lopez Valerio (Hardware Engineer @ Cisco)

MESA STEM Talks presents

"From housecleaning to Hardware Engineering"

Rebeca Lopez Valerio

Hardware Engineer @ Cisco

Hecha en Mexico (Mexican breed), Silicon Valley raised, Rebeca navigated an undocumented status to become a Hardware Engineer at Cisco Systems. She developed her technical background with a degree in Electrical Engineering from San Jose State University while running a sole proprietorship and an LLC.

Where: ONLINE (Zoom Link will be sent to those who complete this form)

When: Thursday, 11 Dec 2025, 6:00-7:00pm

RSVP: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd0pk90S2-3lxGnIUsc0NW0fwegVTNzwhKhaGlrcy20Q/viewform?usp=header>



External Opportunity

Santa Clara County District Attorney's Crime Laboratory Presentation

The presentation from Cordelia Willis consists of a 2-hour talk about the forensic work performed in the Santa Clara County Crime Lab. It virtually walks through all the different areas of the lab using photographs and case examples, showing how crimes such as homicides and sexual assaults are investigated.

Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: Crime Lab Training Room

250 W. Hedding St., San Jose (near Civic Center Light Rail)

For registration:

Free & Open to the Public

Reservation Required: Email Cordelia Willis at cwillis@lab.sccgov.org



Research-Undergraduate Summer Research Opportunities at C-GEM!

You are invited to apply to C-GEM's Summer Undergraduate Research Program (C-GEM SURP) where you will have the opportunity to perform cutting-edge research under the mentorship of seasoned scientists.

C-GEM is seeking to expand the chemistry of the proteome, and projects span the chemistry-biology interface, including projects in organic synthesis, mass spectrometry, directed evolution, and structural biology. The program provides housing and board, a generous stipend, and support for travel to and from the research site. No prior research experience is required to participate!

Applications are due February 1st

Registration: <https://www.joinform.com/form/252316868865168>

For more information: <https://www.joinform.com/form/252316868865168>



Info Session-Undergraduate Summer Research Opportunities at C-GEM

Join us for an information session/Q&A in November to learn more about the details of the program and how to write a competitive personal statement for your application.

Date and Time:

Thursday, November 6, 2025, 12-1 PM PT

Thursday, November 6, 2025, 3-4 PM PT

RSVP Info-Session: <https://airtable.com/apptCe1Hh0RRZYIA/paguMqIHZYUdyMoR/form>



Sierrathon – The PCB Design Challenge

Put your PCB skills to the test!

Sierrathon is not your average design competition, it's a high-energy, fast-paced challenge where engineering students tackle a real-world PCB design problems under pressure. Over the course of one intense day, teams will simulate the design process, earning points for accuracy, efficiency, and innovation. The team with the highest score takes home the Sierrathon Champion title!

Competition details

Venue: San Jose State University, Room 285

Date: Saturday, November 22nd

Duration: One full day from 9 AM to 5 PM (~8 hours, including breaks and awards)

Teams: 1-5 students per team

Only students with basic PCB design skills will be qualified to sign up.

Registration and for more information: <https://www.protoexpress.com/event/sierrathon/>



MORE OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for potential Internship opportunities? Check out these websites

- [REU Finder for STEM undergraduates](#)
- [STEM Community College Resource](#)

Get Updates From Our Transfer Center

Transfer Center [Website](#)

Join the mailing [list](#) through [this form](#).

FEATURED @ DE ANZA



Math, Science & Technology Resource Center (MSTRC)

Need some extra support? Stop by the MSTRC for additional tutoring and resources!

Tutoring Subjects

- Math
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Engineering

Services Offered

- [Drop-In Tutoring](#)
- [Weekly Individual Tutoring](#)
- [Group Tutoring](#)
- [In-Class Tutoring](#)
- [Workshops](#) (back by popular demand!)
- [Math Review and Preparation](#)
- [Math Modules](#)
- [Study Skills](#)



UNDOCUSTEM

UndocuSTEM aims to support undocumented students in the fields of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) through **accessibility, opportunity, and resources** by creating a program that **promotes equity, racial justice, leadership, and career development**. The UndocuSTEM Program was founded by students, and funded through the **LatinXCEL** grant from the **Silicon Valley Community Foundation**.

Arlyne - an UndocuSTEM Research Intern - who has worked together with

volunteers to create an [excel sheet to track all the available internships](#) from this Fall. Take a few minutes to check it out!

Connect with UndocuSTEM!
[Instagram](#)
[Discord](#)

Email: da.undocustem@gmail.com



SACNAS (Society for Chicano and Native Americans in the Sciences)

De Anza College is in the process of getting a SACNAS Chapter. If you are interested in joining, [please fill out this interest form](#)



Yvette Alva-Campbell

Yvette is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters