AGENDA

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What is MESA?

Mission Statement:

- MESA enables educationally disadvantaged students to prepare for and graduate from a four-year college or university with a math-based degree in areas such as engineering, the sciences, computer science, and mathematics.

- Through MESA, students develop academic and leadership skills, increase educational performance, and gain confidence in their ability to compete professionally. MESA has particular interest in and focus on students from those groups who historically have had the lowest levels of attainment to four-year and graduate level programs.

- By closing this achievement gap, MESA students and graduates will be better able to make significant contributions to the socioeconomic well-being of their families and their communities.
Education Makes Cents

A college degree is a lot more than just a piece of paper. Below are numbers that reflect a yearly income by educational attainment:

- $20,268  Less than 9th grade
- $27,479  High School Graduate
- $33,447  Associate Degree (Community College)
- $47,094  Bachelors Degree (4 year College or University)
- $62,179  Masters/Doctorate Degree (at least 6 years College or University)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 2008 American Community Survey
•California leads the nation in science and technology advances. Despite this, it’s been determined that in order for California to keep this position, it will be critical to produce more graduates in the math, science, and technology fields.

•The Labor and Workforce Development Agency projects a state shortfall of almost 40,000 engineers by 2014.

•Around the nation, 50% of the country’s scientists and engineering professionals are approaching retirement. The National Science Board that by 2012, the number of science and engineering jobs will increase by 70%.

•In order to meet these high needs, California’s students must be better prepared academically, and that is where MESA has been successful.
Of MESA high school graduates, 54% went on to major in math, science, and engineering.

Source: “MESA: Beating The Odds,” MESA Statewide Office, mesa.ucop.edu
MESA Participants

Who is eligible to participate in MESA?
Educationally disadvantaged students are eligible for the program. The criteria for educationally disadvantaged include factors such as economic status, educational environment, or family/home circumstances.

How many students does MESA serve?
MESA serves 30 students per grade level and per advisor/teacher. This roughly means about 60-90 students at each middle school, and about 120 for each high school.
The MESA Model includes a variety of services that result in a high rate of academic achievement. Components include:

- Individual Academic Plans
- Academic Excellence Workshops
- SAT I & II, ACT, CAHSEE prep
- Hands-on math, engineering & science exploration
- MESA Day Competitions
- Academic counseling
- Field trips to university campuses
- Higher education role models
- Parent Outreach Workshops
MESA Schools Program (MSP)

**MSP Models:**

**MESA Period** -
Offered during the regularly scheduled school day.

**MESA After-school Preparation Program (MAPP)** –
Meets 3 hours per week.

**MESA Saturday Institute (MSI)** –
4 hours on Saturday plus 1 during the week for AEW.
Meets over 15 Saturday sessions.
Fall Activities

MESA’s focus from September through November is to expose students to a variety of projects in order to develop their ability to design, explore, and build from their imagination:

✦ Hands-on engineering and science sponge activities
✦ Academic Excellence Workshops
✦ Team Building
MESA SHORT-TERM ACTIVITIES

Participants work together to build a tower using paper clips, tape, and drinking straws. The tower must be able to hold a regular tennis ball.
Important Fall Dates

Students will participate in the following activities in the fall:

October 15, 2011: First MSI of the year
October 22, 2011: USC College Day (12th grade only)
MESA’s Winter Activities

MESA’s focus from December through February is to prepare students for the upcoming MESA Day Competitions:

- Long Term MESA Day Projects
- Preparing for the mathematics competitions
- Academic Excellence Workshops
MESA Day Competitions

Every MESA student has the opportunity to win a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Medal.
Important Winter Dates

Students will participate in the following activities in the winter:

February 18, 2012: Elementary MESA Day

March 3, 2012: MESA Preliminary Competition (HS Only)

March 10, 2012: MESA Preliminary Competition (MS Only)

April 14: Day Regional Competition at Chapman University (for MS prelim winners)

April 21, 2012: MESA Day Regional Competition at UC Riverside (for HS Prelim Winners)
MESA’s Spring Activities

MESA’s focus from March through May is to expand our students’ awareness of the college process:

- Rube Goldberg Challenge
- Rubik’s Cube (MS and HS only)
- Robotics (MS and HS only)
- Academic Excellence Workshops
Important Spring Dates

Students will participate in the following activity during the spring:
May 19, 2012: Engineering Your Future Closing Ceremony

MESA USA National Engineering Design Competition
June 2012
Seattle, WA
Attendance Policy

Field Trip Sites Affected by Attendance Policy:

~Junior Preliminary Competition
~Senior Preliminary Competition
~Engineering the Future Day

To attend the various MESA field trips, students must be a current and active participant. An active participant has:

~ completed enrollment documents on file with the UC Irvine MESA program;
~ completed a minimum amount of hours prior to the event;
MESA Benefits for Students

- Students have exposure to university requirements and career options;
- Students have exposure to university student life;
- Students are academically prepared for college;
- Students are empowered to create options.
MESA Benefits for Parents

- Parents have contact with MESA Advisor;
- Parents are encouraged to monitor student’s progress;
- Parents have the opportunity to learn about college or career choices that impact the future of their student.
Take Action . . .

• Make sure that your Enrollment Packet is returned to your MESA advisor at the next MESA session. (The Enrollment Packet includes: Enrollment Form, Participant Authorization Form, Student Conduct Form and Medical Waiver.)

• Should more than 30 students apply for the program, your advisor will notify students about his/her status in the program.
MESA WORKS!

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www.mesa.eng.uci/mesa