College of the Canyons
MESA Industry Advisory Board Agenda
June 13, 2014
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Aliso Lab 114

1. Continental Breakfast and Guest Check-in
   a. Attendance
      i. Zaheer Ali (NASA Dryden)
      ii. Rebecca Corona-Nickerson (AAUW)
      iii. Proyag Datta (Second Sight Medical)
      iv. Bill James (Avery James Inc.)
      v. Mahmoud Kayhani (Northrop Grumman)
      vi. Bill Lyons (Retired Engineer)
      vii. Milton Randle (Retired MEP Director)
      viii. Edel Alonso (MSE and MESA Counselor)
      ix. Jerry Buckley (V. President, Instruction)
      x. Kathy Kubo (Math Faculty)
      xi. David Martinez (Engineering & Physics Chair)
      xii. Joni McMahon (STEM and MESA Coordinator)
      xiii. David Michaels (Physics & Astronomy Faculty)
      xiv. Omar Torres (Division Dean – MSE)
      xv. Gaby Mendoza (MESA Club President)
      xvi. Nicole Alcala (MESA Club V. President)
      xvii. Eric Lara (MESA Program Director)

2. Introductions and MESA Overview
   a. What is MESA, History, Alumni, Current Students
      i. MESA is a retention and academic enhancement program primarily focused on first-generation, educationally underrepresented STEM students. A few of the services we offer: free faculty and peer tutoring, field trips to S. Cal and N. Cal universities, national conferences and local industry, desktops with AutoCad, Matlab and MiniTab software, professional development workshops etc. (Please see attached “MESA Information”). On average, we have 150 Fully Qualified MESA students.
ii. MESA was established in 1999 and is grant funded. Currently we are supported by the MESA state wide grant ($50,500/year) and AIMS grant ($99,000/year). AIMS is a grant collaboration with CSUN.

iii. Since 2000, MESA has transferred 437 students to 4-year universities, with our top 3 schools being: CSUN, UCLA and UC Davis. Please see “MESA Alumni and current student info” for detailed information on our transfers.

iv. As of the end of Fall 2013, we have 132 active students. The average GPA for MESA students is 3.10 vs. 2.62 for non-MESA STEM Majors. 37 of our MESA students earned at least a 3.50 GPA. (Please see “MESA Alumni and current student info” for detailed information).

1. This summer, MESA has 7 students doing a summer REU at CSUN, 1 REU at CSLB, 1 summer workshop series at JPL and various internships in the Santa Clarita Valley. This year MESA transferred 26 students.

3. College of the Canyons and Math, Science, Engineering Department Overview

   a. The Dean gave an overview of the various degrees offered at COC, both Associate Degrees for Transfer (as per SB-1440) in CMPSCI, GEOG, GEOL, MATH, and PHYSIC as well as Associate degrees in BIOSCI, CMPSCI, ENGR, and MATH.

   b. Various successfully sought grant opportunities through the Department of Commerce (i.e., Nanotechnology instrumentation room, University Center Engineering Lab, and Cleanroom) and the Department of Education (Upward Bound) were discussed as well as pending grant through the National Science Foundation.

   c. Pathways initiative for STEM majors (and desire to help students successfully graduate/transfer in two years) was discussed.
4. Industry Advisory Board overview
   a. Please see “Responsibilities of MESA IAB”

5. Discussion
   a. MESA activities, MESA Club
      i. Please visit http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/MESA/Pages/IAB.aspx for a slide show of our center and activities. There you will see: study center, 3 private study rooms, 16 computers with printing privileges, kitchen, white boards, free school supplies (blue books, scantrons, free STEM books for check out, tutoring, Prof. Dev. Workshops, Alumni/Industry speakers, MESA counselors, AAUW and Lyons book scholarship, company tours, university tours, conferences (SHPE, HENNAC, HACU, Pre-med. Etc) and STEM Week, click for STEM Week info: http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/MESA/Pages/StemWeek.aspx

   b. What can industry do for MESA?
      i. Be an advocate for MESA, and COC, at your company
      ii. Show support from the company to the Dean and President of COC
      iii. Allow MESA students to be interns at your company
      iv. Open your doors for company tours, mentorship
      v. Provide Prof. Dev. workshops in the MESA center or at your company
         1. Public speaking, resume writing, mock interviews, career advice etc.)
vi. Write letters of support when MESA is applying for grants

6. Working Lunch, Socializing and Conclusion
   a. Next meeting, January/February 2015
   b. Second Sight Medical has agreed to provide internships for MESA COC student and provide on campus workshops
   c. With COC having a nano-lab and a clean room, we need to focus on both to expose more of our students on the use of the equipment. Learning basic nano-lab techniques and equipment will help with internships.
   d. MESA students will be attending the SHPE conference in Nov. (Detroit) the HENAAC conf. in Oct. (new Orleans) the SWE conf in Oct. (Los Angeles) and UC Davis Pre health student alliance conf in oct.
   e. Company tours to JPL is set for Sept. 26th. Space X has agreed to give a tour in the Fall. Looking for more local tours.