



## SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

City College • Mesa College  
Miramar College • Continuing Education



# MEDIA ADVISORY

August 29, 2017

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**Media Contact:**

Jennifer Kearns  
Director of Communications  
San Diego Mesa College  
(619) 388-2759  
[jnkearns@sdccd.edu](mailto:jnkearns@sdccd.edu)

**Media Contact:**

Ursula Kroemer Leimbach  
Communications & Outreach Manager  
Propositions S and N Bond Program  
(760) 705-6919 (mobile)  
[ukroemer@sdccd.edu](mailto:ukroemer@sdccd.edu)

# “Topping Out” for Mesa College Center for Business and Technology

*Construction milestone marks placement of the highest structural element*



**WHAT:** Topping out celebration for the future Mesa College Center for Business and Technology

**WHEN:** Thursday, August 31, 2017. 8 – 11:00 a.m. beam signing | 11:00 a.m. Remarks | 11:20 a.m. beam hoisting

**WHERE:** San Diego Mesa College – 7250 Mesa College Drive, San Diego, CA 92111, at the entry to the construction zone northeast of the Mesa Commons. ([View map](#))

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** A [“topping out”](#) marks the point when a structure’s highest element is hoisted into place. The practice started in Scandinavia over 1,000 years ago. Upon reaching the highest point, workers traditionally put into place a small evergreen tree as a symbol of good faith and good luck. In keeping with this longstanding construction tradition, the final beam used for the facility will be painted white and made available for construction crewmembers, campus and District dignitaries, and other guests to sign before it is lifted into place along with an evergreen tree and American flag.

**About the Mesa College Center for Business and Technology:**

Funded by Proposition N and scheduled for completion in 2018, the new \$32.2 million, 57,800 gross square feet [Center for Business and Technology](#) will serve as home for Mesa's business, computer, and fashion design programs. The facility will include technology-rich classrooms, a case study-type classroom, computer laboratory classrooms, a fashion design laboratory, and faculty and staff space. The entry to the building will include a large video display wall. The project will also include hardscape and landscape improvements.

In keeping with the district's Green Building Policy for all Propositions S and N-funded projects, the Center for Business & Technology is expected to be awarded a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification for green building and design - one of 42 LEED certifications across the District. It includes several sustainable features:

- The building will have an active/hybrid passive ventilation on the second-floor classrooms and faculty offices. The ventilation system uses a series of efficient rooftop air handling units with individual Variable Air Volume (VAV) systems in each room; each room has an operable opening of at least 5% of the floor area. Once a window is opened, the system is signaled to turn off heating/cooling and actively assist with pulling air through the space with the VAVs.
- The building design maximizes the use of natural daylighting; commissioning collaboration from an early stage will continue to ensure optimal building efficiencies.
- Drought tolerant landscaping and bio-retention features design to filter and treat storm water runoff.

**Visuals/Media Availability:**

- Signing of the steel beam
- Lifting of the steel beam into place with evergreen tree and American flag
- Construction crew, District and campus leaders, others
- ***Drone footage of the event can be made available from Balfour Beatty upon request***

**Mesa Center for Business and Technology (CBT) Project Team:**

- Design-Build Team: Balfour Beatty Construction and Gensler
- Electrical Engineer: Michael Wall Engineering
- Mechanical/Plumbing: Southland Industries
- Structural Engineer: Burkett & Wong
- Landscape Architect: McCullough Landscape
- Civil Engineer: SWS Engineering
- Inspector of Record: Tim Olk
- Propositions S & N Program Manager: Gafcon, Inc.
- Campus Project Manager: Jim Bray, Gafcon, Inc.

The \$1.555 billion Propositions S and N construction bond program is providing new state-of-the-art teaching and learning facilities, major renovations and campus wide infrastructure projects at City, Mesa and Miramar Colleges and seven Continuing Education campuses throughout San Diego. For more information, please visit <http://props-n.sdccd.edu/>. For high-resolution photographs or renderings, please contact Ursula Kroemer Leimbach at (760) 705-6919, or [ukroemer@sdccd.edu](mailto:ukroemer@sdccd.edu).

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