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NEIGHBORS

## Mesa Community College academic advisor receives national recognition



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MCC

Jocelyn "Jo" Mandal

Posted Tuesday, November 23, 2021 1:58 pm

Jocelyn Mandal, student services analyst-advising at the Mesa Community College Red Mountain Campus, recently received the Certificate of Merit as part of the Outstanding Advising Award-Primary Advising Role from the National Academic Advising Association.

She shares the recognition with only 15 advising professionals across the globe, according to a release.

Mandal, who was honored at the recent NACADA Global Annual Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, has held her position at the Red Mountain Campus since 2019 and leads the campus advising team.

"I was stunned to receive the award and I'm deeply honored," the Chandler resident said in the release. "The NACADA global awards are known to be highly selective. The process is rigorous and requires that candidates meet a lengthy list of criteria. In addition, it's open to universities and colleges not only in the US but also globally."

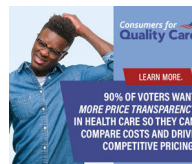
Established in 1983, the NACADA Global Awards Program for Academic Advising annually recognizes individuals who have demonstrated qualities associated with outstanding academic advising of students or outstanding advising administration. The organization is a representative and advocate of academic advising and those providing that service to higher education.

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Among the many achievements highlighted in Mandal's nomination was the launch of an online advising course for undecided students during the COVID-19 pandemic. The course enables students who have not declared a major or program of study to connect with advisors virtually, using a flipped advising approach.

"I created an MCC Advising 101 course designed to increase student success during their first semester and connect them to their field of interest through a college orientation, career planning, goal setting and academic planning," she explained. "My goal was to help all my students declare a program of study or choose a pathway after their first semester."

The program continues to be used by her Fall 2021 semester students at the Red Mountain and Mesa campuses, she release states.

Mandal also provides support for case management advising for undecided students.

Before joining the MCC Red Mountain Campus advising team, Mandal spent four years at the MCC Southern and Dobson Campus as a student services specialist before being named a student services analyst for the STEM Field of Interest in 2018.

"What I like most about my job is meeting students throughout the day, hearing their stories and having an opportunity to make a difference in their lives," she said. "I am motivated every time I see my students connect with who they are now, what they are learning and who they want to become in the future."

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### Keywords

Mesa Community College (/search\_mode/keyword/browse.html?search\_filter=Mesa Community College), Red Mountain Campus (/search\_mode/keyword/browse.html?search\_filter=Red Mountain Campus)

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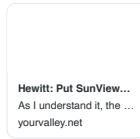
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