



AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1
ISSUE 5

NOVEMBER 2009

Editor: Neil Ledford

Ag Steering Committee

- David J. Gill (co-chair)
Rio Farms
- Jim Bogart (vice-chair)
Grower-Shipper Association
- Karyn Azzopardi
American Cooling
- Margaret D'Arrigo-Martin
D'Arrigo Bros. Co. of California
- Kenny Dozier
Pringle Tractor Co.
- Andrew Fernandez
Taylor Farms
- Kurt Gollnick
Scheid Vineyards
- Louis Huntington
Huntington Farms
- John Inman
Inman Consulting
- Aaron Johnson
Johnson & Moncrief
- Bob LaBrier
American AgCredit
- Emmett Linder
Driscoll's
- Butch Lindley
Lockwood Vineyards
- Bob Martin
Rio Farms
- Mike Moser
Consultant
- Al Parolini
Coastal Tractor
- Bob Perkins
Monterey Co. Farm Bureau
- Kevin Piearcy
Industrial Pump
- Brad Rice
Salinas Land Company
- Tom Russell
Pacific International Marketing
- Dennis Sites
Consultant
- Gary Tanimura
Tanimura & Antle
- Bruce Taylor
Taylor Farms

Students Seek Careers in Agriculture

The Agriculture Business and Technology Institute was initiated as a unique partnership between Hartnell College and the Central Coast Agricultural Industry to educate those interested in rewarding careers in this dynamic, demanding industry.

The agriculture industry needs employees who are motivated and skilled in many different specializations. Hartnell College has worked closely with industry members to develop a variety of innovative programs to supply those needs.

Since its creation in 2006 we have trained over 2,000 students in five different areas that include Ag Business, Ag Production, Diesel Technology, Ag & Industrial Technology, and Welding Technology.

In addition, an entirely new program in Food Safety will begin this year with the first two courses planned for the spring semester. Industry professionals Barry Eisenberg, Vice President of Technical Services for River Ranch Fresh Foods and Lisa Fuentes-Intveld, Director of Food Safety for the Nunes Co. are scheduled to teach the new courses.

Certificate and degree programs allow students to gain skills necessary to start a career, obtain certification, get retrained and work in this industry that provides a variety of possibilities.

Continuation on page 2



Students at the Soil Science class

Inside this issue:

| Topics | Page |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Students Seek Careers in Ag | 1 |
| Workforce Investment Board | 2 |
| Keeping Our Food Safe | 2 |
| Intro to GPS/GIS and Precision | 3 |
| Outstanding Student In Ag | 3 |
| Meet the Instructor | 4 |
| Spring Semester | 4 |
| Scholarships | 4 |

Continuation from page 1

Careers as sales representative, produce buyer, food marketing position, food safety auditor, quality assurance manager, research technician, diesel mechanic, refrigeration technician, equipment maintenance technician, industrial mechanic, and many others are examples of the kinds of jobs students may obtain.

on the left students in the Fertilizer & Plant Nutrition class



Workforce Investment Board (WIB)

Agriculture instructor Ko Cooper is busy this fall teaching in the “Ag Tech” training program in conjunction with the Monterey County Workforce Investment Board (WIB). The WIB is sponsoring the training and has recruited 22 students for completion of the program.

Ko Cooper’s mechanics program has also been given a boost, thanks to stimulus funds through the WIB, to further outfit his shop as a part of the program. Learning and plenty of practice is on the ‘agenda’ for the students who will exit the program with a wide range of new skills.

The Monterey County Workforce Investment Board will be looking to place these people in entry level mechanic positions with local companies once the training is completed in early December 2009.

For further information on these potential employees, call Chris Berthiaume, Workforce Investment Board at (831) 796-3341 or BerthiaumeCJ@co.monterey.ca.us.



Students & instructor in the ag & industrial tech classes

Keeping Our Food Safe

Hartnell College Food Safety Advisory Committee presented the Food Safety for Harvest Operations course on October 9, 2009, which covered topics such as microbiology, developing and implementing standard operating procedures, habitat assessment, equipment cleanliness, sanitation, worker training, among others.

The short courses covering various topics related to food safety have developed a good following over the past three years. Now, Hartnell will follow with a series of ‘permanent’ courses during the spring of 2010. The first two courses which will become part of a new certificate and degree program in Food Safety at the college have been scheduled to begin the week of April 5, 2010. The curriculum was developed with guidance from the Food Safety Advisory Committee as well as participation from other colleges, UC Cooperation Extension, and the Monterey County Health Department.

The courses and certificates were designed to address the demand for qualified technicians, supervisors and managers in food safety and quality assurance in local companies. This program is the first of its kind in California. We expect that it will serve as a resource to develop Food Safety training programs throughout the state.

The two courses in the certificate program that have been scheduled are ABT-130 Introduction to Food Safety, and ABT-131 Agricultural Practices for Food Safety. A complete description of each course is available at www.hartnell.edu (click on the ‘Students’ tab, then ‘Search for Sections’, choose Ag Business) or you can call us at (831) 755-6879.

Introduction to GPS/GIS and Precision Technology

A short course designed to introduce GPS/GIS to students and local industry was presented on October 2nd, 2009. “We hope to take some of the mystery out of the application of this new technology” stated Joe Welch, Hartnell CSS instructor. “There are new, practical applications for satellite technology coming into use every day”, he continued.

The Ag Business and Tech Institute in partnership with the Center for Sustainable Construction presented for the second time the GPS/GIS & Precision Technology short course.

The course, attended by over forty people, gave an overview of GPS/GIS and Remote Sensing and its application in agriculture, construction and in the public sector. Students were exposed to hands-on activities and presentations that covered topics such as GPS applications, data collection, and imaging.

Precision Agriculture is sometimes referred to as "farming by the foot". It can be defined as techniques, technologies, and management strategies that affect crop growth. It allows the grower to increase efficiency and minimize losses.

Global Positioning Systems (GPS) are often used in precision agriculture and are extremely accurate by allowing the grower to know, within 3 centimeters, where they are in their field. The grower may create a map which tells the farm equipment where in the field it needs to go, such as telling it to bypass ponds, sprinkler heads or other obstacles.

Another feature of precision agriculture is the ability to apply “variable-rate applications” of fertilizers or pesticides on an ‘as needed’ basis. The application of technologies, such as this, could allow the grower to see savings in the amount of chemicals applied. For those interested in this area the course AIT-66 Introduction to GPS will be offered in the spring 2010 semester.



above students at the GPS/GIS short course

Outstanding Student in Agriculture

Matt Grogan has been an active member of the King City Agriculture Department and FFA for three years. His interest in agriculture mechanics came from his classes in high school and he is planning to pursue a career in the welding fabrication area. He plans to receive his beginning training at Hartnell College.

Matt was extremely helpful in the improvement to the King City High school farm by applying his mechanical skills. He helped rebuild the livestock pens and repaired many broken areas last year. He is currently working as an advanced project student to improve the drainage system at the school farm.



Matt Grogan receiving his certificate from Daniel Lung, Principal of King City High School

Matt Grogan raises swine for the Salinas Valley Fair and entered a large BBQ which he built as part of his Advanced Ag Construction class. “We are excited to see Matt grow in his fabrication skills. Matt is a student that will do anything to help the department and he is always there for any ag department need”, said Debbie Benson, Department Chair of the King City Agriculture Department.

Meet the Instructor

Steven Triano has been an agricultural genetics researcher in academia and industry since 1989. He earned a B.S. in Biology from CSU Chico, and Ph.D. in Genetics from UC Davis. His primary research has focused on plant breeding and genetics with other projects in post-harvest physiology, production systems, manufacturing systems (especially modified atmosphere packaging), nutrition, and control systems technology.

Steven Triano joined the Hartnell faculty in spring 2007 as a professor of agriculture and biology. Each spring he has helped coordinate the Industry Technology Days - an event that brings high school and middle school students to our campus to learn about Hartnell programs and jobs in our community.

Each fall he has traveled to Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo with students to the Statewide Ag Ambassadors Conference. This is an opportunity for our students to become involved in the promotion of agriculture, and an opportunity for other colleges to learn what we are doing at Hartnell.

He is very enthusiastic about our new campus "I am looking forward to moving to our Alisal Campus in the fall 2010! We are building better classes and programs each semester. Soon we will have the facilities these programs deserve." - Steve Triano.



CLASSES OFFERED IN THE SPRING SEMESTER - JAN. 25– JUNE 2, 2010

AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

Emphasis on Ag Business or Ag Production

- ABT-57 Ag Computer Applications
- ABT-58 Ag Laws & Regulations
- ABT-92 Plant Science
- ABT-93 Product Processing & Cooling
- ABT-96 Vegetable Crop Production

Emphasis on Food Safety

- ABT-130 Intro to Food Safety
(* this class will meet from 04/05/10 to 05/24/10)
- ABT-131 Agricultural Practices for Food Safety
(* this class will meet from 04/07/10 to 05/26/10)

AG & INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

- AIT-66 Intro to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- AIT-70 Intro to Mechanized Agriculture
- AIT-172 Ag Equipment Fabrication

DIESEL TECHNOLOGY

(under Automotive Technology)

- AUT-150 Intro to Heavy Duty Diesel Technology
- AUT-151 Heavy Duty Diesel Preventative Maintenance
- AUT-152 Heavy Duty Diesel Tech Electricity and Electronics

WELDING TECHNOLOGY

- WLD-53 Welding Fabrication
- WLD-54 Advanced Welding
- WLD-57 Pipe Welding
- WLD-150 Basic Welding
- WLD 151 Gas & TIG Welding
- WLD-155 Ornamental Iron Work

For registration or complete description of each class please visit www.hartnell.edu

**** Scholarships ****

The Ag. Business and Tech Institute will award up to 30 scholarships of \$1,000 each for incoming students majoring in the areas listed below:
Ag Business - Ag Production - Ag & Industrial Tech - Diesel Mechanics
Food Safety - Welding Technology

For application forms please contact (831) 755-6879 or cwestfall@hartnell.edu
Forms are also available online. Visit us at www.hartnell.edu/agriculture

If you would like to unsubscribe or add staff to receive our newsletter email Cristina Westfall at cwestfall@hartnell.edu

\$ 1,000

SCHOLARSHIPS