Mission Statement: Hartnell College provides the leadership and resources to ensure that all students shall have equal access to a quality education and the opportunity to pursue and achieve their goals. We are responsive to the learning needs of our community and dedicated to a diverse educational and cultural campus environment that prepares our students for productive participation in a changing world.

1. Hartnell College Starts the New Fall 2013 Semester

TRiO team building activities a success

On Thursday, August 15, 2013, the Hartnell College TRiO Program had its 2013-2014 New Student Orientation with 60 first generation/low-income TRiO students and were welcomed to the campus by VP of Student Affairs, Romero Jalomo.

TRiO counselors, Norma Nichols and Nancy Reyes, direct the orientation with the assistance of TRiO staff, Eva Diaz. The TRiO orientation is from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It consists of a four-hour academic orientation that educates the new cohort to the need for an educational plan, early and consistent tutoring, attendance at mandatory workshops on major and career selection, financial aid, financial literacy, and study skills. After a short 30-minute lunch, the new TRiO students are led through a three-hour team building session by TRiO Director, Manuel Bersamin, who teaches the cohort the importance of bonding and working together to establish the TRiO learning community.

In the structured TRiO team building, the TRiO student cohort is taught to work together as a united community, including values of friendship, loyalty, industriousness, cooperation and enthusiasm. The students will interact in the TRiO community for two to three years until they reach their individual graduation/transfer goals as a united learning community team. The new students come from Salinas (North Salinas and Alisal High Schools), Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King City.
**Flex Day was filled with information and we welcomed our new employees**

On August 16, it was my pleasure to welcome the faculty, staff, and new employees to the Fall 2013 semester. During the State of the College address, I touched on successes, future projects and the plan to tackle all 12 recommendations accreditation recommendations next year. Al Muñoz, VP of Administrative Services, provided a positive budget update, giving attendees a sense of ease and enthusiasm for the 2013-2014 academic year. Here is a link to the presentation in which all vice presidents provided updates:

http://www.hartnell.edu/president/docs/Flex%20Day%20Presentation%20081613.pdf

**Hartnell College among community leaders at NPS meeting**

Dr. Lori Kildal, vice president of academic affairs, and Esmeralda Montenegro, director of communications, accompanied me for the Community Leaders and Team Monterey meeting at the Naval Postgraduate School hosted by Admiral Jan Tighe and Provost Douglas Hensler on Tuesday, August 20, 2013. We were provided with an update on NPS activities and accomplishments. NPS continues to be a valued education partner in supporting STEM research internships for our students. Admiral Tighe is scheduled to attend the Hartnell College Research Symposium on Saturday, August 24, 2013.

*From L to R: Dr. Lori Kildal, Admiral Jan Tighe, and Dr. Willard Lewallen at NPS.*

**2. Lots of Stimulating Summer Activity at Hartnell College**

**EAT, SLEEP, MATH!**

Hartnell College hosted its ninth and largest Math Academy this summer. The Hartnell Math Academy is a true learning community. It is a two-week, highly intensive math camp that prepares students for their next math course. It serves students in all levels, from developmental courses such as Pre-Algebra, Beginning Algebra, Intermediate Algebra, to the transfer courses of
Pre-Calculus and Calculus. This summer, students attended classes, six hours a day for 11 days. The motto was simple: “Eat, Sleep, Math.”

The Math Academy began in 2009 with an enrollment of 42 students and two levels, Pre-algebra and Beginning Algebra. This summer we had six classes ranging from Pre-Algebra through Calculus and a total of 147 students. The retention rate was 99 percent and our attendance rate for the 11 days was 97.2 percent. Both statistics are quite remarkable considering that students are giving up summer vacation and job opportunities in order to learn math.

One of the important features of the Math Academy is the acceleration that it provides for dedicated students. Over 50 percent of Math Academy students improve their math placement by at least one level. In addition, these students show higher success rates in their subsequent math courses. For example, Winter 2013 Math Academy students who took Intermediate Algebra in Spring 2013 had an 86 percent success rate, compared to a 60 percent success rate for the course overall.

**Science Academy prepares students for majors in science**

Based on the highly successful Math Academy, Hartnell College developed the week-long Science Academy with 59 students enrolled this summer. The Science Academy helps to prepare students for chemistry and biology courses required for science majors. Students gained skills with laboratory equipment, measurement, scientific method, and study skills specific to science. As important as the skills they learned was the opportunity for students to meet other budding science majors, the science faculty and support staff, and the cadre of peer tutors that will continue to provide “Lifeline Tutoring” for them throughout the fall semester. In the words of one student, “The teachers and tutors collaborating together to help us, is an amazing experience.”
Reading apprenticeship workshop a hit!

On Thursday, August 15, I had the opportunity to greet over 50 full-time and adjunct faculty from Hartnell College, MPC, Gavilan, and San Jose City College who participated in a Reading Apprenticeship workshop sponsored by California Community Colleges’ Success Network (3CSN) at Hartnell College. Faculty spent from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. learning about and discussing strategies to help students “think about how they read and how they think” and classroom activities to promote these processes. The next step for Hartnell faculty will be to divide in smaller inquiry groups to further develop how these strategies can be applied to their specific disciplines.

In addition, Hartnell College faculty members have participated in a STEM Reading Apprenticeship workshop (funded by Title V STEM), a six-week online course, and Reading Apprenticeship leadership training. Collaboration between Hartnell College and Gavilan College faculty and deans is planned to further discuss better integration between student and academic services.

Faculty members offered a book contract

Great news! The faculty members who have been working collaboratively with CSUMB and Cabrillo College on a Lumina Grant received a book contract from Stylus to publish the work on habits of mind in the developmental classroom. The co-editors for this work will be Hartnell College English professor, Hetty Yelland, Ph.D., CSUMB’s Jennifer Fletcher, and Cabrillo’s Adela Najarro. Big thanks to the English and math faculty members - who worked on Lumina Grant and/or wrote lesson exemplars for this book - and to Hartnell College administration and the Student Success Committee for their support and input. The project is scheduled to be submitted to the publisher by the end of the 2013-14 academic year.

3. Welcome New Employees

Kathleen Mendelsohn, dean of academic affairs (learning support and resources). Kathleen has over 30 years of experience in education and has worked at Hartnell College since 1984 in various capacities, including Interim dean of languages, fine arts, and student support, BSI coordinator, curriculum committee chair and as faculty in the area of Business Office Technology. She holds a master’s degree in education, master’s degree in business administration and a bachelor’s degree in business education.

Augustine Nevarez, director of student affairs (student life). For the past 11 years, Augustine has worked for Hartnell as grant project director-GEAR UP, interim K-16 bridge coordinator, interim director of student outreach, and program coordinator – AmeriCorps/America Reads. Prior to Hartnell, he
worked for New Ways Workers in San Francisco. He will be completing his master’s degree in organizational leadership from the University of San Francisco this fall and holds a bachelor’s degree in home economics from San Francisco State University.

Shannon Alison Bliss, dean of academic affairs (math, science, and engineering). Shannon comes to us from Cerro Coso Community College where she served as chair of science and engineering. She has four years of leadership in community college STEM education. She earned a master’s degree in ecology from San Diego State University and a bachelor’s degree in ecology and evolution from UC Santa Barbara.

4. The Hartnell College Family Grows

Hartnell College welcomes baby Samuel

The Hartnell family is growing! On July 28, 2013, Instructional Operations Technician, Ruby Garcia-Zuñiga and HEP Instructor Miguel Zuñiga, became the proud parents of baby Samuel Julian Zuñiga. He was born at 2:14 PM, weighed 7lbs 13oz, and measured 18.5 inches. Congratulations to the happy family!

5. Hartnell College in the News

Research Symposium.
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20130824/NEWS01/308240022/Around-county

Computer Science Program in KAZU.

Dr. Lori Kildal’s announcement.
http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013308220019

Esmeralda Montenegro Owen’s announcement.
http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013308200030

Professional Women’s Mega Mixer.
http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013130822001

Countdown to Hall of Fame Ceremony.
http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013308160011