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. Celebrating Tradition - Day of the Dead

The Office of Student Life held a celebration for Day of the Dead - *Dia de los Muertos* on Friday, November 1, 2013. *Day of the Dead* is an official holiday in Mexico and in Latin America. It is a day of remembrance of those who have passed; it is celebrated by visiting their resting place and creating Altars in their honor. Two Altars were on display at the Student Center. Flor Blancas and Luis Castro decorated their Altar with Cempasuchil (Marygolds) flowers, Pan De Muerto, sugar skulls, fruits, their favorite food and other personal objects. Sandra Hernandez collaborated with the ALAS club and included the traditional “Calaveritas” (Day of the Dead rhymes), Pan de Muerto, and photographs of her loved ones who have passed.

2. Hartnell is Spooktacular

On Wednesday, October 30, 2013, the Associated Students of Hartnell College and College Clubs held their annual *Halloween Spooktacular* event. Members of the community and students were invited to attend this frightening evening. College clubs provided candy and food, multiple activities for the whole family including games for children as well as a haunted house/maze.
Jessica Landa and Jaida Johnson are both second year engineering students planning on continuing their electrical engineering education, hopefully at UCSC. Last month, they were two of 60 students out of a pool of 40,000 in Advanced Technology Education (ATE) nationwide, to be invited to Washington D.C. to present their research project at the 20th Annual NSF/ATE Conference. They attended numerous workshops and presentations; on October 25, 2013, they represented Hartnell College well at their own booth featuring their project – the Pockett House. They also had time to visit 5 Smithsonian Museums and the International Spy Museum, the White House, Congress, the Supreme Court, Library of Congress, Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, and most monuments on the National Mall. They visited the National Zoo a few blocks from the hotel. They were accompanied on this trip by the NSF/ATE grant Coordinator Mike Thomas. Both girls hope for positions working with next summer’s NSF/ATE interns on renewable energy projects.

Meeting up with future leaders at the HACU Conference

Last week, I was invited to attend the HACU conference in Chicago. I was so excited to meet exceptional young men at the conference, like Fernando Ortiz and Emilio Ortiz (no relation). Both are graduates of Cal Poly Pomona, my alma mater. Left is Fernando, a King City H.S. graduate who took classes at King City Education Center while in high school and completed his bachelor’s degree in landscape architecture. On the right is Emilio, who completed his bachelor’s degree in engineering. It was nice to encounter one of Hartnell’s own, (photo on R) Rogelio Garcia, a 4.0 student, a star at Hartnell, and very actively involved in the MESA Program. Rogelio is regularly volunteering at outreach and community events.
I am so proud of our student body! The Associated Students of Hartnell College and Office of Student Life, organized a fundraiser this week to benefit the American Cancer Society as part of Breast Cancer Awareness month. The event was called Panther’s Pink Day; participants and the campus were encouraged to wear pink to observe the day. They sold cupcakes and other goodies and thanks to the generosity of the Hartnell College community, $629.08 was raised. Student Erica Lomeli (second from L) was a lead in this effort and she had support from the Associated Student body, Hartnell staff (Louann Raras far L), and even our student trustee Elaine Duran Luchini (third from L) joined this successful event.

On October 5, 2013, Hartnell hosted a teacher development workshop in collaboration with The Astronomical Society of the Pacific, a worldwide non-profit involved in astronomy education and science literacy. Muticultural Astronomy in the Classroom explores various activities and resources about the astronomical heritage of cultures from around the world. The activities presented and materials distributed gave participating teachers techniques for engaging students with diverse cultural backgrounds while also supporting the broader goals of new teaching standards. After helping plan and participate in the same workshop in the Bay Area earlier in the year, Planetarium Educator Andy Kreyche organized the Hartnell version of the workshop. Sessions were held both inside the planetarium and in the Merrill Hall Science Building. The main portion of the workshop was facilitated by Brian Kruse of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, with staff support from Hartnell and the College of San Mateo, host of the previous workshop. Also participating was former Salinas High graduate Josh Roberts of the California Academy of Sciences. Teachers from throughout Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties left with a commitment to expand their presentation of science so it will include a broader range of cultures and traditions.
At Hartnell College, we have a huge problem; when it comes to selecting a student to highlight, it is so difficult to narrow it down to one because we are so fortunate to have thousands of them who amaze us each day. Leonel Zagal, 21, is one of those students.

“Leonel is a remarkable young man and a star in the STEM programs at Hartnell College,” says MESA Director, Bronwyn Moreno. “He works tirelessly in his roles of full time student, community organizer, and leader, plus he is an academic role model to his peers, provides mentoring and academic support at the Boys & Girls Club, and is a MESA tutor.”

He gets his work ethic from his parents, who happen to be Hartnell alums. They were the force of encouragement towards making Hartnell his educational foundation because ‘it’s a good school.’ His sister, 20, is also at Hartnell and wishes to become a teacher. His two little brothers, 13 and 14, look up to him and already have careers in music and optometry in mind.

Zagal is a Biochemistry and Bioengineering major and is planning to transfer to his dream school, University of Arkansas in the Fall 2014. His career goal is to continue his path in Biochemistry, then go to Medical School and become a Doctor in Pediatrics. “Hartnell is like my second home,” said Leonel, “I enjoy it; it’s hard and challenging, but fun.” And a second home it definitely is. He is currently carrying 25 units and still has time to work, volunteer, enjoy time with his family, and church.

“His involvement as an officer in the Students Interested in Medicine Association (SIMA) has been instrumental in the club’s development and growth into one of the largest student clubs on campus,” explained Moreno.

Leonel graduated from Everett Alvarez H.S. in 2010 and is in his third year at Hartnell. He has participated in the STEM summer internship program twice with NPS mentors, is a pre-med SEMAA and Physics club member on campus and a coordinator for the STEM Volunteer Program.

“Hartnell is family, if anything happens, they are there to help,” added Leonel. “If you see a door close, Hartnell will open two more for you.”

For this young man, everything is possible. He shared that his most difficult day of the week is Thursday, since he gets to campus at 8:00 a.m. and leaves at 9:00 p.m. “Other youth should not make excuses to put academics aside; if you invest in your future and study now, you will reap the rewards of your work later,” he shared.

“I thank God for this opportunity, for Hartnell, for my family, and the support I’ve received from all,” stated Zagal at the conclusion of the conversation.
8. Women’s Soccer pushing boundaries

On October 22, 2013, we played at Skyline College with a win, Hartnell 4 - Skyline 2. Celina Murillo had one goal and one assist; Karly Leon, Raquel Daniel, and Stephanie Gonzalez each had one goal; Natalie Cervantes and Angie Salinas each had one assist.

On October 25, 2013, the Panthers had a tough fight against West Valley. The final score was Hartnell 0 - West Valley 1. It was a hard fought game. West valley scored the only goal of the game on the 80th minute. This brings the record to 7-8-1.

9. Men’s Soccer continues to score

On Tuesday, October 23, 2013, another soccer victory in San Jose - Hartnell 1, Evergreen Valley College 0. Hartnell goalkeeper Jesus Ramirez (Salinas H.S.) had a career high 7 saves and Albert Garcia (North Salinas H.S.) capitalized on a mistake in the 13th minute to help Hartnell beat Evergreen, #11 in the nation.

On Friday, October, 25, 2013, another triumphant game and this one at home - Hartnell scored early and cruised to a 7-0 victory over the Skyline. Goals: Jose Mendoza 2 (Salinas H.S.), Albert Garcia (North Salinas H.S.) , Patricio Nolasco (Salinas H.S.), Santos Ortiz (Alisal H.S.), Luis Rodriguez (Pajaro Valley H.S.), Jose Ruelas (Salinas H.S.) Assists: Joni Cruz (Alisal H.S.), Albert Garcia (North Salinas H.S.), Eudis Mendoza (Alisal H.S.), Jose Mendoza, Patricio Nolasco (Salinas H.S.), Jose Ruelas (Salinas H.S.)

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10. **Women’s Volleyball join Pink-Nation**

It’s been an exciting time for the Lady Panther's Women's Volleyball team. On Wednesday, October 23, 2013, they defeated cross town rival Monterey Peninsula College in three straight sets 25-20, 25-18, 25-18. Standouts from this match were sophomore, co-captain Nalli Gomez (Alisal High School) with 12 kills and 24 defensive digs and freshman Hannah Gardoni (Gonzalez High School) dished out 33 setting assists. Next up for the Panthers was San Francisco City College on Friday, October 25th. During the first two points of the first set, two members of the team collided into each other resulting in both players leaving the match. With some players having to play different positions, the outlook of the match was not looking good, but the team showed incredible resiliency and came back to win the match in four sets 25-22, 25-19, 22-25, 25-20. Linda Plasencia (Watsonville High School) stepped into set and had an incredible 37 setting assists and 4 serving aces. Allyson Heston (Salinas High School) had 9 kills, 1 solo block, and 1 service ace. The team is now ranked 2nd in the Coast Conference South division. The team is 3-1 in league play and 12-8 overall. Next up is Cabrillo College.

11. **Hartnell Football shows emotion and passion against Seahawks**

Week two of coast conference play presented a rivalry battle between the Hartnell Panthers and the Cabrillo Seahawks. Always a tough match-up filled with emotions and high energy. The Panthers were able to deliver with a 33-24 victory, but it didn’t come easy as the Seahawks battled to the end. At halftime, Hartnell entered the locker room with a 10-0 lead, but committed several first half turnovers that kept this contest close. In the second half, Hartnell came out of the locker room and made quick work, extending the lead to 24-0. Midway through the 3rd quarter, the lead was 31-8, but Cabrillo continued to fight, mounting a run that brought them within 12 points. DeAndre Mann had another big night as he rushed for 200 yards on 37 carries and 1 score. That score placed him as the all-time career touchdown leader in the history of Hartnell College with 34. Nias Martin returned an interception; it was a two-point play for the Panthers and Martin returned the ball 102 yards from end zone. This play was a Panther first.
Tim Branche had a solid performance for the offensive line, and his teammates up front continued to produce great run lanes for DeAndre Mann. Anthony Cannon had a solid performance as well. The Panther wide out had 6 receptions for 128 yards and 1 TD. Defensively, Chuntony Johnson played very well in the trenches and Rodrigo De La Cruz led the way with a total of 8 tackles. Matty Snead received high praise from his coaches due to his solid effort pressuring the Cabrillo quarterback.

Hartnell will return home to Rabobank Field this weekend and will face the San Jose City Jaguars, posting a 2-0 record after the first two weeks as well. This should be a good one!

12. Hartnell alum Amy Johnston: Conference Honors at MSU (Denver)

Amy Johnston (Notre Dame HS) competed for Hartnell College in cross country/track & field from 2011-2013. She was a member of the 2011 Norcal Runner-up Cross Country team. In track as a freshman, she qualified to the Northern California Championships in both the 5,000 and 10,000 meter runs. Her sophomore campaign was one for the books. In cross country, she placed third overall at the Coast Conference Championship and fifth place at the Northern California Championships earning all-region honors. At the state championship, she improved from 156th place as a freshman to 28th overall. Her time of 19:14 for the 5k course ranks her 3rd all-time in school history.

In track, Amy was the Coast Conference Champion in the 1,500 meters along with second place finishes in the 5,000 and 10,000 meter runs. At the Northern California Championship, she just narrowly missed winning the regional title in the 1,500 meter run placing second in 4:42.95. That mark makes her the third best performer all-time in school history. Amy was also second in the 10,000 meter run and third in the 5,000 meters. Amy received a scholarship to Metropolitan State University of Denver. Last week she earned Third Team All-Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference honors for her 18th place overall finish. Her Metro State team is currently ranked #7 in NCAA DII women’s cross country heading into next week’s South Central Regional in Canyon, Texas. The national ranking ties the highest in program history.

13. Programs and Events

- Hartnell SEMAA Family Café, Los Padres Elementary
  o Saturday, November 16, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Dr. Nathan Tharp- Accreditation in the CA Community Colleges: Influential Cultural Practices
  o Friday, November 8, 2013 – 2:00 p.m. Building B, Room 208
- A Song for My Father, Western Stage, Studio Theater
  o November 2 – 24, 2013
• Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Game  
  o Saturday, November 16, 2013 – Student Center (755-6884)

• Eighth Annual Western Stage Gala presenting Crazy for You  
  o Saturday, November 23 at 5:30 p.m. (755-6810)

14. Hartnell College in the News

Crunch time for Hartnell football
http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013311010021

Day of the Dead preparations in Salinas
http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013310300013

VIDEOS: Hartnell Cross Country Michael Ramirez

VIDEOS: Hartnell Cross Country Maritza Ruelas
http://www.thecalifornian.com/videonetwork/2786911233001

Commitment 2013: Central Coast votes Nov. 5

Hartnell runs away with conference crowns
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20131031/sports/310310021/hartnell-runs-away-conference-crowns

Hartnell cross county wins conference title

Late goal downs Hartnell men
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20131030/SPORTS/310300023/Late-goal-downs-Hartnell-men

Day of Dead procession set for Friday in Salinas
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20131029/NEWS01/310290036

On Stage
http://www.montereyherald.com/stage/ci_24412923/stage

Getting old is tough
http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013310310020

Teen entrepreneurial contest set Nov. 6
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20131029/NEWS01/310280036/Teen-entrepreneurial-contest-set-Nov-6

Mann sets Hartnell record for TDs
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20131028/SPORTS/310280017/Mann-sets-Hartnell-record-TDs

UC Santa Cruz gets ag grant, will expand partnerships with Salinas’ Hartnell College