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. Happy Holidays!

Season’s Greetings! This is the last Weekly Report of 2013. I will resume weekly coverage of what is happening at Hartnell College on January 10, 2014. Have a safe Holiday Season!

2. Carolee Bull, Ph.D.- honored by Secretary of USDA

On December 11, 2013 Dr. Carolee T. Bull of the USDA ARS Crop Improvement and Protection Research in Salinas, CA, was awarded USDA Secretary’s Honor Award by Secretary Thomas Vilsack and Undersecretary Krysta Harden in a ceremony at the USDA headquarters on the Mall in Washington D.C. The Secretary’s Honor is the highest award in agriculture for service to the Nation and was given to Dr. Bull for innovative program development and outstanding mentoring, priming the workforce pipeline with minority and women undergraduate researchers in the Salinas Valley of California. Although the ARS station in
Salinas is not associated with any college or university campus, Dr. Bull has developed programs to engage students from Hartnell College as well as K-12 students in agricultural science research in general and plant pathology research in particular. Currently, six of Dr. Bull's former undergraduate students are in graduate programs in plant pathology. Three of these are National Science Fellows in Ph.D. programs and one is also a Borlaug Fellow. Others have gone on to equal success in other disciplines. Based on her experience with underrepresented minority students, Dr. Bull developed and presented a series of mentorship workshops at national and international scientific conferences, to APS members, and university departments and institutes. Dr. Bull and her colleagues aim to make the Salinas Valley as well known for producing scientists as it is for producing lettuce.

Check out the following video of Hartnell's WISE club with Tererai Trent filmed for CNN. The young women from Hartnell appear at 20 seconds and starting at 30 seconds Estefania Palacios is speaking.


3. Student Daisy Ramirez in Critical Condition

Daisy Ramirez, a student in our CSIT in 3 program, was struck by a car while crossing the street in north Salinas on December 14. She is in a coma and in critical condition at San Jose Regional Medical Center. I was just informed (Sunday, December 22) that her condition has worsened and she underwent surgery last night to relieve swelling in her brain.

Jacob Martinez, Daisy's close friend and mentor from Watsonville Tecnología-Educación-Comunidad, received the letter below from her just prior to the accident. Her happiness and enthusiasm for her friends and for learning are very evident. Jacob asked that the letter be shared.

12 December 2013

Hi my name is Daisy Ramirez; I attend Hartnell College and California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB). I’m in a program where you can graduate in three years, with a bachelor degree in Computer Science and get a job once you graduate. This program is called CSIT-in-3. Not only is it helping us with our goals but to achieve the best of the best. This is truly an important program, I’m glad I decided to join.
Right now I’m taking 18 units, which is five classes. Every day I go to school with a big smile on my face, ready to learn new things, things that will help me in the future. While being in this program I’m not allowed to get and grade below of a C, which is truly a challenge, I stay at school until I’m practically kicked out. I stay there studying and doing homework. I can actually say I live there; I get home between 10-11pm.

My true plans were to attend an out of state school, for example go to Paris and study Computer Science there. But I didn’t get to do that since I wasn’t ready to leave home from my parents and family. I decided to attend Cabrillo and then go to MIT, but my plans completely changed when Jacob mention that I could graduate in three years, with a bachelor degree, and job. I was still undecided. I knew little about this program, so I decided to do some research and what he told me was all true. The best part was that I would be able to afford it and I wouldn’t have to be in debt by the time I graduate. So I decided to take a chance and go for this program. I met so many awesome people, which are now my friends. In this program everybody treats each other equally, like a family.

There was a point in my life that I wanted to go to Paris and study abroad. But I knew since I was in middle school that I was going to follow a career in computer science. It all started with Girl Game Company, but now it’s known as Watsonville Tech. In Girl Game I learned how to make games using Stage Cast Creator and an Xbox control, I also learned how to use Alice, which is a program and where you do animation. While doing all these activities, I knew that I wanted to do something like this in my future. I had so much fun and being involved in this program helped me and guide myself to a great future.

I wasn’t sure what I was going to do later on in the computer science field, well I still don’t know what part of that field I want to look into, but I know that my passion is with technology. I’m lucky that I have this opportunity and know for sure that I will not take it for granted.

There is an effort underway to assist the family with medical costs. You can make a donation through the following web site. The effort is closing in on its goal of $10,000.

https://www.youcaring.com/medical-fundraiser/hope-for-daisy/117774

Please keep Daisy and her family in your thoughts and prayers.
On Sunday December 15, 2013 the Foster and Kinship Care Education Program (FKCE) here at Hartnell College celebrated Christmas for the children with a Holiday Party. The FKCE is a program where licensed foster parents take care of children in the system, take care of a relative’s child and/or care for other children, and want to improve on parenting skills. The families were able to interact with one another and most importantly bring a smile to the children’s faces. For this celebration the FKCE staff provided many holiday activities for the children including arts and crafts, music, a clown, and a much appreciated section for parents to select clothing items at no cost for their children. This annual event for the holidays is important to the Hartnell family because the children benefit from new school supplies, new jackets for the season, and they know the importance of giving and helping the community during the holiday.

Save the Date! On Friday, January 24, 2014 the piano and organ duo are back all the way from Italy to perform at the Western Stage. The performance will start at 6:00 p.m. and a V.I.P. reception will follow at 7:30 p.m. at Hartnell’s Gallery to mingle with the artists. Tickets will be on sale in early January. The audience will be treated to Attesti and Galli’s unique, pared down renderings of works by such luminaries as Ludwig van Beethoven, Franz Schubert, and Gioacchino Rossini. The Romantic and Early Twentieth Century classical music in piano and organ is an original combination.
6. Upcoming Events

- Francesco Attesti and Matteo Galli in Concert
  - January 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m., The Western Stage (tickets available in early January)
- Ribbon Cutting to open Technical Training Building
  - January 30, 2014 at 11:30 a.m., Alisal Campus

7. IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

NPR - A city turns to lettuce fields to grow high tech startups
http://www.npr.org/blogs/alltechconsidered/2013/12/19/255528018/a-city-turns-to-lettuce-fields-to-grow-high-tech-startups

Closter Park, Latino Christmas
http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=201312160023

Hartnell football players named All-Region
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20131217/SPORTS/312170017/Hartnell-football-players-named-All-Region-team

Hartnell’s Mann named All American
http://www.montereyherald.com/localsports/ci_24763574/local-sports-roundup-hartnells-mann-named-all-american

Deandre Mann earns MVP

Hartnell’s Seva’aetasi headed to Menlo next
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20131217/SPORTS/312170015/Hartnell-s-Seva-aetasi-head-Menlo-next?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7CSports

Kansas lands three juco signees