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. Grand Opening of Technical Training Building a large audience!

On Thursday, January 30, 2014 we were proud to host the grand opening/ribbon cutting ceremony for the Technical Training Building at the Alisal Campus. More than 400 people including advisory committee members, elected officials, HCCD trustees, sponsors, delegates, community members, instructors, students, and media outlets were there to celebrate this new addition to the future of the Salinas Valley.

The opening of the TTB represents a commitment from Hartnell College to deliver career technical education for high demand, good paying jobs. This 16,500 sq. ft. facility offers the latest in technology for high quality instruction and advanced student learning. The facility will provide students with lasts knowledge and experiences for Heavy Duty Diesel Technology, Auto Technology, and Sustainable Construction Programs.

During the program, the Offices of Assemblymember Luis Alejo, Congressman Sam Farr, and Senator Anthony Canella presented certificates to Hartnell College to memorialize the occasion.
During a short stop in Salinas, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson stopped at the Hartnell Alisal Campus to learn more about the CSIT-in-3 program. The program takes a cohort of students each fall in an intense academic route towards receiving their AA and BS degrees in Computer Science in 3 years. This is in partnership with CSU Monterey Bay. In the photo at left, Supt. Torlakson listens to CSIT-in-3 student, Alonso Mendoza, who is one of the best students in the cohort and he acknowledged the scholarship from the Matsui Foundation that allows him to focus entirely on his studies and not have to work. Torlakson visited the NASA SEMAA lab as well. Our director, Maggie Melone-Echiburu, provided him with the details of the over 2,000 students we host every year. This lab is one of 16 in the United States and the only one in the West Coast.

Many of our students depend on scholarships to complete their studies each year; the importance of these scholarships was highlighted on Thursday, January 30, 2014 at this year’s CHISPA Annual Reception. Executive Director of Advancement and of the Hartnell College Foundation, Jackie Cruz was a guest speaker and she focused on the two Hartnell students who received CHISPA scholarships this year. Both Javier Ortega and Christian Millan were not present because they had class and they did not want to miss school; their stories touched everyone’s heart. Javier was born in Salinas and is one of five children. His father abandoned the family and he has always admired his mom’s strength to move on and fight for their future. He loves to help and counsel others and wants to become a doctor.
Christian plans to transfer to UC Santa Cruz and become an Astrophysicist. He loves math and science! He says that big rewards come from great sacrifices and he doesn’t mind skipping parties in order to study and stay on the Honor Roll each semester. Both Javier and Christian are on the Dean’s list for the fall 2013. Congratulations! (Photo L to R-Dr. Romero Jalomo, vp of student affairs, Elaine Duran, student trustee, Alfred Diaz-Infante, president of CHISPA, and Jackie Cruz, executive director of advancement.)

4. “Wake up Salinas” meeting

On Friday, four Salinas Valley mayors were panelists for the Wake-up Salinas event held at Steinbeck Hall. Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce Chair Elect, Norm Groot was the facilitator of the conversation where mayors Joe Gunter (Salinas), Maria Orozco (Gonzales), John Huerta (Greenfield), and Fred Ledesma (Soledad) took part in providing feedback on the types of partnerships necessary to strengthen relationships in the area. All of the mayors from cities in Monterey County meet regularly to address issues of mutual concern. All panelists responded to questions ranging from economic development to water issues to programs for youth.

5. Art Gallery welcomes faculty and staff with music, art, and wine!

To celebrate the start of the new year and the new semester, Gary Smith had a great idea – to have a gathering for faculty and staff in the Gallery that included music, art, and wine. It was an honor for me to join with music faculty colleagues, Steve Ettinger and Bill Faulkner. However, the star of the performance was our own Jackie Cruz who
sang classic love songs in Spanish to the delight of all present. It was fun to be in the gallery with colleagues and friends sharing our talent.

6. The first STEM Welcome is popular among students

On Friday, January 31, MESA and the Title V STP grant, collaborated to present the first ever STEM Welcome for students. This special event brought together Hartnell STEM faculty, student clubs, university representatives, and student support programs for an afternoon of fun and networking. Nearly 100 STEM students attended and enjoyed hands-on activities led by other students. Participants also gained valuable information about important resources and opportunities such as scholarships, internships, and university transfer. Thanks to all of our dedicated faculty, staff, administrators, and student volunteers who made this possible. We hope that it was the first of many more to come.

7. Speech Team impresses judges once again

The Hartnell Speech Team continued its success from last semester on January 18, 2014 at the Close to the Coast Tournament at Orange County College in Costa Mesa, California. The tournament included 20 community colleges and universities from Arizona, California, Illinois, and Texas. Once again, Andrea Cervantes received 1st Place in Novice Oral Interpretation. She edged out teammate Julia Felice who finished 2nd Place in the same category. Teammates Ariana Valencia, Marc Dover, and Joy Jubane tied for 5th place in the same category. Maria Hernandez, competing in the Open Informative Speaking category against veteran competitors, secured a ranking of first place in her second round, just missing finals. As a result of the team’s accomplishments, all six qualify to compete nationally at the Novice Nationals Forensics Tournament in Northern Illinois University, March 14-16, 2014. “I am thrilled with the students’ success,” said Jason Hough, professor in Communication Studies at Hartnell and the team’s coach. “It was a strong showing and indicates the level of hard work by the team.”
We are very excited to have started our winter session last Saturday with great success! We have a full class for the Introduction to Robotics session at the Aerospace Education Lab with students from 7th to 9th grade from 13 different middle and high schools, not only from Salinas but also Santa Cruz, Big Sur and San Jose! 90 students started NASA SEMAA at Boronda Elementary School from grades 1st to 6th and our high school biology class had their second week session with students from Alisal High School having a great time learning how to dissect, clean bones, etc. We are also looking forward to soon start 14 new classes at Los Padres Elementary School. This is just for classes on Saturdays. We continue to hold sessions during the week at Kammann Elementary School and hope to start soon at Bardin and Lincoln Elementary.

As you may already know, at Hartnell we have a big pool of talented and intelligent students. La Preciosa Radio (part of the Clear Channel family) asked to have two students who are excelling in academics and are good community service advocates. We provided them with Andrea Cervantes and Rogelio Garcia.
Andrea, a communication studies major and Rogelio, a mechanical engineering major accompanied our Director of Communications, Esmeralda Montenegro Owen to a LIVE radio interview with host Jose Valenzuela this week. The theme was simple – how did they overcome obstacles to achieve academic success. Both had different stories to tell, but in the end the hunger to succeed was the same. (Learn more about Andrea in the student spotlight below)

10. Two students will go to APS Opportunities in Energy Research

Annie O and Leonel Muñoz from Hartnell’s Research Scholars Institute (RSI) were selected to attend the American Physical Society’s Opportunities in Energy Research workshop in Denver, Colorado on Sunday, March 2, 2014. Working with part-time physics instructor and research mentor Dr. Sewan Fan, they have been experimenting with the science and technology of dispensing micro-droplets. The competition for attending the workshop was stiff, with over 200 students from across the country competing for 80 workshop seats. The winter/spring RSI program is 100% funded by a U.S. Department of Education grant. The grant, currently in year 3, was awarded under the HSI STEM and Articulation program in the amount of $860,000 per year. For more about APS, visit the following: http://www.aps.org/units/gera/meetings/march14/index.cfm

11. Hartnell participates in Startup Weekend Monterey Bay

Hartnell College participated in Startup Weekend Monterey Bay on January 24-26, 2014. The workshop was held at CSUMB and provided a great opportunity for community members, including Hartnell students, to get hands-on experience in the exhilarating world of startup businesses. There were 68 attendees, 32 ideas, and 10 teams formed. Judy Julius, a business student at Hartnell noted, “I accomplished everything that I wanted - I pitched my idea and formed a team.”

Robert Maffei, accounting business faculty member, and Matt Coombs, vice president of information technology pictured above, respectively, served as coaches and mentors due to their entrepreneurial backgrounds.

Startup Weekend is a non-profit, community-building event that brings together would-be entrepreneurs, including software developers, marketers, designers, and other enthusiasts. They gather to pitch ideas, form teams and start companies in just 54 hours. They have 60 seconds to make a pitch, the pitches are whittled down to the top ideas,
and then teams form organically around the best ideas. The weekend culminates with demonstrations in front of judges and potential investors. This is the second time Startup Weekend has come to the Monterey Bay region, but the event occurs all over the world throughout the year with over 80,000 Startup Weekend alumni. Check out the following story featured on KION, http://www.kionrightnow.com/news/local-news/Start-up-Launch-Weekend/-/23047192/24121076/-/pvdb0nz/-/index.html

12. Student Spotlight – Andrea Cervantes

When Andrea Cervantes came to the United States nearly 6 years ago from her native Mexico, her world came crashing down. She knew not a word of English and felt depressed most days because she couldn’t understand school assignments. Her mom encouraged her to keep going and tried to help with the little English she knew herself. “My first two years were hard,” she exclaimed. A few months after arriving, she moved from Harden School to North Salinas High School. There, she found two teachers who took special interest in her advancement and helped her get into the Health Academy and started volunteering at a local hospital. She pushed herself from English prep classes to regular classes and into honor courses. “At first, I wanted to be a psychologist and a nurse to help others,” she said – but by senior year, she felt her calling to become an interpreter. “When I came here, I couldn’t communicate and I want to be that bridge to connect people who are not familiar with the language.” She graduated and earned second place in community hours and received the department key of English development. Andrea started taking classes at Hartnell when she was still in high school and is entering her 5th semester in Communication Studies. What is the most inspiring, is that she is a member of the Hartnell Speech Team and has won first place in two tournaments! She values the mentorship from her coach and professor, Jason Hough. Besides attending Hartnell, Andrea loves soccer and she coaches for two El Camino Real leagues. She is also a referee and won 2013 Referee of the Year. Her dream is to work for the United Nations as an interpreter.
“I value education because if you are educated, you are able to have a better economic status and provide a better future to your family,” she stated.

13. Football ‘Signing Day’ is Wednesday!

On Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. join our football student-athletes at the Hartnell Athletics Gymnasium Lobby when they take part in ‘signing day’ the first official day that student-athletes can sign their letter of intent (a contract) accepting a scholarship from an university that has made an offer.  

At Hartnell, we have several students who will be signing scholarships. In addition, there are several students who have already departed to their new schools after, what is considered, an early signing period strictly for junior college students. These young men will be honored as well when we gather for our signing day event. Those signing scholarships are:

- DeAndre Mann - University of Kansas
- Kapil Fletcher - University of Kansas
- Anthony Smithson – University of Kansas
- Myles Coleman – Sacramento State University
- JaVaughn Mitchell – Southwestern Oklahoma State University
- Sheldon Wynn – Georgia State University

14. Upcoming Events

- **Reception for Soccer Team and Coach Daniel Ortega**  
  Friday, February 21, 2014 at 6:00 PM  
  Steinbeck Hall – RSVP required, email cwestfall@hartnell.edu

- **Engagement Tools for the Classroom Conference**  
  Saturday, February 22, 2014 – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
  Breakfast and lunch provided  
  Register at [http://bit.ly/1eE5Iz5](http://bit.ly/1eE5Iz5)

- **Hartnell College Physics Olympics 2014**  
  Thursday, April 10, 2014  
  High school and college students can participate in a day filled with physics’ challenges.  
  To learn more about this event, click on the following link:  

- **Cash for College Day**  
  Saturday, February 22, 2014  
  Student Services B-110  
  Workshops start at 9:00 a.m.
15. IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Dr. Carolee Bull honored for work at Hartnell

Hartnell opens TTB

Opening of TTB at Hartnell – Univision (Spanish)
http://www.ksmstv.com/2014/01/30/apertura-de-centro-en-el-colegio-hartnell/

Hartnell opens new technical training building

New technical training building celebrated
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20140131/NEWS01/301300047/New-Tech-Training-Building-celebrated

Hartnell technical training building – on KSCO

TTB Grand opening announcement
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20140128/NEWS01/301280017/Around-county-Jan-28-2014

KION story on STEM partnership between Hartnell and CSUMB

State chief of schools visits Salinas
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20140129/NEWS01/301290017

Startup Weekend Monterey Bay

Dan Ortega and student athletes on Championship and National title
http://www.ksmstv.com/2014/01/28/reconocimiento-para-entrenador-local/

Hartnell’s Mann, Fletcher, and Smithson head to University of Kansas

Junior College running back commits