Mission Statement: Focusing on the needs of the Salinas Valley, Hartnell College provides educational opportunities for students to reach academic goals in an environment committed to student learning, achievement, and success.

1. Black History Month celebration was festive

It was a month long celebration that culminated with Black History Month, A Day of Celebration on February 26, 2014 at Steinbeck Hall. The campus community enjoyed a lunch program with dance drumming entertainment by the West African Griot, a group that made some of our staff dance to the rhythm of the drums. Student performances included Betzabee Puga, a Hartnell music major who beautifully sang Up to the Mountain by Patty Griffin. Samira Perry and Sandi Johnson were the two inspirational speakers who joined the program to educate and inspire the audience. The attendees enjoyed a diverse program and a delicious menu.
2. Beloved Gary Tanimura honored at Chamber event

The Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 93rd Annual Awards Luncheon at Sherwood Hall last Thursday. This was a day to celebrate the local businesses, their success, and commitment to the community. One of the awards given was for Agricultural Leadership to our friends Gary Tanimura & Bob Antle. We congratulate Tanimura & Antle for their exemplary heart of philanthropy. Gary was present to receive the award and gave a heartwarming acceptance speech. Gary is a champion for higher education. He is our previous Hartnell College Foundation president and one of Hartnell’s strongest cheerleaders. Hartnell had a great presence at the event and was mentioned a few times during the program. In photo, (L to R) Augustine Nevarrez, director of student life, Andrea Rivera Sanchez, ASHC, Elia Gonzalez-Castro, VP of our Board of Trustees, and Esmeralda Montenegro Owen, director of communications. Our student trustee, Elaine Duran and Foundation Philanthropy Officer, Karen Hagman were also in attendance.

3. ACCCA conference in San Diego

This week I attended the annual conference for the Association of California Community College Administrators (ACCCA) in San Diego. Dr. Brian Lofman, Hartnell dean of institutional planning and effectiveness also attended. ACCCA has a membership of over 1,100 administrators. I have been a member of ACCCA for 15 years and had the privilege of serving as president of this organization during 2011-12. I attended many outstanding workshops and general sessions. I, along with 2 colleagues, founded the ACCCA Student Scholarship Program in 2002. My colleagues retired several years ago, but I have continued to coordinate the program for 12 years now. Over the last 12 years ACCCA has awarded $34,500 in student scholarships through this effort, all through donations from administrators as part of the annual conference.

Pictured L to R: Omid Pourzanjani, Vice President, Instruction & Student Learning (Golden West College); me; Arvid Spor, Vice President of Student Services (Citrus College); Ron Taylor, Superintendent/President (Merced College)
Last Saturday, 34 part-time and 18 full-time faculty participated in the first annual Engagement Tools for the Classroom conference at Hartnell. The focus of the day-long workshop was to learn how to engage and involve students using technology, communication skills, and engagement strategies. Developed by teachers, for teachers, workshops included ice-breaker activities, games, interactive websites, student response systems, internet enhanced lessons, and using Etudes course shells. Participants also shared their own strategies and activities for keeping students engaged and learning. The conference was funded in part by a Department of Education, HSI STEM and Articulation program grant. Feedback from attendees included:

- It was great to have a very interactive morning. Actually using and participating in the games was great.
- Thanks…really exceeded my expectations.
- Everything was extremely helpful. I hope these sessions are offered again.
- Wonderful presentations – great intros to activities that we can use in class. It was a great to experience as we prepare to lead our students.
- Great ideas for engaging students…..Nice to get to exchange ideas with other instructors.

On February 25, 2014 the Career and Transfer Center hosted a Career Development workshop highlighting careers in the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Officer Mark Evans, who represented the CDCR, facilitated a presentation for Hartnell College students—a majority of whom are pursuing an Administration of Justice Associate of Science Degree. Students received information about the eligibility criteria, hiring process, and benefits of joining the CDCR upon completion of their degree.
Charlotte Whitney of The Institute for Community Collaborative Studies at California State University, Monterey Bay came to the main campus at Hartnell to give Covered California presentations to students this week. Instructors Robert Maffei, Accounting and Business, and Andrea Zarate, Early Childhood Education had Ms. Whitney come to their classrooms for short presentations on California’s new healthcare program created by the California Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and SB 900. The presentations are free, informative, and take about 25 minutes which include time for questions and answers. California’s new insurance program is historic and relevant to many classroom discussions. This past week Ms. Whitney presented to over 70 Hartnell students and her material sparked engaging and interesting discussions. Everyone seemed to get something out of the presentations, and Ms. Whitney was noted as saying that the Q & A at Hartnell was ‘the best that she’s had so far.’ Covered California is California’s new health insurance exchange, where individuals, families, and small businesses can find affordable health insurance. For more information go to the Covered California web site at https://www.coveredca.com

For our nursing students, practice is what it takes to become great providers of healthcare. They received this practice last week during spirometry day held for Hartnell student-athletes. Approximately 25-30 athletes from the track and field team came to the nursing and allied health department to meet with respiratory students who performed lung function testing, oxygen saturation, and education on breathing disorders. Student-athletes were able to test their lung capacities and receive
respiratory therapy treatments similar to what patients get while they are in the hospital. It was a good day of practical work for our students.

8. Hartnell student is honored with a competitive internship

More good news about our students! Research Scholars Institute participant Jaime Vasquez was selected to participate in the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Community College Internships (CCI) program at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (FNAL) for summer 2014. This is quite an honor, as this is a highly competitive program with applicants from community colleges across the nation. This is the second time that Jaime (in photo second from left) has been selected for the CCI internship program. He worked at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory last summer. The internship allows him to work on a technical project with some of the most talented scientists and engineers in the world. The CCI program is a paid internship experience that provides technical internships in areas of science, engineering and technology relevant to and supported by the Department of Energy Research and Development programs. More information on the CCI internship program is at their website http://science.energy.gov/wdts/cci/

9. Hartnell FFA Field Day came with great success

On February 15, Hartnell College hosted its first FFA field day at our Alisal Campus. We had about 50 students that competed that day in: vegetable judging, farmer power, floriculture, and ag welding. There were a total of 6 schools that competed from the Salinas Valley. Team plaques along with individual plaques were handed out along with special prizes. We thank local businesses like John Deere, D’Arrigo Bros., and many others who donated supplies and helped make the event a success. Instructor Al Graham looks forward to next year, when he will open the program to our FFA South Coast Region that goes from San Francisco to Los Angeles with up to 200 students participating.

10. Cash for College event in Soledad helps dozens

This week, the Cash for College workshops continued to be held throughout the area, one of them at Soledad High School in conjunction with Hartnell and Cal Soap staff.
This evening session was a success with 77 students attending and filing their FAFSA online. In addition, 68 parents came to ask questions or to support their student. During these workshops, students have the opportunity to win a $1,000 scholarship while gaining valuable financial aid information for their future college life.

11. Work of Art displayed by my office in Building E

The Salinas Valley Totem celebrates each participating artist’s experience of the Salinas Valley, including its rich history, cultural diversity, agriculture, and stories. Sylvia Rios, instructor in ceramics at Hartnell College, invited students of the ceramics department, as well as instructor Pam Murakami, to each construct a section for this collaborative work. The piece is made of ceramic materials, fired to 1800-2300 degrees F. The artists are:

- Base - Ulco Van Veen
- Horse - Terrie Foreman
- Lettuce with Snails - MaryAnn Toney
- Spacers - Lynette McGregor
- Lantern - Pam Murakami
- Truck - Sarah Young
- Wine - Laura Takamura
- Chicken - Joyce Maynard
- Books - Sylvia Rios
- Signs - Henry Gong
- Lettuce Spacer - Mary Ann Van Veen
- J.C.Fremont, Spaniard and Native American - Tom Gorman

12. Welcome new baby!

Belen Gonzalez, executive assistant to our vp of student affairs has a new member of the family to share with us. On November 23, 2013, she delivered her third child, Jason Jeremiah at 7lbs. 5oz. and 19.5 inches. Belen and her husband say they are overjoyed to add another member to their family. Here you can see how Jason is literally, a ‘ladies man.’ Congratulations Belen!
13. Softball update

On Tuesday, February 18, we hosted Taft for a double header. In the first game we squeaked by with a 2-3 victory. Larissa Perez gave us 6 solid innings as a pitcher and Danielle Blaylock got the save with good relief help in the 7th inning. Leading hitters were: Andrea Estigoy 2 for 3, Sebrina Almanza 2 for 3 (scoring Cienna Smith after her double in the 5th), and Erica Peters drove in the winning run in the bottom of the 7th.

In the second game, we won 5-3. Isabella DeLeon had 2 hits and scored 2 times. Danielle Blaylock went the distance allowing 6 hits. Our 2 runs in the bottom of the 6th were enough for a 4-5 victory.

Thursday, we traveled to San Jose City College, where we were the under dogs. We played our best and had a complete game effort offensive, defensive, and pitching. Blaylock got the win 10-2 in 6 innings. Celina Medina led off and had 2 hits and 2 base on balls, Alyssa Seva’aetasi was 2 for 4 with a grand slam, and Erica Peters led off a 7-run 6th inning. This was a "Wow!" game.

Saturday, Feb. 22, we hosted Porterville for a double header. The first game we won 7-6 with Larissa Perez and Blaylock pitching, they each did well. Highlighted by a 3-run homer in the 3rd by Alyssa Seva’aetasi and Andie Estigoy was 3 for 3. The second game we did not play as well, but despite several physical and mental errors, had a chance to win in the bottom of the 7th inning by loading the bases and Alyssa Seva’aetasi grounded out.

Photos: Isabella DeLeon at bat (#9) and Alyssa making the tag at home plate.

14. Track and Field update

Sophomores Michael Ramirez and Lesha Boyd enjoyed a banner day of competition at the Monterey Peninsula College Open track and field meet Saturday. Both formerly Salinas High School Cowboys, the pair enjoyed two event victories as well as impressive marks in other events. Ramirez took second in the 1,500 meters (4:00.12) to dip under the State qualifying mark as well 2:00.82 in the 800 meters. He capped his day with an automatic qualifying mark and lifetime best in the 5,000 meters winning in 15:14.96. Boyd was the surprise winner of the long jump at 16’6.50” and bested conference leader Jayla Scholis of MPC 200 meter mark at 25.51. She also helped the 4 x100 relay to a second place
49.40, the fifth best mark all-time in school history, and 4:06.60 winning mark in the 4x400 relay. Other event winners included Brandi Hobson in the 1,500 meters (5:06.04) and 5000 meters (18:55.70). Hobson will have two years to inch closer to the 18:04 school record held by Olympian and Hartnell Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee Maria Trujillo. Her 5000 meter mark makes her just the sixth Panther female in history to run the event under 19 minutes. Freshman Linda Delgado anchored the 4 x100 and ran on the 4 x 400 winning team in addition to extending her conference lead in the 800 meters with her win here (2:22.54). Michaela Trevino was victorious in the 400 meter hurdles (1:14.82). Second place finishers were Lenae Stevens in the 400 meters (1:01.20), Kassandra Peguero in the javelin (94 feet) and long jump 16'5", Andrews Gutierrez in the 800 meters (1:59.52), Diego Leon over 5000 meters (15:16.75) and Marcus Washington in the long jump (22'5").

15. Baseball update

The Hartnell Baseball team concluded the pre-season schedule with a 5-0 win over College of Siskiyous on Sunday. The winning pitcher was Abel Hernandez, who picked up his first College win. The team has 5 wins and 7 losses, but lost 3 games with leads in the 8th or 9th inning early in the year.

The highlight of the preseason was a 16-2 win over the Contra Costa College that included scoring a season high 13 runs in the 7th inning. The hitting stars for the day was Jackson Duda with 4 hits in 5 at bats. He had 2 home runs and 5 RBI's, Shane Sudsbury with 3 hits in 5 at bats that included a 2 RBI single and a 3 RBI triple in the same inning, Isaac Ortiz had 3 hits in 6 at bats with 2 RBI's. Jacob Cabral got the pitching victory. He threw 6 innings, allowed 1 run and had 5 strikeouts.

The Team Stats are:
Hitting - .294 AVG, 4 HRs, 17 Stolen Bases
Pitching - 3.34 ERA, 1.33 WHIP

16. Upcoming Events

- Music Extravaganza
  Friday, March 14, 2014
  Building K – Main Stage
6:00 – 9:00 PM $10 Adults/$5 Students
settinger@hartnell.edu for information

- Salinas Valley Ag Technology Summit
  Thursday, March 27, 2014
  31677 Johnson Canyon Road, Gonzales, CA
  www.sv-ag-summit.com for information and registration

17. IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Tackling how to spend additional school funding
Hartnell Baseball
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20140228/SPORTS/302280039/Hartnell-baseball-quieted-by-Skyline
Small ball powers Panthers
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20140226/SPORTS/302260021/Small-ballowers-Panthers
Hartnell ready to play ball
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20140225/SPORTS/302250012/Hartnell-ready-play-ball
Sports briefs
http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20140224/SPORTS/302240025/Sports-briefs
Hartnell softball
http://www.recorderonline.com/sports/after-three-close-losses-pc-softball-break-through-for-win/article_6651a6de-9d09-11e3-97c3-001a4bcf6878.html