On January 15-16, the Fourth Annual Student Success Conference for full- and part-time faculty was held. The two-day event started at the Alisal Campus on Thursday, January 15 with special guest Pat James from the Chancellor's Office Online Education Initiative (OEI). She spoke on aligning course objectives and SLOs with online modules and an overview of OEI. Other topics included best practices for supporting students, campus safety, creative tools for the classroom, student engagement, assessment activities, and more. On Friday, I got to address our faculty with the President’s State of the College Address. I began by showing the four new commercials being aired on television and radio promoting the spring semester, featuring four of our students. In addition, I updated the group on our financials, the celebration of our 95th anniversary, our application for the Food Safety bachelor’s degree as a result of SB 850, giving back to our students through the Employees for Student Success campaign, and more. It was a treat to have our fulltime and our adjunct faculty together in one room to learn how they can make students’ experience memorable and meaningful at Hartnell. Students Jhanic Ramos and Andrea Cervantes were my guest speakers; they spoke of how educational, emotional, and
financial support through Hartnell College has impacted their lives.

2. CURRICULUM INSTITUTE PROMOTES COLLABORATION

On Wednesday January 14, 2015, Hartnell College hosted a second Curriculum Institute between K-12 and Hartnell College English, math and counseling faculty. The Monterey County Office of Education also sent representatives to participate. This meeting was focused on aligning English and math curriculum and student learning objectives between our local high schools and Hartnell College. The day brought high school and Hartnell College counselors together to discuss best practices for a seamless transition for students moving from high school to college. Hartnell College English, math and counseling faculty were well-represented and included lead moderators in this work. Faculty members Nina Vasquez (math), Daniel Perez (English), LaVerne Cook (counseling) and Dolores Christensen (counseling) participated in the planning of this institute and provided leadership in facilitating the breakout sessions for the meeting. New Hartnell College Pathways Coordinator, Sara Sanchez; Assessment Coordinator, Ariana Rodriguez; and Administrative Assistant, Isaura Arreguin provided leadership in working with high school faculty on questions regarding Hartnell College processes.

Monterey County high schools were well-represented with English, math, and counseling faculty from King City, Greenfield, Soledad, Gonzales, North Monterey County, and Salinas Union High School District.

The day was a tremendous success with survey results overwhelmingly indicating participants feeling the event was extremely effective in driving forward dialog on student success. There were 71 total participants present for the event.

3. EMPLOYEES FOR STUDENTS SUCCESS CAMPAIGN IS ON!
This week we kicked off the Employees for Student Success Campaign! On Tuesday, January 13, 2015 management employees were treated to a breakfast to hear about the campaign and how it benefits our students throughout the year. Student speaker, Leslie Figueroa, addressed the audience to tell her story of struggle and resolve. She shared about her financial struggles and how various scholarships, supported by this campaign, have helped her continue her academic success at Hartnell. She will be graduating from Hartnell this May and hopes to attend either MIIS or Fresno State to become a professional interpreter. The goal set by the committee this year is to raise $75,000 – about $10,000 more than last year. They seek 100% participation from management and hope for all employees to take part in making a difference in the lives of those students that can be impacted by the funds. The last day for the campaign is February 14, 2015. If you have any questions about giving, please contact Karen Hagman at khagman@hartnell.edu.

4. NASA SEMAA RECEIVES VISIT FROM TELEMUNDO NETWORK

On Friday, Telemundo Network visited the Alisal Campus once again – this time, the spotlight belonged to our NASA SEMAA lab headed by Maggie Malone-Echiburu and her staff. Reporter Cristina Londono interviewed students from Los Padres Elementary about their aspirations for the future. It was great to hear that these young minds said their goal was to become an astronaut, math teacher, scientist, etc. The story was
seen nationally during Telemundo’s 6:30 p.m. national newscast. The story was to kick off the Telemundo Network promotion of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) initiative. The last visit from Telemundo Network to the Alisal Campus involved our CSIT-in-3 program. It is wonderful for Hartnell College to receive national attention that focuses on how we are growing leaders.

5. CONSTRUCTION DESIGN STUDENTS HELP KING CITY CHAMBER

The King City Chamber of Commerce was in need of a solid yet portable structure for use at events like the weekly Farmers’ Market, to promote their services during the summer and fall. This is when Professor R. Burton Ward brought students in his Construction Design class over to King City to obtain the specifics of the need and work on a project with the class. The students’ final designs accounted for traffic and wind patterns, ease of use and a variety of styles, and their presentations were polished and poised. The Chamber of Commerce will take the design into consideration and next steps include possible production of the structure. Well done!

6. BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECOGNIZE CANDI DEPAUW

At Tuesday, January 13, 2015 Governing Board meeting, trustee Candi DePauw was surprised by Governing Board President, Elia Gonzalez-Castro and myself with a recognition for her two years as Governing Board President. Candi received a ‘crystal’ gavel as a token of appreciation for her leadership during 2013 and 2014.
7. **FORMER PANTHER RUNS FASTEST COLLEGIATE MILE IN NATION**

Former Hartnell College standout runner Cristian Soratos used a small home meet to run the fastest indoor mile in the nation for a collegiate runner this season. His winning mark of 4:05.18 on the flat, tight indoor 200 meter track in Bozeman, Montana receives both an altitude and flat track adjusted mark of 3:56.87. That mark is the best by any collegiate runner across all divisions by over 3 seconds and the only sub 4 minute mile so far this season. Cristian is in his senior year at Montana State University where he is the defending Big Sky 1500 meter outdoor champion and the second fastest indoor miler in MSU history.

While at Hartnell College, Cristian was the 2012 CCCAA 1500 meter runner-up in a school record 3:47.03. He is also still currently ranked #2 all-time in both the 800 meters (1:51) and 5000 meters (14:46). In 2012, Soratos was the Coast Conference 800, 1500, 5000, and 10,000 meter champion. His 800 meter mark is still the Coast Conference Championship meet record!

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8. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**FRANCESCO ATTESI AND MATTEO GALLI**

The piano and organ duo return to Hartnell College in 2015

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2015**

The Western Stage – Mainstage
411 Central Avenue, Salinas

Concert starts at 6PM
VIP Reception to follow at the Hartnell Art Gallery

The piano and organ duo create a unique sound for the interpretation of classical music. Their passion and musicianship are inspiring.

**The piano and organ duo create a unique sound for the interpretation of classical music.**

**The piano and organ duo create a unique sound for the interpretation of classical music.**
For tickets and more information go to: http://westernstage.com/

2015 SpringFEST at The Western Stage
For the lineup, go to: http://westernstage.com/program/for-adults/spring-fest/

Cash for College Day!
Saturday, February 21, 2015
Starting at 9:00 a.m. (12 noon and 1:30 p.m.)
Session in Spanish at 10:30 a.m.
Student Services, B-110
Students who are applying for financial aid to cover the 2015-16 academic year.

Music Extravaganza 2015
March 20, 2015
All ensembles to perform!
More information to come.

9. IN THE NEWS

NPR- Tech program helps put Latinos on a path to Silicon Valley
http://www.npr.org/blogs/codeswitch/2015/01/18/378016388/tech-program-helps-put-latinos-on-a-path-to-silicon-valley

Obama proposes publicly funded community colleges for all

State of the College presentation by Dr. Lewallen

More on Ernest Hawkins
http://www.gogamecocks.com/2015/01/13/668791_linebacker-ernest-hawkins-makes.html?rh=1