1. JOB FAIR ATTRACTS MORE PEOPLE THAN EVER

On Tuesday, April 28, Hartnell College presented the Spring 2015 Job Fair with 42 employers and over 400 participants (414 students and community members participated as job seekers in this fair.) We had a diverse group of employers recruiting for jobs and internships ranging from Police Department, FBI, Viticulture industries, to Target, TV stations, and Boys and Girls Club of Monterey County. The Spring Job Fair was held at Steinbeck Hall and was a full-house throughout!

This event was coordinated by the Transfer and Career Center staff: Elizabeth Gonzalez (Program Assistant) and Mercedes Quintero (Counselor/Transfer & Career Center Coordinator), and was facilitated with the help of volunteer Favian Pacheco and student workers, Alejandra Carrillo and Mai Lynn Hunt.

2. PANTHER PREP DAYS IN KING CITY

Panther Prep Days 2015 had a great start in King City Education Center on Friday, May 1, 2015. Hartnell Counselors, Deans, Directors, support staff, and volunteers were at hand to receive all the high school students who became new Hartnell students.
that day. According to Dean Renaka Funke, 227 new students were registered for the fall semester. In addition and as a great plus, all new Panthers received backpacks, pens, notepads, and more from the Office of Student Affairs. On Saturday, more than 700 were expected to register. Next week, we will have a more detailed story about Panther Prep Days in King City and in Salinas.

3. THIRD ANNUAL RECOGNITION CEREMONY FOR STEM STUDENTS

The Third Annual Banquet and Recognition Ceremony for STEM Students was held on Friday, May 1, 2015 in the Student Center. Students in STEM and their families enjoyed a nice dinner, entertainment by Dave Cross and Hartnell College Baile Folklorico. Math Professor Leticia Contreras served master of ceremonies. During the ceremony, 115 students were celebrated for their academic achievements. It was a pleasure for me to welcome everyone and to recognize the students' achievements. Other speakers included Director of HSI Initiatives, Moises
Almendariz, and alumnus Rolando Perez. Dean of Academic Affairs, Shannon Bliss, members of the faculty, and members of the STEM Awards committee presented the awards.

4. MESA AND TRIO STUDENTS EARN BIG SCHOLARSHIPS!

It is always inspiring to announce the name of big scholarship recipients. This year the winners of the $20,000 Pister Scholarship and the $20,000 Peggy and Jack Baskin Scholarship are MESA and TRiO students – what’s more, they both plan to become medical doctors.

Maritza Delgado Gonzalez earned the Peggy and Jack Baskin $20,000 scholarship. This is the 2nd consecutive year that a TRiO student received such prestigious scholarship. Last year Ariel Torres received this prestigious award. Maritza is a hardworking student and I have no doubt she will become a wonderful medical doctor. She is compassionate, caring and genuinely a great student and friend. Maritza was accepted to UC Merced, UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis and UC Santa Barbara and is still undecided on which campus to attend.

Khanh Nguyen won the $20,000 Pister Scholarship; he is attending UC Santa Cruz this fall. He is a first generation college student, majoring in biochemistry with plans to earn a medical degree and a master’s degree in public health. He hopes to one day work for the WHO and make change happen globally. He is passionate about helping the less fortunate to honor
everyone that has believed in him and helped him be where he is at now. He says he is happy for all the opportunities he has received here at Hartnell.

Khanh received the news on Thursday during a staff meeting with the Office of Institutional Advancement. He read the letter and was overcome with emotion.

They both are so thankful to the TRiO and MESA programs for all the support they have received.

Top photo with MESA Coordinator, Bronwyn Moreno – whom they both thank for helping them fill out the scholarship applications and making sure they were complete. They also thank Manuel Bersamin and Nancy Reyes for their support.

5. ECE STUDENTS ATTEND IMPORTANT CONFERENCE IN N.M.

A group of 43 Early Childhood Education students from Hartnell attended the New Mexico Early Care and Learning Association conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The students were accompanied by Jeannie Garcia and Carmen Gonzalez from the Child Care Center at Hartnell and Counselor Theresa Carbajal.

The theme of the conference was: Line up their future – health, nutrition, and early care education. The group says the conference was informative and they appreciated the opportunity to attend.

6. HARTNELL DELIVERS ON ‘STUDENTS FIRST”

Most of you know of the closure of Heald College in Salinas. Heald was one of several institutions under the umbrella of Corinthian Colleges which closed this week. Details about the closure can be found at [http://www.cci.edu/](http://www.cci.edu/).

I reached out to the Site Administrator at Heald College and offered Hartnell's assistance. This offer was received with open arms. Last week, the US DOE was at Heald College meeting with students regarding their financial aid, loans, etc. A team of
Hartnell counselors and support staff from Student Affairs were at Heald from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday to talk to students about possibilities for continuing with their education. I visited the campus on Wednesday and it was truly sad to see 100s of students’ lives turned upside down. I was proud of Hartnell’s presence and we talked to many students offering hope and possibilities. The first value statement in Hartnell’s Values Statements is “Students First” and this effort at Heald is a concrete example of living that value.

Earlier this week several faculty members from Heald’s Pharmacy Technician program requested to meet with me. They have a group of students (25-40) who were finishing the program and needed to prepare for the licensing exam, but they now have no place to do this. We are arranging for them to meet at Hartnell College over the next 4-5 weeks so they can help these students prepare for the exam.

Many thanks to the following Hartnell employees who were part of the team that helped Heald College students:

- Jessica Tovar (Lead, Financial Aid)
- Tony Anderson (Counselor)
- Sara Sanchez (Coordinator, College Pathways)
- Cecilia Vazquez (Financial Aid Technician)
- Paul Casey (Director, Categorical Programs)
- Antonia Jaime (EOPS Coordinator)
- Romero Jalomo (VP, Student Affairs)
- Mark Sanchez (Dean, Student Affairs)
- Manuel Bersamin (Director, TRiO)
- Laverne Cook (Counselor)
- Mary Dominguez (Dean, Student Affairs)

7. TRUSTEES ATTEND DINNER AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Governing Board Members attended the annual Monterey County School Boards Association Dinner and Organizational Meeting along with their trustee colleagues from K-12 Districts and Monterey Peninsula College. The evening featured an inspiring oratory from 13 year-old Sabria Hunter, “I Can't Breathe.” She was moved to write this oration as a result of the death of Eric Garner in New York City. Dr. Bonnie Irwin, CSUMB Provost, offered her insights on the “Profile of a Successful College Student.” The evening concluded with the 2015 Excellence in Education Award presented to the Migrant Education Speech and Debate Team. Dr. Ernesto Vela,
Director of Migrant Education, and his team accepted the award along with two of the students from the program. I talked to both of these students after the event. Nancy Ramirez, freshman at Alisal HS, will be taking a class this summer at Hartnell. Roberto Lara, senior at Salinas HS, will be attending Hartnell in the fall and he wants to be a member of the Hartnell Speech and Debate Team. Trustees in attendance included (as pictured left to right)- Vice President, Erica Padilla-Chavez; President, Elia Gonzalez-Castro; Pat Donohue; and Demetrio Pruneda.

**8. HARTNELL AND CSUMB ATTEND INNOVATION AWARDS IN SAC**

A team of representatives from Hartnell and CSUMB attended the final activities for the Innovation Awards on Monday, April 27, 2015. The team met with and gave presentations to the Governor’s staff, Legislative staff, and the Department of Finance staff. Additionally, the team attended the meeting of the Committee on Awards for Innovation in Higher Education. This was perhaps the most important meeting of the day as the Committee took action to accept all of the proposals related to proposed use of the funds. This was a significant action because it was the last step necessary for the Department of Finance to release the funds for the awards. The team had an opportunity to meet with Assembly member Mark Stone (District 29) and he presented us with a Certificate of Recognition. The team received a letter of recognition from Governor Brown. **Congratulations to everyone who contributed to receiving the $5 million innovation award.**

I attended with Joe Welch, Computer Science Faculty Member, Hartnell College; Dr. Sathya Narayanan, Computer Science Faculty Member, CSUMB; and Dr. Bonnie Irwin, Provost, CSUMB
9. BELOVED COLLEAGUE IS REMEMBERED

Richard Yukio Dairokuno, 43, of Salinas, passed away on Sunday, April 26, 2015. He was born on December 10, 1971 in Salinas. He was the Instructional Technology Technician in the Library. The college campus was sad to hear the news and co-workers and students alike, have expressed their condolences. His family says Richard enjoyed working with the people at the Hartnell College Library, fishing, RC cars and video games. Richard is survived by his parents Tom & Rieko Dairokuno; Sister Suzie (Craig) McCarty; Niece and Nephew Alice & Andrew McCarty. The Hartnell community came together and raised close to $1,000 to assist the family through this difficult time. I am so proud to work here at Hartnell and to know that you have such caring hearts.

10. HEIDI RAMIREZ MEMORIAL POETRY READING

On April 24, 2015, the Homestead Review, under Professor Maria Garcia Teutsch, presented the Heidi Ramirez Memorial Poetry Reading in the Student Center. This was a nice event to remember Heidi who was an English Instructor at Hartnell and lost her fight with cancer a few years ago. In photo: Rhea Mendoza-Lewis, Dan Petersen, Jennifer Fellguth, Maria Garcia Teutsch; featured poet, Diana Garcia; and student poets Ciara Santos, Dariana Salvador, Dolores Mores, Eva Tankesley, and Bradley Amestoy.

11. TRACK AND FIELD – CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

For the first time since 1985 through 1987 for the women and 2007-2009 for the men, both Hartnell College track & field programs won three consecutive conference championships (2013-2015). In a very close, heated team battle on both sides over two days of competition, both men’s and women’s teams found a way to edge ahead of conference rival DeAnza College to maintain the winning streak. The top two men’s teams were only
separated by 14 points with Hartnell College tallying 225 to DeAnza College 211. On the women’s side, the Lady Panthers totaled up 235 points to the Lady Dons 215. The men were led by Diego Leon who was the individual champion in three events and by Malena Grover who placed third in one event, second in two events, and won the 1,500 meters. For the men, Diego Leon set the tone for the meet winning the 10,000 meter run in come from behind fashion in 32:58.59 on day one. Chase Pacheco also helped on day one by winning the long jump with a distance of 22’10” along with victories by Dustin Samms in the hammer (17’40”) and Nathan Bishop in the pole vault (13’10”). On day two, Tito Chaidez kicked off the victory charge with a win in the 3000 meter steeplechase (10:08.49). He was followed by Leon's victory in the 1500 meters (3:53.85). Pacheco picked up silver medals in the high jump (6’1.50”) and 200 meters (22.20). Leon also had a lifetime best in the 800 meters (1:56.68) to place fourth before winning the 5,000 meters comfortably (15:21.76). Rhett Gonzalez placed third in the 110 high hurdles (15.04) and led off the third place 4x400 relay team (3:25.87) along with Robby Rykowski, Marcus Washington, and Isaiah Russell.

With the help of three key freshman, the Lady Panthers found enough points to distance themselves from the Lady Dons. Malena Grover contributed 10 points in her 1,500 meters victory (4:55.02), an additional 16 points with second place finishes in the 10,000 meters (40:49.15) and 5,000 meters (19:04.23), and 6 points in the 800 meters (2:24.52). Tori Teraji and Rachel Shimabukuro were individual conference champions. Teraji won the discus throw with a toss of 134’7”. Shimabukuro was victorious in the 3000 meter steeplechase with a time of 12:09.50. Taylor Blaha contributed points in multiple events placing second in the triple jump (35’3.25”), long jump (16’10”), high jump (4’9.50”), shot put (35’10”), and javelin (98’10”), 100 meter hurdles (16.78), 200 meters (27.17), and both relays. For full Coast Conference Championship results: http://www.directathletics.com/results/track/40425.html

The Hartnell College teams will send a large contingent to the Northern California Trials next Friday at the College of San Mateo. The 10,000 meter run will be contested as the second scored event of the regional championship. For the men, Diego Leon, Justin Carranco, Rene Siqueiros, Javier Garcia, Luis Vargas, Bryan Stamos, Diego Avila, Tito Chaidez, and Conrado Preciado will compete. For the ladies, Malena Grover, Brandi Hobson, Maritza Ruelas, Nancy Rodriguez, and Cynthia Tovar will participate in the 25 lap race.
12. SOFTBALL WRAP-UP BY COACH ANDY WATT

Our season is now over. The year took on many turns. I must admit it took a lot out of me... I did not know how much until now!

It started with a very average fall showing. I was uncertain how our spring season would go. My Christmas was spent over many nights looking at the ceiling unable to sleep.

Spring started with a good win over Foothill. Then a double header at home versus Santa Rosa. Before the game, Sam Moore, while warming up, broke her hand. This accident had a great impact on our team. Well, enough gloom and doom! Eight weeks later, she came back and the sun came out for us.

In the end, we had 5 players on second team all-league: Sam Moore, Joe Salao, Angie Savaldi, Alma Gallegos, and Danielle Blaylock. We played 6 out of the 16 teams that made the playoffs. We had two great wins in the home stretch versus #6 Cabrillo and #9 Ohlone. We found leadership along the way. We played hard until the end never giving up, even though we had some tough losses along the way. I can’t tell you how wonderful our win against Cabrillo was in the last game of the season! Till next season.....

13. UPCOMING EVENTS

The Office of Student Life invites you to celebrate:

5 de Mayo

Dia de la Batalla de Puebla
Tuesday, May 05, 2015
11:00am – 1:00pm
Student Center
The Music Department presents:
  • A piano recital
May 7 at 6:00 p.m. in K-125

Honor Thy Children
A talk about discrimination, racism, and homophobia
May 7, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. in K-125

Party in the Library 2015
‘Strut your feathers’
Saturday, May 9, 2015
Call 831-755-6810 for tickets

Family Science, Health and Literacy Day
Saturday, May 16, 2015
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Main Campus

14. IN THE NEWS

Students vie for votes in Hartnell elections

Salinas Heald College students seek answers after closure

Heald College students in Salinas face tough options

Corinthian Colleges’ closure

Ag venture fund launches in Salinas