1. HOLIDAY FEAST, JOY, PRIZES, AND SURPRISES!

The annual Holiday Feast was a hit once again, but this year, there was an extra ingredient that made it so much better. Last Friday, December 4, 2015 Hartnell CCD employees filled the walls of Steinbeck Hall to celebrate the season and enjoy good food catered by Turf Club. It was also a good time to introduce two of our new Trustees: David Serena and Aurelio Salazar Jr. Trustees Pat Donohue and Candi DePauw were also in attendance. Outgoing Trustee, Bill Freeman was recognized for his service and given a Resolution to thank him for his love for Hartnell. Trustee DePauw spoke on behalf of the Governing Board on Freeman’s passion for the students of Hartnell. The Athletics Department presented Freeman with a signed football and a personalized baseball jersey.

This year, we inaugurated the Employee Recognition Awards. Hartnell employees and students were asked to nominate: one student, CSEA staff, adjunct faculty, full time faculty, L-39 staff, and confidential staff. The recipients would exemplify the ‘I am Hartnell’ motto. Director of Communications, Esmeralda Montenegro Owen announced each recipient and Academic Senate President Carol Kimbrough with Director of Public Grants, Loyanne Flinn, helped me greet each of them with a Certificate, a $100 gift card, and a personalized brick (to be
installed in Plaza area in front of Library). This award program is sponsored by Dean of Institutional Planning and Effectiveness, Dr. Brian Lofman. Congratulations to the awardees:

- Monica Carrasco – CSEA Staff
- Frank Gallegos – L-39 Staff
- Sewan Fan, Ph.D. – Adjunct Faculty
- Jason Hough – Full Time Faculty
- Francisco Juarez – Hartnell Student
- Laura Warren – Confidential Staff

It was a Feast that had a little bit of everything. Everyone enjoyed the holiday music, the food, the prizes, and the surprises. Happy Holidays!

2. **$1.5 MILLION TO PREPARE LOCAL STUDENTS IN HEALTHCARE**

On December 3, 2015, Hartnell Community College District and the Salinas Valley Health Professions Pathway Partnership (SVHPPP) held a press conference in the Student Center to announce a new $1.5 million grant from The California Endowment – bringing its contribution to $3 million in five years.

Governing Board President, Erica Padilla-Chávez was the emcee for the program and introduced speakers: Dr. Tony Iton, MD, JD, MPH, Sr. Vice-President, Building Healthy Communities, The California Endowment; Pete Delgado, CEO, Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System; three Hartnell College students (Alexis Munoz, Perla Gaxiola, and Daniel Perez); and John Pineda, Hartnell College, Health Career Connects alum, and Health Equity Advisor, MILPA. “Growing and sustaining health career pathways are a key strategy for healthy and vibrant communities and the Salinas Valley Health Professions Pathways Partnership exemplifies the kind of collective leadership needed to achieve health equity in the Salinas Valley,” said Tony Iton, MD, JD, MPH, Sr. Vice-President, Building Healthy Communities, The California Endowment.

The Salinas Valley Health Professions Pathway Partnership is perfectly aligned with Hartnell's vision of growing the next generation of leaders. We know that a vibrant, healthy community with strong economic and social fabric can only be realized when all the members of that community are lifted up to contribute, when there is equity in terms of access and success. Young people nurtured and developed through the SVHPPP will become those leaders. We are grateful for the vision, leadership, and support from The California Endowment in making this a reality.
The SVHPPP is a collaborative of key stakeholders representing K-12, higher education, alternative education/juvenile probation, healthcare employers, Workforce Development Board, academic supports, Boys & Men of Color advocates and social emotional capacity building partners committed to increasing and sustaining the number of ‘locally grown’ and ‘locally prepared’ health workforce to supply regional demand and to contribute to a stronger economic engine. Hartnell College and the SVHPPP are part of a broader strategy known as Building Healthy Communities, a 10-year place based community change initiative taking place in 14 California communities across the state and funded by The California Endowment.

Following the press conference, the SVHPPP gathered for a luncheon and a Strategic Planning Working Session to begin a strategic planning process which will result in a 5 year strategic plan that will be a road map to create a strong and competent healthcare workforce to prepare the local community. Trustees Aurelio Salazar Jr. and Manuel Osorio were in attendance.

3. PRESIDENT’S FORUM – FALL 2015

On November 30, 2015 I delivered an update on the state of the college at the President’s Forum in Steinbeck Hall. I introduced the new employees at Hartnell College, provided an update on accreditation, gave details about the student population and enrollment, presented the list of positions created this year, updated those in attendance on the STEM Center Building, and informed everyone about the current state of the budget. Other topics on the agenda included institutional planning and effectiveness, facilities, the Holiday Feast, Lights of Love, and the 16-week semester. Dr. Anne Wright joined me in presenting about the proposed 16-week semester. All community colleges in our area have implemented a 16-week semester calendar. The ppt presentation for the forum can be found at:


4. FACULTY MEMBER AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

Dr. Lana McDonnell of the Communication Studies department at Hartnell College recently attended and presented at the National Communication Association Annual Convention November 19-22, 2015 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The theme of this year’s convention was “Embracing Opportunities.” The annual meeting boasts representation from all 50 states and provides a venue for scholars and teachers of Communication to gather and discuss the latest research and trending topics in the field. Dr. McDonnell presented research for multiple panels, including:

- mothers in prison and access issues with the criminal justice system
• balancing breast feeding with an academic career
• improving the “public” aspect of online public speaking courses

She also served as a respondent for the top paper panel in the Feminist and Women Studies Division, a competitive submission panel where the top academic papers are selected and responded to by faculty around the country. Dr. McDonnell served as the 2nd Vice-Chair of the Feminist and Women Studies Division this year, and will serve as the Vice-Chair for the 2016 convention. Among her responsibilities, she will be responsible for scheduling approximately 40 different panels and discussions. Hartnell College awarded Dr. McDonnell a Professional Development grant to defray the costs of attending the NCA convention. “I am very thankful,” stated McDonnell. “I feel more committed to my research, have new tools for better classroom development, and feel inspired I was also able to get Hartnell College recognized at the national level.”

Dr. McDonnell is in her first year as a probationary tenure-track faculty member and also serves the college as the assistant coach of the Hartnell Speech Team.

5. PSYCHOLOGY CLUB BLANKET DONATION

When the Psychology Club put out a call for blankets for the needy, the news reached the Soledad Penitentiary – they just happened to have 3,000, 100% wool blankets to donate. Director of Communications, Esmeralda Montenegro Owen connected the Warehouse Manager with the Club membership, and the blankets arrived last week in a ‘truck load.’ The blankets were delivered on Saturday, December 5, 2015 with the help of the Psychology Club, the Veterans’ Club, and Earth Club to veterans programs, churches, shelters, and to those out on the streets of Salinas Valley.

“This will help so many people who would otherwise be very cold and unprotected this winter,” commented Psychology Club Advisor and Psychology Professor, Yoshiko Matsushita-Arao, Ph.D.

6. STAR FOUNDATION GRANT TO SOUTH COUNTY OUTREACH

The S.T.A.R. Foundation provided a grant to fund transportation for several trips for a music outreach program specifically for students in South County. On November 20, 2015 members of the Hartnell College Chamber Singers Ensemble traveled by bus to King City to perform at the King City Arts Magnet School. The ensemble had two 30-minute performances for the K-6 students and enjoyed
collaborating with the students in singing "Feliz Navidad." The children received the performances enthusiastically and the Hartnell students felt that the trip was a success. Another trip is planned for spring 2016.

7. HOLIDAY MUSIC IS IN THE AIR

The Hartnell Choir and Chamber singers graced the Student Center on Wednesday with the sounds of beautiful holiday music. Directed by Sandy Rudo and accompanied by Barbara Vella on piano.

8. BREAKFAST WITH STUDENT-ATHLETE COUNCIL

On December 3, 2015 I enjoyed breakfast with representatives of the new Student-Athlete Council: Arthur Laguna, Basketball; Martiza Trujillo, Soccer; Michael Lagier, Baseball; Austin Lee, Baseball; Brian Stamos, Cross Country/Track; Torey Tirage, Track; and Travis Babin, Head Baseball Coach. They represent the approximately 240 student-athletes participating in Hartnell's 12 intercollegiate teams. I was inspired by their commitment to athletics and academics and enjoyed learning about their varied backgrounds, their goals,
and their successes. Coach Babin serves as the advisor to this group. The idea of a council began recently during talks about a marketing campaign for athletics.

9. NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH WORKSHOP

Nursing and Allied Health students participated in a workshop on Wednesday led by Guest speaker Gordon Horne, LAADC - Clinical Coordinator at the Sun Street Centers Men's Residential Program. He led a workshop titled: Street drugs and alcohol: the Salinas Experience. This was a topic about the high jacked pleasure and reward system. It was a packed Steinbeck Hall and the students learned a lot in the process.

10. RCP GRADUATES EMPLOYED

Great news! Our first class of Respiratory Care Practitioner Program graduates are employed locally. This is a big success as we are able to fill positions with local talent committed to our community. Hartnell College is thrilled to provide this service to the Salinas Valley.

The RCP Class of 2015 include:
- Dominic Turley, Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula
- Melissa Garcia, Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula and Natividad Medical Center
- Vanessa Gonzalez, Natividad Medical Center
- Katie Plascencia, Windsor Gardens Rehabilitation Center of Salinas
- David Nicolai, Windsor Gardens Rehabilitation Center of Salinas
- Teresa Constantino, Windsor Gardens Rehabilitation Center of Salinas
- Lucy Contreras-Ramos, Windsor Gardens Rehabilitation Center of Salinas
- Jessica Valencia, Windsor Gardens Rehabilitation Center of Salinas and El Camino Hospital
- Erma Vasquez, Natividad Medical Center

Additionally, several of them are also employed with CHOMP pulmonary wellness doing wellness screening for local businesses. Keep up the great work!

11. PINNACLE BANK GATHERING AT SAN JUAN OAKS

Foundation Executive Board Member, Susan Black welcomed hundreds of her clients at San Juan Oaks on Wednesday evening to personally thank them for their business and for the trust they have placed in Pinnacle Bank. This was
a great event to witness with my wife Michele and Director of Communications, Esmeralda Montenegro Owen. Black, CEO of Pinnacle Bank, is an integral part of the Hartnell College Foundation and her dedication to keeping the ‘books’ straight, results in clean audits each year. It is great to see how Susan shares her success with her clients and with the community.

12. THANK YOU FROM THE LYCEUM OF MONTEREY COUNTY

Hartnell was the host for The Lyceum of Monterey County’s Expanding Your Horizons Conference on Saturday November 21, 2015 for 300 girls in grades 5-10 from Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz Counties, who are interested in math, science, art, and engineering. Keynote speaker, Shalina Taylor Ph.D. of Stanford University, enlightened the girls about the courage needed by minority women to be successful in scientific careers. Following Dr. Taylor’s talk the girls chose two of sixteen workshops: Light in the Deep Sea; Strawberry CSI; Why is Ketchup So Hard to Pour?; The Art of Science (Nature Illustration) Building Mountains and Oceans - Plate Tectonics; How Astronomers Use Light to Study Astrophysical Objects; Exploring the World of Dental Health; Kelp Forest Challenge; All About the Planets; Ocean Currents; Corals on Acid; The Pulse of Elkhorn Slough; Turning Pennies into Malachite; Exploring Plankton; Water for Food; Understanding Telescopes; and Yesterday's Witches are Today's Wizards. Forty-seven scientists volunteered their Saturdays to reach these excited young women.

Stefanie Pechan, Science Teacher at Robert Down Elementary School in Pacific Grove and a finalist for the Presidential Excellence in Teaching Award, addressed the topic: Best Practices and Current Trends in Science Education, for teachers. One of whom, Linda Figlock of the MPUSD’s Dual Language Academy in Seaside, thought it was the best teaching workshop she’d ever attended. The parents met with ten Hartnell women students enrolled in the MESA program and their coordinator, Laura Zavala, learned how to get their daughters into and through college. The Lyceum is thankful to Chevron’s Eagles for Education program, CTE Grants Program of Salinas Unified High School District, Monterey Chamber of Commerce, the Monterey Bay Aquarium, and the Hartnell College Foundation for their support.

13. ALUM HELPS SAINT MARY TO NAIA NATIONAL FINISH

Former Hartnell College runner Andres Guerrero (North Monterey Co. H.S.) was the fifth scoring runner that sealed the national runner-up finish for University of Saint Mary. Andres helped the Spires ascend the NAIA national rankings throughout the season landing at #5 before the national championship. The senior from Castroville, placed 78th overall to complete the scoring. In 2014, Guerrero helped the Spires to an 11th place finish. At Hartnell College, Guerrero was a 2x all-conference cross country runner,
member the 3rd place regional team, and qualified to the regional championship in the 5,000 and 10,000 meters. For more, go to http://www.gospires.com/article/640.php

14. WOMEN’S BASKETBALL – SHOT OF THE WEEK (DAVID BEYMER)

15. UPCOMING EVENTS

Office of Student Life Holiday Celebrations
- Kwanzaa Celebration-Monday, December 7 at 12:00 p.m. in the Student Center.
- The Festival of Trees- December 7-9. Thirty four student clubs will decorate Christmas trees which will be donated to families in need.
- ASHC Canned Food Drive-December 1-14. Drop off in the Office of Student Life.
- Pride Club Care Packages. Assembling holiday gift boxes filled with necessities for our LGBT Homeless Youth through December 13.

Hartnell College Music Department Presents
- Performance of Choirs for Children – Monday, December 7, 2015 at 10:15 AM at Mainstage
- Voice Recital – Monday, December 7, 2015 at 7:00 PM in K-125
The Birds with a Post-Apocalyptic Twist!
December 12, 2015 at 7:30 PM and December 13, 2015 at 2 PM, at MCOE/MCAET Black Box Theatre, 901 Blanco Circle, Salinas

‘The Producers’ at the Western Stage
Now through December 12, 2015 at Mainstage
Hartnell students free with student I.D.
Visit www.westernstage.com

Future Farmers of America Field Day
January 30, 2016
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Alisal Campus
Competitions in vegetable judging, floriculture, farm power (i.e. tractor driving), and Ag welding.

Salinas Valley Ag Tech Summit
March 30, 2016
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Alisal Campus

Ag Institute Open House
April 23, 2016
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Alisal Campus

16. IN THE NEWS

Citizenship campaign – Esmeralda Owen’s testimony (Spanish)
http://noticias.entravision.com/monterey-salinas/2015/12/03/testimonio-esmeralda-owen/

Moody's assigns Aa2 to Hartnell Community College District's, CA, GO Bonds
https://www.moodys.com/research/Moodys-assigns-Aa2-to-Hartnell-Community-College-Districts-CA-GO--PR_340286

Summary: Hartnell Community College District, California; General Obligation

Health Workshop for Immigrant Women at Hartnell College

Review of The Producers

College notebook: CSUMB men’s basketball team on a roll
http://www.montereyherald.com/sports/20151202/college-notebook-csumb-mens-basketball-team-on-a-roll

Hartnell in Bowl game vs Contra Costa

About alum Riley Knowles
http://news.hjnews.com/allaccess/college-roundup-kuresa-making-his-mark/article_060bafad-559f-5a3c-8622-6b19c61088f2.html