



HARTNELL COLLEGE

Mission:

Focusing on the education and workforce development needs of communities in the Salinas Valley, Hartnell College strengthens communities by providing opportunities for students to reach career and/or academic goals (associate degrees, certificates of achievement, transfer to four-year institutions) in an environment committed to student learning, achievement and success.

Note to readers:

The President's Weekly Report to the Community has moved to twice-monthly publication while the volume of news is slower due to COVID-19 restrictions. Thanks for reading!

Groundbreaking for Castroville center is proud moment for Trustee Osorio

Hartnell College broke ground Oct. 22 on its new Castroville Education Center, which is scheduled to open in spring 2022. An afternoon program of speakers and a traditional shovel ceremony were held at the project site, along Merritt Street just east of Highway 1.



I joined with several other speakers in paying special tribute to Hartnell Governing Board Area 1 Trustee Manuel Osorio, who has long championed the establishment of a Hartnell facility in north Monterey County.

Acknowledging his role, Osorio said, "As rewarding as this moment is for me personally, I am looking forward even more to completion and opening of this center. Since last December, we've had a sign marking this site. Soon we will have a building!" (pictured)

The 13,750-square-foot Castroville center, which will be Hartnell's fourth satellite campus, is scheduled for completion in spring 2022. It will have three flexible, interactive classrooms, wet and dry science laboratories, a Student Success Center and a community room.

In addition to a variety of general education courses, plans are for the center to offer courses in food safety, agriculture production, agriculture automation and robotics, engineering and English as a second language.

The building was designed by In Studio Architecture (ISA) in collaboration with contractor Dilbeck & Sons Inc., both of Salinas. Work also continues on two other education centers funded by Measure T bonds: a new facility in Soledad and the expansion of our existing center in King City, both scheduled for completion in January.

Among the speakers were Ocean Mist Farms President & CEO Joe Pezzini, Monterey County Supervisor John Phillips, North Monterey County Unified School District Superintendent Kari Yeater, Hartnell Trustee Candi DePauw and North Monterey County High School senior Crystal Maldonado (pictured). Trustee Pat Donohue also attended, as did Hartnell College Foundation President Judy Sulsona.



The Western Stage will bid farewell to Selover as he retires in December

Jon Selover, whose career with The Western Stage theatre company spans 36 years, will retire in December after serving the past 19 years as its artistic director.

In recent months, he has worked with the company's longtime artistic program director, Melissa Chin-Parker, to adjust to COVID-19 by shifting the entire 2020 theatrical season to 2021. Hartnell is still determining how and when to transition Selover's duties over the near and long term.

Selover first joined The Western Stage in 1984 as an actor after completing his bachelor's degree in speech and drama at California State University, Chico. He returned two years later while earning his Master of Fine Arts in directing from San Jose State University. He was production stage manager for several years until becoming an associate director of TWS in 1988. He has directed more than 60 productions since then.



His final artistic contribution to the company was 2019's "Of Mice and Men, A Musical Drama," an archived work that had not been staged since its original Off-Broadway run in 1958.



Among Selover's many contributions has been guiding The Western Stage toward programs and productions more closely tied to the people and history of the Salinas Valley. This process also has included extensive engagement with audiences. (Pictured: Selover in 2016 with "Carrie" cast members Lydia Lyons, left, and Annie Hunt.)

In 2010, Selover was determined to establish an avenue for college-aged theatre students to freely create works as they wished. He achieved this with creation of the annual 2x4 BASH, a summer repertory program run entirely by young adults with the availability of

TWS' venue, resources and mentorship. This summer, the 2x4 BASH adapted to shelter-in-place by creating an entirely original online production.

Said Selover, "I am tremendously grateful for my time here — such fulfilling and meaningful work on such wonderful theatrical projects. And working with so many amazing people. That's what really marks my time here, the people."

[Read the full story](#)

Governing Board marks "action week" to highlight undocumented students

Affirmed by a unanimous Governing Board [resolution](#) adopted on Oct. 20, Hartnell participated with a variety of activities during [Undocumented Student Action Week](#), a statewide effort on Oct. 19-23 to support and advocate for undocumented students and families.

The Center for Achievement and Student Advancement (Mi CASA) led a series of virtual events for students and their fellow student and employee allies, as well as community members and partners.



Miriam Vazquez-Gonzalez, Catalyst project coordinator, reported that the week kicked off with a Mandala Flower Art Workshop in collaboration with Urban Arts Collective Founder and artist JC Gonzalez (pictured). He led participants through a reflection on seven layers of existence and wellness. On Oct. 20, sociology instructor Dr. Hortencia Jimenez, also founder of Uturntowellness, presented “A Holistic Approach to Health and Wellness,” sharing nutrition and daily habits while preparing healthy snack recipes (pictured).

Other events included Cafecito Tuesday, led by faculty Counselors Adriana Chavez and Daisy Nunez, who engaged student participants in a conversation about finding happiness within themselves. On Oct. 21, Mi CASA welcomed community members to learn more about its services and those of such college departments as Enrollment Services, College Pathways and the Salinas V Adult Education Consortium. Additionally, partners from the United Farm Workers Foundation (UFW) presented on their collaboration with Mi CASA to provide immigration legal services to students, staff and faculty. On Oct. 22, students gathered virtually for a night of Loteria (Mexican Bingo) with the Mi CASA staff. The week concluded with special guest Yosimar Reyes, a nationally acclaimed undocumented poet, who sought to empower students to change the victimization mindset that often accompanies the word dreamer or undocumented.



Administrators present on equity at HACU; Walker also co-presents on topic to MCOE

On Oct. 27, Laurencia Walker, director of college readiness, co-presented with Vice President Dr. Romero Jalomo and HSI Director Moises Almendariz on a session titled “Creating a More Socially Just Campus through Equitable Policy Implementation” at the 2020 Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) Virtual Conference. The session detailed how Hartnell was able to implement AB288-College and Career Access

Pathway courses in collaboration with partner high schools with the support of the HSI-Cultivamos grant. Dr. Jalomo was also a featured keynote in the Dean's Forum post-conference, which centered a discussion on Hispanic-serving to Hispanic-thriving institutions.

On Oct. 24, Walker presented virtually to the Monterey County Office of Education "All in for Equity Conference" geared towards K-12 partners, students, families and community members. The conference theme was: The Role of Implicit Bias-From Self Awareness to Systems Change.

Walker was a co-presenter with Salinas Union High School District Superintendent Dan Burns and Community Organizer/Advocate Rosalyn Green on a session entitled "Mitigating Bias and Cultivating Systems Change through Policy Implementation."

Collaborative efforts with the SUHSD African American Advisory Council along with Hartnell's dual enrollment partnership were among the multiple strategies they shared for mitigating bias in education. Because this year's All in For Equity Conference was virtual, more than 200 participants from Monterey County and across the state to engage in critical dialogue and in one of a four-part series. Hartnell Governing Board Trustee Irma Lopez was among those who participated.



Szamos is new dad of twin girls

On Oct. 3, transfer Counselor Aron Szamos and Rosio became parents of twins Celine and Celeste.

Born premature, the girls each weighed 4 pounds, 17 ounces.

Transfer Day/College Night events provide connection for students

The Transfer and Career Center presented the annual Transfer Day & College Night events live via Zoom on Oct. 28, serving a combined 675 students and parents in morning and evening sessions. The 35th annual program featured representatives from more than 40 universities on hand to provide information to current and future college students.

Transfer Day, from 9 a.m. to noon, was for current Hartnell students preparing to transfer to a four-year university to complete their bachelor's degree. From 6-8 p.m., College Night catered to high school students planning to start college soon, as well as their parents.

The online programs offered everything that in-person sessions have in past years. Participants were able to use specific Zoom links to connect directly with representatives from participating universities or seek information from Hartnell representatives on admissions, financial aid, student support programs and more.

Participants in College Night include seven universities in the University of California system and 14 universities in the California State University system, including Cal State Monterey Bay (pictured), Fresno State and San Jose State. Twenty-four private universities, most within California, are also took part.

With \$500,000 grant, Hartnell has raised the bar for online instruction

A \$500,000 state grant to increase online access and innovation in online learning has been perfectly timed to strengthen Hartnell College's ability to serve students amid COVID-19 — and its benefits will endure long after the pandemic subsides.

That support has funded specialized training for 31 full- and part-time faculty and an investment of additional faculty hours to quadruple the number of Hartnell courses receiving the California Community College system's highest rating for online instruction.



Carol Hobson, Hartnell's distance education coordinator, has managed the grant, working with other Hartnell faculty on a Peer Online Course Review (POCR) team to share the benefits of their own intensive training and helped colleagues fine-tune their courses. Team members are Lindsey Bertomen, Administration of Justice; Christina Esparza-Luna, Economics; Tammy Boates, Early Childhood Education; and Nancy Wheat, Biology.

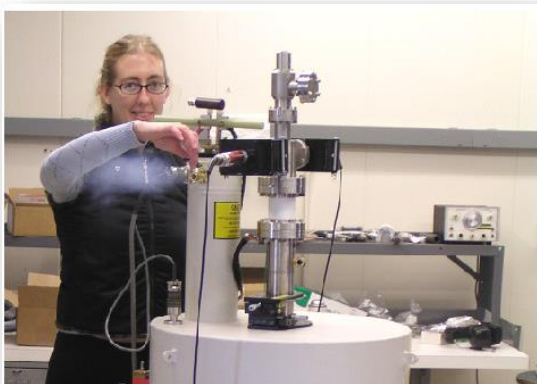
Hartnell was awarded the money in 2019 through the California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI), a collaborative effort to ensure that significantly more students are able to complete their educational goals by increasing access to, and success in, high-quality online courses.

Prior to the grant, just six of Hartnell's 225 total online courses had gone through the process to earn the highest badge of quality. An additional 20 courses would bring the college closer to a CVC-OEI target of having 20% of its online courses earn the highest distinction.

[Read the full story](#)



Dr. Hornstein is committee member for global conference on vacuum electronics



Hartnell engineering instructor Dr. Melissa Hornstein helped organize an online presentation of the International Vacuum Electronics Conference (IVEC) 2020, originally scheduled for last April in Monterey. She is a member of the IVEC organizing committee.

The [conference](#) was formed in 2000 through a merger of the U.S. Power Tube Conference and the European Space Agency TWTA Workshops. It is a fully international event, held every other year in the United States and in Europe and Asia alternately every fourth year.

Dr. Hughey co-authors new papers, among them ID of new red algae

Biology instructor Dr. Jeffrey Hughey has co-authored several recent publications with colleagues from around the world.

A special highlight was Dr. Hughey's joint paper published this month in the journal [Phytotaxa](#), in which he and three co-authors published a new genus and new species of red algae from Antarctica (pictured), the outcome of research since 2014.



Dr. Hughey also co-authored three other papers: "Complete Mitochondrial Genomes Reveal Population-Level Patterns in the Widespread Red Alga" in [Frontiers in Marine Science](#); "Reassessment of misapplied names, *Phymatolithon ferox* and *P. repandum* (Hapalidiales, Corallinophycidae, Rhodophyta) in South Africa, based on DNA sequencing of type and recently collected material" in [Phycologia](#); and "DNA Sequencing of Type Material Reveals *Pneophyllum marlothii* comb. nov. from South Africa and *P. discoideum* comb. nov. from Argentina" in [Journal of Phycology](#).

MAESTROs/TPP promote antiracism and offer free CBEST prep workshops

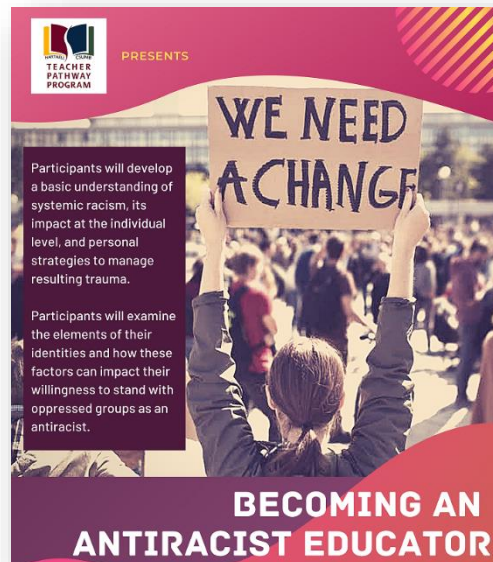
Students in the MAESTROs and Teacher Pathway Program (TPP) participated in an Oct. 17 training on "Becoming an Antiracist Educator," hosted by Harvard University doctoral candidates.

One of Harvard facilitators was Eric Becerra, a former HEP director at Hartnell, who told students, "Through an intentional shift in beliefs, actions and policies, teachers can utilize their positional power to remove barriers so students can freely pursue their hopes and dreams."

During the Spring 2021 semester, MAESTROs and TPP will continue this dialogue on race and equity to further prepare these teachers to be advocates for antiracism.

The programs also wrapped up their free CBEST Prep Workshops for October. The workshops are offered every semester to Hartnell students and, more recently, to all college students in Monterey County. The workshops are designed to inform students what to expect on test day and provide hands-on practice.

Facilitating the Math CBEST workshops is Hartnell math instructor Leticia Contreras, and the Reading/Writing CBEST workshops are facilitated by Andrew Rodriguez, an English teacher at Salinas High School



and Salinas Union High School District Teacher of the Year. Students may register for upcoming November CBEST Prep Workshops here: tinyurl.com/y2gllftx

Programs engage families with drive-up events for Halloween

The Hartnell Child Development Center (CDC) and Foster and Kinship Care Education FKCE program kept the spirit of Halloween alive with events over the past week.



The CDC has continued to serve families with hands-on learning activities distributed every other week, including a distribution of pumpkins on Oct. 24 (pictured). During the subsequent week, children were guided to explore the pumpkins through observational drawings, painting, estimating the number of seeds and measuring.

On Oct. 23, FKCE and the Associated Students of Hartnell College hosted a Spooktacular

Pumpkin event in conjunction with the twice-monthly Pop-Up Pantry food distribution. Families and students received fresh food, canned goods, pumpkins and a box of Halloween treats (pictured).



The event served 75 Foster and Kinship Care families, 125 Hartnell students and 30 participants of the Independent Living Program.

In the News

Pandemic Boosts Fundraising at Community Colleges:

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2020/10/19/so-far-so-good-community-college-fundraising-pandemic>

Upcoming Events

Note: All in-person campus events are cancelled until further notice in compliance with a statewide shelter-in-place order.

Pop-Up Pantry Food Distribution

12 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 6

Hartnell Parking Structure

Information: 831-755-6734

CBEST Math Prep Workshop

9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 7

Registration: https://www.hartnell.edu/teach/events_resources.html

CBEST Reading/Writing Prep Workshop

9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 14

Registration: https://www.hartnell.edu/teach/events_resources.html

Hartnell Governing Board – Regular Meeting

5 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 17

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Pop-Up Pantry Food Distribution

12 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 20

Hartnell Parking Structure

Information: 831-755-6734