Gonzales community shares input for maximum benefit from new centers

The Hartnell Community College District continues to gather community and workforce input on how to achieve the greatest overall benefit from our new education centers in Soledad and Castroville and the expansion of our center in King City, all funded by Measure T bonds.

On Oct. 29, we met with employers, community-based organizations, students and local government in the Gonzales Police Department conference room. We were joined by Hartnell Board of Trustees member Erica Padilla-Chavez, whose District 6 includes Soledad and Gonzales, as well as Gonzales Mayor Maria Orozco and City Manager Rene Mendez. (Pictured: Priscilla Barba, chief of staff for Monterey County Supervisor Chris Lopez; Hartnell Superintendent-President Dr. Patricia Hsieh; Trustee Padilla-Chavez; and Mayor Orozco join in listing the strengths of Hartnell.)

Participants discussed such themes as outreach among students and parents, dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, online education and internships. In addition, they stressed the need to engage both younger and older alumni, connecting students to professional networks, inspiring entrepreneurship and creating programs and services that are both inspirational and intentional.

Measure T was also on my calendar Oct. 23, when I attended a regular meeting of our Citizen’s Bond Oversight Committee. We received an annual report from committee Co-Chair Grant Leonard and received project updates from Joseph Reyes, Hartnell’s executive director for facilities planning and construction management.

Please mark your calendar to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for our Soledad center at 11 a.m. Nov. 8 on the project site, 1711 Metz Road. The public is invited.
Center for Community Advocacy recognizes Matsui Foundation

I was thrilled to attend the Center for Community Advocacy’s 24th Annual Dia de Los Muertos Tardeada & Ben Heller Awards Banquet on Oct. 27 at Cal State Monterey Bay. Among individuals and organizations being honored was the Matsui Foundation, founded by generous Hartnell benefactor Andy Matsui and his wife, Mary.

I had the opportunity to meet the Matsuis’ daughter, Teresa, who accepted the Ben Heller Award for Leadership & Courage on behalf of the family foundation. She made a point of recognizing several students whose education was made possible through Matsui Foundation scholarships, including two graduates of Hartnell.

I am pictured here with Matsui and our former students, Anita Garcia (left), a graduate of the joint Hartnell-CSUMB CSin3 program and founder of herScript, an organization for college women studying computer science; and Rolando Perez, now a Ph.D. candidate at Stanford University who is also chair of Xinampa, a scientific and engineering nonprofit in support of workforce development, small business incubation and scientific literacy.

Joining me at the banquet were Michelle Peters, director of student affairs for Disabled Student Programs & Services; Scott Faust, director of communications, marketing and public relations; and Faust’s wife, Lee Richmond. Before the awards program, we were entertained by the impressive Dancers Azteca (pictured above). (Photos courtesy of Richard Green)

Trustee DePauw accepts award for leadership at chamber gala

Hartnell Governing Board member Candi DePauw was among six recipients of a prestigious Legacy of Leadership award at the Salinas Valley Chamber’s annual gala on Oct. 26 at the Salinas Sports Complex.

The chamber honored DePauw for her decade of service as a Hartnell trustee and for her work with nonprofit Monterey County Agriculture Education. She is coordinator for the organization’s Farm Day Experience program, which every year introduces thousands of Monterey County third-graders to the wonders of agriculture and the agricultural industry.

Pictured here with me and DePauw (lower left) are Hartnell board Vice President Patricia Donohue and Trustee Manuel Osorio, as well as Jim Bogart, retired president of the Grower-Shipper Association of Central California and Monterey County Sheriff Steve Bernal, at right.
Employees gather to wish Terri Pyer well as she begins her retirement

Terri Pyer, associate vice president for human resources and equal employment opportunity, received congratulations and best wishes from colleagues at an Oct. 31 reception on the eve of her retirement from 13 years of service to Hartnell.

After starting in a dual role managing communications and human resources, Pyer became director of human resources in 2008 and was named to her current role in 2009. It was my privilege to thank her for outstanding service to the college and present her with a plaque of recognition.

Pyer returned the thanks to everyone gathered in her honor, saying, “We all have completely different jobs, but we’re part of a team that’s focused on student success.”

She and her partner, Dave Edson, will continue to live in the Salinas area.

Fifth-graders share coding skills during school visit

I had the opportunity on Oct. 28 to visit the newest elementary school in the Greenfield Union School District, the Arroyo Seco Academy, where I joined school board member David Kong in touring the facility and meeting with students of fifth-grade teacher Vanessa Robinson (pictured).

The students shared what they have learned about computer coding. Both Trustee Kong and I were very impressed.

MBEP forum highlights ‘State of the Region’

I represented Hartnell on Oct. 25 at the 2019 State of the Region conference presented by the Monterey Bay Economic Partnership.

A full day’s schedule of presenters highlighted regional priorities, which include removing barriers to workforce housing, transportation safety and efficiency, promoting prosperity and equity and creating a pipeline to fill entry-level jobs in information technology.

I enjoyed meeting quite a few of my fellow higher education leaders and gained a deeper perspective of the exciting opportunities ahead for the Monterey Bay region.
More than 1,300 students attend Transfer Day and College Night

Between Hartnell students who attended Transfer Day activities and prospective college students and their parents who attended the College Night fair in the evening, attendance was tallied at 1,317 for the combined event on Oct. 30 in the Student Center on Main Campus.

Representatives from more than 50 universities were on hand to provide information and answer questions. The day also included financial aid information sessions, presentations by the medical school at Stanford University and one-on-one meetings with the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of California, Irvine.

Both the morning and evening activities were timely because the application deadline for the University of California and California State University systems is just one month away, on Nov. 30.

“Hosting these fairs is a way to highlight the pathways we are working on with four-year colleges to ensure that our students feel welcome and know there are resources in place to support them as they transition,” said Mercedes Del Real, Transfer & Career Center coordinator. “I think they will feel encouraged having the universities here on or campus to explain how the process works to get to their campus.”

Share your input on poster designs for making Hartnell even better

The entire Hartnell community is invited to a College Redesign/Guided Pathways Open House Poster Session from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Nov. 13 in the Student Life Center in Building C on the Main Campus.

Please stop by anytime to chat with team leads and share feedback about their respective visual designs, which express intent and strategy for the following areas: Pre-Enrolled Student Maps for Potential Adult Students, Meta-Majors, Panther Days Summer Bridge Program, Continuing Student Experience, Exit Systems for Completing Students and Facilitated Forums to Promote Employee Engagement.
Preparation for the poster presentations continued Oct. 24 during a monthly meeting of the joint Assembly for College Redesign, where teams shared working version of their posters for the Nov. 13 event. (Pictured: Heather Rodriguez (left), a counselor at the King City Education Center, and Herbert Cortez, curriculum and scheduling specialist, present for the Continuing Students Team. To the left of Rodriguez is student Anthony Paredes, who has participated in the College Redesign/Guided Pathways effort since 2018. Interpreting for Paredes, at right, is Aaron Felix.

**Partnership Resource Team returns to Hartnell on Nov. 15**

As Hartnell continues to emphasize the importance of employee engagement and collaboration toward markedly improved student success in line with the College Redesign process and our Strategic Plan for 2019-24, we are also seeking assistance from external sources. The Chancellor's Office's Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative is providing technical assistance this academic year through a Partnership Resource Team (PRT). The PRT model leverages expertise of faculty, staff and administrator colleagues from other community colleges in California.

Our assigned PRT is making several visits to Hartnell to assist with development of an Innovation and Effectiveness Plan and consider governance issues. During the first visit on Oct. 11, the team heard directly from various stakeholder groups, whose participation we greatly appreciated.

During its upcoming visit on Nov. 15, the PRT will hold an open forum from 9-10 a.m. in room S-201 in the Willard Lewallen STEM Center. During this forum, the team will review the PRT process, explain the summary from the Oct. 11 visit and share its menu of options for the college to consider moving forward. Please email Aimee Lo (alo@hartnell.edu) by Nov. 12 if you plan to attend.

Individuals with questions about the PRT process or Plan for Engagement may contact any of the following members of the Institutional Innovation and Effectiveness Plan (I&EP) drafting group: Louann Raras, Mostafa Ghoua, Guy Hanna, Herbert Cortez, Dr. Marnie Glazier, Dr. Hetty Yelland, Dr. Mohammed Yahdi, Manuel Bersamin and Dr. Brian Lofman.

**Hartnell celebrates Halloween and Dia de Los Muertos in style**

As is our tradition, Hartnell celebrated Halloween and Dia de Los Muertos with multiple events, beginning with a Family Pumpkin Patch on Oct. 29, where children of students and employees enjoyed games and candy in the Student Center on the Main Campus. Among those taking part (pictured below center) was Belle Lozada, executive assistant for Human Resources and Equal Employment Opportunity, her husband, Christian, and their children Connor (7), Cameron (6) and CJ (3).

The festivities continued on Oct. 31, as the Associated Students of Hartnell College and student clubs organized “spooky fun” that included a costume contest and a water pong tournament
Among students who dressed up for the occasion were (pictured, below left): Aryana Gutierrez (left), Gina Lopez (front), Lizandro Gutierrez (center) and Cheyenne Garcia (right).

Next up was a Dia de Los Muertos Celebration on Nov. 1, with activities both in the Student Center and at the cafeteria on the Alisal Campus. Known as the Day of the Dead in English, this holiday is celebrated in most Latin American countries as a day of remembrance for loved ones who have passed.

Panther runners win conference titles on home course – NorCal up next

Women’s and Men’s Cross Country: Daniela Salazar and Jesus Avalos won the men’s and women’s individual races, respectively, in the Coast Conference Championship on Oct. 30 at Toro County Park. The women’s team (pictured with other top finishers) took the three top spots, with Shantal Martinez and Valeria Gomez-Lozano in second and third, followed by Faith Mora (sixth), Mariah Chango (seventh), Nerina Campos (eighth), Joanna Macias (ninth) and Alondra Carreon (11th). The men’s team fought a close battle with rival
DeAnza College to claim second place. Earning All-Conference individual honors along with Avalos were Isaac Gensel (third), Rigo García (sixth), Jiovanni García (eight), Alexis Ojeda (11th), Elliot Ruiz (12th), Joseph Loredo (13th) and Danny Correa (14th). The teams will host the Northern California Championship at Toro Park on Nov. 8, starting at 10 a.m.

**Football:** In a game on Nov. 2 that Head Coach Matt Collins says will be played for “all the marbles,” the Panthers will face cross-county rival Monterey Peninsula at 6:30 p.m. in Rabobank Stadium. The team is 3-1 in conference and 5-2 overall. If Hartnell prevails, the team has a chance to contend for the championship in its final game on the road against Reedley on Nov. 16.

**Men’s Soccer:** The men’s team has stayed hot, with four wins in its past five games and a record of 5-1-1 in conference and 8-4-2 overall. The Panthers will return home following an extended road series to face West Valley on Nov. 12 and then Skyline on Nov. 15 to conclude their regular season. Both games start at 3 p.m.

**Women’s Soccer:** The women's team has been dominant in conference play, with a record of 5-1-2 (9-4-5 overall), including a 10-0 rout of Skyline on Oct. 29. The Panthers’ next home game will be Nov. 8 against De Anza, starting at 3 p.m.

**Volleyball:** The team has been on a seesaw all season, with alternating bursts of victory and defeat. They are 3-3 in conference and 13-12 overall, with four of their final five matches at home: Nov. 6 against San Mateo, Nov. 8 against Foothill, Nov. 13 against Cabrillo and Nov 19 against Skyline, all starting at 6:30 p.m.

**Upcoming Events**

**Note:** All event locations are on the Main Campus in Salinas unless otherwise noted.

**Money Mondays**
3-5:45 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 4
Building B, room 110

**Disability Awareness Month**
**Dr. Larry Lachman:** “What Psychology Students Need to Know about Therapy & Counseling with Serious Mental Illnesses”
2-3 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 5
Planetarium – Building S, room 101

**Transfer Tuesdays**
9a.m.-12 p.m. & 1p.m.-4p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 5
Building C, room 132
**Volleyball vs. San Mateo**  
6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, Nov. 6  
Hartnell Gymnasium

**NorCal Cross Country Championship**  
10 a.m.  
Friday, Nov. 8  
Toro County Park

**W. Soccer vs. De Anza**  
3 p.m.  
Friday, Nov. 8  
Hartnell Field

**Volleyball vs. Foothill**  
6:30 p.m.  
Friday, Nov. 8  
Hartnell Gymnasium

**Groundbreaking for Soledad Education Center**  
11 a.m.  
Friday, Nov. 8  
1711 Metz Road (at Orchard Drive), Soledad

**College Redesign/ Guided Pathways Open House**  
11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Nov. 13  
Building C, Student Life Room

**Transfer Tuesdays**  
9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-4 p.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 12  
Building C, room 132

**Dreamer Ally Training**  
8:30a.m.-12pm  
Friday, Nov. 15  
Building B, Steinbeck Hall  
RSVP to: mvazquez@hartnell.edu

**Money Mondays**  
3-5:45 p.m.  
Monday, Nov. 18  
Building B, room 110