



President's Weekly Report

HARTNELL COLLEGE

Dec. 20, 2019

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: The President's Weekly Report will take a break and return the week of Jan. 13.

Best holiday wishes to the entire Hartnell community!

As we prepare to close our campuses for winter break, reopening Jan. 6, I want to again thank everyone in Hartnell's extended family of students, employees, friends and partners for your support of our mission of student success and our work throughout the Salinas Valley.

We have much to be proud of, much to be grateful for and much to look forward to – especially during the coming Centennial year.

Personally, and on behalf of the entire college, I wish you a wonderful holiday season filled with caring and kindness – and a very Happy New Year!

If you missed our holiday [video](#) of highlights from the past year that we shared via email earlier this month, we hope you enjoy it here.

Board of Trustees taps Salazar as president again for 2020

The Hartnell Community College District Board of Trustees held its annual organizational meeting on Dec. 17, voting unanimously to elect current board President Aurelio Salazar Jr. to serve for another year in that leadership role.

Salazar, whom voters elected to the Area 2 seat in 2015, was first appointed board president in December 2018 for the 2019 year.

"I want to thank everybody for this opportunity," said Salazar, a former Hartnell student body president who graduated in 1995 with an Associate of Arts degree in transfer studies.

"It's been a real honor, especially as we get into our Centennial Celebration. I'm a product of this institution. I hope I can serve as a real testimony to the kind of student that we serve and the kind of student we hope to see in the community."



On Dec. 18, Salazar received his Master of Arts degree in Chicana and Chicano Studies from San Jose State University. On behalf of the college, I presented him with an orchid from Matsui Nursery in congratulations for completing his master's degree (pictured). We are very proud that President Salazar exemplifies the Hartnell's commitment to student access and success and would like to thank him for giving back to the college by sharing his talents and experiences working in the non-profit sector.

The board also voted unanimously for Area 3 Trustee Patricia Donohue to continue as board vice president. First elected to the board in 2007, she served as board president in 2009 and 2010.

Trustees also voted unanimously for the following appointments:

- Lopez, as the board's representative on the Monterey County School Boards Executive Council.
- Padilla-Chavez, as the board's representative on the Hartnell College Foundation Board of Directors.
- DePauw and Osorio, as members of the Hartnell College Foundation President's Task Force, which advises on fundraising priorities for the district.
- Donohue and Osorio, as members of the Hartnell College Arts Council.
- DePauw, for a two-year term on the District Audit Committee.

(Pictured: The full Hartnell Board of Trustees for 2020, from left: Ray Montemayor, Candi DePauw, Aurelio Salazar Jr., Patricia Donohue, Manuel Osorio, Erica Padilla-Chavez, Irma Lopez and 2019-20 Student Trustee Samantha Saldana.)



New and interim administrators to start in January and February

With appreciation for our forward momentum and gratitude for the work of search committee members, on Dec. 18 I announced several key administrative appointments approved by the Hartnell Board of Trustees at its Dec. 17 meeting:

- **Diane Clerou**, interim associate vice president of human resources and equal employment opportunity, effective Jan. 6. Most recently, from 2013-16, she served as chair of the Equality Opportunity Advisory Task Force for the State Center Community College District in Fresno.
- **Sachiko Matsunaga**, dean of academic affairs (Languages, Learning Support and Resources), effective Feb. 18. Most recently, from 2016-19, she was chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, California State University, Los Angeles.
- **Daniel Scott**, director of public safety/emergency management, effective Jan. 21. Most recently, since 2017, he has been assistant director and emergency management

coordinator for the Department of Campus Safety at the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena.

- **Linda Wilczewski**, vice president of administrative services, effective Jan. 27. Most recently, since 2018, she has been interim executive director for fiscal services in the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District.

Sophomore Estefania Villicana receives AHSIE scholarship

I was notified in a Dec. 10 letter that one of our students, sophomore Estefania Villicana of Salinas, has received an exclusive national scholarship from the Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators (AHSIE).



Villicana, a 2018 graduate of North Salinas High School, was one of only six students selected from among 100 applicants for the 2020 AHSIE Seed to Tree Scholarship – and one of just two community college students to receive the honor.

Boosted by her high GPA, clear career direction, first-generation roots and a strong recommendation from Hartnell TRiO Director Manuel Bersamin, Villicana will receive a \$1,000 cash award and the opportunity to attend and speak at AHSIE's 12th Annual HSI/Title V Best Practices Conference on March 8-11 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

After completing an Associate of Arts in Social and Behavioral Sciences and Psychology and an Associate of Arts for Transfer in Sociology at Hartnell this spring, she plans to transfer next fall to a University of California campus or a private university to continue working toward her goal of teaching history at North Salinas High.

Villicana is a WELI Scholar and is employed as a student ambassador in the Office of Equity Programs, supporting the Salinas Valley Promise program. She is a participant in the MAESTROS program for aspiring teachers, participates in TRiO, is a member of the Psychology Club and is a supporter of UMOJA. She also will be a member of the Hartnell Swim Team, which will resume competition this spring.

"The faculty here, a lot of them I can relate to because they grew up here or similar to a community like Salinas" Villacana said. "Knowing that they were first generation as well, it's easy to relate to them, build a connection with them, and see your future self in them, which is really encouraging."

Spirit of season evident on campus and in hearts

The Office of Student Life and Associated Students of Hartnell College (ASHC) joined with student clubs and employees to present several holiday-related events over the past few weeks. Here are some highlights:

Festival of Trees: The annual festival of trees took place Dec. 2-13 in the Student Center. Sponsored by the Inter Club Council, eight student organizations decorated tree – five at the Alisal Campus, three on the Main Campus and two at the King City Education Center. Judging was by children from the Child Development Center, who awarded first place to the Student Nursing Association, second place to Men in Nursing (pictured) and third place to the Dungeons and Dragons Club. In addition to receiving a small stipend for their club, members had the satisfaction of donating the decorated tree to a family of their choice.



Holiday Decorating Contest: The contest drew five official entries, although many other offices were decorated and provided a holiday cheer on campus. Judging at the annual Holiday Luncheon on Dec. 6 named the Business Office this year's winner. They received doughnuts and coffee along with other participating offices.

Lights of Love: Once again, the ASHC joined with the Office of the Superintendent/President to sponsor and coordinate Lights of Love, which provides gifts for 120 children of 210 Hartnell students, many of whom have tremendous responsibilities and face significant financial challenges. Special thanks to our campus community, who along with the Foster Care and Kinship program generously ensured that every participating child had a gift.



Kwanzaa: A Kwanzaa Celebration was hosted Dec. 12 in the Office of Student Life by the UMOJA program, the Alliance for Black Thought Club and the ASHC. This event celebrated the rich heritage of African American culture during the holidays. The program (pictured) included the history of Kwanzaa, and a description of the symbols used during the celebration. Some attendees also participated in a candle-lighting ceremony and enjoyed an authentic meal.

Longtime employees recognized

and thanked for their service

December saw the retirement of two 30-plus-year employees who each contributed much to Hartnell in their own way.

Art Alvarado, who joined Hartnell in 1987, retired as grounds supervisor. His supervisor, Joseph Reyes, executive director of facilities, planning and construction management, said Alvarado's dedication and influence is evident throughout the campus. Said Reyes, "Working closely with his small crew, Art has maintained a campus that other institutions that have had the privilege to visit us have had only rave reviews for. Art's dedication and motivation after so many years is inspiring to all who have the opportunity to interact with him."

Also retiring was Kathy Mendelsohn, who started at Hartnell in 1984 as a business instructor and has served as dean of Academic Affairs for languages, learning support and resources since 2013. Mendelsohn, who greeted colleagues at a cake reception on Dec. 6 (pictured), was also honored with a resolution by the Academic Senate "recognizing 35 years of excellence." The resolution noted her service to the Senate and in other campus leadership roles and said, in tribute to her frenetic pace, "... The average speaking speed of the college will take a serious decline, as will the average number of steps achieved in a given day."

Mendelsohn herself called it a privilege to work at Hartnell for the past 35 years. "The faculty, staff, and managers are dedicated to helping students succeed in their educational goals" she said, "and I have been fortunate to have been a part of that wonderful Hartnell team!"



In the News

Fun with Funds:

https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/opinion/letters/letters-to-the-editor/article_14020a60-2203-11ea-84a0-9717728c9699.html

Hartnell College breaks ground on new nursing and health sciences building: <https://kion546.com/news/2019/12/12/hartnell-college-breaks-ground-on-new-nursing-and-health-sciences-building/>

Hartnell College breaks ground at King City Education Center expansion: <https://kingcityrustler.com/hartnell-college-breaks-ground-at-king-city-education-center-expansion/>

Wharf to wharf earns gold certification:

<https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2019/12/15/wharf-to-wharf-earns-gold-certification-name-dropping/>

Local Sports Roundup: Marauders Top Wildcats 64-34:

https://www.recorderonline.com/sports/local-sports-roundup-marauders-top-wildcats/article_58ed9f7c-2154-11ea-bb98-dbd515974d94.html

Small schools making huge splash at CSM:

https://www.smdailyjournal.com/sports/local/small-schools-making-huge-splash-at-csm/article_04986d52-2164-11ea-937a-cf9691adfb88.html

Upcoming Events

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

STEM Internship Programs – Enroll Now!

<https://www.hartnell.edu/academics-affairs/academics/stem/intern/>

Men's Basketball vs. Cabrillo

5 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Hartnell Gymnasium

Women's Basketball vs. Mission

5 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 15

Hartnell Gymnasium

Men's Basketball vs. West Valley

7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 15

Hartnell Gymnasium

Women's Basketball vs. San Jose City

5 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17
Hartnell Gymnasium

Men's Basketball vs. San Jose City

7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17
Hartnell Gymnasium

Women's Basketball vs. Ohlone

5 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24
Hartnell Gymnasium

**Informational Session, Associate Degree
Respiratory Care Practitioner**

4:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 27
Building N, room N4

Women's Basketball vs. De Anza

5 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 29
Hartnell Gymnasium

Men's Basketball vs. De Anza

7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 29
Hartnell Gymnasium

Women's Basketball vs. Cabrillo

5 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 31
Hartnell Gymnasium

Men's Basketball vs. Cabrillo

7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 31
Hartnell Gymnasium

Walk of Honor Order Deadline

Jan. 31

**Informational Session, Certificate
Vocational Nursing**

2:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7
Building B, room 204B

**Informational Session, Associate Degree
Registered Nursing**

3:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 7

Building B, room 204B