Salinas Valley Promise and TPP hailed as educational Bright Spots

The Bright Spots celebration presented March 5 during a breakfast event at the University Center on the Cal State Monterey Bay campus brought wonderful and well-deserved recognition to Hartnell for its own achievements and in partnership with CSUMB.

Before an audience of 400 educators and children’s advocates from throughout Monterey County, the Monterey County Children’s Council and the Bright Futures Education Partnership honored Hartnell with its 2020 Champion for Children Award for this year’s successful launch of the Salinas Valley Promise leadership and completion program for first-time, full-time students. Hartnell Board of Trustees member Manuel Osorio accepted the honor, joined by Dr. Romero Jalomo, vice president of Student Affairs, and Jackie Cruz, vice president for advancement and development and the Hartnell College Foundation (also pictured, Eduardo Ochoa, president, CSUMB; Deneen Guss, Monterey County superintendent of schools; and Elsa Jimenez, director, Monterey County Health Department). CSUMB received a Champion award for its Graduation 2025 initiative to increase its four-year graduation rate.

Earlier in the morning, the Salinas Valley Promise was singled out as one of a handful of “Bright Spots” by Bright Futures for the program’s rapid gains in educational outcomes for children and adults. Likewise, our college’s Teacher Pathway Program – and specifically its impact in south Monterey County – was recognized as a Bright Point, as was our development and expansion of Associate Degrees for Transfer and 37 percent gain in the number of students from its district high schools over the past four years.

The Salinas Valley Promise was noted for the participation of 621 students this year, the financial support of Salinas Valley cities and the County of Monterey, and initial outcomes that show its
students are completing more academic units and have a 12 percent higher course success rate than their first-time-in-college peers who aren’t in the program.

The Teacher Pathway Program, in which students complete an associate’s degree at Hartnell and go onto to complete a bachelor’s degree and teaching credential from CSUMB, was noted for having 151 students currently in progress, with an 84 percent transfer rate, and 67 percent of all students being from South County. Current TPP student Mayra Gonzalez of Greenfield (pictured at right with Dan Burns, superintendent of the Salinas Union High School District) spoke movingly of what the program has meant to her and her determination to serve students like her in elementary classrooms.

The Bright Futures Steering Partners include Hartnell Trustee Erica Padilla-Chavez, who also is CEO of Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance (pictured above, at the event, with fellow partner Yuri Anderson of the County of Monterey); Dr. Romero Jalomo, Hartnell vice president of student affairs; and Hartnell College Foundation board member Margaret D’Arrigo-Martin.

(Equity gains put Hartnell College in contention for CCC recognition)

Thanks to three-year gains in academic success and completion among students of color and representation of minorities among our faculty, Hartnell is one of two colleges contending for a major award presented annually by the California Community Colleges (CCC) system – the Dr. John W. Rice Award for Diversity & Equity.

We hope to know by March 13 whether we have been selected for this meaningful recognition and which other college is being considered for the award. Two more colleges are being considered for a second Rice award, focused on student success.

On March 4, I joined with administrators, staff and a 2019 Hartnell graduate, Adriana Gonzalez, now at San Jose State University, in a phone interview with Chancellor’s...
Office representatives. I noted the alignment of our new Strategic Plan with the CCC system’s Vision for Success and the impetus of our current College Redesign process, including Guided Pathways, to continue our student equity momentum.

Members of the interview team (pictured) also shared highlights of student success and equity efforts that have achieved steep gains in degree and certificate completion, student persistence and transfers to four-year universities, particularly among Latinx students and other students of color, and gains in faculty diversity.

The award program, now in its 20th year, is named for Dr. John W. Rice, the late father of former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. He served on the CCC system’s Board of Governors from 1992 to 2000 and is considered one of its most influential members across the years.

**Phi Theta Kappa chapter welcomes high-achieving 2019-20 inductees**

During an evening ceremony on March 4 in the Office of Student Life, I offered my congratulations and expressed my admiration to 31 new inductees into Hartnell’s Beta Mu Xi chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society for students of two-year colleges.

By accepting membership in this international organization, these students join about 50 other current members of the chapter who have completed at least 12 credits and achieved and maintained a 3.5 grade point average.

“Once you are inducted, you will have chosen to pursue scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship a hallmarks of being a member of Phi Theta Kappa,” chapter advisor Augustine Nevarez, director of student life, told the group.

Nevarez offered special thanks to Margaret D’Arrigo-Martin, a member of the Hartnell College Foundation board, for financial support that provided a $70 scholarship to all the inductees who commit to fulfilling the self-directed learning activities and participate in a joint chapter project on sustainability. That amount covers their lifetime Phi Theta Kappa dues.
As a crowd of family members watched, the students were individually congratulated by me, Dr. Cathryn Wilkinson, vice president of academic affairs, and Dr. Romero Jalomo, vice president of student affairs (pictured). Each received a long-stemmed white rose, and they completed a candle-lighting ceremony. A brief reception followed, with refreshments.

Men’s Soccer ranked 16 in nationwide season-end poll
For the second time in three years, the Hartnell Men’s Soccer team has broken into the top 20 of a national ranking by the United Soccer Coaches Soccer Association, earning the No. 16 spot. The teams, which include several other California Community Colleges, are all in the National Junior College Athletic Association’s Division III.

After going 8-3-1 in their conference, Hartnell advanced to Round 2 of the NorCal Regionals before falling to Fresno Con Nov. 26. They were 11-7-3 overall for the season.

“We peaked at the right time and played our best soccer at the end of the season,” said Head Coach Daniel Ortega. “We only started four second-year guys, so the experience of my first-year group is going to pay off for us next year.”

One of those first-year players, freshman forward Juan Moya, who attended Salinas High School, said the national top-20 ranking is meaningful not only for the team but also for the community.

“It’s really good for our sport because they can see how hard we work,” Moya said.

King City Center holds first Community Partner Update
On Feb. 28, the Hartnell King City Education Center held its first ever South County Community Partner Update, welcoming stakeholders such as counselors, principals and family liaisons from nearby K-12 districts and from such agencies as the Migrant Program, ProYouth, Gear Up, Community Action Partnership and the Monterey County Office of Education.

Three breakout session allowed these local partners to
learn about such Hartnell programs and initiatives as on dual and concurrent enrollment, Mi CASA, Salinas Valley adult education services, financial aid, Salinas Valley Promise and of course the center’s current expansion construction and what future course offerings that may provide in King City. (Pictured: Laurencia Walker, director of college readiness, speaks about dual and concurrent enrollment.)

They also learned about updated policies and programs for undocumented students and their families and the many services available to students at the King City center including free comprehensive tutoring, a dedicated lending library, South County specific scholarships, free ESL classes and counseling.

The event concluded with a Q&A panel of three Teacher Pathway Program (TPP) students from south Monterey County (pictured), who shared their experiences with attendees. The student panelists were: Leonor Arago of King City, a MAESTROs student at Hartnell, and three members of the TPP’s second cohort, now attending Cal State Monterey Bay: Vanessa Perez, Gonzales; Simon Uribe, Greenfield; and Jaime Garcia, Greenfield.

**Chancellor’s Office supports continued campus awareness on coronavirus**

With support from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, Hartnell College continues to monitor the COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak that is affecting the United States and many countries around the world.

Public health officials continue to classify the threat posed by COVID-19 as low, but it is important that we all stay informed about the virus and its potential impact on our students, campus facilities and the greater community.

Through the Chancellor’s Office, we are relying on the professional assessments of the California Department of Public Health as the primary source of information and guidance on COVID-19 for our system.

The CCC system also has developed a web resource that provides direct links to tools and information developed by CDPH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization and other governmental public health agencies. This includes the preventive steps you can take for your own health and that of your family members.

As always, the safety and health of Hartnell students and employees remain our top concerns. I and other administrators will continue to share information about this public health situation as it affects our community.
College prepares online tool for daily tracking of FTES enrollment

As Hartnell embarks on a multi-year plan to serve more students, the Department of Information Technology and Resources is completing work on an online tracking tool that will allow the college community to continually track enrollment, as measured by the number of Full-Time Equivalent Students (FTES).

This system will not only allow the college to better track daily numbers compared to growth targets, but it will also assist in assessing and improving strategies for managing student access and enrollment, strengthening overall enrollment management.

MILE and WELI leadership programs begin accepting 2020-21 applications

The Hartnell Office of Equity Programs encourages continuing students to apply to join the 2020-21 cohorts of the Men’s Institute for Leadership and Education (MILE) and the Women’s Education and Leadership Institute (WELI), both of which offer a $2,000 scholarship and promise of developing stronger leadership skills.

The two programs, which also share the opportunity to work with community leaders serving as mentors, include three days of leadership training to develop critical life skills, including time management, emotional intelligence and self-efficacy (pictured: MILE training in August 2019).

Applicants must be current Hartnell students enrolled in at least nine units and a GPA of 2.5 or higher. Cisgender and transgender applicants are welcome, and Dreamer students are also welcome and encouraged to apply.

The mandatory leadership workshops will be June 1-3, and the mandatory quarterly mentor meetings will be Oct. 3, Feb. 6 and April 17 of the 2020-21 academic year.

Campus participation in Census is vital for support of education

The 2020 Census, a count of every person living in the United States, is about to begin, and the California Community College system and Hartnell in particular seek to ensure that all of our students, faculty, staff and their families are counted so that our communities reflect all who live, work and study here. One thing to keep in mind: Because of a ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court, no questions about citizenship will be asked. Population data that results from this count is used to
determine such things as how to split up California’s congressional districts and how to distribute federal resources, such as funding for some student financial aid, healthcare, housing, transportation and other important student services. The outcomes resulting from this data last for a decade.

The Hartnell Office of Student Life, the Office of Communications & Marketing and other faculty and staff will join with local and state census advocates to inform the Hartnell College Community about the process over coming weeks. Students are at risk of being undercounted, but our college will be working to make sure they understand the importance of filling out the Census form for themselves and other members of their households.

Census letters will be mailed to residences beginning March 12, explaining how to complete the Census form, and April 1 will be a special focus of activities because it is Census Day. Beginning April 8, hard copies of the Census form will be mailed, along with final reminder notifications, and in-person follow-ups to households that haven't provided their information will begin on April 28.

The Hartnell Department of Ethnic Studies has already scheduled two special events to highlight the Census, first a program on “The U.S. Census in Monterey County,” at 6:30 p.m. on March 12 in Steinbeck Hall, and second, a look back at previous litigation involving farmworkers and Spanish-speaking students, at 6:30 p.m. on March 27, also in Steinbeck Hall. For information about these events, contact ethnic studies instructor Phillip Tabera at ptabera@hartnell.edu.

Visit the Chancellor’s Office for a toolkit of Census resources or go to the Census website for additional information.

Career Technical Education open house scheduled at Alisal Campus on April 28

The Center for Advanced Technology at Hartnell’s Alisal Campus has announced it will hold an open house on April 28 for high school students and the general public, showcasing academic programs in administration of justice, agriculture, business administration/business office technology, construction management, manufacturing and welding.

Students and instructors will be on hand to discuss the programs and what they offer and show off the state-of-the-art, hands-on learning facilities at the campus in east Salinas, 1752 E. Alisal St. For more information, contact Celia Anderson at (831) 755-6798 or canderson@hartnell.edu.
The event for high school students is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the general public will be invited from 6-8 p.m. The entire Hartnell College Community is encouraged to invite anyone who may be interested in pursuing well-paying and rewarding careers in these high-demand fields.

**Hartnell campuses are among sites**

**For free VITA Tax Prep Service**

Hartnell is once again a destination for community members seeking free tax help through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offered by United Way of Monterey County.

The assistance is available every Thursday through April 9 in room B-110 on Hartnell’s Main Campus in Salinas and in room C-2015 on the Alisal Campus, 1752 E. Alisal St. in Salinas. VITA services are also available at nine other locations around the county.

The tax prep service is available for individuals and families who earned less than $56,000 in 2019. The program goal is to ensure that participants receive their full refund, claim all their available tax credits and learn to use taxes to grow their assets.

**At mid-season baseball, softball teams trade wins and losses**

**Baseball:** The Panthers lost a slugfest at Chabot on Feb. 27, 18-12, before beating Canada at home on Feb. 29, 6-5. Hartnell won the first of three straight games with Monterey Peninsula at home on March 3, 7-4. Following a March 5 game in Monterey, they will play the Lobos at home at 1 p.m. (Pictured: Amier Bowen prepares to smack one of his three hits during a Feb. 26 loss to West Valley at the Tony Teresa Diamond.)

**Softball:** Hartnell continued its up and down season over the past week, upping its record to 5-9 overall by sweeping a Feb. 29 doubleheader on the road at Los Medanos, 16-5 and 11-1, followed by a 9-1 loss to Gavilan at home on March 3. After a home date with Monterey Peninsula on March 5, the team won’t be back home until March 17, when they will face San Mateo at 3 p.m.

**In the News**

**Salinas Ag Tech focuses on training labor:**
[https://www.thepacker.com/article/salinas-ag-tech-focuses-training-labor](https://www.thepacker.com/article/salinas-ag-tech-focuses-training-labor)

**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/

**Baseball vs. MPC**
1 p.m.
Saturday, March 7
Tony Teresa Diamond

**Educator in Residence Dr. Jean E. Fox Tree**
“The Power of Little Words in Everyday Conversation”
12 p.m.
Monday, March 9
Steinbeck Hall

**Hartnell Community College Board of Trustees**
5 p.m.
Tuesday, March 10
Steinbeck Hall

**Baseball vs. Gavilan**
2:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 12
Tony Teresa Diamond

**Ethnic Studies Speaker Series: “U.S. Census in Monterey County”**
6:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 12
Steinbeck Hall

**Planetarium Children’s Show, “The Little Star that Could”**
5:15 p.m.
Friday, March 13
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Planetarium Evening Show, “Sunstruck”**
6:45 p.m.
Friday, March 13
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

**Softball vs. Ohlone**
2 p.m.
Saturday, March 14
Softball Field

**Women’s Empowerment Conference**
8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
Saturday, March 14
Building C, Steinbeck Hall
Spring Break
March 16-20

Salinas Valley Ag Tech Summit
5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, and all day Wednesday, March 18
Lewallen STEM Center (Building S) and Center for Performing Arts (Building K)

Baseball vs. Ohlone
2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 17
Tony Teresa Diamond

Softball vs. San Mateo
3 p.m.
Tuesday, March 17
Softball Field

Baseball vs. Ohlone
2:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 19
Tony Teresa Diamond

Planetarium Children’s Show, “The Little Star that Could”
5:15 p.m.
Friday, March 20
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

Planetarium Evening Show, “Sunstruck”
6:45 p.m.
Friday, March 20
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

Baseball vs. Ohlone
1 p.m.
Saturday, March 21
Tony Teresa Diamond

Softball vs. Golden West
11 a.m.
Sunday, March 22
Softball Field

Money Monday
3-5:45 p.m.
Monday, March 23
Building B, room 110

Hartnell Community College Board of Trustees
Board Development
5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 24
Steinbeck Hall

Women's Swim & Dive
2 p.m.
Friday, March 27
Hartnell College Pool

Men's Swim & Dive
2 p.m.
Friday, March 27
Hartnell College Pool

Planetarium Children's Show, “Astronaut”
5:15 p.m.
Friday, March 27
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

Ethnic Studies Speaker Series: “El Cortito and Diana V. Soledad Case Involving Campesinos and Spanish-Speaking Students”
6:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 27
Steinbeck Center

Planetarium Evening Show, “Incoming!”
6:45 p.m.
Friday, March 27
Building S, room 101 (Planetarium)

Baseball vs. Cabrillo
2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 31
Tony Teresa Diamond

Softball vs. Ohlone
3 p.m.
Tuesday, March 31
Softball Field