Weekly Report will return later this summer
The President’s Weekly Report will take a brief break and return later in the summer. Please share news items with Lucy Serrano at lserrano@hartnell.edu. We wish you a wonderful Fourth of July weekend and great success during the summer term!

Governing Board recognizes students and staff for work to deliver COVID-19 vaccine to tens of thousands in valley
A spirit of pride and appreciation filled the room during the June 15 meeting of the Hartnell Governing Board as trustees unanimously adopted a resolution honoring 90 Registered Nursing, Vocational Nursing and Respiratory Care Therapy students and 18 faculty members.

They were recognized for 1,000 hours of volunteer work to deliver the COVID-19 vaccine and provide education to more than 50,000 people since December 2000 — particularly agricultural workers in the Salinas Valley.

(Pictured (from left): Dr. Debra Kaczmar, dean of academic affairs for Nursing and Allied Health, board President Erica Padilla-Chavez, eight of the student honorees and (at right) Dr. Sonja Sheppard, associate director of Nursing and Allied Health, and Interim Superintendent/President Dr. Raúl Rodríguez.)
The participating faculty and employees will each receive a frameable copy of the resolution, signed by Padilla-Chavez and Dr. Rodriguez. It reads in part: “Whereas, their dedication and personal courage will surely be a timeless source of pride for Hartnell College, an inspiration to all of its students, and a powerful testament to these academic programs’ enormous value to the greater community ... .”

Third-semester Registered Nursing (RN) student Kristine Lacanilao (pictured) spoke on behalf of her fellow students, describing how they staffed vaccination clinics in several Salinas locations, particularly at the Salinas Sports Complex on North Main Street, as well as at Mee Memorial Hospital in King City and in Castroville.

“We as students knew we had the role, the opportunity, to step in and make a change in our community,” she said.

Several trustees personally thanked the students and instructors, including Candi DePauw, who said, “It was a real source of pride for me to be associated with this group that was willing to go out and participate in the manner that you guys did,” DePauw said. “So thank you so much for the time and the effort that all of you gave to help the community.”

RN student Hugo Gutierrez, president of the Nursing Class of 2022, said, “It was with great pride that we were able to be out there representing Hartnell doing something in our community, as opposed to just kind of watching everything on TV.”

Mother of four continues studies after receiving HEP scholarship

High School Equivalency graduate Elvira Lopez of Gonzales has received a $1,000 Dr. Hector Topete scholarship. She will continue her English-as-a-Second Language studies this fall, with the eventual goal of completing a Hartnell degree.

Lopez, who lives in Gonzales with her husband and four children, ages 4-16, did not complete high school while growing up in Mexico, but she has now set her sights on a possible career in a medical-related field.

She became a HEP student in May 2019 and completed the program in September 2019 through a partnership with the Gonzales Adult School.

Though hesitant at first to begin her studies, the former field and cannery worker said she has gained confidence thanks to support from the HEP team, including tutor Manuel Malagon, himself a HEP grad and former ESL student now attending Brandman University.
Most gratifying has been the response of her children, who at first wondered why she was spending so much time on her studies while also caring from them.

“When they saw that I was dedicated to school, to them and to everything else at home,” Lopez said in Spanish, “they told me, ‘We’re going to do our best in school because we see how hard you’re working.’”

The Topete scholarship is awarded to one or more Hartnell HEP students each year based on a personal essay that includes personal and financial challenges and future goals, as well as recommendations of HEP faculty.

**Fundraiser Kristine Edmunds is new director of philanthropy**

Kristine Edmunds joined the Hartnell College Foundation as director of philanthropy on June 14. She has worked for nonprofits in Monterey County for 27 years.

Edmunds comes to Hartnell following a brief interim executive director role at the Center for Community Advocacy in Salinas, preceded by 13 years as director of advancement at York School in Monterey. Before that, she worked in development roles at Cal State Monterey Bay for nine years, including as executive director of development.

Prior to moving to Monterey County, she was legislative director in the Washington, D.C., office of a U.S. Congressman and taught English as a Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon.

Welcoming Edmunds to a June 16 of the foundation’s executive committee, foundation board President Judy Sulsona said, “I’ve known Kristine for many years, and I know how respected she is in the community in the non-profit sector, particularly in philanthropy.”

Said Edmunds, “I’m just such a strong believer in the mission of Hartnell and what the college is doing for our community, so it’s really an honor to be here, and I look forward to working with all of you.”
Dr. Hughey and 38 students publish in genome journal

For the ninth time, biology instructor Dr. Jeffery Hughey has co-authored a genome journal article with a group of his students, specifying the genetic taxonomy of a member of the marine red algal family Rhodomelaceae called *Erythrocystitis saccate*, found in coastal waters of the Pacific.

Dr. Hughey and 38 students in his spring semester general botany class had their work published on June 10 in the journal Phytotaxa, with all receiving equal credit for the research, analysis and findings. The students completed the work through a micro-internship incorporated into the curriculum.

“This has been the goal all along,” he said. “Offering internships to a select group of a few students is terrific, but opening them to all students and pairing the experience with the course content has a greater impact.”

College hosts 24 health students in first week of summer institute

Twenty-four high school students and graduates in the Summer Health Institute, a collaborative annual program offered by Hartnell College and Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System (SVMHS), began their five-week program on Hartnell’s Main Campus from June 14-18.

They learned basic patient-assessment skills, researched case studies as teams and participated in high-fidelity clinical simulations in Building B. They will complete the remainder of the program at SVMHS. Seven of the students will be attending Hartnell this fall.

Hartnell hosts were Dr. Debra Kaczmar, dean of academic affairs for Nursing and Allied Health; Dr. Sonja Sheppard, associate director of Nursing and Allied Health; and nursing instructor Monique Dupree.

On June 18, students in the simulation lab were given a scenario involving either a spinal cord injury, a cardiac patient or a respiratory patient. Each student had a role in the simulation, and they worked as a team to care for the patient and their needs. (Pictured: students and Hartnell nursing student mentor Paola Godinez Barba, at right.)
Respiratory care instructors honored by state professional society CSRC
Hartnell Respiratory Care Therapy instructors Tanya Ho and Emily Brandt have both received the California Society of Respiratory Care Award for Excellence for 2021.

Ho was recognized for her performance as Education Chair, including such special projects as online education and revision of the society’s Law & Ethics course. Brandt (pictured) was selected for her service as a member of the CSRC Audit Committee for the past two years, including work to overhaul the organization’s policy and procedure manual. Both received a crystal award and a personal letter of thanks from Wayne Walls, the organization’s president.

Interiors taking shape in nursing building and at Castroville Education Center
The new Center for Nursing & Health Sciences on Hartnell’s Main Campus looks deceptively finished at quick glance because nearly all exterior wall panels are installed and many of the large windows, as well. Enclosure of the roof is scheduled to be complete on June 25.

The two-story center’s interior is taking shape, too, with ongoing installation of insulation and sheetrock (pictured). The project is scheduled for completion by the end of the fall semester.

At the Castroville Education Center, scheduled for completion next spring, work includes roofing insulation, fabrication of supports for rooftop solar panels, wall insulation, rough-in of electrical wiring and installation of storefront-style windows.

Construction of both projects is funded by the Measure T bond, a total of $167 million approved in 2016 by Hartnell Community College District voters. The bond also financed expansion of the King City Education Center, construction of the Soledad Education Center, modernization of buildings D and E and construction of the newly landscaped Central Plaza.

Assemblymember Rivas greets youth from Gonzales and Soledad at new center
California’s 30th District Assemblymember Robert Rivas met with the Youth Councils from the cities of Gonzales and Soledad on June 19 at Hartnell’s Soledad Education Center, where he was joined by Hartnell Governing Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez.
Thank you to Trustee Erica Padilla-Chavez for taking the time to show all of us the new center in Soledad after our conversation,” Rivas wrote on his Facebook page.

He also noted that youth in grades 9-12 are invited to apply to participate in a Youth & Government Leadership Program from July 13-22 that includes leadership development training and to the legislative process and the opportunity to meet community leaders. For more information, call his district office at 831-759-8676 or email dominic.dursa@asm.ca.gov.

Pictured: Rivas and Padilla-Chavez in front of the Soledad center following the students’ visit and tour.

Co-ed basketball session opens summer sports camp schedule

A co-ed Panther Basketball Camp led by Women’s Head Coach Natalie Marlowe from June 14-18 kicked off a schedule of six camps offered by Hartnell Athletics through July 30.

The session had 40 campers from ages 5-12, including many who were trying out basketball for the first time. They practiced such basketball fundamentals as pivoting, ball handling, shooting, passing and defense, with a variety of games to keep it fun.

“Every day started with a thought of the day covering the core values of Panther Women’s Basketball,” Marlowe said. “Play hard, play smart, play together and have fun.”

She described the camp as part of a culture change in Hartnell Women’s Basketball and a welcome change to be able to interact with the community. “There is a new, uplifting energy in the gym, and this camp has only magnified that,” Marlowe said.

Still ahead are camps in girls basketball, softball, co-ed soccer, advanced volleyball and kids track and field. More information and registration is available on the athletics website, https://www.hartnellpanthers.com/camps/camps-list
Congratulations to these employees and family members for graduation milestones!
The following graduations are listed by the name of the employee who shared them:

**Belen Gonzales**
Name of graduate: Daijah Marie Mottu
Degree/milestone: High school diploma
Date of graduation: June 12, 2021
Name of institution: Soledad High School
Relationship to employee: Daughter
Job title of employee: Coordinator of Job & Internship Placement

**Janeen Whitmore**
Name of graduate: Emily Marie Branan
Degree/milestone: Juris Doctorate
Date of graduation: May 22, 2021
School: Santa Clara University School of Law
Relationship to employee: Daughter
Job title of employee: Nursing Instructor

**Upcoming Events**

**Fourth of July**
College closed July 3-4

**Governing Board Meeting – Regular (in King City)**
5 p.m.
Tuesday, July 6
King City Education Center
[https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/hccd/Board.nsf/Public](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/hccd/Board.nsf/Public)