

President's Weekly Report



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.

Share your news!

The President's Weekly Report highlights accomplishment, engagement, progress and success for and within the Hartnell College Community. Please send information and photos by each Wednesday to sfaust@hartnell.edu.

Dr. Steven Crow takes helm as interim superintendent/president

The Hartnell Community College District Governing Board voted unanimously on Jan. 11 to appoint Dr. Steven Crow as interim superintendent/president, starting Jan. 15.

Since January 2021, Dr. Crow has been Hartnell's vice president for administrative services, responsible for district finances, facilities and emergency management. His 26-year career in college administration includes 15 years as a vice president at several California community colleges, beginning with leadership in information technology.

Dr. Crow will serve as Hartnell's top executive through June 30, while the district completes a national search for a new permanent superintendent/president. Dr. Raúl Rodríguez, who has held the interim position since July 2020, will become interim chancellor of the San Jose-Evergreen Community College District.

Dr. Crow said he is "excited and proud" to have the opportunity to continue his work at Hartnell in this expanded role. "I believe I speak for all of our employees when I say we are committed to continue putting students first and building upon the momentum we have achieved during this time of challenges and opportunities," he said.



Dr. Crow is familiar with Monterey County and the Central Coast, having served as an interim vice president at Cabrillo College in 2019 and as vice president of administrative services at Monterey Peninsula College from 2015 to 2017. He also was vice president of business and financial affairs at Southwestern College in Chula Vista from 2012-15 and vice president of administrative and information services at College of the Siskiyous near Mt. Shasta from 2002-12. Dr. Crow has also taught numerous business and computer science courses during his career.

He holds a Doctorate of Educational Leadership degree from the University of California, Davis; a Master of Education in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University; a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management from Prescott (Ariz.) College; and an Associate in Applied Science in computer information systems from Yavapai College.



Governing Board members thanked Dr. Rodríguez for his service over the past 18 months, and he in turn thanked them for the opportunity to serve Hartnell's students and the people of the Hartnell district.

"Hartnell has, bar none, some of the best students I've ever seen," he said, "and it's a credit to this college and the community and the work that's going on here."

(Pictured: Dr. Crow speaks Jan. 12 at the King City Education Center, where he and Mostafa Ghous, dean of South County Education Services, hosted a lunch meeting and building tour for the King City Rotary Club.)

Nursing student volunteers help set up Center for Nursing & Health Sciences

Just a week before Hartnell's new Center for Nursing & Health Sciences opens on the Main Campus in Salinas, about 25 registered and vocational nursing students volunteered their time to help get the building ready for classes starting Jan. 24.

Students unpacked boxes, set up equipment, made beds and prepped simulation mannequins, further heightening their anticipation of attending classes and labs in the new facility along with students in respiratory health and public health.

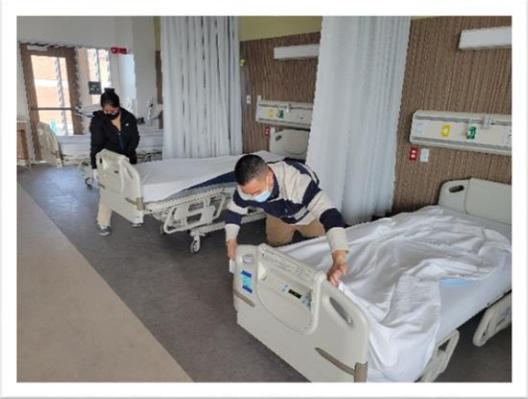
Registered nursing student Brittany Sonderegger, who was helping prep a nurses' station for the center's simulated in-patient care area on the second floor (pictured, left, with Jennifer Orozco) said she was struck by how much it feels like a real hospital.

"I was definitely impressed by how much like a hospital this actually looks and how realistic it really feels and looks – walking in and seeing the sliding doors and the beds," she said.



Dr. Debra Kaczmar, dean of nursing and health sciences, has asked for a large banner to be displayed in front of the building that says "Everyone Welcome" because she wants the entire college community to know that they are welcome to visit and enjoy this beautiful new facility along with the students attending classes there.

(Also pictured: Registered nursing student Alyza Valdez and vocational nursing student Mark Laranjo make beds in a first-floor simulation lab.)



Registration fairs assist hundreds of new and returning students

Four registration fairs held Jan. 11-14 at Hartnell's education centers in Soledad, King City, Castroville and the Main Campus were a great success, with nearly 300 current and prospective students being helped with registration, financial aid and academic counseling.

About 35 people attended the first event at the Soledad center on Jan. 11; another 25 were assisted at the Castroville center on Jan. 12; about the same number attended the King City event on Jan. 13; and 171 students were served at the all-day fair in front of the Student Services building on Main Campus, plus another 63 who were helped via Zoom.



Dr. Romero Jalomo, vice president of student affairs, told all the staff and students who provided support over the four days, "Congratulations everyone! You make me proud to serve on your team."

(Pictured: Program assistant Dina Uribe assists a prospective student at the Castroville Education Center on Jan. 12.)

Maintenance Specialist Raymond Nonella passes away unexpectedly at age 61

Raymond "Ray" Nonella, a maintenance specialist at Hartnell for HVAC and building management systems, passed away unexpectedly at home on Jan. 9. He had been a Hartnell employee since 2013.

Nonella, of Pacific Grove, is survived by his wife, son, two daughters, granddaughter, sister and mother, whom he cared for.

The family will hold a celebration of life event at 6 p.m. on Jan. 26 at the Pacific Grove Community Center, 515 Junipero Ave., Pacific Grove.

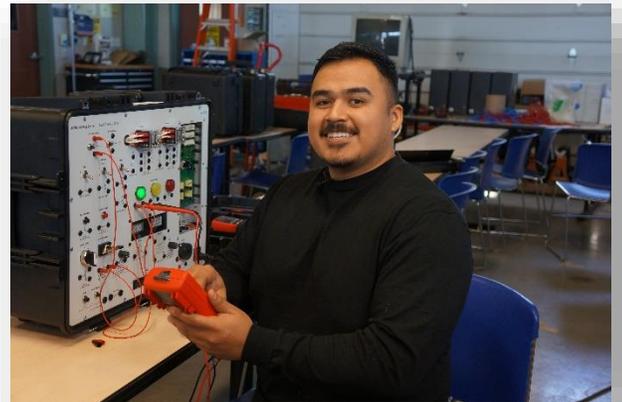


Metallica Scholars expands scope to all veterans and family members

Hartnell and its partner, the Grower-Shipper Association, are reaching out to U.S. military veterans and family members in the Monterey Bay area with an immediate opportunity for free courses in agricultural technology and paid on-the-job training at some of the largest Salinas Valley ag companies. The registration deadline is Feb. 5.

This is an expansion of the Metallica Scholars program launched this fall with students who began studying diesel technology after being referred by the Veterans Transition Center in Marina. The effort is funded through a \$100,000 grant from the All Within Our Hands Foundation, created and funded by the heavy-metal band Metallica to support technical education.

Hartnell is promoting this expanded opportunity through television and internet advertising through Feb. 3, using this [video](#) and directing anyone interested to this program [webpage](#). (Pictured: Current Hartnell student and Marine veteran Abraham Lopez, who appears in the 30-second commercial.)



Ethnic studies instructor Rocha-Tabera retires after 35 years at Hartnell

Full-time ethnic studies instructor and Hartnell alumna Hermalinda Rocha-Tabera retired in December after serving as a counselor and teacher at the college since 1986.

She began as an EOPS counselor, while also teaching counseling, before going on to teach early childhood education and family and consumer studies. About eight years ago, she began teaching ethnic studies, a program where she also provided leadership as Hartnell has responded to new statewide requirements for the discipline at both the high school and college levels.

With her husband and former part-time ethnic studies instructor Philip Tabera, Rocha-Tabera joined with other Central Coast educators to establish the Salinas Valley Ethnic Studies Collective in 2018. Starting that year, the group began presenting an annual ethnic studies conference, which was held again this fall on Sept. 17-18 at the Alisal Campus.

Attributing her interest in higher education to Dr. Ignacio Pando, former director of EOPS at Hartnell, Rocha-Tabera said, "My education began as a student at Hartnell, and my goal was to return to my community the of Salinas valley and teach and counsel and support others like myself."



Monterey County Gives! Campaign raises nearly \$40,000 for basic needs

The Hartnell College Foundation's participation in the Monterey County Gives! fundraising drive organized by the Monterey County Weekly raised \$35,905 from 57 individual donors. That is enough to provide more than 70 \$500 basic needs scholarships for Hartnell students.

That amount will grow with matching funds expected from the Weekly, which managed the Gives! campaign to help non-profits within its readership area. The money will be support the foundation's Keep Our Students Learning Project, which helps students overcome immediate financial challenges that might otherwise prevent them from continuing their education at Hartnell.



Spring in-person activity classes include fitness center — and more

In-person fitness and other physical activity classes at Hartnell College are still accepting students for the Spring 2022 semester, including the popular Strength Conditioning Lab, which offers convenient, low-cost access to the college Fitness Center six days a week.

For spring fitness-activity classes, the per-course cost is \$46 per unit plus a \$12 student activity fee. Students who wish to repeat a previous course without receiving credit – known as “auditing” the class – only have to pay \$34.50 for the semester. That compares to commercial fitness centers, which typically cost \$40 or more every month.

The Strength Conditioning Lab on the Main Campus in Salinas (Building F) is open Monday-Saturday for a total of 56 hours a week: 7-9 a.m., 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 4-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 7-9 a.m., 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-3 p.m. Friday; and 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday.

The Swim Fitness Lab offers similar flexibility for use of the Hartnell pool, with open hours from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. every weekday and from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Other spring activity courses include introduction to self-defense/martial arts, as well as weight training, yoga, Zumba aerobics, beginning futsal, volleyball, basketball, beginning swimming, volleyball and tennis. Classes will be held in accordance with COVID-19 safety protocols. The spring session runs from Jan. 24 to May 21. (Pictured: Students Bianca Calderon and Efrain Perez demonstrate an armbar self-defense maneuver on Dec. 2 in the Hartnell Auxiliary Gymnasium.)

To learn more, email [Joanne Venegas](mailto:Joanne.Venegas@hartnell.edu) or [Cristina Westfall](mailto:Cristina.Westfall@hartnell.edu) on the physical education staff.



In the News

College Athlete of the Week: <https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/01/18/college-athlete-of-the-week-46/>

Hartnell College extends deadline for vaccine requirement:

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/01/14/hartnell-college-extends-deadline-for-vaccine-requirement/>

Hartnell students must provide proof of vaccination, request for exemption by Jan. 17:

<https://kion546.com/news/local-news/top-stories/2022/01/13/hartnell-students-must-provide-proof-of-vaccination-request-for-exemption-by-january-17/>

Hartnell students offered assistance as they register for Spring classes:

<https://kion546.com/news/local-news/2022/01/10/hartnell-students-offered-assistance-as-they-register-for-spring-classes/>

Hartnell College hosts registration fairs for Spring semester:

<https://salinasvalleytribune.com/hartnell-college-hosts-registration-fairs-for-spring-semester/>

Salinas Valley news briefs Jan. 12, 2022: <https://kingcityrustler.com/salinas-valley-news-briefs-jan-12-2022/>

Hartnell College to select interim superintendent:

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/01/10/hartnell-college-to-select-interim-superintendent/>

Hartnell board considers an employment contract with a new interim

superintendent: https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/blogs/news_blog/hartnell-board-considers-an-employment-contract-with-a-new-interim-superintendent/article_09e9873e-733b-11ec-b6d8-2387e4e40cc3.html

2021 Year in Review – Looking back on South Monterey County’s top stories, part II: <https://kingcityrustler.com/2021-year-in-review-looking-back-on-south-monterey-countys-top-stories-part-ii/>

College Athlete of the Week: <https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/01/11/college-athlete-of-the-week-45/>

Virus Geeks testing sites in Monterey County switch to appointment-only:

<https://www.ksbw.com/article/virus-geeks-testing-appointment-only/38750975>

Seeking a COVID-19 test in Monterey County? Expect long lines:

<https://www.ksbw.com/article/covid-19-monterey-county-testing-long-lines/38740346>

Upcoming Events

Student Success Conference

8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Thursday and Friday, Jan. 20-21

Via [Zoom](#) and streaming live on Hartnell College [YouTube channel](#)

Women’s Basketball vs. Mission

5 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 21

Hartnell Gymnasium

Men’s Basketball vs. West Valley

7 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 21

Hartnell Gymnasium

Spring 2022 term begins

Monday, Jan. 24

Men's Basketball @ Monterey Peninsula

5 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 24

Monterey Peninsula College gymnasium

Women's Basketball @ Monterey Peninsula

7 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 24

Monterey Peninsula College gymnasium

Hartnell Governing Board – Regular meeting

5 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 1

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Women's Basketball vs. MPC

5 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 28

Hartnell Gymnasium

Hartnell Governing Board – Development meeting

5 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 15

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)