

# 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](mailto:sfaust@hartnell.edu).

## Hartnell Board ratifies agreement with new superintendent/president

The Hartnell Community College District Governing Board voted unanimously on April 5 to ratify an employment agreement with Michael Gutierrez as the district's new permanent superintendent/president starting July 1.

Gutierrez, now president of Sacramento City College, attended the board meeting at the King City Education Center via Zoom (pictured) to witness the vote and express how eager he is to start work at Hartnell. "Members of the board, thank you for your confidence in selecting me," he said.

Comparing his feelings to those he had as an 8-year-old in San Antonio, Texas, anticipating a long-awaited school trip to an amusement park, Gutierrez said, "Here I am 45 years later, feeling that same



anticipation and that same excitement to join you on July 1 as your next superintendent/president.”

Governing Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez congratulated him on behalf of all seven trustees: “Our college community is really excited to be welcoming you, and our community at large is excited to welcome you.”

The board selected Gutierrez on March 15 following a nationwide search and interviews with three finalists. He will replace interim superintendent/president Dr. Steven Crow, formerly vice president of administrative services, who has served since in that role since Jan. 17.

Gutierrez became president of Sacramento City College in 2017 and previously served as executive vice president of Eastfield College in Mesquite, Texas, from 2009-17. Prior to his work at Eastfield College, he was executive dean of arts, humanities and social science at Mountain View College from 2005-09. His other responsibilities have included being a faculty member at Richland College, dean of resource development and Title V director at Mountain View College and assistant to the president at Palo Alto College.

## **Hartnell hosts AgTechX Ed event focused on meeting workforce needs**

Clint Cowden, dean of career technical education and workforce development, and manufacturing/mechatronics instructor Richard Chapman (pictured, center) participated in a half-day AgTechX Ed event on April 13 in the Mainstage Theater, presented by the Western Growers Center for Innovation & Technology and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CFDA) in partnership with Hartnell and the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce.



Featuring three panel discussions with agriculture educators and industry leaders, the program was the third of four statewide forums focused on developing the next generation of tech-savvy agricultural workers. CFDA Secretary Karen Ross participated in a “fireside chat” with Chamber President Steve McShane to conclude the program, which was followed by a reception and robotics showcase in the STEM Building.

Multiple presenters talked about the challenges of attracting STEM students without a background in agriculture into an industry increasingly dependent on data analytics, drones, robotics and computer software.

“Not very long ago we were doing this with a horse pulling a plow,” Cowden told a KSBW-TV reporter. “Now we have fully automated robots out there integrating technology and using big data to solve a food shortage for our entire world. Ag technology is one of the ways we can do that.”

(Also pictured: panel participant Briana Layfield, president of Ag-Bee LLC, speaks with an attendee about her company’s drone capabilities.)



## **Cowden appointed permanent dean of social and behavioral sciences**

Just over a year since she took over in an interim role, Joy Cowden is now the permanent dean of academic affairs for social and behavioral sciences.

Approved by a vote of the Hartnell Governing Board on April 5, Cowden will continue to lead the following academic program areas: Social and Behavioral Sciences, Fine and Performing Arts, Early Childhood Education, Distance Education and Curriculum, Scheduling and Instruction.

She joined Hartnell in 2017 as director of STEM Internships and MESA and briefly served as interim dean for Languages, Library and Learning Resources. Previously she was in a variety of faculty and administrative roles at West Hills College in Coalinga, beginning in 2004. Cowden has a Master of Agricultural Education and Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Systems Management from California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo.

Said Dr. Cathryn Wilkinson, vice president of academic affairs, “The district is fortunate to have an administrator with Joy’s varied experience as instructor, program director and interim dean for nearly 20 years in the California Community College system. Throughout her career, Joy has demonstrated a strong commitment to equity and inclusion for students and managed more than \$10 million in state and federal grants to improve student learning. I am thrilled to have Joy move into the role of permanent dean.”



# Public Health Fair draws a crowd and lots of support as a Meta-Major kickoff

Students, staff and faculty of Hartnell's Nursing and Health Sciences programs on April 4 presented a Public Health Job Fair, marking National Public Health Week, complete with free food, plenty of swag and Zumba dancing on the lawn.

The outdoor gathering from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. was the largest event yet on the newly relandscaped Central Plaza, with 68 participating organizations and attendance by 270 students from six high schools, as well as many Hartnell students and employees.



Participating organizations included Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System, Natividad Medical Center, Mee Memorial Healthcare System, Stanford Children's Health, Montage Health, United Way, Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley and Montage Health. The Food Bank of Monterey County served a free pozole lunch and distributed free produce. (Pictured: SVMH Mobile Clinic staff members Yesenia Garcia and Lynette Fitzgerald).

Hartnell students gave tours of the new Center for Nursing & Health Sciences, and the Salinas

Fire Department and AMR ambulance service had vehicles on site for up-close looks at their equipment (pictured).

Belinda Saechao-Jimmeye, lead program coordinator for Nursing and Health Sciences, coordinated planning of the event, which she said was the program's first event to introduce the Health Sciences Meta-Major and also raise awareness of Public Health Week. "It was so inspiring and refreshing to see such engagement from the students," she said. "I'm honored to be a part of what's ahead. Go team Meta-Major: Health Sciences!"



## Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren tours Soledad center on south county visit

Ana Gonzalez, director of the Soledad Education Center, was among Soledad-area officials and community members who welcomed 19<sup>th</sup> District U.S. Rep. Zoe Lofgren to learn about local assets, priorities and needs on April 11.

Gonzalez, who is pictured with Lofgren in front of the Soledad Center, said the congresswoman was impressed by the size of the facility and the breadth of its specialized capabilities, including the wet and dry science labs.

Lofgren began her visit by having lunch at the Windmill Restaurant with representatives of the City of Soledad, the Soledad Unified School District, former Gonzales Mayor Gloria Orozco and Soledad High School students Clarissa and Diana Garza and Finn Arredondo (pictured).



## Center tours cap spring events for area high school counselors



All three of Hartnell’s education centers welcomed high school counselors to visit and tour the buildings in Castroville, King City and Soledad on April 12 as a follow-up event to the Virtual Counselors Conference on April 8.

Gonzales High School counselor Juanita Zuniga said the centers will provide much more convenient and manageable access for students who want to take concurrent enrollment classes, which previously required a drive to the Main Campus in Salinas. “This will be great,” she said. (Pictured at the entrance to the Soledad Center, from left: Ana Gonzalez, Juanita Zuniga, fellow Gonzales High School counselor Maribel Muratalla and Carla Johnson.)

The virtual conference began with a welcome from Dr. Romero Jalomo, vice president of student affairs, and Carla Johnson, dean of student affairs for student success. The program included an overview of Meta-Majors and online program maps, student basic needs initiatives and breakout sessions that highlighted student support programs, services for students with disabilities and equity programs such as the Salinas Valley Promise, Mi CASA and Umoja.

## Spring music performances include two vocal shows with Monterey Pops!

Hartnell's vocal and instrumental programs are presenting an extensive spring lineup of concerts, starting with Performance Night at 7 p.m. on April 29 in the Mainstage Theater at the Center for Performing Arts. In addition to members of the choral groups, students from piano and voice classes will perform. There will be no admission charge.

The annual Hawaiian Concert will be presented on May 15, followed by a joint concert of the jazz and concert bands on May 17, and a concert by the Hartnell Community Orchestra (pictured) on May 19. All the programs will start at 7 p.m. in the Mainstage Theater.

Also during May, the Hartnell College Chamber Singers Ensemble will perform twice with the Monterey Pops! instrumental ensemble. On May 12, a free Family Concert at 6:30 p.m. at Greenfield High School will cap a day of workshops and instrumental clinics at Greenfield public schools.

On May 30, the Hartnell singers will join Monterey Pops! for a Memorial Day performance at 2 p.m. near Monterey City Hall. Hartnell vocal music director Sandra Rudo said at both POPS events, the Chamber Singers Ensemble will perform a medley from the Broadway musical "Hamilton" and the song "We Don't Talk About Bruno" from the new movie "Encanto." (Pictured: Chamber Singers perform with Monterey Pops! on Nov. 11 in Oldtown Salinas.)



## Veterans program students enjoy art at Broad and Brush in Monterey

On April 2, 15 participants of the Hartnell College Veterans Program visited Board and Brush Creative Studio in Monterey. Said counselor Gemma Uribe-Cruz, "These types of events always provide the opportunity for camaraderie and fun."



## TPP/MAESTROs students highlight their journeys into teaching careers

As part of the ongoing student engagement portion of the Hartnell Governing Board's regular meetings, three students from the Teacher Pathway/MAESTROs program shared their journeys and successes with trustees at the King City Education Center on April 5.

The first student to speak was Caroline Martinez of King City, who will graduate in May from Cal State Monterey Bay and begin her career in the King City Union Elementary School District. Said Martinez, "Enrolling into the TPP program has been the best decision I have made so far. While I attended Hartnell, there was never a moment where I felt alone or unsupported. We were provided with repeated reminders about important upcoming dates, professional development opportunities and state requirements we had to fulfill. There was always someone who could help, no matter what."



(Pictured, from left: Caroline Martinez, TPP Cohort 3 student, graduating from CSUMB spring 2022; Carmen Sandoval, MAESTROs student, graduating from Hartnell spring 2022; and Krystina Acosta, TPP Cohort 5 student, graduating from Hartnell spring 2022.)

## Mental Health First Aid resumes in-person training for students and employees

Mental Health First-Aid (MHFA) training returned to Hartnell on April 11-12, with 32 students participating in two eight-hour sessions led by facilitators Alicia Edelen, psychology instructor, and Gemma Uribe-Cruz, veterans counselor. These were the first fully in-person sessions offered since the start of the pandemic.



MHFA from the National Council for Mental Wellbeing Training informs participants on the steps and tools they can employ to immediately respond to a mental health crisis, much as someone would use CPR training during a cardiac emergency. It also provides a certification that be added to a resume. Watch for information about future training opportunities.

# Alisal Campus hosts students for tour, presentations on April 8

On April 8, the Alisal Campus welcomed 120 students from Carmel High School, Rancho San Juan High School and Mission Trails ROP. They received a tour of the facilities and presentations on these programs: Welding Technology, Manufacturing/Mechatronics (Richard Chapman, instructor); Administration of Justice (David Doglietto, instructor); Advanced Automotive Technology (Jessica Mora Martinez, instructional assistant); and Forklift & Truck Simulators (Julio Martinez, instructional assistant) (pictured).



The event was coordinated by Celia Anderson, career technical education program assistant with help from Klarissa Nabor, Lluvia Del Rio, Ulisses Peralta Diaz, Guillermo Menchaca, Cesar Villa and Jessica Castro as guides.

## In the News

**Hartnell College approves new superintendent:** <https://www.ksbw.com/article/hartnell-college-approves-new-president/39645208>

**Hartnell College board officially hires a new superintendent/president:** [https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/blogs/news\\_blog/hartnell-college-board-officially-hires-a-new-superintendent-president/article\\_ed4f458e-b75d-11ec-bb02-232f669736b7.html](https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/blogs/news_blog/hartnell-college-board-officially-hires-a-new-superintendent-president/article_ed4f458e-b75d-11ec-bb02-232f669736b7.html)

**Hartnell College board approves new superintendent-president:** <https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/04/06/hartnell-college-board-approves-new-superintendent-president/>

**Connecting Pathways to Good-Paying Jobs Paves Way for Equity:** [https://cafwd.org/news/connecting-pathways-to-good-paying-jobs-paves-way-for-equitable-regional-economy/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_campaign=connecting-pathways-to-good-paying-jobs-paves-way-for-equitable-regional-economy](https://cafwd.org/news/connecting-pathways-to-good-paying-jobs-paves-way-for-equitable-regional-economy/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=connecting-pathways-to-good-paying-jobs-paves-way-for-equitable-regional-economy)

**Hartnell College hosts Panther Prep Days for high school seniors in April:** <https://salinasvalleytribune.com/hartnell-college-hosts-panther-prep-days-for-high-school-seniors-in-april/>

**Meet the brother and sister who started their own art zine in Salinas with a focus on the local music scene:**

[https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/entertainment/art/meet-the-brother-and-sister-who-started-their-own-art-zine-in-salinas-with-a/article\\_54215724-b5d9-11ec-a50b-4fce6d559c1d.html](https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/entertainment/art/meet-the-brother-and-sister-who-started-their-own-art-zine-in-salinas-with-a/article_54215724-b5d9-11ec-a50b-4fce6d559c1d.html)

**Flores caps collegiate career at San Diego State:**

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/04/16/flores-caps-collegiate-career-at-san-diego-christian/>

**Ramos impressive in Pro Day workout at Southeastern Louisiana:**

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/04/09/ramos-takes-part-in-pro-day-at-southeastern-louisiana/>

**Taylor Farms fire: Shelter-in-place order issued in Salinas:**

<https://www.montereyherald.com/2022/04/14/taylor-farms-fire-shelter-in-place-order-issued-in-salinas%60>

## Upcoming Events

**Hartnell Governing Board -- Development Meeting**

5 p.m.

Tuesday, April 19

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

**"Let's Talk: Transfer Decision"**

2:30-3 p.m.

Wednesday, April 20

Zoom: <https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/99866530208>

**Pop-up Pantry**

12 p.m.

Friday, April 22

Hartnell Parking Structure

**Baseball vs. Mission**

1 p.m.

Saturday, April 23

Tony Teresa Diamond

**Track & Field "Last Chance" Open Meet**

11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday, April 23

Hartnell Track

**Baseball vs. De Anza**

2:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 26  
Tony Teresa Diamond

**Softball vs. Gavilan**

3 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 26  
Hartnell Softball Field

**Career Fair**

9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 27  
Student Center (Building C)

**Performance Night**

7 p.m.  
Friday, April 29  
Mainstage Theater (Building K)

**Hartnell Governing Board**

5 p.m.  
Tuesday, May 3  
Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

**Transfer Mixer**

1-3 p.m.  
Wednesday, May 4  
Steinbeck Hall (Building C)  
[RSVP](#)

**Spring Mini Arts Festival**

1-3 p.m.  
Thursday, May 5  
Outside of Building K

**Transfer Field Trip to Stanislaus State**

6:45 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Friday, May 6  
[RSVP](#)

**Pop-up Pantry**

12 p.m.  
Friday, May 6  
Hartnell Parking Structure