



**HARTNELL COLLEGE**

## President's Weekly Report

April 24, 2020

**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.

### Graduating student receives Jack Kent Cooke scholarship

For the second straight year, an outstanding Hartnell student has received a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, one of only 50 awarded nationwide.

It was my privilege to inform graduating sophomore and valedictorian Jenel Fraij of her selection from among 461 semifinalists, who include fellow Hartnell students Kenya Burton and Estefania Villicana. The semifinalists were chosen from a pool of nearly 1,500 applicants at 311 community colleges.

As a Cooke Scholar, Fraij will receive up to \$40,000 per year to help cover the cost of educational expenses such as tuition, living expenses, books and required fees as she completes her bachelor's degree. Additionally, she will be eligible to apply for up to \$75,000 of funding toward graduate school.

Because of restrictions associated with COVID-19, I was unable to inform her of this tremendous honor in person, but I look forward to meeting and congratulating her at our first opportunity.



Fraij, whose family emigrated to California from Syria in 2016, graduated from Everett Alvarez High School in 2018 and has majored in mathematics and physics at Hartnell. She has her sights set on the University of California, Los Angeles, and she plans to pursue a career in mathematics research. This summer she will complete a long-distance math research internship with Brown University.

"None of this would have been possible without Hartnell College and everything that this amazing community has offered me," she said. "I have never thought that I would someday compete for a national scholarship, let alone win it! Thank you for the recognition, and I hope to always represent my Hartnell College community in the best way possible."

## **Employees participate in online forum on Hartnell budget assessment, outlook**

On April 24, I joined with Vice President for Administrative Services Linda Wilczewski to present an online forum for all employees on the status and outlook of the Hartnell Community College District (HCCD) budget, including time for questions and answers. The forum mirrored Wilczewski's presentation to the Hartnell Governing Board at its April 21 development meeting.

Attention to revenue and expenditures is timely because the district is scheduled to present its preliminary budget for fiscal year 2020-21 at the June 2 board meeting. Also, it is important that we take stock of our financial picture now, when the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is likely to diminish California tax revenue and state funding for the California Community Colleges system.

As Wilczewski outlined in her presentation, Hartnell and the state college system are moving from a seven-year period of revenue growth into a period in which revenue will remain flat at best, without factoring in the effects of COVID-19. At the same time, negotiated cost-of-living pay increases for employee bargaining units are combining with rising costs for health insurance and pension programs.

Under the best assumptions, the HCCD budget is forecast to reach an unsustainable shortfall by 2021-22, requiring reduction of expenditures combined with an effort to increase revenues. Budget scenarios shared with the board at its recent meeting included an annual net spending reduction of at least \$2 million to restore a balanced budget within three years.

I am optimistic that our college community can work together to find ways to increase our operating efficiency, take advantage of natural workforce attrition and manage controllable expenses in order to manage this situation. Our top priority will always be the continued success of our students, followed by the well-being of our existing employees.

## Planning, budgeting process to begin on a new timeline

An updated Annual Integrated Planning & Budgeting Process calendar was approved at the April 15 College Planning Council Meeting. Changes were made to improve the process by streamlining the timeline and making it more transparent.

Requests for funding will be finalized and prioritized in the fall and funded in December 2020 in advance of implementation in Fall 2021. Recommendations and decisions on faculty positions will also occur during the fall, so searches can be completed in Spring 2021, well in advance of the Fall 2021 start date.



Key dates in the process include:

- **Sept. 11, 2020:** Final drafts of program planning and assessment (PPA) budget request spreadsheets are due to deans/vice presidents. Requests are from needs determined in Spring 2020 through the PPA reports and should be aligned with SLO, PLO or SAO assessments, the college strategic plan and improved effectiveness or efficiency.
- **Nov. 9, 2020:** The superintendent/president will announce approved budget requests.
- **Dec. 7, 2020:** Funds are released for approved budget requests.
- **Feb. 1, 2021:** PPA templates for 2020-21 academic year released for completion.
- **April 1, 2021:** PPA reports and draft budget request spreadsheets are due to deans/directors.

## COVID-19 emergency fund grows but needs support to meet needs

Within two weeks, the Hartnell College Foundation's COVID-19 Student Emergency Response Fund has raised \$270,000 of its \$1.15 million goal to fund laptops, wireless hotspots and basic needs assistance to students affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

Through a [GoFundMe page](#) established for this effort, the foundation has received dozens of individual contributions, building on an initial contribution of \$150,000 approved by the organization's Board of Directors.

"All of the money that we have raised so far has been allocated and spent," said Jackie Cruz, vice president of advancement and development and executive director of the foundation. The money has gone to purchase computers and mobile wireless hotspots for students who lack reliable equipment and wireless access for online instruction.



Another major need is financial support of up to \$500 for qualifying students who need help with food, rent and other basic needs. Although some students qualify for one-time assistance up to \$500 through the federal CARES Act, Cruz said it can't possibly meet ongoing needs or serve the number of low-income students who attend Hartnell.

Students who receive help through the foundation's COVID-19 fund also are directed to talk to a Hartnell counselor, who can help make sure they are staying on track with their academic goals despite the challenges they are facing.

## **Extra effort helps ESL students keep learning despite online switch**

Hartnell staff have recently helped students in non-credit English as a Second Language courses overcome language and computer skills barriers during the transition to online instruction.



College Pathways Coordinator Fanny Salgado joined with Continuing Education Program Assistant Dina Uribe and Christian Regalado of the Salinas Valley Adult Education Consortium showed students how to access the internet, log in and access their coursework in Canvas and join and participate in a Zoom meeting with instructors. They also received support from dedicated ESL faculty members: Kimberly England, Adriana Lopez-Romero, Barry Sheppy, Kathleen Slattery and Jesus Villicana. Staff also provided loaned laptops to students who did not have one, while observing social distancing (pictured).

Ana Gonzalez, director of academic affairs and continuing education, said the students were very appreciative of the laptops and all the support they have received in recent weeks.

"Our ESL students are demonstrating that given the opportunity, tools and support, they can also persevere and push through adverse situations," Gonzalez said.

## **MCOE, county EMS share gloves With Hartnell for employee safety**

With assistance from Monterey County Office of Education Superintendent Deneen Guss, Hartnell has received six boxes of much-needed disposable gloves to protect the safety of our employees.

These supplies from Monterey County EMS are particularly beneficial to staff in the California School Employees Association (CSEA) and Local 39 of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE).

## **\$300,000 grant to fund expansion of career training and preparation**

The Hartnell College Foundation's Better Careers initiative this month received a 32-month, \$300,000 grant from the James Irvine Foundation to establish apprenticeship programs and a college-to-career system that helps students find jobs that provide family-sustaining wages in the Salinas Valley.



The **James Irvine**  
Foundation

With oversight from a director to be hired this summer, the goal is to consolidate and strengthen Hartnell's career development efforts, particularly through establishment of new experiential work-learning opportunities.

## **Measure T projects rising in Soledad and King City**

With additional weeks of good weather, buildings are taking shape on the site of the new Soledad Education Center and at the King City Education Center (pictured), which is being expanded to twice its previous size. Both centers, funded through Measure T bonds, are scheduled to open in Spring 2021.

On the Main Campus in Salinas, progress is accelerating on the Center for Nursing and Health Sciences. Pre-built foundation piles are going in at the rate of approximately 70 per day. The next step will be to start excavation of footings and grade beams. On the central plaza landscaping, top soil has begun to be delivered in



anticipation of plantings. Guardrails are also on site for installation and will coordinate those installed on buildings D and E.

## Upcoming Events

**Note:** All in-person campus events are cancelled until further notice in compliance with a statewide shelter-in-place order.

### Summer 2020 Priority Registration

Through May 1

### Career Prep: How to Job Search During COVID-19

12:30 p.m.

Monday, April 27

Register: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>

### Career Prep: Career Exploration

April 27 and 28

Register: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>

### Career Prep: Resume, Cover Letter and Interview

12:30 p.m.

April 29 and 30

Register: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>

### TPP/MAESTROs Informational Sessions via Zoom

6-7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 29

Register: [shorturl.at/hnV17](http://shorturl.at/hnV17)

### Career Prep: Preparing for an Online Interview

12:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 30

Register: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>

### Career Prep: Preparing for an Online Interview

12:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 30

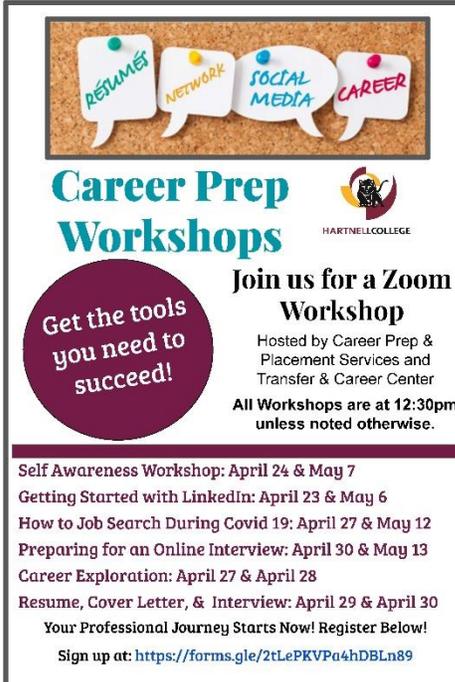
Register: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>

### HCCD Governing Board

Regular meeting (social distancing observed)

5 p.m.

Tuesday, May 5



The graphic features a corkboard background with four speech bubbles containing the words 'RESUME', 'NETWORK', 'SOCIAL MEDIA', and 'CAREER'. Below this is the title 'Career Prep Workshops' in teal, with the Hartnell College logo to the right. A purple circular callout on the left says 'Get the tools you need to succeed!'. To the right, it says 'Join us for a Zoom Workshop' and lists the host as 'Career Prep & Placement Services and Transfer & Career Center'. A note at the bottom states 'All Workshops are at 12:30pm unless noted otherwise.' A list of workshops follows: 'Self Awareness Workshop: April 24 & May 7', 'Getting Started with LinkedIn: April 23 & May 6', 'How to Job Search During Covid 19: April 27 & May 12', 'Preparing for an Online Interview: April 30 & May 13', 'Career Exploration: April 27 & April 28', and 'Resume, Cover Letter, & Interview: April 29 & April 30'. It concludes with 'Your Professional Journey Starts Now! Register Below!' and the sign-up link: 'Sign up at: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>'.

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

**Career Prep: Getting Started with LinkedIn**

12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6

Register: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>

**Career Prep: Self-Awareness**

12:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 7

Register: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>

**Pop-Up Pantry Food Distribution**

12-2 p.m.

Friday, May 8

Hartnell Parking Structure

**Career Prep: How to Job Search During COVID-19**

12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 12

Register: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>

**Career Prep: Preparing for an Online Interview**

12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13

Register: <https://forms.gle/2tLePKVPa4hDBLn89>

**HCCD Governing Board**

Board development meeting (social distancing observed)

5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 19

Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

**Pop-Up Pantry Food Distribution**

12-2 p.m.

Friday, May 22

Hartnell Parking Structure

**2020 Commencement, virtual ceremony**

(Details to come)

5:30 p.m.

Friday, May 29

**Spring 2020 Semester Ends**

Saturday, May 30

**Summer 2020 Classes Start**  
Monday, June 15

**Summer 2020 Classes End**  
Saturday, July 25