Note to readers:
The President’s Weekly Report to the Community has temporarily moved to twice-monthly publication while the volume of news is slower due to COVID-19 restrictions. Thanks for reading!

**Special feature below: Employee & family grad news**

With twice as many private grants, total revenue is up by $300,000

Hartnell College has received $900,000 from 17 private grants during the current fiscal year, beginning July 1, compared with eight grants totaling $600,000 in FY19.

The largest grant, for $300,000, came from the James Irvine Foundation’s Better Careers Initiative and will support establishment of a new Career Hub at Hartnell to strengthen opportunities for internships, internships and job placement in health, agriculture and education.

Other sizable awards include $185,000 from the Song-Brown Healthcare Workforce Training Program to bolster Hartnell’s ability to admit underrepresented students and guide them toward jobs in underserved areas and a $137,436 grant from the Claire Giannini Fund, continuing support for Hartnell’s Teacher Pathway Program, in partnership with Cal State Monterey Bay.

Michele Peregrin, director of grants development in the Office of Institutional Advancement, said gaining this support – funding COVID-19 assistance, leadership training, professional development for undocumented women and more – “definitely takes a team.”

“We rely on the knowledge, energy, and commitment of faculty, administrators and staff from across the college to contribute to the development of our grants,” Peregrin said. “And while they can require extra effort, the benefit to our students and their success is profound. Through
grants, students receive additional financial assistance, services, support, training and mentorship, which helps them get to where they want to go.”

**Umoja takes leading role in successful ‘Art Unmasked’ event**

The Art Unmasked “virtual open mic” program on June 5 drew 500 online views and featured seven Hartnell students and recent graduates as emcee, speakers, artists and technicians.

Hartnell Theatre & Cinema students joined with partners with the Salinas Valley Art and Innovation Hub, Artists Ink and Digital NEST, a Watsonville-based non-profit skill-building organization, to present the program. It was scheduled for two hours but lasted almost five.

Presentations included musical performances, spoken word poetry and insightful responses to the ongoing racial discrimination and evolving civil rights movement unfolding today, said Dr. Marnie Glazier, theatre and cinema arts instructor, who helped organize the program.

The Hartnell Umoja community took a central role, including communications student Kenya Burton (pictured), a poet and activist who presented a spoken word poem “For George Floyd.” Before she began, Burton had this to say about the Art Unmasked event:

“Thank you to everyone who performed,” she said. “It’s so amazing to see all your talent and your art, especially at this time. It makes me feel a lot better about everything that’s going on to know that we can still be prosperous and we can still move with joy.”

Dr. Glazier expressed gratitude to Artists Ink and to Digital NEST for hosting the Zoom platform. A follow-up event is in the works.

**Panther Athletics celebrates having three student-athlete valedictorians**

The fact that three of Hartnell’s 2020 valedictorians are student-athletes is a source of great pride for coaches, staff and fellow students for the Panther Athletics program. Valedictorians are recognized for achieving a perfect 4.0 grade point average during their Hartnell career.

The three are cross country/track teammates Daniela Salazar-Salas (left) and Isabelle Torres (right) and volleyball outside hitter Jesslyn De Anda (below). Salazar-Salas will continue her
kinesiology and running career at San Jose State University on a full athletic scholarship; Torres will study psychology and compete for Santa Clara University; and De Anda, who studied business administration and will attend University of San Francisco.

“This obviously shows the hard work that these student-athletes have put in over the past two years,” said Daniel Teresa, dean of academic affairs, athletics, physical education & health. “Because of the support of our outstanding faculty, staff and community supporters, we have had some of the most successful students in the state.”

Joy Cowden named interim dean with a multidisciplinary portfolio

The Hartnell Governing Board on June 2 approved Joy Cowden for a continuing appointment as interim dean of academic affairs, where she will support curriculum and instruction, Social and Behavioral Sciences, visual and performing arts, The Western Stage and Early Childhood Education.

“Cowden has demonstrated a strong commitment to student success in her experience with Hartnell’s College Redesign team, Enrollment Management Team, Hispanic Serving Institutions leadership team and Professional Development Committee,” said Dr. Cathryn Wilkinson, vice president of academic affairs. “Her experience in preparing and providing faculty professional development in andragogy [adult education] and pedagogy, as it applies to online course management, is especially useful as she supports academic affairs in our fully online summer and fall semesters.”

For the past three years, Cowden has served Hartnell as director of the Science and Math Institute and in two other interim appointments, associate dean of STEM and dean of library, languages and learning resources. Previously, she worked for 14 years at West Hills College as the Title V Activity Director and Distance Instruction Design Specialist.

Panetta swears in new student trustee and briefs board on outlook in Congress

In addition to swearing in 2020-21 Student Trustee Mike Castro via Zoom, U.S. Rep. Jimmy Panetta spoke to the Hartnell Governing Board during its June 2, touching on subjects related to both the COVID-19 pandemic and the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis.
Panetta alerted trustees to the package of police reform legislation that Democrats in the House of Representatives unveiled on June 8. He also spoke about efforts to resist restrictions that prevent use of federal CARES Act funds to support undocumented students, limits that U.S. Secretary of Education Betsey Devos reinforced on June 12. In addition, he highlighted plans to increase funding for Latino students in higher education, particularly in the areas of STEM education and the TRiO program.

Finally, speaking from his home office, Panetta underscored his belief in the value of Hartnell to Monterey County and the surrounding region.

“I can’t stress enough how important the relationship with Hartnell has been,” he said. “I believe it’s a beacon here on the Central Coast.”

**Hartnell, USDA and Five Cities present two-part conversation**

Hartnell and its Salinas Five Cities partners co-presented a two-part community conversation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture on May 21 and June 3. Superintendent/President Dr. Patricia Hsieh joined Paul Wood, Greenfield city manager (pictured), to welcome approximately 75 participants during the opening session.

The online programs were a follow-up to a community conversation held in September at Hartnell’s Alisal Campus, which brought together stakeholders from multiple sectors with a focus on USDA’s Rural Prosperity initiative.

Presenters from the two recent workshops included Juan Alvarez of USDA, Victor Bribiesca from US SBA, Cindy Merzon from Cal Coastal SBDC, Ray Sumano of Sumano’s Bakery and Sumano’s Organic Mushrooms and Eduardo Gonzales from Fresno State’s Office of Economic Development.

The focus was on promoting interagency work and leveraging combined resources at the national, state and local levels, including how to package together a successful grant application said Rosie Armstrong, Hartnell’s director of workforce development and executive director for the Salinas Valley Five Cities.
“We will continue to work with USDA and our incredible local and state partners to bring critical content to our Salinas Valley community in order to drive regional economic development efforts,” Armstrong said. Discussion is underway between Hartnell, Five Cities and the USDA about presenting a regional summit this fall, she said.

Employees and their families share graduation milestones

**Sandra Gonzalez, FA Specialist**
Name: Emily B. Gonzalez  
Relation: Daughter  
Graduation: May 29, 2020  
Degree: AA in Liberal Arts with emphasis in Sociology  
School: Hartnell College

**Xochitl Carranza, Administrative Assistant I**
Name: Daniel Anthony Carranza  
Relation: Son  
Milestone: Promoting to middle school  
School: El Gabilan Elementary School
Cheryl O'Donnell, Business Faculty
Lauren O'Donnell (pictured at left))
Relation: Daughter
School: California State University, Humboldt
Degree: BA in Communication

Shawna O'Donnell (at right)
Relation: Daughter
School: Monterey College of Law
Degree: Doctor of Jurisprudence and MS in Legal Studies

Scott Faust, Director of Communications, Marketing and Public Relations
Name: Theo Faust
Relation: Son
Graduation: May 2020
Degree: BS in Economics and Mathematics
School: Northeastern University

In the News
‘We need action’: Salinas residents kneel at George Floyd protests Monday: https://www.thecalifornian.com/story/news/2020/06/02/california-residents-kneel-george-floyd-protests-monday/5313164002/

Upcoming Events

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

Summer 2020 Classes Start
Monday, June 15

Teacher Pathway/MAESTROs Informational Session
6-7 p.m.
Tuesday, June 16
Zoom link: shorturl.at/hnV17

Hartnell Governing Board – Development Meeting
5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 16
Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Teacher Pathway/MAESTROs Informational Session
6-7 p.m.
Tuesday, June 23
Zoom link: shorturl.at/hnV17

Pop-Up Pantry Food Distribution
12 p.m.
Friday, June 26

Teacher Pathway/MAESTROs Informational Session
6-7 p.m.
Tuesday, June 30
Zoom link: shorturl.at/hnV17

Hartnell Governing Board – Regular Meeting
5 p.m.
Tuesday, July 14
Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Summer 2020 Classes End
Saturday, July 25

Fall 2020 Convocation
8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 21
Employee email Zoom invitation after Aug. 17