Thank you to all for creatively supporting student learning!

As we complete our third week since switching to all-online instruction on March 25, everyone connected with Hartnell College has much to feel positive and proud about, despite the ongoing challenges of COVID-19.

At their regular meeting on April 7, members of the Hartnell Governing Board expressed their sincere thanks to our faculty, staff and administrators for everyone’s shared commitment to helping students continue their learning despite this sudden change amid a public health crisis. They also recognized the students’ dedication and adjustment.

I want to thank trustees for their unanimous support of an important resolution to designate our current Measure T construction projects as “Essential Governmental Functions,” which they clearly are. Despite constraints under the shelter-in-place order, this will allow contractors to continue their work on Main Campus quad landscaping, renovation of buildings D and E, expansion of the King City Education Center and construction of the new Soledad Center and Center for Nursing and Health Sciences on the Main Campus. Workers are wearing masks and doing their best to observe social distancing.

I also want to thank everyone who is stepping up and reaching out to help our courageous students in so many different ways. Among them are our student leaders in the Associated Students of Hartnell College (ASHC) and the Inter-Club Council (ICC). Throughout April, they will produce a “#STAYHOMESERIES” of recurring Instagram videos for fellow students, featuring everything from cooking and crafts to meditation to fitness.

Student Jenna Arroyo shared this message of thanks on Facebook: “Thank you, Hartnell College, for keeping us as up to date as possible. Although some of my courses are more challenging than others to convert to online, it is still a viable option for my continued education. I sincerely appreciate the many hours and meetings the staff has put in to get this going with minimal time.”

Online chats and workshops
There are more examples of this than I can share here, but I want to specifically recognize Counseling Department staff who on April 8 launched an ongoing series of “Let’s Talk” online chats via Zoom conferencing and also streaming (and recorded) on the Hartnell Facebook page. The first one-hour chat was hosted by veterans counselor Gemma Cruz-Uribe and featured Mercedes Del Real, a counselor and coordinator of the Transfer & Career Center. Eighty-five students watched, and many asked questions. A second chat will be presented at 3 p.m. on April 16, featuring Panther Learning Lab tutoring staff.

Both the Teacher Preparation Pathway/MAESTROs staff and the staffs of Career Prep and Placement Services and the Transfer & Career Center have scheduled online information sessions via Zoom. TPP is holding informational sessions about becoming a teacher and the career staff will present on such topics as “Getting Started on LinkedIn” and “Preparing for an Online Interview.” See “Upcoming Events” below for information on these programs.

Chromebooks and wireless service

The Department of Information Technology & Resources on April 8 began distributing Chromebook laptop computers to the first priority group of students in need: those scheduled to graduate in May. About 50 were loaned out in the first wave, with many more expected as the rollout continues to other groups of students who need reliable computers for online learning. (Pictured: a student drives up to receive an Acer Chromebook from ITR staff in the Main Campus circle drive.) Another pressing student need is for mobile wireless hotspots, and Hartnell continues to seek these out, although they are scarce because of intense demand. As an alternative, ITR has hooked up free wireless service in Parking Lot on the Main Campus and in front of the King City Education Center, with the Alisal Campus coming soon. The service is available from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Student Stephanie Hernandez shared this message after picking up her Chromebook: “I just want to say thank you so much for the letting us students borrow the Chromebooks. A few weeks ago my computer starting giving me problems. Then it crashed. Last week I was laid off from a job I worked for the last 12 1/2 years. ... I got the email at the most perfect time because I was stressing about me semester and the use of a computer. I want to say thank you to you and the team behind all of you that help make this possible! I really do appreciate this and I will forever remember what Hartnell does to help me towards my future!”
COVID-19 Student Emergency Response Fund
The Hartnell College Foundation on April 10 issued a call to action for our college’s donors, alumni and employees – and all of their friends and colleagues – to join in a campaign to support Hartnell students who are struggling with online learning and the economic impact of shelter-in-place. A GoFundMe page has been established for this effort.

An email from Jackie Cruz, vice president of advancement and development and executive director of the foundation, invited all recipients to support the COVID-19 Student Emergency Response Fund, which seeks to provide Chromebooks, wireless hotspots, basic-needs assistance and increased crisis counseling. This video also provides an overview on the need and fundraising objectives (pictured).

“Equally important is that you share your support of this cause with friends, families and colleagues in your own social media networks. We hope your example will inspire them to join this cause as well,” Cruz wrote.

Nursing students on duty at SVMH
As highlighted in my report last week, Hartnell has been able to loan 13 ventilators to local hospitals; provide supplies of masks, gowns and gloves; and share the talents of 88 Registered Nursing students, who continue to work two days a week at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital.

We received extensive media coverage of these important contributions to the greater community. I want to share the statements of nursing student Lindsey Rodriguez (pictured), who was interviewed for an April 7 report on KION-TV:

“It feels empowering to be able to take part in a very real-life scenario, especially as a student. Seeing people in a kind of panic has been the hardest part of the whole pandemic in general for me. ... We feel very grateful to be here because most of the students in California are not able to continue their rotations, so it not only means we’ll be able to help during this crisis, but we’ll be able to graduate on time.”

Centennial planning regroups for fall
Given the obvious impact of COVID-19 on public gatherings, the Hartnell Centennial Planning Committee has decided to postpone alumni and community celebrations that had been scheduled for June 20-21. One possibility under consideration is to reschedule these events for late fall, perhaps in early December.

The committee also is recommending that the Centennial observance be extended throughout the 2020-21 academic year. Watch for more information on this, including invitations to students and employees to propose campus and community events to celebrate this important milestone.

**The Western Stage extends 2020 season**
The Western Stage theatre company at Hartnell College announced this week that it has rescheduled the first four productions of its 2020 season, with “A Doll’s House, Pt. 2,” “Noises Off,” “Cry Baby,” and “Native Gardens” to be presented in early 2021.

However, the theatre intends to produce “Mr. Burns,” “A Post-Electric Play” and “The Wizard of Oz” in the fall of 2020. The performance schedule is still being determined, and updates will be announced as they are confirmed with licensing agencies.

“We look forward to when we can all come together again and share the wonderful experience that is live theatre,” said Artistic Director Jon Selover.

**In the News**

**Coronavirus: Hartnell College donates ventilators, supplies, help from nursing students to hospital:**


**Coronavirus Impacts To Monterey Bay: Latest Updates, Resources:** [https://www.kazu.org/post/coronavirus-impacts-monterey-bay-latest-updates-resources#stream/0](https://www.kazu.org/post/coronavirus-impacts-monterey-bay-latest-updates-resources#stream/0)

**Hartnell College lends ventilators, nursing students to local hospitals:**


Nearly all construction in Monterey County is ordered to halt: https://www.montereycountyweekly.com/blogs/news_blog/nearly-all-construction-in-monterey-county-is-ordered-to-halt/article_da0b8650-76bd-11ea-a736-0f0cb75303fa.html

2020 Bright Spot Focus: Systems and Policy Change That Improve Educational Outcomes: https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=cm#inbox/FMfcgxwHMjqkKJMNHqhsClbFQFsgmVbg


Cierre fronterizo impide a inmigrantes ver a sus familias: https://laopinion.com/2020/04/04/cierre-fronterizo-impide-a-inmigrantes-ver-a-sus-familias/

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

Job-Seeking: Self-Awareness Workshop
April 15
Register:  https://forms.gle/dkVjco8qZkUaqY9D6

“Let’s Talk” Video Chat: Panther Learning Lab
3 p.m.
Monday, April 16
Zoom conferencing:
https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/536680696?status=success

TPP/MAESTROs Informational Sessions via Zoom
6-7 p.m.
Monday, April 16
Register:  shorturl.at/hnV17

TPP/MAESTROs Informational Sessions via Zoom
6-7 p.m.
Saturday, April 21
Register:  shorturl.at/hnV17

HCCD Governing Board
Development meeting (social distancing observed)
5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 21
Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Job-Seeking: Getting Started on LinkedIn
April 22
Register:  https://forms.gle/dkVjco8qZkUaqY9D6

TPP/MAESTROs Informational Sessions via Zoom
6-7 p.m.
Wednesday, April 29
Register:  shorturl.at/hnV17

Summer 2020 Priority Registration
April 23-May 1

Pop-Up Pantry food distribution
12 p.m.
Friday, April 24
Hartnell Parking Structure
411 W. Central Ave.

Job-Seeking: Preparing for an Online Interview
April 29
Register: https://forms.gle/dkVjco8qZkUaqY9D6

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