



## **HSI Symposium**

**Laura Zavala, Interim Director of Student Affairs; and former HSI Interim Director**

## Discontinuation of MSI (Minority Serving Institutions) grant programs

**On September 10, 2025, the U.S. Department of Education announced that it will end discretionary spending to several Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) grant programs, including Title V Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions.**

**Hartnell current Title V HSI grants:**

**GANAS** was already in its no-cost extension year, and will sunset on September 30, 2026.

**Animo** was slated to sunset on September 30, 2027, but because funding for FY 2026-2027 was eliminated, it will now sunset on September 30, 2026.

# Hartnell's response to HSI discontinuation

- HSI Office- not currently active. Staff has or will be transitioning.
  
- Leadership recognizes the significance of HSI funded initiatives and has actively engaged in conversations to preserve impacted programs.
  - HSI-funded positions have been preserved, using the following strategies:
    - Utilizing alternative funding streams (Fund 11, SEAP, Strong Workforce, Foundation dollars).
    - Putting a temporary pause on backfilling vacant positions.
    - Putting a long-term pause on vacant positions, and shifting functions of that position to another role.



## **HSI Current Grants**

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# Objectives of our current HSI Grants

## **HSI Title V - "*The Ganas Project*" (Drive) 2020-2025**

- The Ganas Project is intended to build institutional capacity and increase the number of Hispanic and low-income students attaining postsecondary degrees and facilitate completion and transfer along the entire academic pipeline. The project focuses on 3 primary goals:
- Goal 1: Increase retention rates, graduation rates, and degree attainment by removing obstacles, supporting students in gateway courses, improving technology and infrastructure, and providing advising and intervention strategies that support success.
- Goal 2: Expand career-aligned pathways through the development of meta-majors and collaborations with four-year institutions to support Hispanic and low-income students along the full continuum from high school to career placement.
- Goal 3: Develop a system building upon career-aligned pathways to provide greater access to high-demand jobs and help students transition from postsecondary education into careers that support sustainable living and feed regional economic growth.

# Objectives of our current HSI Grants

## **HSI Title V - "The Ánimo Project" (Courage) 2022-2027**

- Project Ánimo is an evidence-based, multi-pronged approach to improving the academic success and college experience for Hispanic and low-income students at Hartnell College. By expanding access to dual enrollment opportunities, implementing student support teams using a case management approach, integrating academic supports and equity-based systemic reforms that are customized to meet the needs of disadvantaged students, the activities in this proposal expand Hartnell's capacity to increase student access to early college programs and deliver high-impact services to assist HSI students in being successful in college. Project Ánimo focuses on 3 primary goals:
- Goal 1: Increase access, enrollment, and early college success of Hispanic and low-income students through expansion of dual enrollment program.
- Goal 2: Increase student persistence and completion through an integrated academic support system designed for Hispanic and low-income student success, including the implementation of student success teams, case management advising, and other student support.
- Goal 3: Strengthen the academic infrastructure that supports Hispanic and low-income students and reduce institutional barriers to student success through equity-based systemic reforms, including culturally competent faculty professional development, and new research tools to support data-driven decision-making.



# HSI Symposium Plans

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# Purpose and Vision

## Objectives:

- To highlight the significant impact of Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) grants and initiatives within our districts and the broader region.
- To explore legislative history and the advocacy process.
- To actively advocate for continued and expanded support of HSI initiatives.

Audience: State and regional educational leaders (e.g superintendents, County Supervisors)

Event Details: Tentatively scheduled for September 18, 2026, coinciding with the end of HSI Week.

# Format

Key Participants: A collaborative effort involving regional institutions including:

- Hartnell College
- Monterey Peninsula College (MPC)
- Cabrillo College
- Gavilan College (waiting confirmation)

Format: Symposium style

- Key note highlighting the history of HSI
- Panel of regional colleges sharing their HSI achievements
- Break out sessions that highlight major initiatives

# Highlight Areas

- Institutional Capacity Building: Strengthening the foundations and infrastructure of our regional colleges.
- Student Success & Alumni Stories: Focusing on dedicated student tracks and highlighting successful alumni outcomes through panels.
- Community Vibrancy: Demonstrating how HSI initiatives contribute to the health, culture, and growth of the local community.
- Professional Development: Advancing the growth, training, and expertise of faculty and staff.
- Collaborative Innovation: Showcasing the power of best practices and regional partnerships.

# Questions/Comments