1. Reception to Recognize Karen Denning, Retiring After 41 Years at Hartnell College

On February 27, the college community came together to honor Karen Denning, division administrative assistant, for her 41 years of dedicated and exemplary service to the Hartnell Community College District. Current employees and retirees attended to thank Karen for her service and to wish her well in retirement.

2. Rear Admiral Jan Tighe Visits Hartnell College to Kick Off Celebration of Women's History Month

Rear Admiral Jan Tighe shared her journey to become a highly decorated naval officer and the leader of the Naval Postgraduate School at a talk at Hartnell College on Monday, February 25. Admiral Tighe toured both the Alisal Campus and the Main Campus prior to her presentation that kicked off Hartnell's Women's History Month activities. Her presentation was titled "Leadership in Uncertain Times."

Rear Admiral Tighe earned a B.S. in mathematics from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and an M.S. in applied mathematics and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. She was appointed to the position of interim president of the Naval Postgraduate School last November.

Tighe's distinguished naval career includes cryptologic operational tours of duty in the U.S. and the Pacific, tours of duty in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Shield/Storm, and tours as chief staff officer and chief engineer reporting to the Naval Information Warfare Activity.

Admiral Tighe graciously answered questions from students and stayed after her presentation to interact with students and staff and take photos.
3. Hartnell College Faculty and Staff Present at Statewide Conference
Faculty members Dr. Kelly Locke and Cheryl O'Donnell along with Langston Johnson, institutional research analyst, presented a workshop at the ACCCA annual conference held in Monterey February 20-22 (http://www.accca.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3288). Their workshop was titled "Using Research-Friendly Tools for Understanding Student Performance." Hartnell College has developed four web-based research tools that are being used by faculty, staff, and administrators to examine student performance for a user-defined cohort of students. Funded by a Title V grant, these flexible tools were demonstrated in the session and are now available for other colleges to use with their own data warehouses. Participants saw firsthand the richness of the results and how they have helped HC develop a “culture of inquiry.” Session participants got to “test-drive” the tools, discuss the results and participate in the analysis and inquiry that HC administrators, faculty, and staff experience. Participants were able to see how results can be used to gather a variety of student performance data for institutional effectiveness measures, grant proposals, and other reports.

4. Hartnell College Physics Club Receives 2012-13 Marsh White Award from Society of Physics Students
The HC Physics Club received a $300 award from the Society of Physics Students for their proposal to host the "Hartnell College Physics Olympics." The Marsh White Awards are aimed at assisting clubs in supporting projects designed to promote interest in physics among students and the general public. The proposal process is very competitive and only 16 college physics clubs were selected to receive funding. Congratulations to the HC Physics Club students and Dr. Brooke Haag, physics club advisor.

5. HELP Provides Scholarships for Hartnell College Students
HELP supports education and HC students with $500 scholarships. The Higher Education Library Project (HELP) at the Correctional Training Facility (CTF) in Soledad, CA is a leisure time inmate activity group dedicated to promoting education. Inmates have implemented several tutorial programs that assist students in achieving their academic goals; have created a lending library to assist incarcerated college students with textbooks; and through fundraisers, have annually donated 10% or $500 (whichever is greater) to the Hartnell College Foundation for a scholarship for a qualified student.

6. Information Emerging Regarding Governor's Budget Proposal to Shift Adult Education from K-12 to Community Colleges
- Trailer legislation eliminates current process for funding noncredit classes for CCCs, deletes references to noncredit, and replaces with "adult education."
- Restricts adult education to ESL, elementary and secondary education, vocational education, citizenship, and programs for persons with disabilities. Education programs for parenting, older adults, home economics, and health and safety education would no longer qualify for adult education funding.
$300 million for "adult education" is only a modest increase over existing noncredit spending for CCCs rather than a major expansion. Trailer bill analysis can be accessed at (http://extranet.cccco.edu/Portals/1/CFFP/Fiscal/Budget%20News/Summary%20of%202013-14%20Trailer%20Bill.pdf).

7. Discus Record Highlights Windy MPC Track Meet
On a windy Saturday afternoon on February 23 the Hartnell College track and field team competed along with three other community college programs and a handful of unattached competitors in the MPC All-Comers track and field meet. The wind was most welcomed by Hartnell's own Jessica Mattos as her discus rode it to a new school record. Her mark of 137'8" highlighted the meet and bettered the former record held by Cindy Bruno set back in 1991 by two feet. The mark not only set the record, won the competition, but vaulted the sophomore from Aptos High School into the regional lead and second best mark in the state. Also setting a regional best mark was sophomore Amy Johnston in the 5,000 meter run. Despite the gusty bay winds, Johnston was able to solo her way to a time of 18:43.93. The time is the fifth best in school history and state leading mark by two seconds. The former Notre Dame Spirit also won the 1,500 meter run in 4:59.50. Sophomore Victoria Alcala was just behind Johnston in the 5,000 meters running a very respectable 18:56.60 becoming only the third female in the state to run under nineteen minutes.

The Panther men added several key regional qualifying performances despite the windy conditions. Freshman Austin Decker won the pole vault in a regional leading 14'2". Freshman Michael Ramirez was a double winner in the 1,500 meter and 5,000 meter runs leading impressive Panther sweeps in those events. Ramirez lead the way in the metric mile at 4:10.09 followed by Guillermo Cuevas (4:11.98) and James Palaniuk (4:12.16) with another six Panthers following the trio across the line. The former Salinas High Cowboy lead four under the regional mark with his 16:02.10 and was followed by Palaniuk (16:06.30), Cuevas (16:13.34) along with sophomore Eddie Guzman (16:16.83). Sophomore Julian Nagata returns this season as the second best 400 intermediate hurdle in the region and here produced the equivalent season best mark at 55.94. Sophomore Omar Pelayo lowered his lifetime best in the 3,000 meter steeplechase in taking the win (10:36.51). Aaron Vaughan lowered his conference leading 110 High Hurdle mark to 15.61. Phillip Cuevas raced his first 200 meters of the season to a regional qualifying mark 22.51. Cuevas was the conference runner-up last season in this event in his first year of track competition. The 4x100 relay team (43.56) and 4x400 meter relay (3:30.95) were both victorious.

8. Panthers Baseball Team
During the week of February 18, The HC baseball team enjoyed an 8-7 win over College of Siskiyous, in 10 innings. Robert Wayman drove in the winning run with a RBI double in the bottom of the 10th. Cody Gessell received the win in relief. He pitched the 10th inning after Sean Safko (5 inn), Matt Naval (1inn), Shaun Kemp (.2 inn), Tyler Pina (.2 inn), and Kevin Stockam (1.2 inn).
HC split 2 games with Contra Costa College winning the 1st game 4-1 and losing 7-4 in the second game. Jacob Cabral received the win for the first game and Cody Gessell the save. Robert Wayman (3/5, 1 rbi), Paul Arakaki (2/5, 1 rbi), and Gavin Okada (2/5, 1 rbi) were the hitting leaders. Aaron Vasquez pitched strong in the second game, going 9 innings in the loss. Mark Velasquez (3/5) and Robert Wayman (2/5) were the hitting leaders.

Performances of note for the week:
Pitching - Jacob Cabral (1 win), Cody Gessell (1 win / 1 save)
Hitting
   Robert Wayman (7/15, 3 rbi)
   Jose Guzman (5/12, 2 rbi)
   Gavin Okada (5/11, 2 rbi)
   Paul Arakaki (4/14)

For the year the HC baseball team has a record of 4 wins and 7 losses.