1. Hartnell College Hosts Industry Technology Days

For over five years, Hartnell College’s CTE Community Collaborative grant has supported a broad array of outreach and professional development activities linking the college to its K-12 partners. This past week, on March 6-7, the College hosted one of the major annual events supported by this grant: Industry Technology Days. Marked by interactive, hands-on demonstrations in eleven different technical career areas, the two-day activity engaged over 500 area middle and high school students. In groups of 20, students rotated through sequences of demonstrations at both the Main and Alisal campuses, in addition to being treated to lunch and a general overview of the College’s role in their educational and professional futures.

A dozen faculty and staff, assisted by more than 60 HC students, took part in instructing, guiding, and coaching student groups as they rotated through demonstrations featuring Nursing, Ag Fabrication, GPS, Construction, Computer Science, STEM/Physics and Diesel, among others. In the photo above high school students make simple circuits with the guidance of HC diesel technology students.

2. Hartnell College Hosts Agriculture Careers and Internships Fair

With strong support from Hartnell College’s Ag industry advisory teams, the Center for Advanced Technology held its first Ag Careers and Internships Fair at the Alisal campus on Friday, March 8. Nine area employers participated, sharing information about employment and internship opportunities with more than 65 HC students. For this pilot offering, the Fair was promoted to students in Ag, Diesel, Computer Science and Business programs.

Driscoll’s, Taylor Farms, Earthbound, Trical, Tanimura and Antle, The Deerpoint Group, Scheid, ALBA, and the Community Alliance for Family Farmers all sent representatives to meet with students. In the photo above, representatives from Scheid and Taylor Farms interact with HC students at the Fair.
Both students and industry reps praised the two-hour activity as an excellent first-time event, and strongly encouraged organizers to offer it on an annual basis. Numbers of students prepared for the event by participating in a series of workshops focused on updating and improving their resumes and cover letters, as well as providing insights and practice with self-presentation and interviewing.

3. **HCCD Board of Trustees Member, Erica Padilla-Chavez, Shares Her Journey with Hartnell College Students as Part of Women’s History Month**

Hartnell College continues its Women’s History Month celebration with talks by two prominent women leaders in the field of education.

On Thursday, March 14, Erica Padilla-Chavez spoke on her journey from the Salinas Valley to UC Berkeley and back. Ms. Padilla-Chavez was born in Watsonville, CA to immigrant parents from the Mexican State of Jalisco. With her sights set on college, Erica applied and was admitted to many universities including the University of California at Berkeley where she majored in Sociology and minored in Public Policy. She also holds a Masters in Public Administration from Golden Gate University.

Ms. Padilla-Chavez returned to her native community of Watsonville and began her professional career as a Youth Program Manager for the YWCA where she worked as a counselor for “at risk” middle school aged students. She later became the Executive Director of the YWCA. Her career path has taken her to diverse fields including serving as Department Manager for Latin America Studies at the University of California Santa Cruz and is the founding Executive Director of the Salinas United Business Association, a business membership organization in East Salinas. Currently, she is an Analyst for the County of Monterey Health Department and is active in advancing health equity in Monterey County.

Ms. Padilla-Chavez has always held a commitment of service to the community. She is a volunteer in many community led initiatives including Building Healthy Communities, serves as President of the Community Information Center which is an organization focused on bringing technology to farm-working families, is President of the Monterey County School Boards Association, is member of the Salinas LULAC Council #2055, serves as a religious education teacher for high school students through her church and is currently the Trustee for Hartnell Community College District, Area 6, which spans the communities of E. Salinas, Chualar, Gonzales and Soledad.

She is married to her husband Alejandro Chavez, who is a city councilmember in the City of Soledad and together they have two children, Emileo age 11 and Maya age 9.

Our next guest lecturer will be on campus on Wednesday, March 20, at 1 p.m.

The college welcomes back Dr. Norma Ambriz-Galaviz, an alumna and former employee of Hartnell. Dr. Ambriz-Galaviz was recently named the president of Merritt College. Prior to that, she was the vice president of instruction for Mission College.

These free presentations are sponsored by the Associated Students of Hartnell College.
4. **Research Scholars Institute Has Global Reach and Continued Success**

The Research Scholars Institute (funded by Title V-STEM, led by Sewan Fan) is experiencing quite a reach. A Fermilab scientist gave a presentation at the "3rd Meeting of the International Particle Physics Outreach Group" in Innsbruck, Austria. Page 2 of the presentation mentions 2 community college students listed among the outreach authors. These are HC students, Leo Osornio and Scott Davis from the 2011 Research Scholars Institute. Page 9 of the presentation showed them and their work!

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**Hartnell College Cosmic Ray Detector**

- Eight-week internship at two-year college
- Constructed a working cosmic ray detector (NIM tested)
- Successful and ongoing flux measurements
- Upgrades pending

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Other great news is that 2012 Research Scholar Jaime Vaasquez and 2013 Research Scholar Marcus Wade have been accepted for the Department of Energy's 10-week Community College Internship program ([http://science.energy.gov/wdts/cci/](http://science.energy.gov/wdts/cci/)). They will be continuing their research on cosmic rays at the Lawrence Berkeley Labs. These internships are very competitive. Congratulations to the students and to the faculty and staff who are supporting and encouraging these efforts.

5. **Legislation Introduced to Expand Education Opportunities Through Online Learning**

California Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg (author of the CA open textbook legislation) announced that SB 520 will be amended to provide open, online college courses for credit. In short, the bill will allow CA students, enrolled in CA public colleges and universities, to take online courses from a pool of 50 high enrollment, introductory courses, offered by 3rd parties, in which CA students cannot currently gain access from their public CA university or community college. Students must already be enrolled in the CA college or university in which they want to receive credit. The 50 courses and plans for their assessment will be reviewed and approved (or not) by a faculty committee prior to being admitted into this new online course marketplace. A fact sheet is available at [https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/618025-california-sb-520-fact-sheet.html](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/618025-california-sb-520-fact-sheet.html).

6. **Student Veterans Club Welcomes the Santa Cruz County Mobile Veterans Center (MVC)**

On Thursday, March 14, 2013, our Veteran Services Department and our Student Veterans Club coordinated with the Santa Cruz County Mobile Veteran Services unit to provide counseling and referral services to our student veterans. They reported seeing about 20 student veterans and a handful of community members.

The Student Veterans Club continued its strong outreach and fundraising efforts and held another bbq
fundraiser for all students on the same day. The location was perfect for both groups to support veteran students.

The Student Veterans Club has invited Congressman Sam Farr to its May 2\textsuperscript{nd} club meeting to show our local Congressman the resources that veteran students are receiving at Hartnell College.

7. Hartnell College Track Student-athletes Set Marks at Modesto Junior College Meet
Sophomore Amy Johnston, who prepped at Notre Dame High School, became the first female runner in Northern California to reach the state automatic qualifying mark in the 5,000 meter run March 8 at the Jack Albiani Invitational at Modesto Junior College. Johnston's winning time of 18:36.17 improved on her season best by seven seconds and is an amazing 1:20 faster than she ran as a freshman. She now only trails four other women in HC history lead by Olympian Maria Trujillo's school record 18:04.0 set in 1980. Johnston currently has a lead of 14 seconds over her teammate Victoria Alcala for the top spot in Northern California and the two are the only women to run under 19 minutes so far this season.

In addition to Johnston winning the 5,000 meters, the Panthers also enjoyed victories in the women's 4x100 meter relay, 100 meters, 200 meters, and discus throw. The men had two event winners in the 110 high hurdles and pole vault. The relay team of Ashley Jones, Lenae Stevens, Diana Chobanian, and Iesha Boyd recorded a time of 49.20. Jones was a double winner taking the 100 meters in 12.40 and 200 meters in 25.47. Sophomore Jessica Mattos bested a solid discus field by more almost 10 feet with her third meet over 130 feet. Sophomore Aaron Vaughan defeated the top three high hurdlers in the region with his lifetime best 15.09. Vaughan jumps to thirteenth all-time in school history. Freshman Austin Decker won his second consecutive pole vault competition with a season best 15'0". Decker out-jumped top ranked Vernon Sampson of Fresno City College for the win. The two are the only vaulters in Northern California to reach 15 feet so far this season.

Several Panthers reached the important regional provisional mark. Sophomore Phillip Cuevas in the 100 meters (11.03) and 200 meters (22.48), Jack Singley in the 110 HH (16.06), and Alejandro Padron in the hammer throw (131'4''). For the ladies, Diana Chobanian debuted in the 400 low hurdles with the fourth best regional time (70.70). Sophomore Victoria Alcala improved her season best in the 5,000 meters to 18:50.14 along with freshman Iesha Boyd in the 100 meters (12.72) and 200 meters (25.97). Freshman Kassadra Peguero hit three marks in the 100 hurdles (17.09), long jump (16'0.25''), and triple jump (34'7.75'').