Last Wednesday, the Hartnell College Foundation held its last meeting of the calendar year at Mainstage, home of the Western Stage. After the short business meeting, a reception awaited with sounds of the Hartnell Choir under Sandy Rudo’s direction. The celebration included the recognition of three outgoing board members and scholarships named after them for their significant contributions to the College and the Foundation. These are:

- Gary Tanimura, Ag Leadership Scholarship
- Emmett Linder, Ag Leadership Scholarship
- Andrew Fernandez, Food Safety Scholarship

In addition, Ann Secker was introduced as the new Foundation Board President and outgoing President, Alfred Diaz-Infante was recognized.

Under Vice President Jackie Cruz’s leadership, the Foundation has raised more funds in six months than it did in the 2014-15 academic year.
2. FALL 2015 ACADEMIC EXPO IS LARGER

The Communication Studies program at Hartnell College presented the fall 2015 Academic Expo, December 14-17, 2015 in Steinbeck Hall. At the end of each semester, students in Communication Studies courses are placed into small groups to conduct an original research project, culminating in a research paper and table display. This semester, 18 different classes participated, culminating 84 different group projects. This semester, topics included:

- COM 1, Introduction to Public Speaking: Analysis of historical speeches and/or social movements
- COM 3, Introduction to Communication: Analysis of film using communication principles
- COM 5, Introduction to Organizational Communication: Communication analysis of a local business that is part of a national chain

Out of each class, a Best of Class group is selected. At the end of the Expo, all of the Best of Class winners are judged by a panel of Communication Studies instructors and an overall Best of Show is selected. The top three received gift cards and other prizes. This semester’s Best of Show winner was an Introduction to Communication group tasked with researching intrapersonal communication and applying their findings to the film, “Inside Out.” Intraperononal communication is the type of communication one has within his/herself, often known as the “inner voice.” The winning team consisted of Zachary Foster, Aram Santos, and Ashley Olmedo (Pictured).

“The students did a great job of researching and finding interesting academic articles,” said the group’s instructor, Jason Hough. “Their final paper effectively described tenets of intrapersonal communication as demonstrated in the film.” This Expo is the largest to date, boasting over 200 student participants.

3. HARTNELL SPEECH TEAM IS CLIMBING HIGH!

The Hartnell Speech Team had its best showing ever, earning 17 different individual awards and an overall 2nd place team finish at the U.C. Berkeley Takahashi Talk-Off Invitational Tournament, December 5 and 6, 2015. The two-day tournament offered two separate one-day tournaments, and hosted 13 different four-year and two-year schools including U.C. Davis, San Jose State University, University of Nevada (Reno), City College of San Francisco, among others.

Day 1 results included:
• Esmeralda Ramirez, 1st Place, Novice Prose Interpretation
• Susana Alcantar, 1st Place, Novice Informative Speaking
• Adrian Flores, 2nd Place, Open Program of Oral Interpretation and 4th Place Open Poetry Interpretation
• Sarina Atkins, 3rd Place, Open Persuasive Speaking
• Celina Juarez, 3rd Place, Novice Prose Interpretation and 4th place, Novice Poetry Interpretation
• Jasleem Bonilla, 4th Place, Open Persuasive Speaking
• Andrea Cervantes and Enrique Lopez, 4th Place, Open Dramatic Duo Interpretation

Day 2 results included:
• Enrique Lopez, 1st Place, Open Dramatic Interpretation
• Merizy Ayala, 1st Place, Open Communication Analysis
• Sarina Atkins, 1st Place, Open Persuasive Speaking and 2nd Overall Platform Speaking
• Jasleem Bonilla, 2nd Place, Open Persuasive Speaking
• Celina Juarez, 3rd Place, Open Prose Interpretation
• Esmeralda Ramirez, 4th Place, Open Prose Interpretation
• Lourdes Tinajero, 4th Place, Open Poetry Interpretation

“The team continues to be more competitive,” said Coach Jason Hough. “We are hopeful this is the year we will qualify a Hartnell student for the national competition.”

The team’s next tournament will be at Chabot College, January 30, 2016. Congratulations!

IN PHOTO - Front: Jasleem Bonilla/Middle Row: Merizy Ayala, Andrea Cervantes, Sarina Atkins, Esmeralda Ramirez, Celina Juarez, Susana Alcantar/Back Row: Marc Dover, Lourdes Tinajero, Assistant Coach Lana McDonnell, Coach Jason Hough, Adrian Flores, Enrique Lopez

4. FOOTBALL SIGNING – MCGEE OFF TO BALL STATE

Last week, Hartnell football student-athlete, Reggie McGee, signed a scholarship with Ball State University. This is an exciting moment for McGee and a proud moment for the Panthers. Congratulations Reggie!!

McGee signs contract with Cardinals

5. DECEMBER’S EMPLOYEE LUNCH WITH PRESIDENT

Last week, I hosted a lunch with Hartnell employees that included faculty, CSEA staff, and L-39 staff.
After introductions, we had a nice conversation about the state of the College, which included our financial health, the new STEM building (naming opportunity still available), our students, accreditation, and so much more. I try to hold these lunches every other month to meet the employees in person and spend quality time in a no-agenda atmosphere. It is also pleasant to learn of their interests and how much staff cares for our students and community.

From left to right: Dr. Lori Kildal, Dr. Sunita Lanka, Millicent Madrigal, Rhea Mendoza-Lewis, me, Jose Guzman, Janice Martinez, Juana Montelongo, Pimol Moth, Dr. Yoshiko Matsushita-Arao, Frank Gallegos

6. A NEW ROLE FOR BRONWYN MORENO

Bronwyn Moreno was selected to be our new Director of Student Affairs - Special Programs, overlooking ACE, WELI, programs/services for men of color, and AB540/Dreamer students. For the past 18 years, her life work has been rooted in her firm belief that educational opportunities bring freedom and choices for disadvantaged individuals and families. After graduating from San Francisco State University, she worked for seven years in Oakland at the American Indian Child Resource Center as a Resource Teacher and Youth Advocate. Moreno grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area, the youngest of six girls. Watching her single mom work as a carpenter and later as a contractor instilled her with the knowledge that women could develop a wide range of skills in order to be successful. As a product of the public school system, she was motivated to seek a career in education. In 2005, she moved to the Salinas Valley to start a family and worked at UC Santa Cruz, eventually becoming the Program Director for the Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement (MESA) Schools Program, developing partnerships with middle schools and high schools in Watsonville and throughout Monterey County. In 2012, she joined Hartnell College as the MESA Community College Program Director, where she has been an integral part of strengthening collaboration to develop a portfolio of services for underrepresented students in STEM. Outside of work Bronwyn is devoted to her family and enjoys the hiking and beautiful beaches of the Central Coast. She lives in Salinas with her husband Jose who is also an educator, and their two daughters, ages six and eight.
“I am excited and honored to join Student Affairs as the Director of Special Programs. In creating this position, Hartnell has made a clear statement about our commitment to students first.”

7. STEMART PILOT – AN “OUTSIDE-THE-BOX” SUCCESS

The STEMArt Lab had a successful debut this fall in building J, under the direction and instruction of Eric Bosler, Instructor of Photography and Art/Visual Arts. The students were engaged as they created artistic and unique works of art using STEM principles alongside artistic methods. The results showed creativity in a whole new level.

The first science classes to utilize the nearly completed STEMArt Lab experienced the symbiotic interactions between science and art that drive both learning and discovery. This fall semester, Dr. Ann Wright’s Biology class, followed by Lawrence Yee’s Organic Chemistry class engaged in the “artsience” lab experience, to the great advantage of the students. Science students used the free exchange of ideas, conceptual methods, cognitive analysis, as well as the tools and materials of the artist to solve specific problems of scientific education and learning within their disciplines. The two classes addressed the issue of how to make what we know of the invisible and the barely visible components of living cells and molecules into visible tools of learning. They then had to think and work 3-dimensionally to flesh out sculptural models of their visions. These “models” became learning tools for direct instruction, while the making of them was a profound learning experience. With art instruction provided by Eric Bosler, the three instructors balanced directional control against the students’ freedom to explore possibilities through artistic experimentation. This chosen approach to teaching is designed to require that STEM students “think outside-the-box”. The results speak to the success and illustrate the benefits of the STEMArt method and facility.

8. ELECTIONS – SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING

The Engineering Club, better known as the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineering (SHPES) held elections on December 9, 2015 and now has a new group of officers. The new SHPES elected officers are: President - Alejandro Gomez; VP - Omar Cervantes; Secretary - Rafa Mendoza; Treasurer – Diana Mikhail; ICC Representative – Gabriel
9. STUDENT WINS PEPSI CONTEST

Hartnell student, Robert Valenzuela is the winner of a Pepsi contest where students were called to try a new energy drink. Robert received a cool boom box valued at over $200. Congratulations!

10. TRUSTEE SALAZAR WELCOMES A SON!

Last Tuesday, December 15, 2015, Trustee Aurelio Salazar Jr. welcomed his long awaited son! Joaquin Aurelio Salazar was born at 11:36 a.m. at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, weighing 7 lbs. 14 oz., and measuring 21 inches long.

“Carina Chavez is still by far the strongest woman I know,” wrote Trustee Salazar on a Facebook post. “Words can't say how happy or how much I love this woman.”

All of us here at Hartnell congratulate the new parents on the birth of Joaquin!

11. HAVE A GREAT RETIREMENT SHARON ALHEIT!

Dominguez; and Activities Coordinator – Connie Valles. The group is ready to get to work in spring 2016.

Photo L to R – Gabriel Dominguez, Diana Mikhail, Alejandro Gomez, Connie Valles, Omar Cervantes.
12. NEW CAMPUS COLLECTION AT PANTHER BOOKSTORE

We are pleased to announce that Follett (Panther Bookstore) has created a website that allows the campus community to customize products of their choice. On the site you will be able to customize a product, add it to your list, send the list to the bookstore, and receive your quote before purchasing. The Panther Bookstore will continue to provide in-store service along with free shipping to the bookstore. To explore please visit, www.campuscollections.com

13. HARTNELL WOMEN’S BASKETBALL ROUND UP

The Hartnell College Women's basketball team continues to improve with another win at the Cuesta College Tournament. The Lady Panthers played in the Cuesta Tournament on December 3, 4 and 5, 2015. The first game was against College of the Desert and it was a hard fought win for Desert, who pulled away in the final minutes to win 82-72. The 72 points was the high total for the season for Hartnell but COD had many good shooters and couldn't be denied. A career high in points from Toni Ann Cameron with 32 points and 13 rebounds was a highlight. Toni Ann, from Cambridge (New Zealand) was brilliant. Aliyah Urzua (North Salinas) had 16 points. Hartnell traveled again to San Luis Obispo to face Victor Valley College. Toni Ann, unfortunately, was injured 14 minutes into the game with a torn leg tendon and did not play the rest of the tournament. The team rallied and improved on our lead without Cameron winning 68-52. It was a great defensive effort. Gabby Garcia (Salinas HS) was the leading scorer with 13 points. Hartnell played in the consolation championship against Los Positas. Hartnell had lost to LPC at home on November 24th, 68-52. Even without Cameron, the Hartnell 12 fought valiantly, but lost a very close game 53-49. Hartnell was led by Martha Grimes (Gonzales HS), who had 13 points and 12 rebounds. Aliyah Urzua tied Martha for scoring honors with 13 and Clarissa Serrano (Greenfield HS) had 11 points and 8 offensive rebounds. Clarissa, despite her lack of size, is 28th in the state in offensive rebounds.

It was a very successful weekend for Hartnell who stands at 3 wins and 5 loses this year, but are improving rapidly. Every coach at the tournament commented on how much improved the Lady Panthers are this season as compared to last.

14. HARTNELL MEN’S BASKETBALL

This week we go to West Valley Tournament. This past week, we received votes for NorCal top 15. Riley Knowles and Hyram Miskin are both in top 30 in scoring in State. Riley is also in top 20 in Assists and Hyram is in top 15 in rebounding. Our team is third in State in Assists and in the top 10 in scoring.
15. HARTNELL BEATS CONTRA COSTA TO WIN LIVING BREATH BOWL

The Hartnell Panthers prevailed at Rabobank Stadium, spanking Contra Costa 41-28 in a rematch of the Living Breath Foundation Bowl, a game the Comets had won the previous year on the same turf. The Panthers riddled their guests for 529 yards — 230 split among five ball carriers, and 299 through the air from quarterback Justyn Gutierrez, who completed 17 of 27 passes, four for touchdowns. The Comets brought a 9-1 record to Salinas, along with thoughts of repeating their 2014 performance in the same bowl, where they beat Hartnell 34-27. But the Panthers made it clear from the opening moments that they weren’t interested in that. The Panthers’ offensive line — center Stephen Massenburg, guards Daniel Madrid and Jonathan Servin, and tackles Branden Pena and Marque Greene — blew holes in Contra Costa’s defense all afternoon, giving Gutierrez time to find his receivers, and creating openings for running backs Marcus Washington (13 carries, 85 yards), Coleman Blackston (10-70) and Jarret Banks (4-35). Meanwhile, the defense made enough big plays to shut down Contra Costa’s high-scoring attack for the first three quarters, during which the Panthers rolled up a 34-7 lead. Comets running back Harris Ross gained 134 yards on 15 carries, but 54 of those yards came on one play.

The Panthers moved the ball well all day, moving to Contra Costa’s 21-yard line on their first possession before missing a field goal, then zipping 60 yards on six plays the second time they had the ball, a touchdown drive capped by Gutierrez’s 9-yard pass to Henriques. The biggest play of that possession was a 51-yard screen pass to Washington, who got a key block from Madrid, a sophomore guard. Tack on two more first-half touchdowns — a 14-yard run by Washington and a 12-yarder by Blackston — for a 27-7 halftime lead. The only points of the third quarter also belonged to Hartnell, as Darin Washington returned an interception to the Comets’ 27, and, four plays later, Gutierrez connected with Skye Keller on a 15-yard touchdown pass. This was the 10th win of the season for the Panthers, finishing the 2015 season with an overall record of 10-1.

16. HARTNELL ATHLETICS – FALL 2015 ROUND UP

In the fall of 2015 the Hartnell athletic programs went 6 for 6 for the second straight year in participating in the state playoffs. The men’s soccer team under coach Daniel Ortega participated in the state playoffs. In the second round the team was upset by Feather River College. For the first time in school history the team went undefeated in league. Another great year for Coach Ortega and his team. At one time the team was ranked #1 in the nation and #1 in the state. The team finished #13 in the nation.

What a year for the men’s and women’s cross country team! After equaling the highest team place in school history last fall, Coach Chris Zepeda and the Lady Panthers set their sights on a top three trophy at this year’s CCCAA State Championship at Woodward Park. After winning the Coast Conference Championship and Northern California Regional Championship, the ladies were still considered the third best program in the state. At Saturday’s state championship, the Lady Panthers proved they were the second best team and achieved their goal of returning to Salinas with the first ever CCCAA
Championship trophy. They upset state ranked number two College of the Canyons, who had beat the Panthers handily at Mt. Sac.
The Hartnell men placed fifth in the State. This is the highest for Hartnell men since 1992. With seven of the top ten returning in 2016, experience will be on the side of the Panthers and they will make a bid for a top three finish next year.
Another outstanding year for the Hartnell football program. Under Coach Matt Collins and his coaching staff the team played in yet another bowl game. The team finished 10-1 and played Contra Costa College in the Living Breadth Foundation Bowl at Rabobank Stadium in Salinas on November 28. The team came out victorious beating Contra Costa 41-28. This was one of the best records and finishes in school history. The last three years the Panthers finished 9-2, 9-2, and 10-1.

Coach Jamie Pedroza and the lady volleyball team played in the state playoffs. The team played against highly ranked #5 in Northern California Sierra College of Rocklin. The Lady Panthers were ranked #12 in Northern California. The team lost in four sets. Coach Pedroza has been the head coach for the past eight years. This is the third year in a row her team participated in the state playoffs. The team finished third in league behind Cabrillo College and San Francisco City College.
In his fifth season as head coach of the women’s soccer program, Coach Ivan Guerrero has completely turned the program around to one of the top programs in Northern California. This is the second year in a row the women’s soccer team participated in the state playoffs. The team finished tied for second in conference behind San Francisco City College. The lady panthers ended up ranked # 11 in Northern California. The team traveled to #6 ranked Folsom Lake College. The Lady Panthers were ahead 1-0, but eventually fell to Folsom 3-1. It was an outstanding season for Coach Guerrero and his team.

– Director of Athletics, Dan Teresa

17. UPCOMING EVENTS

Future Farmers of America Field Day
Jan. 30, 2016
8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Alisal Campus
Competitions in vegetable judging, floriculture, farm power (i.e. tractor driving), and ag welding.

Atesti and Galli Concert
Friday, February 19, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.
Mainstage – FREE concert for all!

Salinas Valley Ag Tech Summit
March 30, 2016
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Alisal Campus

Ag Institute Open House
April 23, 2016
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Alisal Campus
18. IN THE NEWS

East of Salinas documentary
http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/videos/east-of-salinas-preview/

The Western Stage and its upcoming 42nd Season!

McGee signs contract with Cardinals

Men’s basketball preview: Hartnell off to a fresh, fast start

Winning Ways
http://www.thecalifornian.com/story/news/2015/12/17/winning-ways/77444092/?from=global&sessionKey=&autologin=