On Saturday, January 30, 2016, over 160 Future Farmers of America (FFA) students participated in the Third Annual FFA Field Day at Hartnell College-Alisal Campus. The participants came from 12 different high schools from Los Angeles to Gilroy and from the Central Valley. Students competed both individually and in teams with awards presented to the top teams. Throughout the year, an individual high school team might compete in more than 6 competitions as they prepare for the State FFA Competition.

Hartnell’s Field Day focused on four areas:

- **Floral** – designing a corsage, creating a floral arrangement in a vase, judging prepared floral arrangements, and presenting their “reasons” for their ranking of the prepared floral arrangements (i.e. contributes to public speaking skills, analytical thinking, and presenting logic for decision making)

- **Vegetable Judging** – vegetable identification, vegetable judging, and presenting their “reasons” for the ranking of vegetables based on appearance and quality

- **Welding** – teams compete in three different forms of welding (MIG, TIG, Stick) as well as cutting with a welding torch, evaluating prepared welds, and presenting their “reasons” for their ranking of the prepared welds, resume writing
- Farm Power / Tractor Driving – tractor part identification, tractor safety test, and tractor driving (backing up, obstacles, etc.)

Competitions were judged by 22 industry professionals who volunteered their time and expertise. Students were accompanies by 30 high school faculty and advisors. Event was organized by Albert Graham (lead faculty for the agricultural industrial technology program) with assistance from Hartnell’s Agriculture Business and Technology Institute and the Ag Ambassadors. The event was made possible with financial support from the Hartnell College Foundation, a grant through the California Career Pathways Trust, and with numerous generous donations of tractors, vegetables, supplies and food from the Salinas Valley Ag industry.

2. WELCOME BACK LUNCH FOR STUDENTS!

The Associated Students of Hartnell College (ASHC) and the Office of Student Life invited our student body to a special lunch on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 out in the grassy area in front of new science building. The free lunch was enjoyed by hundreds of panthers who enjoyed the welcome and well wishes for an amazing spring semester. This lunch is offered during the Week of Welcome and it is a small act that is hugely enjoyed and appreciated by the students. This time around, the students feasted on a nice Mexican meal with all the trimmings.

3. HARTNELL STUDENTS FEATURED AT CHISPA ANNUAL CELEBRATION

CHISPA held its Annual Celebration at the National Steinbeck Center on Thursday, January 28, 2016. Hartnell was honored to be a sponsor and support an organization that changes families’ lives all throughout the Central Coast. Part of the program included the recognition of the CHISPA 2015 Scholarship recipients that included three Hartnell students: Eduardo Garcia (Administration of Justice), Pedro Ortega (Biology/Chemistry), and Gabriela Garcia (Administration of Justice). In addition, four CSU Monterey Bay students were honored. CHISPA endowed scholarships at CSUMB and Hartnell College for residents of CHISPA housing, or for other low-income students who need financial assistance to further their educational
goals. The students spoke of their appreciation for CHISPA and how the scholarship had helped make navigating college a lot easier.

In attendance were (L to R): Esmeralda Montenegro Owen, Director of communications, marketing, and public affairs; Michele Lewallen; Moises Almendariz, Director of HSI; Mary Dominguez, Dean of Student Affairs; me; Pat Donohue, Vice President of the Board of Trustees; Manuel Osorio, Board of Trustees; Susan Osorio; Erica Padilla-Chavez, President of the Board of Trustees; and Aurelio Salazar Jr., Board of Trustees.

### 4. SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT ON MAIN CAMPUS WELL UNDERWAY

At its June 16, 2015 meeting the Governing Board approved the construction of a solar energy project on the Main Campus. Opterra Energy Services, Inc. (then Chevron Energy) installed the solar energy system at the Alisal Campus in 2013, which will save the District over $6 million in energy costs over 25 years. The Main Campus system will offset approximately 25% of the Main Campus energy requirements. The District received a $3 million interest free loan from the California Energy Commission to construct the system. The $3 million loan will be paid off over 20 years with payments of $150,000 per year from Fund 44 - Property Acquisition Fund. The net savings (after the cost of construction) to the District will be approximately $3.6 million over 25 years.

These solar energy projects along with other energy efficiency projects are part of the District's efforts to utilize resources effectively, to be more energy efficient and sustainable, and to reduce the District's carbon footprint as good stewards of the environment. Utility companies supply over 70% of electricity in the U.S. by burning fossil fuels. Generating electric power causes over a third of all greenhouse gas emissions in the United States (source: Environmental Protection Agency). Reducing the electricity drawn from the grid means reducing carbon emissions. The project includes solar-covered parking as well as a large, ground mounted system next to the Parking Structure. The project will be completed at the end of March 2016.

### 5. HARTNELL SENDS "DREAM TEAM" TO FRESNO

Hartnell has affirmed its commitment to serving AB 540/Udndocumented students by launching a formal initiative to develop programs and services for "Dreamers." As part of this effort, Student Affairs sent a small team representing the "Dreamer Allies" to Fresno to develop partnerships and observe best practices. Dreamer Allies Francisco Corchado, Bronwyn Moreno, Adriana Gonzalez, and Eric Becerra, (pictured here with
ELF CEO Raul Moreno), conducted site visits at Fresno City College Dreamer Center, Fresno State University Dreamer Outreach Center, and the Education and Leadership Foundation (ELF). The team learned about the programs and services provided by the Centers and developed a partnership with ELF to conduct professional development workshops and DACA clinics in the Salinas Valley.

6. ACE STUDENTS START SEMESTER STRONG

The Academy for College Excellence (ACE) began the spring semester with a fresh new cohort of highly motivated students! Prior to the semester, ACE students participated in a life-changing Foundation Course experience. ACE students develop a learning community of mutual support and benefit from taking their courses together. Students receive wrap-around services and caring instruction provided by the ACE faculty: Hermelinda Rocha-Tabera (faculty leader), Dr. Steven Triano, Joseph Mendez, and Senorina Vasquez (not pictured). ACE is a collaboration between Student Affairs Special Programs, Academic Affairs, and Student Success, with generous support provided by SSSP, SEP, BSI, and The California Endowment.

7. HARTNELL STUDENTS AND FACULTY PAPER PUBLISHED

Dr. Jeefery Hughes, Instructor of Biology at Hartnell, brought us great news last week. A paper he and Hartnell students Leeanne Harden and Karina Morales worked on, was published! The manuscript reports the complete genome of a strain of *Streptococcus agalactiae* that was isolated from the mouth of Joni Black's Parson Russell Terrier and Chihuahua mix canine. The genome was assembled and analyzed by Leeanne and Karina. It contains 2,055 genes, and when compared to other *S. agalactiae*, it was found to show the highest similarity to published human and bovine strains. This is the second paper published by the three of them. The first described the mitochondrial genome of a new species of nori from Monterey, California. They named that species *Pyropia nitida*, after its shiny appearance. That paper was published last summer in the journal Mitochondrial DNA. We would like to congratulate the three on their accomplishments and pass forward their appreciation for the support of the Hartnell community!

To read the full research paper, go to: [http://genomea.asm.org/content/4/1/e01612-15.full](http://genomea.asm.org/content/4/1/e01612-15.full)

8. CLEANING AND SANITATION WORKSHOP FOR FRESH PRODUCE

On Friday, 24 industry employees representing berries, leafy greens, vegetables, and wine-making participated in a pilot training program focused on procedures and technologies applicable to cleaning and sanitation in the fresh produce industry. Participants engaged in a round-robin of four sessions addressing 1) microbiology, personal protective equipment, safety; 2)
environmental cleaning including zones for food contact surfaces, walls, drains, as well as creating a master cleaning sanitation schedule and learning about available chemistries; 3) equipment washing and sanitation whereby they used new cleaning technologies and tools; and 4) verification and validation for repeatability and reliability.

The workshop was taught by members of the Food Safety Advisory Committee for Hartnell College’s Agricultural Business and Technology Institute and took place at the SmartWash Solutions facilities in Salinas. For more information, please contact Dr. Susan Pheasant, Director of Agricultural Business and Technology Institute at spheasant@hartnell.edu.

9. CALWORKS STUDENT HIGHLIGHT—ALEJANDRA CARRILLO

Spring 2016 is a significant semester for Alejandra B. Cabrillo, as she will be graduating from Hartnell College with an Associate of Arts for Transfer (AA-T) in Sociology and certification that she completed the California State University general education pattern. Everyone in the CalWORKs program feels very proud of Alejandra and everything she has accomplished. Alejandra is truly an admirable student as she is the mother of four children, three boys and a four-month-old daughter and upon the birth of her daughter, only took five days off from school. Alejandra has always been very clear that her ultimate goal is to transfer to California State University Monterey Bay and Alejandra’s commitment to her education is evidenced by her above 3.0 grade point average. Alejandra has taken advantage of summer course offerings. During summer 2014, Alejandra enrolled in two courses (six units in total) and earned a 3.0 grade point average. The following summer, Alejandra stated that she was prepared to handle an even heavier summer course load and enrolled in 12 units. Alejandra passed all of her summer courses. In addition to being a full-time student, Alejandra participates in the work-study program and currently works at the Transfer and Career Center. Alejandra is currently enrolled in 17 units and we have no doubt she will successfully finish her studies at Hartnell College. Alejandra is grateful for all of the support and mentorship she has received from the Hartnell College community and notes, “The Hartnell College CalWORKs program has given me the support and encouragement I need to become self-sufficient. The program has assisted me with the information I need with regards to local services offered in my community. The program has become my safety net as the entire staff has been there for me in time of need and provided some of the best guidance and advice.” We look forward to celebrating your graduation accomplishment in May! We are confident you will become an excellent social worker. Thank you for allowing us to be part of your journey. We know “You're off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting, So... get on your way (Dr. Seuss)!"

Submitted by Dr. Nancy Reyes, Counselor for TRiO and CalWORKs.
10. HARTNELL ALUM IS NOW A WINEMAKER

For full article, go to:

11. EMPLOYEES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS CAMPAIGN

You can make a significant difference in the lives of our students by supporting the Employees for Student Success campaign. As employees, we are the heart of Hartnell. I encourage you to join me in increasing your gift to help us reach our goal of $85,000. Completed forms can be emailed to Karen Hagman at khagman@hartnell.edu. Together, we can be instruments of change for Hartnell students. Through the Employees for Student Success campaign, you can support a cause that is important to you. Your donations support:

- Student scholarships
- Student emergency scholarships
- Area of greatest need
- Campus area – i.e. The Western Stage, TRIO, Nursing, Athletics, or WELI
All pledges are entered into weekly raffles. Get your pledge in by Feb 11th to enter in the current drawing.
Congratulations to last week’s raffle winners: Janice Martinez, Ruth Groner, and Moises Almendariz.
Please stop by the Foundation Office to pick up your winnings!
In photo, Moises Almendariz picking up his prize. The heart is filling up! Give to students today!

12. PHOTOS OF THE WEEK – BASEBALL

Photos by David Beymer.

13. SCHOLARSHIP AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR STUDENTS

- **Dr. Ernesto Galarza Scholarship**. There is $90,000 to give to AB540 or undocumented students who are continuing or transferring to SJSU in the fall 2016. For application materials please go to: [http://www.sjsu.edu/clfsa/Scholarship/](http://www.sjsu.edu/clfsa/Scholarship/)
- **Elementary School Tutoring Opportunity**
  Students interested in gaining experience in education and working with elementary school students have a wonderful opportunity to join Healthy Families as a tutor! Healthy Families is a national organization looking to hire tutors to work at elementary schools in Salinas. For more details, students should attend an information session hosted by Healthy Families representatives. Students may also apply for a tutoring position and/or schedule an interview by either calling (916) 647-2822 or by emailing [HR@healthyfamiliescal.com](mailto:HR@healthyfamiliescal.com)!

14. UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Cash for College is back!**
February 27, 2016
More details to come.

**Game Jams**
Saturday, March 5, 2016 and Sunday, March 6, 2016
Registration open! Go to: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1rgEzdl7oU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1rgEzdl7oU)
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

Party in the Library
May 7, 2016
www.hartnell.edu/party

Save the date!
Law Day
Monday, May 2, 2016
A conference for students about careers in law and law enforcement

IN THE NEWS

Hartnell Alum launches his own wine cellar and label

SPANISH – Educacion al Dia – Director of Communications is guest correspondent on education

Hartnell College Theater Students to Perform in Paradise

Education Digest

United Way and the free income tax services offered at Hartnell

Ball State recruit profile: DE/OLB Reggie McGee

Hartnell College wide out Ronnie Turner still has a visit to take and a decision to make

Power and Shade: One Panel at a Time