Although it opened at the start of the spring 2016 semester, on April 27, 2016 Hartnell Community College District proudly held the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Center for Achievement and Student Advancement (Mi CASA), a historic event witnessed by the community and our local media. It was an honor to provide the opening remarks followed by Trustee Manuel Osorio and VP of Student Affairs, Dr. Romero Jalomo. Hartnell student Adriana Gonzalez talked about the importance of this center for her and the hundreds of students who need academic and moral support. We are committed to supporting all students regardless of their residency status. Through Mi CASA, Hartnell College can provide customized services to meet the unique needs of AB-540, DACA, and other Dreamer students. Carina Chavez from the Office of Congressman Sam Farr and Daniel Dodge from the Office of Assemblymember Luis Alejo spoke of the support these legislators have for the Center and commemorated the occasion with certificates of recognition.

Hartnell College currently serves over 750 Dreamer students. The word Dreamer is an umbrella term used to describe a large group of students which includes DACA, AB 540, and other types of undocumented students. In Monterey County, undocumented adults make up 13% of the population and one in 20 children in Monterey County are undocumented (5% of the total child population). Hartnell’s commitment to opening the center sets a precedent for other community colleges, and comes in advance of AB-1366, proposed by Assemblymember Patty Lopez, which would mandate community colleges and the California State University to establish Dream Resource Centers on each campus to provide undocumented students with information about financial aid and educational support services.

For more information about Mi CASA and its offerings, contact Bronwyn Moreno, Director of Special Programs at 831-770-6126 or via email at bmoreno@hartnell.edu.
It was a registration marathon! Panther Prep did it again – and bigger. Both our King City Education Center and Main Campus were alive on Friday and Saturday with hundreds of high school seniors ready to register, get advice, learn of clubs and programs, and meet faculty, staff, and administrators. In its third year running, Panther Prep has proven to be the right recipe for getting students ready for college one month away from their high school graduation. Parents received lots of information too in the various workshops tailored to their needs. Oscar took time to recruit some young ones in King City! The future Panthers were fearless.

Panther Prep Day is Hartnell's official welcome event for local graduating seniors. The Hartnell College Pathways Team worked with seniors from over 15 local high schools since October 2015 to help graduating seniors complete the Hartnell Steps to Success process of enrollment. Participating seniors have already completed key components of the enrollment process which include: Admissions Application, Orientation, Financial Aid Application, and Assessment. Panther Prep Day allows students to complete the final steps in the Hartnell College Steps to Success enrollment process; they met with a Hartnell College Counselor to develop their fall 2016 education plan and received priority registration for fall 2016 classes.

Students came from our participating schools: Soledad High School, Gonzales High School, Greenfield High School, King City High School, Portola-Butler High School, Alisal High School, Everett Alvarez High School, El Puente School, Mt. Toro High School, Central Bay High School, North Monterey County High School, North Salinas High School, Salinas High School, Monterey County Home Charter School, and MCOE.

Panther Prep Day is Hartnell's early college preparation model helping students be better prepared and successful in their transition from high school to college.
3. SATURDAY STEM ACADEMY AT ALISAL UNION IS A HIT

The K-12 STEM Programs launched a new exciting pilot at the Alisal Union School District on Saturday, April 30, 2016. Due to the success of the NASA STEM Academy at the district, they approached us and asked if it was possible to have a coding program too; so the staff put their heads together and created a unique curriculum to test with the district. The result: we are offering an Introduction to Coder Dojo at four different schools, Oscar Loya, Creekside, Monte Bella, and Bardin. Each school has 3 classes of beginner levels for students in grades Kinder to 6th! The first day of this pilot program was a huge success with 275 students participating. They learned about the fundamentals of computer programing and coding, and sometimes simple things like “what is a mouse and how does it work?” in the case of the kinder students. This was an amazing start to this incredible program, which we hope to roll out in a yearlong effort during next school year.

4. ASHC ELECTIONS FORUM AND CARNIVAL

On April 27, 2016, the ASHC kicked off the beginning of Student Government Elections, with a celebratory carnival located in the Student Center. Associated Student Clubs such as the Sociology, Psychology, Pride, Gamers, and Transfer Clubs set up booths with fun activities for all of Hartnell’s students to interact, have fun, and become inspired to vote for their ASHC leaders. There were lots of blow up games, food, and joy. Election results will be known next week!

5. TALENT SHOW TO BENEFIT RELAY FOR LIFE IS FUN-TASTIC!

Friday afternoon was filled with a lots of Hartnell talent. I had the opportunity to play guitar in a band composed of students and faculty – we won second prize! This was the fourth annual Hartnell Talent Show and Bake Sale Fundraiser to benefit Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society. There was dancing, singing, and playing
of instruments ranging from piano and violin to electric guitars, drums and congas! Many of our students, faculty, and staff participated in this event at Steinbeck Hall. The well-attended event was filled with an audience that had a deep appreciation for the arts.

6. THEATRE ARTS AND VOCATIONAL NURSING COLLABORATE

This is collaboration between departments in action! Last week, Theatre Arts students in Dr. Marnie Glazier’s class: Hoshimi Ames, Adrian Murillo, Daisy Barajas, Louie Gonzales, Mireya Pamatz, Jose Navarrete, Nancy Garcia-Camarena, and Jasmine Zepeda, attended Nancy Schur-Beymer’s Vocational Nursing class for the day. Using Applied Theatre techniques, including Augusto Boal’s Forum Theatre, they discussed and engaged in performing compassion. It was a very moving experience for both Theatre and Nursing students and reaffirms these instructors’ commitment to doing more collaborations like this. “Maybe in the future, we can create a class for the nursing and theatre students to take together,” said Dr. Glazier. Ironically, while the day's collaborative learning experience was taking place, Professor Schur-Beymer was at a conference wherein one of the most exciting presentations was on a theatre/nursing collaboration for the psychiatric nursing experience.

7. ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT – FROM JAIL TO PREP

Adriana Landeros (far right) is a fifth year Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology major at UCSC. She recently accepted the offer to the Hopkins University Post-baccalaureate Research Educational Program (PREP) in Baltimore, MD. Landeros is happy to share that she is 1 of 5 students selected among many applicants to participate in the program. This is wonderful news for our Hartnell alumna.
But her journey has not been easy nor common. At an early age, Landeros became interested in higher education. She even graduated a year early from Everett Alvarez High School, while also taking classes at Hartnell College. Four years later she transferred to UCSC where she would continue her education and obtain her degree in molecular biology. But as she began her new journey as a transfer student things started to get ugly. Not only was the adjustment from a junior college to a university difficult, she also went through a divorce, her mom got cancer, and she became increasingly dependent on drugs and alcohol. The pressure, stress, and desperate need for money led her to make some extremely bad choices, terrifying choices that landed her in serious trouble. Landeros’ wakeup call came when one day she was in jail facing three felony charges and a sentence of 1-20 years in jail for drug trafficking; right there and then she decided what it was she wanted to do with her life. She was insistent in pleading to the judge to give her a second chance. After seven months in jail, she got that second chance and her case was dismissed. Adriana’s MESA friend and counselor, Bronwyn Moreno insisted it was wise for her to apply for readmission at UCSC and was accepted for spring 2015. We appreciate Adriana’s willingness to share her story. She is a stellar example of courage and grit in the face of monumental personal challenges and struggles.

8. ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT – JOHN RAMIREZ

Hartnell alum John Ramirez was recently featured in a Monterey County newspaper for his work ethics and love for his community. He was born in the Salinas Valley and is currently the Director of the Environmental Health Bureau. He graduated from North Salinas High School, earned his Associate in Arts from Hartnell College, a bachelor’s degree in organic chemistry from the University of Oregon and a master’s in public administration from Golden Gate University. He has worked for Monterey County Health Department for the past 27 years, originally working in hazardous materials management. John’s main focus is to protect the public’s health as well as the environment. He enjoys painting and woodworking as well as traveling with his wife. He loves Salinas because this is home to him and loves the nice weather. It makes us proud to see former Hartnell graduates providing leadership in serving their community.

9. WORKSHOP ON RAISING HEALTHY CHILDREN

On April 28, 2016, the EOPS/CARE program hosted a workshop based on the book "How to Raise Emotionally Healthy Children" written by Dr. Gerald Newmark. The author’s close friend, Robert Brunson, facilitated the presentation on "Meeting the Five Critical Needs of Children: Respected, Important, Accepted, Included, Secure.” Brunson, a licensed psychotherapist, is a Certified Speaker for How to Raise Emotionally Healthy Children and a Board Member for The Children's Project. Mr. Brunson discussed effective parenting methods to promote family well-being and how these strategies can help children resist negative influences of society, such as gang involvement.
All 31 students in attendance received complimentary copies of Dr. Newmark's book and each student thanked Mr. Brunson and the EOPS staff for providing a workshop on such an important subject.

**10. GROVER SIGNS WITH POWERHOUSE ADAMS STATE**

It was not an easy process, but just in time for the championship season, Hartnell College's Malena Grover has decided to take her running talents and academic future to Adams State University in Alamosa, Colorado. Adams State University competes in the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and is a NCAA DII institution. Adams State won the 2015 National Cross Country Championship and added to its previous eighteen national titles in women's cross country.

Malena Grover, who prepped at Salinas High School, has followed a steady progression through her two years at Hartnell College. In her first cross country season, she was the Coast Conference champion and placed fifth overall in the Northern California Championship. The Lady Panthers easily recorded the team victory lead by her fifth place finish. Her time of 18:45 at the CCCAA State Championship established a new school record for the 5km course at Woodward Park and earned her All-American honors. Her performance spearheaded a fourth place team finish to tie the highest in school history. She built on that success in the spring running some of the fastest track times in school history. Malena won the Coast Conference 1,500 meter title and was runner-up in the 5,000 and 10,000 meters. Her finishes carried the Lady Panthers to a third consecutive team title in track & field she placed third in both events at the regional final. Malena established a new school record in the 5,000 meter run (17:42) to become the first Lady Panther ever to complete the event in under 18 minutes. She bettered future Olympian and Hartnell Hall of Fame Inductee Maria Trujillo’s mark of 18:04. Malena placed fourth in the 5,000 meters at the CCCAA Championship at the College of San Mateo to add a spring All-American honors to her first year haul.

In her final year at Hartnell College, Malena has been on track to become the greatest female distance runner in school history. In the fall, she repeated as the Coast Conference cross country champion and placed second overall at the regional championship. In that race, she established a new school record at Toro Park (18:01). Her runner-up finish helped the Lady Panthers to a second consecutive team title. At the CCCAA Championship at Woodward Park, Malena improved on her first year performance by 10 spots placing third overall also improving on her own school record. Again, Malena spearheaded a team finish that this time saw the Lady Panthers create history placing second overall for the first time in school history. In the spring, she kicked off the season with state leading marks in the 1,500 (4:45) and 3,000 (10:14). In March, she...
lowered her school record in the 5,000 meters twice going from 17:13 to 17:09, only one second off the state leading mark. Malena also broke a 35 year old record in the 1500 meter run when she covered the distance in 4:38.85 at the ARC Invitational. The mark still stands as the second best in the state. She also ran one of the best 800 meter runs in school history (2:16.65) at the CSM Spring Break Classic. In her final home meet at Hartnell College in the Ed Adams Invitational, Malena became just the second female ever to run the 3,000 meters under 10 minutes (9:57.26) and came up just 4 seconds short of breaking another 35 year old school record. She's begun the Coast Conference Championship with the 10,000 meter title establishing a new meet record 37:36.20. The mark was just 0.30 seconds away from Kathy Lenno's school record set in 2000. On Saturday, April 30, Malena will look to add conference titles in the 1500, 800, and 5,000 meters to her second year resume. Malena heads to Adams State with a 3.4 GPA and will major in Kinesiology.

**11. UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Educator in Residence is back!**
Educator in Residence Rushton Hurley who is back to provide valuable workshops open to faculty, staff and students. All workshops will be inside Steinbeck Hall and will include:
- Wednesday, May 4, at 6:00 PM Educational Possibilities, Great Colleges, and a Changing World
- Friday, May 6, at 2:00 PM Easy-to-Learn Technology to Save Time and Tell Your Stories
- Monday, May 9, at 6:00 PM Learning Beyond the Classroom
- Tuesday, May 10, at 2:00 PM Using Technology to Pursue Excellence with Every Student

Rushton has trained teachers around the world, and regularly presents at national and international conferences. His fun and thoughtful talks center on the connection between engaging learning and useful, affordable technology, as well as professional perspectives of teachers.

**Party in the library 2016 – Celebrating 10 years!**
Technicolor Dreams – May 7, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.
For tickets, call 831-755-6810

**Athletics Hall of Fame 2016**
October 29, 2016
This is the last day to nominate. Go to:

**12. IN THE NEWS**

**Education digest – Law Day**

**Dream Center for Undocumented Students Opens at Hartnell**

**Hartnell opens center for undocumented students**

**Resource Center opens for Dreamers**