Happy Holidays and a Prosperous New Year!
The campus will be closed now through January 2, 2017. This weekly report will be on hiatus and resume with the January 6, 2017 report.

Adam Alhamami, Business Administration Major
“Wishing everyone a happy holiday and a bright future!”

Maya Robinson, Psychology Major
“May your New Year be joyous and plentiful!”

Antonia Jamie, EOPS Coordinator
“Wishing everyone a warm and happy holiday season!”

Marlene Tapia, EOPS Specialist
“Wishing everyone a healthy and prosperous New Year!”

Juan Rios, Psychology Major
“Live well and have a Happy New Year!”
The Foundation hosts a Holiday and Measure T Reception
On December 14, 2016 the Hartnell College Foundation hosted their Board of Directors Meeting at our STEM Center. In the meeting the board members discussed completed and continuing projects. After the meeting, the College Foundation hosted a Holiday and Measure T celebration in the new STEM Center Planetarium. During the reception, board members enjoyed a student presentation by flautist and Killian Scholar Monica Mendoza who spoke with such passion for music. Outgoing Foundation board members were thanked for their service; John Buttgereit, Nate Holaday and Brad Rice were recognized by Foundation Board President, Anne Secker, VP of Advancement and Development, Jackie Cruz and myself. We are honored to have such amazing individuals advocate and fundraise for our students. We also took this opportunity to recognize individuals that were vital for the success of Measure T on the ballots last November. Committee Chairs, Alfred Diaz-Infante, Susan Gill and Kurt Gollnick worked restlessly to promote Measure T. Furthermore, the Foundation recognized former staff, Karen Hagman for her dedication to the success of our students by fundraising for programs and scholarships. Finally, the board announced the incoming members of the board:

- Adrienne Laurent
- Bruce Adams
- Dr. Pablo Romero
- John Romans
- Sam Linder
- Jose Ramon

The reception celebration concluded with a stunning Planetarium show directed by Planetarium Coordinator, Andrew Lindsey. Members and their families enjoyed refreshments and live music. Governing Board President, Manuel Osorio, Vice President Pat Donohue, Trustee Candi DePauw, and Trustee David Serena were present to enjoy the festivities.

President’s Forum delivers good news and progress
On Monday, December 12, 2016 I hosted the President’s Forum and Luncheon, which is held every semester for all of Hartnell employees – this time, the STEM Center served as the location. During this forum, I was able to inform the community about student access, student success, CSin3 impressive graduation rates, the Strong Workforce Initiative, and more.
I also briefed the attendees on accreditation and discussed the outcomes, future, and budget regarding Measure T. The funding from Measure T will enable Hartnell to expand access to local higher education through modernization of existing facilities, construction of new facilities, and the addition of new learning centers. All of this is linked to satisfying the growing demand for highly skilled and trained professionals to fulfill the 21st century workforce. Governing Board President Manuel Osorio and Trustee Candi Depauw attended the forum. It was also a good opportunity to welcome our new Vice President of Administrative Services, Ben Figueroa and to thank Al Muñoz for serving as the interim VP. A special thanks went to Vice President of Advancement and Development, Jackie Cruz for leading the Foundation to never imagined heights and transforming it into one of the best community college foundations in the country.

Ag Strategic Planning Luncheon gathers dozens of industry partners

The Ag Business and Technology Institute is developing a new Strategic Plan for the Institute that will drive directions for the next several years. On December 13, 2016 the Ag Steering Committee held the first Strategic Plan Working Session with thirty-five ag industry leaders, joined by Hartnell administrators, faculty, staff, and Trustee Candi DePauw.

Highlights of the meeting included introduction on how the Ag Institute was seeded and launched in 2016 with partnership and support from the agriculture industry in the Salinas Valley to address workforce training needs. I reported that as a result of community generosity, support and advocacy, the Hartnell Community College District was successful in passing Measure T with a voter approval of 69% (68.77%). This $167 million facilities bond measure will ensure that Hartnell College has world class learning facilities for generations to come, and the funds include expansion of facilities at the Alisal Campus.

Speakers included a presentation from faculty member Mark DeHart who shared his story and how attending a community college transformed his life in pursuing higher education; he also provided updates on the programs.

Former student Alex Montenegro, Ag Business Major shared his journey while attending Hartnell College. Alex Montenegro enrolled at Hartnell College and graduated in May 2015 with an A.S. in Ag Business, magna cum laude, and is currently attending the Ag Business Program at CSUMB. He commented that the Alisal Campus offers first class programs in ag business, and he felt appreciated by the instructors and industry. He thanked the Ag Steering Members and the ag industry for supporting the Ag Institute and offering training to so many career options.
“The program gave me a new life and excitement,” he said. “What you are doing is working and helping so many students like me.”

Alumna Rivka Garcia also shared her story; she was born and raised in Salinas and graduated in May 2016 in the CSin3 Program (Computer Science degree in 3 years in partnership with CSUMB). She mentioned that she had no experience in computer science, but with support from faculty, staff, tutors, and college resources she successfully finished the program and started working at Heavy Connect.

While most of her classmates moved out of town for employment, she is glad to stay in Salinas. I congratulated Rivka and shared the story of her being the first student to sign up for the program. Patrick Zelaya added that he launched Heavy Connect to create a company outside Silicon Valley to provide opportunity at a local level; he is focusing on expanding the business, hiring more people like Rivka so they can stay local, and continue working with the ag industry to develop new technology to optimize operations.

Director Dr. Susan Pheasant presented the overview of the Ag Institute since its inception and where we are now. Lon Hatamiya, of Hatamiya Group contracted by Hartnell College Foundation presented the outcome of a Labor Market Index Survey to help direct focus of the Agriculture Business and Technology Institute and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) curriculum to best support the Salinas Valley’s workforce.

Hartnell College contracted D. W. Block Associates to develop the Strategic Plan. Daniel Block presented the scope of the process which includes establishing a Strategic Planning Committee, conducting assessments, interviewing stakeholders, conducting a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats), researching other models, identifying the ag skills and talent needed for the future, utilizing focus groups, and developing a budget to secure operations of the Institute. The process for the Strategic Plan includes a draft presentation in May 2017 and final presentation in September 2017.

We deeply appreciate the support and commitment from the industry to help us develop the Strategic Plan for the Agricultural Business and Technology Institute so it is aligned with industry needs.

**FARMS Leadership – Hands-On Fridays**

On December 6, 2016 the Agricultural Business Technology Institute hosted the FARMS Leadership group for a Hands-On Fridays Event - a program designed to introduce students to career technical programs offered by the Ag Institute while
participating in hands-on experiences and a chance to tour the campus. FARMS Leadership students enjoyed a hands-on activity presented by Valentin Rodriguez, Auto and Diesel instructor in the Technical Training Building and Albert Graham, Agriculture Industrial Technology instructor, in the AIT shop. Students then received the opportunity to watch a live field demo by Graham. Lastly, students toured the Alisal campus and received additional information from faculty member Michael Davis about the Welding and Agricultural Industrial Technology programs. What a great way to expose our students to different careers in ag.

**STEM Center Tour for MCOE Teachers**

On Tuesday, December 13, 2016, Hartnell K-12 STEM Programs in partnership with Monterey County Office of Education (MCOE) Educational Services, welcomed teachers and educators from all of Monterey County to our new STEM Center. Over 50 education representatives from various K-12 schools, districts and organizations enjoyed hors d'oeuvres as they networked amongst each other, followed by an introduction from keynote speaker Dr. Jaime Valenzuela, Assistant Superintendent at MCOE. Tours of the new STEM Center were given by Shannon Bliss, Dean of Academic Affairs; Director of K-12 STEM, Maggie Melone; and Will Franzell, Educational Specialist, Science at MCOE. After the tour, education representatives participated in two different workshops focusing on makerspace and growth mindset.
Steinbeck Invitational Speech Tournament at Hartnell
The Hartnell Speech Team hosted the 2nd Annual Steinbeck Invitational Speech Tournament on the main campus, Saturday, December 10, 2016. Thirteen two-year and four-year institutions from Northern California travelled to Salinas for the tournament, including:

- Butte College
- Chabot College
- City College of San Francisco
- CSU Chico
- CSU Sacramento
- Diablo Valley College
- Las Positas College
- Modesto Junior College
- Ohlone College
- San Francisco State University
- San Jose State University
- Santa Rosa Junior College
- UC Berkeley

In the overall competition, Las Positas College received the two-year college championship trophy. CSU Chico earned the four-year university championship trophy. As the host, the Hartnell team could not compete for the overall prize, but had several notable individual awards. Leading the squad were teammates Malia Nai and Casie Guido. The two took a first place award in the Dramatic Duo Interpretation category. Guido also earned 4th place in Poetry Interpretation. Other members earning awards included:

- Lourdes Tinajero, 2nd place Dramatic Interpretation and 2nd Place Poetry Interpretation
- Esmeralda Ramirez, 3rd place Program of Oral Interpretation

Also competing were Susana Alcantar, Sarina Atkins, Meritzy Ayala, Jasleem Bonilla, and Justin Pinson. The team will break for the holiday season and commence competition February 3, 2017 at Chabot College.

Communication Studies Students participate in Academic Expo
Communication Studies students at Hartnell College participated in the Academic Expo during finals week, December 12-15, 2016. Over 350 students from 16 classes met their final requirements by working in groups to create an original research paper, including the creation of a backdrop and table display.

The Expo is designed as a competition, and a “Best of Class” is selected from each class to then compete for the overall “Best of Show.”
This semester, 90 different group projects were on display competing for the top prize. The Best of Show winner went to the group consisting of students Katelyn Tankersley, Amanda Rincon, Katherine Rogers and Jennifer Zamora. The students analyzed Kandice Sumner TED talk, “How America’s Public Schools Keep Kids in Poverty.” TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks. It began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics, including science, business and global issues.

The students decided to use the public speaking concepts of extended narrative, pathos and causal warrant to justify Sumner’s talk as an effective example of public advocacy communication. The winning students each received an award medal and gift cards to various businesses in the Salinas area. The Academic Expo occurs at the end of every semester and is open to the public.

The Research Symposium was a success!
The first Psychology Research Symposium was held in the Office of Student Life on December 5-8, 2016. The purpose of the Psychology Research Symposium was to provide psychology students with a venue to present their research projects and results to the Hartnell College Community. Nineteen research projects were displayed and ten-minute oral presentations of the experimental findings were shared with over 100 attendees.

Some of the experiments conducted were measuring effects of socioeconomic status and social media on academic success, having a close family member incarcerated, bystander effect, perceptions of public breastfeeding, gender differences in experiences of stress, political psychology, stigmatization of vulnerable groups and many more great topics! Congratulations to faculty member Alicia Edelen for leading this project.
Linebacker signs football scholarship
Sophomore linebacker Donyae Moody signed a scholarship on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 with Marshall University as a mid-year transfer. Football Head Coach, Matt Collins could not be more proud! To learn more, read this article: http://www.herald-dispatch.com/sports/marshall_sports/herd-football-signs-five-juco-recruits/article_f2964233-bc14-5325-87d9-afdf3a06ae45.html

Football Clinic with Dennis Brown
On December 13, 2016 former 49ers player Dennis Brown, visited Hartnell College for a football clinic and meet & greet event. Door to Hope, a Behavioral Health Non-profit Organization hosted this event in partnership with Hartnell College. Door to Hope has provided behavioral health care and children’s services throughout Monterey County for more than 40 years. Former defender, Dennis Brown played for the 49ers from 1900-1996. He was a member of the 1995 Super Bowl championship team and in 1989 and 1990 he was named to the Playboy All-America team as a standout at University of Washington. He was also an Outland Trophy finalist in 1988 and 1989. Brown led the football clinic and was aided by the Hartnell College Football coaching staff and team. Children from Door to Hope programs, Sacred Heart, Palma Independent Living programs at Hartnell and the Epicenter were invited to participate. This was an exciting opportunity for our student-athletes and aspiring athlete children to learn from a professional.
Panther Basketball off to Winter Break

As of December 14, 2016 the Hartnell College Men's Basketball team gets ready for a well-deserved rest over the next few weeks. The team currently has a record of 6-3 which so far is the best record in Coast South. Student-athlete Riley Knowles is ranked 2nd in scoring in Coast South. Panther student-athlete Brad Bennett is ranked 3rd in rebounding in the Coast South as well. Overall, the basketball Panthers lead in 1st place in assists and 2nd in the State in scoring. Men’s Basketball will continue with the season in January. For more information, visit our website www.hartnellpanthers.com.

CDC children share cookies and Holiday cheer throughout the campus

Children from the Child Development Center and the staff visited all the administration offices throughout the campus to sing and share holiday-inspired cookies. The future Panthers sure brought smiles to everyone. It was a nice treat to receive on a Friday afternoon.
Christmas Cubicle Decoration Contest
In the spirit of Christmas, the Office of Admissions and Records had a festive cubicle decoration contest. This is the first time the office held this contest and had a great turn-out. The kids from the Child Development Center were the judges and they all decided the Candyland cubicle was the winner; that is Irene Haneta’s cubicle. All participants donated $5 for the winner so Irene took home $70! Big ideas are in store for next year already.

Office of Student Life delivers hundreds of toys!
The Associated Students Hartnell College (ASHC), along with the Office of the Superintendent/President, once again sponsored and coordinated the Lights of Love. A record 300 children of Hartnell College students received gifts donated by our college employees and ASHC. Children and families were grateful as they picked up the gifts. The Holiday Gift Giving expanded to other areas of the campus; the following held drives to help the needy:

- CalWorks: toy donations
- Veterans Center: canned food drive
- Foster Care Kinship Education: pajamas donations
- Pride Club: toiletry gift baskets for homeless youth
- Student Nurse Association: winter clothing for the homeless
- Panther Learning Lab: canned food drive
- CASA Gift of Giving: supporting the families of foster youth

Thank you all for your efforts. I am proud to serve at an institution that demonstrates such care and compassion for our community.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Date!
6th Annual Student Success Conference
January 17 - 18, 2017
At Hartnell College – more information to come

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Former 49ers star to visit Salinas on Tuesday

Panthers have successful fall sports season
http://www.thecalifornian.com/story/sports/2016/12/13/panthers-successful-fall-sports-season/95381108/

Five sign midyear letters of intent with Marshall football

Students urged to fly high at screening

Women’s Hoops: Tigers offense too much for Panthers
http://www.thecalifornian.com/story/sports/2016/12/08/womens-hoops-tigers-offense-much-panthers/95174848/

21 teams in 21 days

Marshall University recruits Hartnell Panther
http://www.herald-dispatch.com/sports/marshall_sports/herd-football-signs-five-juco-recruits/article_f2964233-bc14-5325-87d9-afdf3a06ae45.html

Artists play the part at Salinas Valley Comic Con