STEM Center: getting ready to welcome its first students!

Over the winter break, laboratory technicians and staff have worked very hard to prepare the new STEM Center for occupation in spring 2017. Equipment has been transferred from Merrill Hall into the new classrooms and labs. Lab Technicians have transferred over equipment and prepared chemical agents and materials for the labs. “We are in the process of moving the Chemistry Department, and really excited for students to see the building open up this semester” said Melanie, a Science Lab Technician.

The Stem Center is officially open for classes beginning January 19, 2017! We look forward to having all of the students, faculty and Lab Technicians enjoy the offerings of the new building. Here’s to a wonderful and exciting new learning environment!

Math Academy continues to help students understand math

The annual Winter Math Academy began last Wednesday on January 4, 2017. Approximately 250 students enrolled to strengthen their skills from basic math to calculus. In the Math Academy, students learn how to study efficiently, prepare effectively for math tests and acquire the skills and confidence in order to succeed at Hartnell College and beyond.

Students will have access to lifeline tutorial support in the upcoming semester in addition to the general
support offered via Student Affairs; participants also receive book vouchers for their upcoming math classes.
The Winter Math Academy session will conclude Friday, January 13, 2017 with a graduation ceremony at Mainstage open to friends and family of the students. Retiree faculty member Ken Rand had the vision years ago to create a program that has proven to teach students to learn math in a fun and interactive environment.

Welcome Ben Figueroa:
VP of Administrative Services
I am pleased to introduce you to our new Vice President of Administrative Services, Benjamin Figueroa! Benjamin (Ben) is originally from Los Angeles and recently moved to Salinas, in order to start his exciting new career here at Hartnell College. He has worked in higher education for 25 years in various positions that span from administrative services, academic affairs, grants, contracts, bond financing of facilities, risk programming, environmental health and safety, to Human Resources.
Most recently, he worked five years at California State University, Los Angeles as the Director of Academic Resource Planning, where he planned all operations in fiscal management, human resources, and facilities for the Academic Affairs division.
“I am looking forward to advancing the initiatives of the Board and of the President,” Ben said. “I am especially looking forward to advancing the Strategic Plan with the recent passage of Measure T.”
Ben attended CSU Los Angeles to obtain his Bachelor’s degree in Business. He continued his education at CSU Long Beach where he earned a Master’s Degree.
Benjamin is married to wife Marion and they have three beautiful children: Kevin, Emily and Samantha. All three young adults are away attending college.
During his free time, Ben enjoys reading and trail walking, as well as spending time with his three Golden Retrievers, Georgie, Tamiko and Bella.
Welcome to Hartnell Benjamin!

Welcome new baby! Abel Del Real shows off his new baby girl
Congratulations to our Payroll Technician, Abel Del Real, wife Hilda and son Aaron on the newest addition to their family, Gemma Elisa Del Real! Gemma made her debut on December 8, 2016 at 9:01 a.m., at Natividad Hospital. She weighed 7 lbs and measured 20.5 inches long!
Big brother Aaron (2 ½ ), is very excited to have a new sister! Abel exclaims, “It made us so happy to see Aaron welcome his little sister with hugs and kisses.”
Congratulations Abel and Hilda on such a beautiful addition to your family!
Social Media Workshop: Cross-marketing is key

On January 4, 2016 our Director of Communications, Marketing and Public Relations Esmeralda Montenegro hosted a social media workshop facilitated by Public Relations Consultant, Marci Bracco. The workshop aimed to familiarize and teach the importance of social media to key staff in different departments that use the medium to promote services and events. The key is cross-marketing among the approved Hartnell accounts to solidify and increase the success of each post. Today, it is extremely important to be knowledgeable and well connected to social media especially to communicate quickly and effectively with students, employees, and the community in case of an emergency. The small group of participants included representatives from the Foundation, Student Life, the Ag Institute, The Western Stage, Athletics, Student Affairs, Safety & Emergency Preparedness, Marketing, and Public Relations. A manual is available if you are interested in learning more about this tool. Email Esmeralda at emontenegro@hartnell.edu requesting a PDF copy.

Another senseless loss: Student Christian Rosales

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you that the first homicide of 2017 in Salinas is a Hartnell student. Christian Rosales began attending Hartnell in spring 2015. He completed the fall 2016 semester and was enrolled as a full-time student for spring 2017. There is very little known at this time about the incident. There is no evidence that Christian had any gang affiliation and the incident is not being investigated as gang-related.

We will be reviewing Christian's academic records to determine if he meets the criteria for the awarding of a posthumous degree. After it is confirmed, we will bring forward the recommendation for awarding the degree to the Governing Board.

If anyone has information regarding this homicide, they are asked to contact Detective Hendrickson at (831) 758-7129 or Detective Murphy at (831) 758-7322. If you would like to remain anonymous, you can call the Salinas Police Department Tip Line at (831) 775-4222, or the We-Tip Line at 1-800-78 CRIME, or text information to Text Tip Line with the code "SPD831" to "847411."

To learn more, go to: http://www.ksbw.com/article/salinas-homicide-victim-killed-while-protecting-others-friend-says/8558826
We are Open! The semester starts soon and we are here to help!
Although classes are not in session, Hartnell College is open!

- Student Affairs offices are open to help you with educational planning, registration and financial aid questions
- Counselors are here for quick questions in the Admissions and Records office and by appointment in the Counseling Office
- Student Ambassadors are available in the Student Services building to help you navigate the admission and financial aid applications and registration

More courses have been scheduled to better meet students' needs. If you have already registered, you may want to take another look; if your life's responsibilities allow it, see if there is one more course available to help you meet your educational goals.

If you have not registered, we are here to help you! Find us online at www.hartnell.edu or visit us in Building B. First day of the spring semester is Thursday, January 19, 2017. Looking forward to seeing you on the Hartnell College campuses soon!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Attention Hartnell Administrators!
Employees for Student Success Leadership Kick Off Breakfast
January 10, 2017
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.
Steinbeck Hall

Free Baseball Clinic
Hartnell Little League
January 14, 2017, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

6th Annual Student Success Conference
January 17 - 18, 2017
At Hartnell College

Friends of the Monterey Symphony Mystery Play & Dinner
January 28, 2017
5:00 p.m. at Mainstage
For more information go to www.montereysymphony.org

Salinas Police Chief Meet & Greet

MONDAY, Jan. 9, 2017, 6 PM
Hartnell College Main Gym
411 Central Ave. Salinas CA 93901 (Parking not enforced)

You are invited to join Salinas City Councilman Steve McShane and members of the Student Leadership Teams throughout Salinas Union High School District & Hartnell College as we welcome the new Salinas Police Chief, Adole Frese. Please bring friends and ideas on how we can make Salinas a safer community together.

RSVPs not required. Please direct questions to Steve McShane at steve@mcshanestrategy.com or at (831) 990-4141.
IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Local college student killed in botched robbery

Salinas Chief to meet with community, teens

Community invited to meet with Salinas police chief

AWAY AT SCHOOL: College choice pays off for Moscow’s Bogden
http://www.bonnercountydailybee.com/article/20170105/AP/301059967

Hartnell Notebook: Basketball returns from break
http://www.thecalifornian.com/story/sports/2017/01/03/hartnell-notebook-basketball-returns-break/96135640/

Honoring 32 years of service

Watsonville Ivy League Project Alum pass on wisdom

Hartnell elections; fitness dips

Hartnell: Football players receive postseason honors
http://www.thecalifornian.com/story/sports/2016/12/20/hartnell-football-players-receive-postseason-honors/95673690/

Artists play the part at Salinas Valley Comic Con

VIDEO: Salinas Valley Comic Con
http://www.ksbw.com/article/salinas-valley-comic-con-weekend/8513624