Assembly Member Anna Caballero was in attendance at this year’s *Cash for College* event. She provided the students in attendance an update on state grants and scholarship opportunities. In addition, she gave a motivational speech of encouragement to students to continue to seek their dreams of a college education. Hartnell’s financial aid and pathways teams have assisted over 1,000 students in the last four months in completing the 2017-2018 Federal financial aid application and State of California Dream Act applications with a March 2nd Cal Grant deadline.

Our main target audience was high school seniors throughout our District as well as our currently enrolled Hartnell students. We coordinated our efforts with all of the high schools in South County, Salinas, and North County. Hands-on sessions were held from October to January using the high school computer labs in the evenings. In addition, our own *Money Mondays* lab was available for students to come in and get one-on-one assistance with completing the FAFSA and California Dream Act application.
Hartnell proud to host MCOE Parent Conference
Hartnell partnered with MCOE to host the second annual Parent Conference. Governing Board member Aurelio Salazar, Jr. provided a welcome for the attendees.

A lot about Hartnell at Chamber lunch
The Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce held its 96th Annual Awards Luncheon at Sherwood Hall Salinas on Thursday, February 23, 2017. The theme was ‘Helping you grow.’ Six special awards were distributed and two of them went to very close friends of Hartnell College and of the Hartnell College Foundation. We were happy to be there for Susan Black from Pinnacle Bank who received the Businesswoman of the year award. Susan is a member of the executive committee for the Foundation and a champion supporter of Hartnell and our students. IMPOWER won Spirit of the Community and its founders are Hartnell Friends and Foundation Board Members, Margaret D’Arrigo-Martín and Cathy Schlumbrecht. From start to finish, Hartnell College and its programs were heard throughout, bringing a sense of pride to those in attendance who have somehow been touched by, involved with, or alumni of Hartnell. Trustee Candi DePauw was in attendance alongside VP of Academic Affairs, Dr. Lori Kildal; VP of Administrative Services, Benjamin Figueroa; Dean of Academic Affairs, Dr. Celine Pinet; Director of Special Programs, Bronwyn Moreno; Philanthropy Officer, Ashton Clarke; and Director of Communications, Marketing, and Public Relations, Esmeralda Montenegro Owen who opened and closed the event’s program on stage.
Students participate in Arizona theatre festival
Thanks to the support of Hartnell College, the Hartnell College Foundation, the Associated Students of Hartnell College, and generous funders, 17 Hartnell students and 2 faculty just returned from Mesa, Arizona for this year's Regional Kennedy Center American College Theatre festival. Three students: Micaela David, Bryan Torres, and Briana Sandoval competed in the prestigious Irene Ryan competition for which they were nominated by an independent judge. Students also took workshops from the well-known Cirque Du Soleil, National Theatre Institute, and others. Professors Jeff McGrath and Marnie Glazier offered workshops that they will repeat at Hartnell to allow community members a chance to glimpse into their program. What a great experience!

Famous guests visited the Sociology class
On February 23, 2017, Dr. Hortencia Jimenez's Sociology Class (SOC 5-Social Problems) had the honor to have prestigious actors come talk to her students about the Mentor Artists Playwrights Project (MAPP), a collaboration with the Migrant Education Program. Valente Rodriguez (featured regularly in the George Lopez Show), Zilah Mendoza (roles in shows such as The King of Queens, Law and Order), and Thomas Dean Kellogg (conducted theater workshops across the world) talked to students about their journey as actors and their commitment in working with community arts enrichment programs. Several sociology students will be doing their service learning hours with MAPP. This will involve participating in a series of mentored writing workshops with the migrant Out of School Youth. The mentored writing workshops will be approximately 20 hours over a two-week period at Alisal High School in April or May.
Sociology Club attends National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies

On February 18, 2017, Sociology Club members and Club Advisor, Dr. Hortencia Jimenez attended the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies 2017 NCal Foco Conference at Chabot College in Hayward, CA. Dr. Jimenez presented a working research paper on the legacy of violence and policing against Latinos. Dr. Nereida Olivia from Ethnic Studies at Hartnell College also presented on Leadership4Life, a college prison-community partnership with student Nancy Camarillo.

"Going to this conference was a really good experience," shared student Diana Velarde. "I learned so much about the Chicano community and the problems we’ve had and are facing now. It made me want to advocate for the problems the Chicano community faces, by giving similar talks to people."

“The presenters at NCal Foco are not only breaking barriers themselves, but are providing the tools for young students like myself to challenge these social issues and bring about a positive change in our community,” said student David Avalos.

UndocuAlly Training: Supporting Undocumented Students to Graduate from College

On February 15, 2017, EOPS hosted a presentation by Nancy Jodaitis, the Director of Higher Education Initiative at Educators for Fair Consideration (E4FC). The topic was Supporting Undocumented Students to Graduate from College: Information, Resources and Best Practices. Jodaitis provided an overview of AB 540, AB 2000, the CA Dream Act, DACA and shared information on available scholarships for undocumented students. The training was well-attended by staff and faculty. Following this training for staff and faculty, Jodaitis presented to a group of 47 students; she focused on post-election updates regarding DACA, explained California immigration laws, gave information about the Cal Grant application process, and offered a Q & A session to respond to students’ specific concerns.

Panthers Improve in Windy MPC Open

The weather was more cooperative than was forecasted for Saturday’s MPC Open in Monterey and the Panthers took full advantage. In a meet featuring host MPC and the Panthers, it was also attended by San Jose City College, Diablo Valley College, De Anza College, and Chabot College.
Panther men won the 800, 1500, and 5000 meter runs lead by Edgar Bonilla (2:01.96) in the 800, Eduardo Orozco (4:21.91) in a windy, slow 1500, and Jorge Sanchez (15:47.85) in the 5000 meters. Orozco was also second in the 800 meters (2:03.50) and Sanchez second in the 3000 meters (9:02.82). Andrew Martinez was second in the 5000 (15:50.85) and third in 3000 (9:06.50). Bonilla took third in the 3000 (9:07.53). Freshmen Christian Aldape (16:14.80) and Williams Ordaz (16:17.90) picked up regional provisional qualifying marks in the 5000 meters. All told, the Panther men had four regional qualifiers in the 5000 meters. Sophomore Jordan Rodriguez lead the Panthers in the sprints with season best 11.12 and 22.96 in the 100 and 200 meters. Freshman Joziah Garcia debuted nicely in the 400 meters (51.52). Freshman Haley Romero produced one of the finest 100 meter hurdles in Lady Panthers history with her 15.83 performance to placed second overall. Her mark is the eleventh best in school history in first sub 16 clocking in over 10 years. Bailee Rusconi lowered her season best in the 100 meters to a regional qualifying 13.00 and takes over the #20 all-time spot. Fellow frosh Sherise Robinson also qualified with her half lap debut of 26.20 in the 200 meters making her the sixteenth best performer in school history in just her second college meet. Robinson was also victorious in the 400 meters (60.76). The 4x100 relay team of Robinson, Rusconi, Romero, and Leilani Russell lowered their season best in winning to 50.72. The relay team moves to #20 all-time in their second competition together with an all-freshmen group. Leslie Oseguera lead a top three sweep in the 800 meters with her 2:35.14. Olivia Jimenez dipped under the regional qualifying mark in winning at 5:13.97 in her debut at the distance. Beatriz Duarte took the win in the 3000 meters (11:41.99) and placed second in the 5000 meters (20:02.86). Freshman Jocelyn Cervantes joined Duarte as a qualifier in the event placing third in 20:18.61.

For full MPC Open results: https://www.directathletics.com/results/track/48239.html

The Softball Lady Panthers on a Winning Streak!
On February 19, 2017, Hartnell College Women’s Softball Team hosted a home game against Santa Rosa Community College. The game had been rescheduled to an earlier date due to weather. Prepared to take home another victory from their previous game against Taft last Tuesday, with a score of 12-7, the Lady Panthers had been on the prowl for another win. The
teams had played two games back to back; the Lady Panthers had won both! The first game ended 9-5 at seven innings. Santa Rosa took the lead in the first inning, but Hartnell made a comeback with an amazing six-run gain in the bottom of the third inning! Hartnell’s heavy hitters such as second baseman Kaitlyn Doyle (#00) and shortstop Angelina Ruiz (#4), to name a few, swung the team to glory. Santa Rosa played tough, but the Hartnell Panthers showed no mercy, especially student-athlete Danielle Caoili (#18) pitching fastballs. Hartnell, amped up from their first win, crushed Santa Rosa in the second round with a score of 8-0. First baseman Bethany Cardenas (#17) and pitcher Danielle Caoili (#18) both hit a homerun for the team. However, the Softball Ladies were not done showing their exceptional skills.

On February 23, 2017, the team hosted Gavilan College. The Hartnell Lady Panthers were on a great winning streak with three games in a row! With the game against the Rams, Lady Panthers were hoping to improve that streak to four. The game started off with Hartnell in the lead at the bottom of the second inning with a score of 2-0. At the third inning, Gavilan made it to the scoreboard with one run, but that was quickly shut down by pitcher Danielle Caoili (#18) who struck a home run. Center fielder Kaitlin Shipman (#5) and outfielder Josephine Savoldi (#1) helped to raise the numbers with their hits and runs. By the bottom of the third inning Hartnell had remained in the lead with a score of 7-1. Gavilan was playing their best and made the match a challenge for the Lady Panthers when they scored 4 runs in the sixth inning. Finally, Hartnell took home the win at the seventh inning with a score of 10-6. The Panthers Softball Team is looking forward to keeping their winning streak for the rest of the season. The Women’s Softball Team will host their next home game on Tuesday, February 28th against Cabrillo College. Way to go Lady Panthers!

(File photo)

**Baseball Panthers Struggle against the Fresno Rams**

On February 22, 2017, The Hartnell Men’s Baseball Team hosted a home game against visiting team, Fresno City College. The Panthers struggled as the Rams had three pitchers combine to throw a shutout! The Panthers were defeated and stayed scoreless throughout all nine innings. Fresno City had 11 hits during the game while Hartnell only had 6. Student- athlete Colby Hiranohad managed to get 2 hits in leading the Panther hitters. However, the final score was (8-0) the Panthers are now (3-4) at home and (4-8) overall. The next game for the Hartnell Men’s Baseball Team will be this Tuesday February 28, at 2:00 p.m. against Laney College at the Tony Teresa Diamond.

(File photo)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Black History Month presents**

*Melanie Demore*

March 1, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Steinbeck Hall
The Western Stage presents
SpringFEST 2017
Legacy Players in Performance
March 4 and 5, 2017 in Studio Theater
For tickets go to westernstage.com

Hartnell Pre-Law Program presents
DUI Education
March 7, 2017 – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Hartnell’s Gymnasium

Women’s Empowerment Conference 2017
Saturday, March 11, 2017
Motivational Speaker, Diane Simmons
FREE for Hartnell and High School students
Register at www.hartnell.edu/wec

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

California officials urge eligible students to apply for financial aid

Local Roundup: Hartnell, Cal State Monterey Bay pick up baseball wins

Women’s Hoops: Panthers reflect on rough season
http://www.thecalifornian.com/story/sports/2017/02/21/womens-hoops-panthers-reflect-rough-season/98230978/