Employees gather for Holiday Feast and send-off for Coach Andrew Watt

A delicious catered meal, prize raffle and office-decorating contest were all part of the 2018 Holiday Feast for faculty and staff on Dec. 7 in Steinbeck Hall. I shared my thanks and wishes for all to enjoy a relaxing holiday break. We look forward to seeing everyone in the New Year. I also joined Athletic Director Dan Teresa in recognizing and thanking faculty member and Head Softball Coach Andrew Watt, who is retiring after 28 years. The Hartnell College Foundation won a very competitive decorating contest.

Chancellor names regional coordinators to assist colleges with Guided Pathways

California Community Colleges (CCC) Chancellor Dr. Eloy Ortiz Oakley on Dec. 7 named Guided Pathways Regional Coordinators for each of the CCC system’s seven regions.

The coordinators are assigned to support colleges as they implement the multi-year Guided Pathways initiative, convening stakeholder groups and providing resources, as needed, to help them best apply the guided pathways framework for the local context, Ortiz said.

The coordinators, who were selected from among more than 200 applications received through an open call, are receiving extensive training through Achieving the Dream, 3CSN, RP Group and national guided pathways experts.
The CCC system is also working to connect the Strong Workforce program and guided pathways efforts to maximize lessons from previous initiatives and strengthen the continuum for students between high school, community college, university and career, Ortiz said. “I hope that you will open your campuses to the regional coordinators and make them part of your planning efforts as your colleges work through all of the changes inherent in the guided pathways implementation,” he said.

The Guided Pathways Regional Coordinators for the San Francisco/Bay Area, which includes Monterey County, are Dr. Laurie Scolari, Maeve Katherine Bergman and Krista Johns. Their bios are here. Dr. Scolari is one of our own having grown up in Soledad.

Math and computer science students earn first-place honors in state college competition

Hartnell computer science student Chris Rodriguez and engineering student Daniel Enriquez-Ulloa competed as a team on Dec. 8, tying for first place in a research-poster competition at the California Mathematics Council Community Colleges (CMC^3) in Monterey, said math instructor Brian Palmer. They split a $600 grand prize with the other first-place contestant.

The pair presented posters describing their research last summer at Food Origins in Salinas through the Hartnell STEM Internship Program. They developed a yield forecast model for strawberry harvests as part of a seven-intern team, in which Enriquez-Ulloa worked on data and Rodriguez worked on implementation.

CMC^3 President James Sullivan, a math instructor at Sierra College, was very impressed with their work, Palmer said, particularly the potential fiscal impact of their analysis in the strawberry industry.

Psychology students present fall research at symposium

More than 40 psychology shared their semester-long work through posters and oral presentations at Hartnell’s Fifth Annual Psychology Research Symposium, held Dec. 4-6 event in the Office of Student Life.

Psychology faculty Alicia Edelen and Dr. Gabriel Searcy organized the symposium to “provide students with a venue to present important psychological topics affecting the community today,” Edelen said. Topics included such things as the impact of violence in media, the relationship between religious faith and anxiety about death and the role of physical activity in reducing stress.
Continuing Ed presents Hartnell Resource Fair for Taylor Farms workers at season’s end

As the work season ended on Nov. 16 at Taylor Farms in Salinas, more than 700 of the company’s employees received their final paychecks and information about educational opportunities at Hartnell.

The Office of Continuing Education presented a Hartnell Resource Fair, where employees were able to gather information from the education department, the Salinas Valley Adult Education Consortium, the pathways department, the Office of Financial Aid and the High School Equivalency Program.

Ninety-five workers expressed interest in continuing their education at Hartnell, and a follow-up workshop on Dec. 6 at Hartnell assisted them with application and registration process.

Speech team hosts first two-day competition and wins six top-four places among 15 schools

The Hartnell Speech Team hosted its first two-day competition, the Steinbeck Invitational Speech Tournament on Dec. 1-2, winning six top-four places among 15 colleges and universities.

“This was the first year we were selected to host a two-day event,” Coach Jason Hough said. “It was a huge success, and the competition was top notch.”
As part of providing a unique competition experience, Hough recruited two guest debate judges from out-of-state to diversify the judging pool, one from Wichita and another who traveled from Queretaro, Mexico. As the host institution, Hartnell was not eligible for an overall team award, but members received the following individual awards over the two days:

- Carmen Urciuoli, second place, Persuasive Speaking; third place, Poetry Interpretation; and fourth place, Persuasive Speaking.
- Athena Rodriguez, second place, Persuasive Speaking
- Valerie Becerra, second place, After-Dinner Speaking
- Luke Lundin, third place, Poetry Interpretation, and fourth place, Informative Speaking (both days).
- Michaela Miller, third place, Program of Oral Interpretation
- Isaac Rodriguez and Victor Nambo, fourth place, Dramatic Duo Interpretation

Also competing for Hartnell were Alessandra Filitti, Angel Hernandez and Victor Mena-Marquez.

**Women lawyers association honors Anne Secker of foundation board for lifetime achievement**

Anne Secker, former president of the Hartnell College Foundation (HCF) board of directors and a longtime board member, on Nov. 29 received the Lady Justice Lifetime Achievement Award for Legal Advocacy and Community Service from the Monterey County Women Lawyers Association (MCWLA). She is an attorney with the Monterey firm of Noland, Hamerly, Etienne & Hoss.

In addition her involvement with the MCWLA and HCF, Secker is on the board of the Elkhorn Slough Foundation and a member of local wine groups. She has served on the Monterey County Historical Resources Review Board, the Ag Against Hunger Board and the Board of the Community Housing Improvement Systems and Planning Association (CHISPA), a local non-profit agency developing housing for low income families, and the Planned Giving Advisory Committee for California State University Monterey Bay.

In presenting its award, the board of the MCWLA said she “exemplifies the type of lifetime achievement the award is intended to honor. She has practiced law in Monterey County since 1980, contributing significantly to an office that has been a mainstay in law practice in the area for over 90 years.”
SVHPP parent organizer interviewed for Women’s Foundation newsletter
Alma Loredo, parent organizer for the Salinas Valley Health Professions Pathway, was featured in the November 2018 e-newsletter for the Women’s Foundation of California. Loredo, a member of the foundation’s Women’s Policy Institute-Local class of 2018-19, is a fellow on the institute’s Economic Justice team.
In the interview-style article, Loredo discussed the challenges and importance of policy advocacy as a Spanish speaker from Monterey County.

“I believe that the education system should supply each student with their necessities so that they have the greatest chance of going to college prepared academically and socially and economically,” she said. “This health problem in my community results from poor investment in children, especially English language learners, in their academics and socio-emotional development and from lack of high-quality pre-schooling.”

Kristen Arps receives award from Workforce Development Board
Kristen Arps, director of the Salinas Valley Adult Education Consortium, has received a Community Partner Award from the Monterey County Workforce Development Board.

She was recognized for her work in providing educational and training opportunities that further the aims and dreams of WIOA participants and make a difference in the lives of those served by programs sponsored by the Workforce Development Board.

Arps was specifically recognized for organizational leadership, a pragmatic approach and creative problem-solving to prepare our community members with a solid foundation to acquire the skills needed in today’s workforce.
Respiratory care students deliver services at Greenfield posada

Parent organizer Alma Loredo of the Salinas Valley Health Professions Pathway Partnership joined with Hartnell respiratory care students Belen Bonilla, Irene Rivera and Martha Salas de Rodriguez on Dec. 1 to participate in a Community Posada at Vista Verde Middle School in Greenfield. The students took vital signs and provided education about smoking cessation, managing chronic obstructive lung disease and asthma. Loredo was able to connect with parents and begin educating parents about healthcare pathways at Hartnell.

Two gain training certification in Mental Health First Aid

Hartnell College has two new certified Mental Health First Aid trainers on staff. Department of Supportive Programs and Services Counselor Valerie Maturino and Veterans Program Counselor Gemma Uribe-Cruz attended and completed the Mental Health First Aid certification training in Salt Lake City from Dec. 3-5.

As MHFA trainers, they join psychology instructor Alicia Edelen in providing the eight-hour training for Hartnell College faculty, staff and students this spring. This training provides a deeper understanding of mental health while also helping to reduce stigma associated with mental illness. Registration dates for the training will be announced at the Annual Student Success Conference in January.

Training to serve undocumented students draws a crowd of interested participants eager to help

More than 100 educators and community organizers participated Nov. 9 in a training on Access to Hartnell for Undocumented Students. The popularity of the training was a testament to the need for dissemination of accurate information about Hartnell's ongoing commitment to advise and serve undocumented students and families.

Participants learned about new requirements and opportunities related to CA Senate Bill 68 and CA Assembly Bill 540, which expand access to undocumented students by granting non-resident tuition exemption. In addition, participants learned about Hartnell's recently implemented Board Policy and Administrative Procedure 5030, which allows any student, regardless of residency status, to enroll in up to six units per term without being charged out of state fees.
The training was hosted by Hartnell’s Mi CASA and the Salinas Valley Adult Education Consortium, with presentations by Hartnell Dreamer students, the Hartnell Office of Admissions & Records, and Nancy Jodaitis, the director of higher education initiatives from Immigrants Rising. The popularity of the training was a testament to the need for dissemination of accurate information Hartnell's ongoing commitment to supporting undocumented students and families.

**Veterans Program completes busy November schedule**

Staff and students in Hartnell’s Veterans Program participated in multiple community events throughout November, including: the annual Salinas Valley Veterans Parade, a screening of the critically acclaimed film “Almost Sunrise,” and two workshops for students and employees on managing stress and post-traumatic stress order.

Thanks to generous contributions and donations by the Hartnell community, the Veterans Program and Veterans Club were able to provide 60 Thanksgiving meals to our students and their families. Finally, the month ended with a night of art therapy provided by Main Street Art Gallery at the Northridge Mall on Nov. 30. Thank you for your continued support of the Hartnell veterans community.

**Data Brains team seeks improvement and efficiency in data management**

The Curriculum, Scheduling and Instruction Data Brains team got together for a mini-retreat on Dec. 3 to review its structure, processes and priorities. The team leads efforts to build efficiency in such areas as new course catalog formats, one-on-one and group training, expanded auditing strategies and structured scheduling of data submission. Contributions come from each of the members: Marina Reyes, Ruby Garcia, Herbert Cortez, Dr. Celine Pinet.

The batch error report used at the start of contracts production noted only seven sections with errors, which equates to approximately one-sixth the number of errors in previous years dating back to 2012.

The deans and directors assignments sections earlier than in previous semesters. Under the leadership of Dave Phillips, Terri Pyer, Dr. Sonja Lolland and Dr. Pinet — and with the support of the Data Brains team — deans, directors and their assistants participated in a training on Dec. 4 to review information about faculty load and ensure related data integrity.
Students form Philosophy and Law Society to explore issues of social and legal relevance

A new Hartnell College Philosophy and Law Society was ratified as a student club. Organized by Philosophy professor Dr. Andrew Soto and a group of students, the group will seek to develop a community dedicated to the exploration of philosophical, legal and social justice issues.

The club’s founding student officers are: Gonzalo Cabrera, president; David Ramirez, vice president; Alejandro Barbosa, treasurer; and Antonio Lacy, Inter-Club Council representative.

Men’s and Women’s Basketball continue play through Dec. 22

While the Hartnell baseball and softball teams prepare for their seasons to open in late January and early February, respectively, the Panthers men’s and women’s basketball teams continue with a busy schedule of games nearly right until Christmas.

After a pair of road losses versus Folsom Lake on Dec. 1 and Butte on Dec. 7, the women will seek to even out their 2-6 record with games at San Jose City on Dec. 13, at home against Modesto on Dec. 19, away at San Mateo on Dec. 21 and back home against Contra Costa a Dec. 22. The men’s team, now 6-7 for the season, will travel to Porterville on Dec. 14.

Upcoming Events
Pop-Up Pantry for students
12-2 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 14
Office of Student Life, C-140

Women’s Basketball vs. Modesto
5 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 19
Hartnell Gymnasium

Women’s Basketball vs. Contra Costa
3 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 22
Hartnell Gymnasium

In the News