Accreditation team commends Hartnell’s ‘culture of excellence’

Based on a preliminary report from a team of educators who visited Hartnell Community College District campuses on March 4-7, we anticipate receiving affirmation of accreditation for seven more years.

Congratulations to everyone who has contributed to this exceptional outcome!

On March 7, the 11-member assessment team from community colleges in California and Hawaii, representing the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), announced it would not make any recommendations for compliance, meaning Hartnell fully meets all accreditation standards.

About 120 employees and students burst into thunderous applause following this announcement in Steinbeck Hall by Team Chair Willy Duncan, superintendent/president of Sierra College (pictured). It was a great day in the history of Hartnell College.

The ACCJC team based its findings on the dozens of meetings it held with Hartnell faculty, staff, students and community members, as well as a review of our 327-page self-evaluation report and their independent research. (The team’s visit to the Alisal Campus is pictured, along with a photo of Emmett Linder, director of community and grower relations for Driscoll’s).

The preliminary report will be reviewed by the ACCJC commission and is expected to be returned to Hartnell as a final report in June.

“We are very impressed by Hartnell College, and we commend you on developing a culture of professional excellence,” Duncan said. “… You know who you are as a college and as a community, and this sense of meaning and purpose permeates the entire organization.
“We were able to feel it. We found it from your staff, from your faculty and from your administration, and most importantly from your students and the community members we were able to talk to.”

Rather than citing unmet standards, the team issued three formal commendations – for Hartnell’s work to support student success, forge community partnerships and make data-driven decisions regarding academic programs and courses.

They also made three recommendations for improvement, intended to further elevate the college’s service to students and other stakeholders. The recommendations were in the areas of library services, planning for long-term costs of new facilities and regularly updating its technology master plan.

**Nevarez earns recognition for service to Phi Theta Kappa**

It was my privilege during the March 5 meeting of the Hartnell Community College District Governing Board to recognize Augustine Nevarez, director of Student Life for his five years of service as advisor to Hartnell’s Beta Mu Xi Chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

I supported this distinction with purchase of an engraved brick in his honor of his work at Hartnell, to be placed in the Alpha Courtyard at the Phi Beta Kappa Center for Excellence in Jackson, Miss.

I greatly appreciate Augustine’s work and the service of all of our faculty and staff who serve as advisers to student clubs and organizations.

**Innovation Grants awarded to College Re-Design team projects**

The Professional Development Committee has awarded three $3,500 Innovation Grants to support College Re-Design projects:

- The Pre-Enrolled Students Team will receive funds to test a pilot information sheet, accompanied by an interest card, for use by Hartnell outreach programs.
- The Continuing Students Team received an award for its planned event, Registration Milestone: Alisal Continuing Student Registration Celebration for Fall 2019.
- Dr. Hetty Yelland and Matthew Trengrove received
the final grant for their work to embed faculty coaches within each College Re-Design Team during the Fall 2019 semester.

The grant recipients are tentatively scheduled to present the outcome of their projects during the Student Success Conference in January 2020. Pictured are leaders for the grant recipients: Joy Cowden (Continuing Students), Heather Rodriguez (Continuing Students), Dr. Hetty Yelland, Cesar Velazquez (Pre-Enrolled).

**Starbucks construction to start next month in Student Center**

Following awarding of a contract to Tombelson Inc. Construction by the Hartnell Community College District Governing Board on March 5, work is scheduled to begin April 15 on construction of a Starbucks store on the north end of our Student Center (Building C).

The store will sell a full range of Starbucks beverages and food and include outdoor seating. It will be only the second Starbucks location at a California Community College. The other is at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa.

Until the store is completed for its scheduled opening in August, construction will limit the path of travel into and out of the building from the north entrance, and there also will be some construction noise. Posters depicting the area of construction are up in the Student Center for reference.

Please direct any questions to the Facilities Planning and Construction Management Department at 770-6104 or 770-6195.

**Successful Music Extravaganza draws crowd for full evening**

The 2019 Music Extravaganza on March 8 in the Hartnell Center for Performing Arts drew a crowd of at least 100 people for a 90-minute musical program that included performances of all college vocal and instrumental ensembles (orchestra is pictured), as well as students of guitar and piano.

Steve Ettinger, full-time faculty for the Department of Music, thanked the audience for its support and enthusiasm and acknowledged members of the Hartnell College Foundation Council for the Arts, who served free hors d’oeuvres and refreshments. Governing Board Vice President Patricia Donohue and Trustee Manuel Osorio served wine, available for a donation.

Among the highlights was a dance number, “Peroxide Swing,” performed by the Chamber Singers Ensemble (pictured), and a trumpet solo by Victor Lopez during the Jazz Band’s final number, “Burritos to Go.”
Upcoming appearance dates for the ensembles include Performance Night at 7 p.m. on April 5 in K-125 and the Hawaiian Music Concert at 7 p.m. May 5 on the Mainstage Theater (Building K).

**Women’s Empowerment Conference**

begins month-long schedule of events

The 2019 Women’s Empowerment Conference on March 9 in the Student Center featured a keynote speech and book signing by former Hartnell communications director Esmeralda Montenegro-Owens, four workshops and a Dress for Success boutique with items donated by Hartnell employees.

The workshops were Self-Care and Wellness, presented by student Eva Arreola; Expressive Art (pictured), presented by Jessica Evanjelista, a Hartnell alum who is both an artist and a community activist; Career and Professional Development, presented by Transfer and Career Center Coordinator Mercedes Del Real; and Safety and Self Defense, presented by Alejandro Mora of the Salinas Taekwondo Academy.

Also pictured are students Zeine Azzubaifi (left) and Michelle Sandoval, who helped staff the registration table.

Women’s History Month continues with the “Women Make Movies” film series at noon through March 15 and a presentation by Montenegro-Owens at noon on March 19 about her book “Beautiful: 7 Steps to the Best Version of You.” All these events will be the Office of Student Life (Building C).

**Welcome Kiosk now open; dedication planned for May**

Hartnell’s new Welcome Kiosk on the south end of the parking garage turnabout opened on March 11 will remain staffed with a student public safety worker and/or a contract security employee weekdays from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Following completion of final building details, including installation of a "Hartnell College" sign on top of the structure, the college will hold a dedication event for the kiosk, probably in early May.
Kiosk staff will be available to answer questions about parking and wayfinding, as well as general campus information, including public safety. On the first morning, the building was staffed by student-worker Resa Pilar and First Alarm employee Fabian Rodriguez.

“Thank you to colleagues in the Office of Facilities Planning and Construction Management for their planning and oversight of this valuable addition to our campus,” said Kenneth Laird Director of Public Safety & Emergency Management.

**Transfer season kicks off with student trip to Fresno State**

On March 1, the Hartnell Transfer & Career Center took more than 30 students on a field trip to Fresno State that will be followed by similar trips to UC Davis and Sacramento State on March 15 and Cal Poly SLO on April 12, all paid for by Hispanic-Serving Institution funding.

Students may RSVP to attend the future trips by contacting the Transfer and Career Center, C-132, 759-6007.

During the trip to Fresno, chaperoned by counselors Dr. Nancy Reyes and Mercedes Del Real, students received a walking and bus tour of the Central Valley campus and were able to appreciate such university programs as viticulture, engineering and Physical therapy and the state-of-the art library. The group also received a presentation tailored to transfer students, and some were able to connect with Hartnell alumni now working on their bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Fresno State.
Nursing students participate in first career night at Gonzales H.S.

Registered Nursing students participated in the first-ever CTE Career Night on Feb. 26 at Gonzales High School, sharing information about the Hartnell nursing program and health information regarding diabetes, healthy eating and healthy habits.

Miguel Ocampo, college/career pathways coordinator for the Gonzales Unified School District, said the event positive feedback from students, parents, staff and board members.

“These are the type of community events that help support our college and career culture,” Ocampo said, “and your participation helped us deliver that message.”

RCP and RN students introduce prospects to their programs

During the last week of February, respiratory care practitioner and registered nursing students joined Iris Gamez, coordinator of the Salinas Valley Health Professions Pathway Partnership, to present informational workshops for students interested in the RCP and RN programs.

The workshops consisted of program prerequisites, admissions information and other expectations for the program.

Gamez gave special thanks to RCP student Freddy Alvarez for performing an intubation demonstration and providing a hands-on experience for a workshop participant and also to Erika Turcotte and Kelly Quiroz for providing one-on-one mentorship to interested students.

She also expressed “a big thanks” to Nursing and Allied Health counselor Gabriela Lopez for stopping by and providing support to our students.

Speech Team places two students in persuasive speaking competition

The Hartnell Speech Team competed at the Northern California Forensics Association Championships on Feb. 23-24 at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, going up against 13 two-year and four-year schools in the Northern California region.
Team captain Athena Ramirez won second place overall in persuasive speaking. Her speech focused on stopping the legality of child brides in the United States. Teammate Carmen Urciuoli placed fourth in persuasive speaking with a speech that highlights fat shaming in the medical community, as well as possible solutions.

Also competing for Hartnell were Angel Hernandez, Valerie Becerra and Victor Marquez.

“We were very pleased with our ability to break into persuasion finals at this tournament,” said Coach Daniel Lopez.

At the end of the tournament, Lopez was elected to a two-year term as president of the Northern California Forensics Association. The team will next compete April 11-14 at the California Community College Championships in Woodland Hills.

**Grant funds April events to showcase public health**

A proposal by Belinda Saechao-Jimmeye, public health instructor and adviser for the Public Health Club, to promote careers in public health during National Public Health Week, April 1-7, has received a $400 award from the League for Innovation in the Community College.

The award will fund two events: “What is Public Health?” a presentation by the Monterey County Health Department from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on April 1, and Public Health Career and Wellness Day, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 3.

“I am so thrilled for the Public Health Club to embark on this opportunity to showcase public health, introducing public health as an area of study and career choice,” Saechao-Jimmeye said.

**Basketball players selected for all-conference teams**

Players on both the men’s and women’s 2018-19 Panther basketball teams have been chosen for all-conference recognition.

On the men’s team, sophomore Spencer Conrad from Orem, Utah, was named to the Coast South All-Conference First Team, and Taylor Cox from Durant, Okla., was named to the Second Team and designated Top Freshman.

On the women’s team, sophomore Ilyana Hendricks from Soledad High School was named to the All Coast Conference Second Team after leading Hartnell in scoring and...
rebounds. Named to the Honorable Mention All-Coast Conference team was freshmen Josephine Cruz-Rios from Alisal High School. She was the Panthers’ second-leading scorer and best three-point shooter.

**Panther athletes recruited to compete for universities**

The last two weeks saw three transfer announcements from Hartnell athletes:
Lauryn Orozco signed to continue competing in cross country and track and field at Cal State East Bay in Hayward, where she plans to study teaching. Both Megan Hertzog on the women’s soccer team and Isaias Pio committed to playing for Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, S.D.

**Track and Field athletes set additional PR marks**

**Men's and women's track and field** competed well in two events on March 8, in two different parts of the state. At the Jack Albiani Invitational in Modesto, several athletes achieved new personal records. Men’s team: freshman thrower Guy Gida (11.38m, 16-pound shotput; 33.66m 2kg discus); and sophomore Tyson Damon (38.86m javelin). Women’s team: Veronica Aguilar and Dakota Peebles (200m), Anesa Vanderlippe (100m hurdles) and Stephanie Politron (discus). At the Occidental College Distance Carnival in Los Angeles, sophomore Monica Ruelas had the top Norcal mark in her first 5,000-meter attempt this spring. Freshman Jesus Avalos (King City H.S.), who sat out a year after high school, posted the second-best Norcal time in the 5,000m, just one second shy of the top spot.

**Panther Softball** had a tough outing at Monterey Peninsula on March 7, falling 12-2 and bringing its overall record to 2-13 for the season. Following a March 11 game at Gavilan, they were set to host West Valley on March 12 and San Jose on March 13, both starting at 3 p.m.
In the News

Hartnell College meets accreditation standards:

Forkum to serve on NJCAA governing board:
https://www.montereyherald.com/2019/03/10/clipboard-smooth-transition-on-the-mound-for-clements/

Local Roundup: David Ortiz lifts Hartnell baseball past Gavilan:

Upcoming Events
Note: Occasionally there are changes to dates/times for athletic contests due to weather and other circumstances. Check the Hartnell Athletics website for the most current schedule information (http://www.hartnellpanthers.com).

Softball vs. West Valley
3 p.m.
Tuesday, March 12
Hartnell field

“Women Make Movies” film series
12 p.m.
March 11-15
Office of Student Life
Building C, Main Campus

“Reclaim, Reframe Our City, Our County”
Alex Vitale, speaker
6-7:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 14
Steinbeck Hall (Building C)

Baseball vs. Canada
2:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 14
Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

Softball vs. West Valley
3 p.m.
Thursday, March 14
Hartnell field
“Beautiful: 7 Steps to the Best Version of You”
12 p.m.
Tuesday, March 19
Office of Student Life
Building C, Main Campus

**Baseball vs. Ohlone**
2:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 21
Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

**Softball vs. Mission**
3 p.m.
Thursday, March 21
Hartnell field

**Baseball vs. San Mateo**
2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 26
Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

**Drop-In Immigration Legal Services**
6-8 p.m.
Wednesday, March 27
Building D, room 385

**Softball vs. Foothill**
3 p.m.
Thursday, March 28
Hartnell field

**Baseball vs. West Valley**
1 p.m.
Saturday, March 30
Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

**Softball vs. Chabot**
3 p.m.
Thursday, April 4
Hartnell field