

# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



2019

2020

## VISION

Hartnell College students will be prepared to contribute as leaders to the intellectual, social, cultural and economic vitality of our communities and the world.

## MISSION

Focusing on the education and workforce development needs of communities in the Salinas Valley, Hartnell College strengthens communities by providing opportunities for students to reach career and/or academic goals (associate degrees, certificates of achievement, transfer to four-year institutions) in an environment committed to student learning, achievement and success.

# OUR VALUES

## STUDENTS FIRST

We believe the first question that should be asked when making decisions is “What impact will the decision have on student access, learning, development, achievement, leadership and success?”

## ACADEMIC & SERVICE EXCELLENCE

We commit to excellence in teaching and student services that develop the intellectual, personal and social competence of every student.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

We embrace and celebrate differences and uniqueness among all students and employees. We welcome students and employees of all backgrounds.

## ETHICS & INTEGRITY

We commit to respect, civility, honesty, responsibility and transparency in all actions and communications.

## ALLIANCES

We develop strategic relationships within the college and community, locally and globally, that allow us to grow our knowledge, expand our reach and strengthen our impact on those we serve.

## LEADERSHIP & EMPOWERMENT

We commit to growing leaders through opportunity, engagement and achievement.

## INNOVATION

Through collaboration, we seek and create new tools, techniques, programs and processes that improve student learning, student achievement and institutional effectiveness.

## STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES

We commit to effective utilization of human, physical, financial and technological resources.

## HEALTH, SAFETY & SECURITY

We commit to providing a healthy, safe and secure environment for all students, employees and visitors.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, effective July 1, 2018.





These 2020 graduates reflect the diversity of goals and experience among Hartnell students:

## DANIEL MARTIN REGISTERED NURSING



Daniel Martin headed to Sacramento State University after graduating from North Salinas High School, but he soon discovered Hartnell

was a more direct path to becoming a registered nurse. He plans to complete his baccalaureate nursing degree with another year of study at Cal State Monterey Bay.

While at Hartnell, Martin and fellow students have worked beside professionals at Natividad Medical Center and Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, as well as at skilled nursing facilities operated by Windsor Healthcare.

He envisions himself working as a surgical nurse in the future, ideally in the Salinas area. "I'm kind of realizing there was a purpose for me to be here," Martin said.

## MARIA GUADALUPE ALTAMIRANO BIOLOGY & CHEMISTRY



The next step in Maria Guadalupe Altamirano's plan to become an eye doctor will be a degree in biological sciences from the University of

California, Davis. She said her parents always made it clear she would attend college: "They came from Mexico, so obviously they came for us to be able to get the education they weren't able to."

In addition to participating in the Women's Education and Leadership Institute (WELI) at Hartnell, she was a student ambassador, worked on two genomics research projects and benefited from both the MESA (Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement) program and the TRiO student success program.

"It helped me meet a lot of people from different schools and different towns and get to see the interests everybody has," she said.

## SELWYN DAYE TEACHER PATHWAY PROGRAM



After returning to Hartnell on a "leap of faith" after 13 years in agricultural packaging, Selwyn Daye is continuing the Teacher Pathway Program at Cal State

Monterey Bay.

"It's easy for me to get along with kids and help and guide them, but actually going through the process of teaching has been a real learning experience," Daye said. He attended Hartnell in 2004 after graduation from North Salinas High School but quit to start working.

Recently remarried and the first-time dad of a 3-year-old son, he came back to Hartnell rather than continuing his job at a box company. As a stepdad to three children, he was proud to graduate from Hartnell with his stepson, Nigel McKelvey, who will continue on to study agriculture at Fresno State University.

## DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES,

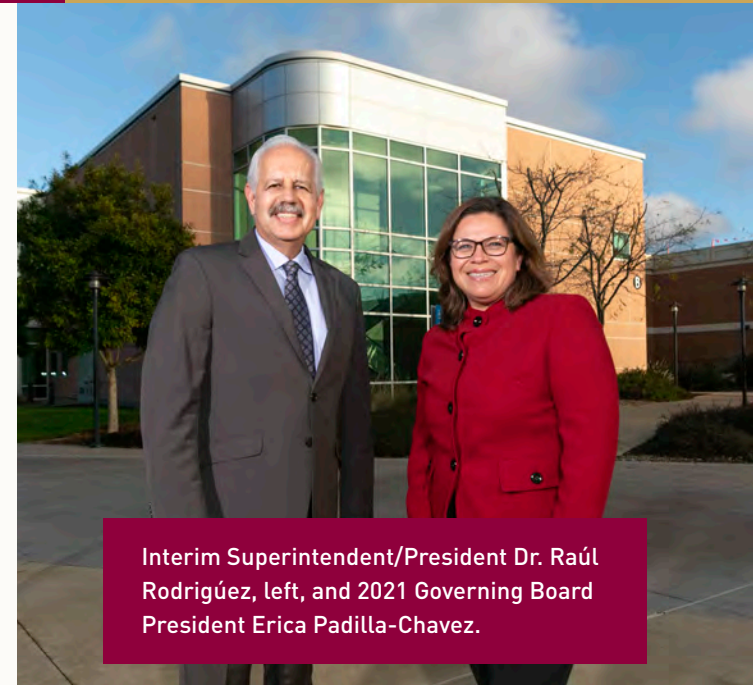
**A** **S WE BEGIN** a new year with hope and anticipation, we look back on 2019-20 with pride in all that Hartnell College students have accomplished, including their determination in responding to a historic public health emergency. As difficult as it was for many to suddenly switch to online instruction last spring, the vast majority of students were able to continue learning, with dedicated support from faculty, staff and donors. We all have gained a much deeper appreciation of the word “resilience.”

The Hartnell Community College District Governing Board determined in March 2020 that construction of new and expanded facilities funded by Bond Measure T should not be interrupted by the pandemic, and several projects are now complete or nearly finished. Our

new and expanded education centers will provide tremendous new access to higher education throughout the Salinas Valley, and we are looking forward to opening the transformative Center for Nursing & Health Sciences in Fall 2021.

Hartnell continues to make strong and steady gains in both students’ completion of degrees and certificates and their rate of transfer to the University of California and California State University systems. We also are seeing a steady increase in the percentage of high school students from our district who start college at Hartnell. And yet, those gains only motivate us to seek even better outcomes, with a new Strategic Plan to guide us in helping more students begin rewarding careers or complete four-year degrees.

Simply put, we are as resolved as ever to put “Students First.” This 2019-2020 Report to the Community highlights



Interim Superintendent/President Dr. Raúl Rodríguez, left, and 2021 Governing Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez.

the success of our inspiring students, as well as the many milestones and achievements that further the excellence of Hartnell College. Go Panthers!

**RAUL RODRIGUEZ, PH.D.**  
Interim Superintendent-  
President

**ERICA PADILLA-CHAVEZ**  
President, Hartnell  
College Governing Board

# MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

## DR. RODRIGUEZ GUIDES COLLEGE THROUGH CHANGE

**DR. RAÚL RODRÍGUEZ** became interim superintendent/president of the Hartnell Community College District on July 6, 2020, and on Sept. 15, his term was extended from one to three years. He succeeded Dr. Patricia Hsieh, who had held the position since August 2019.

Before joining Hartnell College as superintendent/president in July 2020, Dr. Rodríguez was interim president at East Los Angeles College from July 2019 until June 2020. Prior to that, he was chancellor of the Rancho Santiago Community College District (RSCCD) from 2010 to 2019. As chancellor of RSCCD, one of the largest community college districts in California, he oversaw a district that registers more than 80,000 students a year and is one of the largest employers in the region.

Dr. Rodríguez holds a doctorate in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz. He also possesses a Master's of Arts from Fairfield University in School and Applied Psychology and a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Studies from Bowling Green (Ohio) State University. An educator who taught psychology at Cabrillo College and the University of California, Santa Cruz, he is also a graduate of the Harvard Institute for Educational Management.

Board trustees said Hartnell will benefit from Dr. Rodríguez's extensive experience, demonstrated by his leadership in responding to COVID-19, preparing to open new facilities and seeking greater equity and inclusion for students and employees.

"He is a hands-on, proactive and strategic leader who understands the Salinas Valley and cares deeply about the success of every Hartnell student."

— **AURELIO SALAZAR JR.**  
2019-20 Board President



Dr. Raúl Rodríguez speaks during the Oct. 22 groundbreaking ceremony for the Castroville Education Center.

### 2020-21 GOVERNING BOARD

Erica Padilla-Chavez  
PRESIDENT

Candi DePauw  
VICE PRESIDENT

Margaret D'Arrigo-Martin

Alejandra Gonzalez

Irma C. Lopez

Ray Montemayor

Aurelio Salazar Jr.

Michael Castro  
STUDENT TRUSTEE

# Strategic Plan Aims to Increase Student Success

Adopted by the Hartnell College Governing Board on May 7, 2019, after four years of college-wide engagement, the Hartnell College Strategic Plan for 2019-24 set a new trajectory for student success. Together, its four Student Success Goals aim to increase students' ability to efficiently complete their higher education and achieve career success.

Each of the goals presents a unique institutional challenge, as described by Dr. Brian Lofman, dean of institutional planning, research and effectiveness, during Fall 2019 Convocation on Aug. 9, 2019:

## GOAL 1: INCREASE STUDENT COMPLETION

“Although over the past several years the college has greatly increased the number of students who annually earn an award (degree or certificate), many students drop out part way through their studies or make slow progress toward completion.”

## GOAL 2: INCREASE STUDENT COMPLETION EFFICIENCY

“For those students who complete their studies, the amount of time that it takes is frequently excessive, and the number of credits they amass is substantially more than they require to earn their award.”

## GOAL 3: INCREASE STUDENT TRANSFER TO FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

“Students who are not effectively guided to transfer options early on in their studies may not engage in the most beneficial learning experiences in advance of transfer, or even transition successfully to a higher-level educational opportunity.”

## GOAL 4: IMPROVE STUDENT EMPLOYMENT SUBSEQUENT TO TRAINING OR COMPLETION

“Students who do not intentionally explore career interests, are not directed to career placement options early in their studies or fail to connect learning to prospective employment outcomes may not engage in the most productive learning experiences or otherwise be optimally prepared for available jobs.”



Dr. Brian Lofman, dean of institutional planning, research and effectiveness, speaks during Fall 2020 Convocation on Aug. 9, 2019, in the Mainstage Theater.



Willy Duncan, chair of the ACCJC assessment team and superintendent/president of Sierra College, presents a preliminary accreditation report on March 7, 2019, in Steinbeck Hall.

## Accreditation Team Commends ‘Culture Of Excellence’

**A TEAM OF VISITING EDUCATORS** concluded a seven-year accreditation review of the Hartnell Community College District in March 2019, with a ringing endorsement of how the college fulfills its mission of excellence and service to students and the community.

The 11-member assessment team from community colleges in California and Hawaii, representing the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), concluded that Hartnell fully meets all accreditation standards.

“We are very impressed by Hartnell College, and we commend you on developing a culture of professional excellence,” said Willy Duncan, the team’s chair and

superintendent/president of Sierra College in Rocklin, Calif., in a report to the campus on March 7.

In a message of thanks to the campus community, then-Superintendent/President Dr. Willard Lewallen called it a “great day in the history of Hartnell College.”

The ACCJC evaluation team’s findings were based on a four-day visit, which included dozens of meetings with faculty, staff, students and community members, as well as a review of Hartnell’s 327-page self-evaluation report and independent research before and during the visit. The commission formally affirmed the new seven-year accreditation on June 28. Over the next seven years, Hartnell

will only be required to submit a standard mid-term report in March 2023. The next comprehensive accreditation evaluation will occur in Spring 2026.

Dr. Lewallen credited the ACCJC endorsement to a campus-wide commitment to maintain improvement and uphold standards in everything from assessment of student learning outcomes to regular completion of employee evaluations.

“We implemented a bunch of things we had to do, but that’s not enough,” he said. “It’s sustaining them. It’s sustaining the emphasis in place across all the standards, and that’s been the secret to the whole thing – and that required resources, it required people, and we did that.”



**DR. CATHRYN WILKINSON**  
Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Wilkinson became vice president of academic affairs in November 2020 after serving as dean of instruction for liberal arts at Monterey Peninsula College since 2017.

**DANIEL SCOTT**  
Director of Public Safety/Emergency Management



Scott became director of public safety/emergency management in January 2020. He previously was assistant director and emergency management coordinator at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena since 2017.

**DR. SACHIKO MATSUNAGA**  
Dean for Academic Affairs for Languages & Learning Support Resources



Dr. Matsunaga became Dean of Academic Affairs for Languages, Learning Support and Resources in February 2020. She previously was Professor and Chair of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at California State University, Los Angeles.

# Leadership Appointments



**DAVID TECHAIRA**  
Controller

Techaira became controller in October 2019 after working the previous 13 years in various accounting roles, including accounting technician, accountant, interim grants accounting manager and, since 2016, accounting manager.



**LYLE ENGELDINGER**  
Vice President of Human Resources & Equal Opportunity

Engeldinger became the vice president of human resources and equal opportunity in February 2020. He previously was the vice president for human resources and equal opportunity officer at Barstow College since 2017.



## GOVERNING BOARD ATTENDS STUDENT TOWN HALL

Members of the Hartnell Community College District Governing Board held a first-ever Town Hall meeting on Nov. 18, 2019, organized by the Associated Students of Hartnell College (ASHC). Joined by then ASHC President and Student Trustee Samantha Saldaña, the board members shared their personal backgrounds and inspiration for serving Hartnell College.



About 50 students attended the event in the Student Center on Main Campus, asking thoughtful questions about how to support and honor diversity at Hartnell and how the college will maintain high-quality student services on all its campuses.

## 2020 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS IS MARILYN LONG



Marilyn Long, a Southern California philanthropist, delivered the keynote address during the virtual Commencement ceremony on May 29, 2020, as Hartnell's 2020 Distinguished Alumni. The award recognizes the accomplishments of alumni who have made significant achievements in their profession and/or in service to our community. Long, a 1972 graduate, is president and executive director of the Long Family Foundation, which she established with her husband, John Long, to support research, education, culture and the arts in the United States and China. In 2016, the couple commissioned and donated the "Jaipur" sculpture in front of the Willard Lewallen STEM Center.

# Leadership News

## STUDENTS ELECT MICHAEL CASTRO AS BOARD REPRESENTATIVE



Michael Castro was elected in April 2020 as the Hartnell Governing Board's student trustee for 2020-21, and he was sworn in via Zoom on June 2, 2020, by U.S. Rep. Jimmy Panetta. Castro, who happens to be the husband of outgoing student trustee Samantha Saldaña, resumed his Hartnell studies 11 years after he first attended Hartnell as a graduate of Everett Alvarez High School. Castro enrolled full-time as an online student studying business administration, with plans to transfer to a university in 2021. He works full-time as a sales manager in business development for Luttrell Staffing in Salinas.

# Hartnell Moves Quickly to Keep Students Learning

**THE IMPACT OF COVID-19** on Hartnell College began in early March 2020 when a student reported being exposed to the coronavirus while on vacation. Within a week, as cases steadily increased in Monterey County, Hartnell obtained approval from the California Community Colleges System to start all-online instruction, effective March 24. A March 17 countywide shelter-in-place order meant that all employees who could do their jobs at home would do so. Planning for employees' return to campus continued throughout the year, but it was still unclear when that could happen.

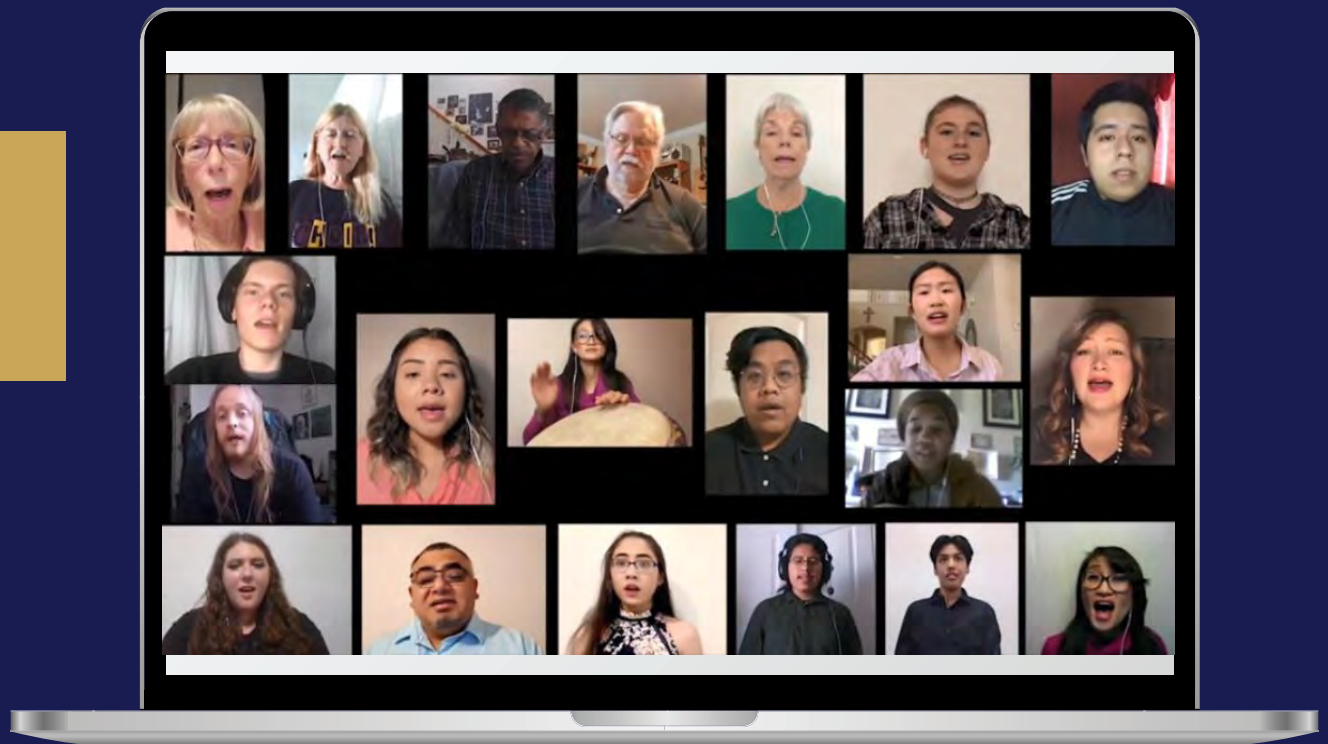
student services via email, telephone and video conferencing. Employees still working on campus wore face coverings and observed physical distancing in shared spaces.

The Hartnell Community College District Governing Board voted unanimously on March 18 to authorize "any and all actions necessary to ensure the continuation of public education and the health and safety of the students and employees."

Rapid adjustment included an online Panther Prep Pledge onboarding for high school graduates, distribution of hundreds of loaner laptops and mobile wireless hotspots by college IT staff, a video guide to online services and virtual choir and orchestra concerts. Donations to a COVID-19 Student Emergency Response Fund exceeded \$250,000, including support from the Community Fund of Monterey County and the Monterey Peninsula Foundation.

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE

As the worldwide pandemic worsened, precautions went well beyond hand sanitizer and reminders to stay home when feeling ill. Instructors, many of whom had never taught online before, quickly adapted courses for distance education. Students began to access



## POP-UP FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION

As a Monterey County shelter-in-place order brought the economy to a near standstill, the college's twice-monthly Pop-Up Pantry food distribution took on special importance, moving into the Main Campus parking garage instead of the Student Center. Students, staff and faculty put on masks and assembled bags of food for hundreds of students and student families in partnership with the Food Bank of Monterey County.



Biology instructor Dr. Ann Wright prepares bags for food during the Pop-Up Pantry on June 27, 2020, in the Main Campus parking garage.

A 30-minute Zoom performance by the Hartnell Choir and Hartnell Chamber Singers on May 20 received more than 1,000 views on YouTube and many rave reviews.

## COMMENCEMENT GAINS HUGE ONLINE AUDIENCE



Administration of Justice major Jesus Altamirano gets creative with his graduation photo, as did many in the Centennial Class of 2020.

With the 2020 Commencement set for May 29, Hartnell pivoted to present a virtual graduation. Augustine Nevarez, director of student affairs and student life, prepared a pre-recorded, in-studio ceremony so graduates and their families could watch from home, with 10,000 online views.

Said then Superintendent/President Dr. Patricia Hsieh: "You will be remembered as students who made tremendous personal sacrifices for the well-being of others, while holding tight to your educational and career goals."

## VENTILATORS LOANED & NURSING STUDENTS STEP UP

Few things more clearly drove home the reality of COVID-19 for Hartnell College than its loan of 13 ventilators from the respiratory care program to Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital (SVMH), Natividad Medical Center and Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula in early April. Equally important was the continued clinical training of 88 registered nursing students at SVMH, albeit in roles that did not put them in direct contact with coronavirus patients.



Respiratory care students assist with the return of ventilators loaned in March 2020 to Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula.

Incoming freshman students attend Panther Prep Day at the King City Education Center on May 3, 2019.

# STUDENT SUCCESS



## Fraj Receives Prized Cooke Scholarship



Jenel Fraij speaks during the Hartnell College Foundation's virtual Party in the Library on May 20, 2020.

FOR A SECOND straight year, an outstanding Hartnell student received a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship, one of only 50 awarded nationwide — including nine in California.

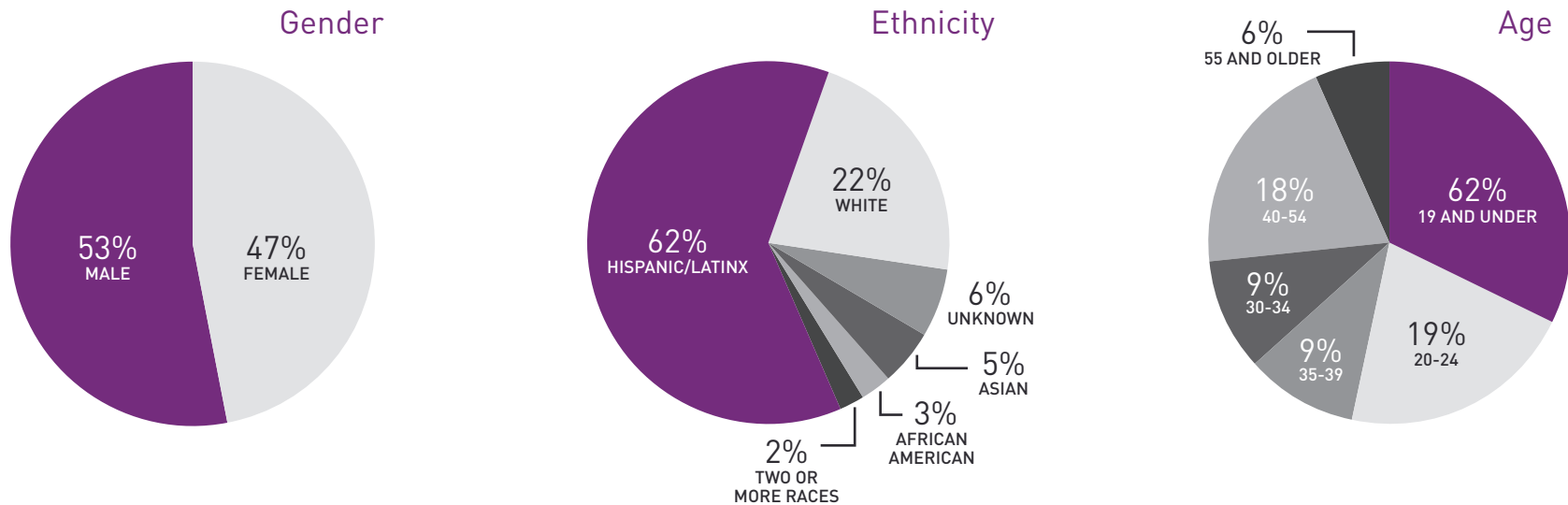
2020 graduate and valedictorian Jenel Fraij of Salinas was selected from among 461 semifinalists, who included fellow Hartnell students Kenya Burton and Estefania Villicana. In 2019, Mariluz Tejada Leon was

chosen from Hartnell, and she now attends Yale University.

The Cooke Foundation evaluated each submission based on students' academic ability and achievement, financial need, persistence, leadership and service to others. Among Fraij's involvements outside the classroom was membership in the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, the Hartnell Physics Club and work as a student tutor.

Hartnell College enrolled 18,559 students throughout the 2019-20 academic year (13,365 in Fall 2019), with full-time equivalent enrollment (FTES), based on total credits taken, of 7,585.

## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



As a Cooke Scholar, Fraij receives up to \$40,000 per year for educational expenses such as tuition, living expenses, books and required fees as she completes her bachelor’s degree. She also will be eligible to apply for up to \$75,000 of funding toward graduate school. In addition to financial support, Cooke Transfer Scholars receive comprehensive educational advising from the Cooke foundation to guide them through the process of transitioning to a four-year college and preparing for their careers. Scholars

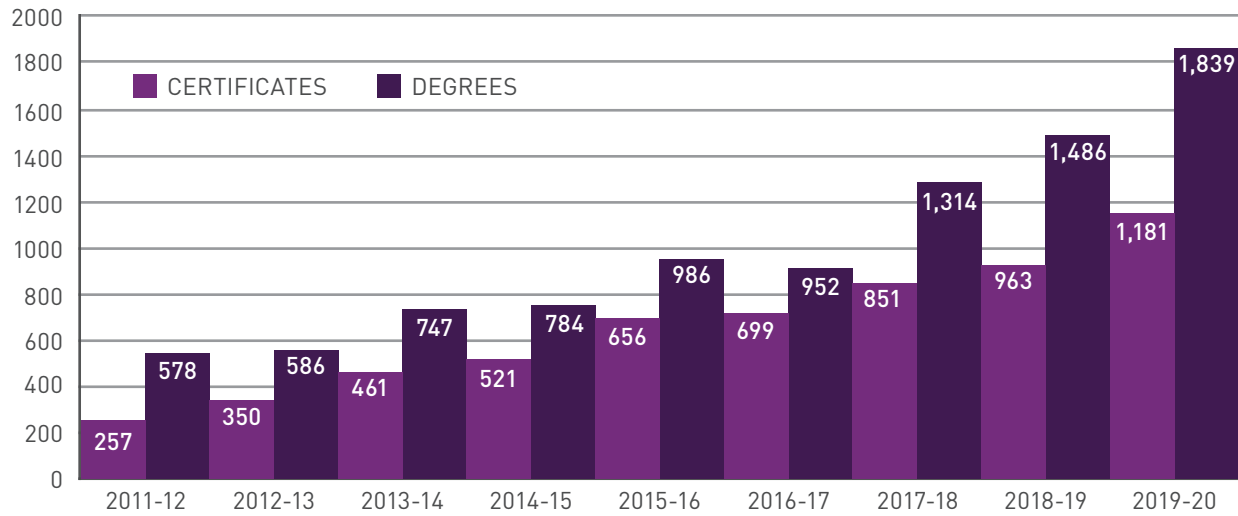
will additionally receive opportunities for internships and study abroad, as well as connection to a network of Cooke Scholars. Fraij, whose family immigrated to California from Syria in 2016, graduated from Everett Alvarez High School in 2018 and completed degrees in mathematics and physics at Hartnell.

She is continuing her education at the University of California, Los Angeles, and plans to pursue a career in mathematics

research. During the summer of 2020, she completed a math research internship with Brown University.

“I totally disagree with the common idea that community college is for students who don’t get into a four-year school,” Fraij said. “It’s amazing, and I’ve had a very good experience with faculty, and I got to do research, and this summer I’m doing research with an Ivy League – and I did that through Hartnell College.”

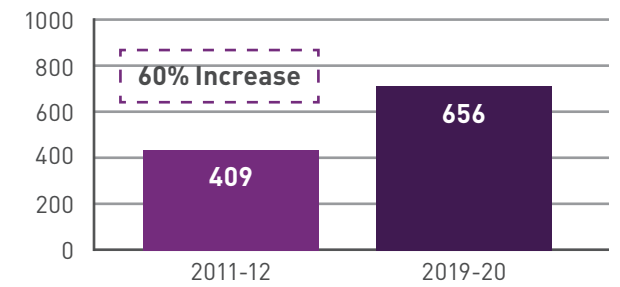
## Degrees & Certificates Awarded



## Dual Enrollment Growth

Academic Year	Courses	Students
2016-17	3	93
2017-18	12	361
2018-19	47	1,244
2019-20	55	1,469

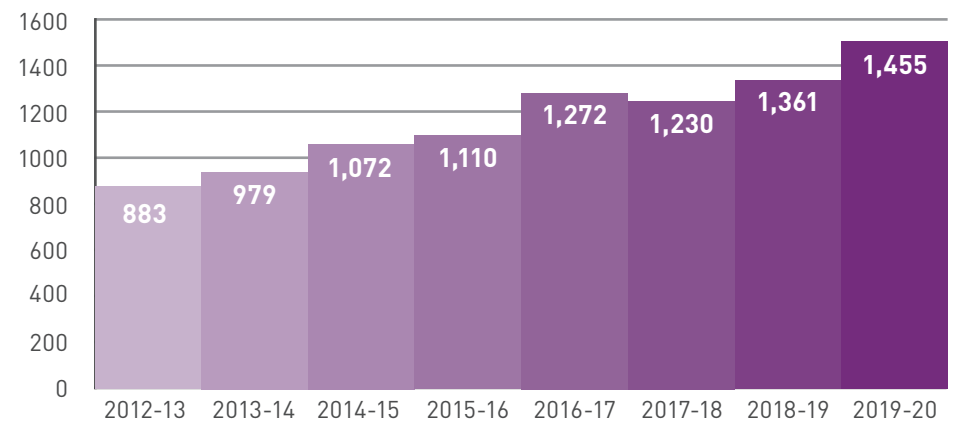
## Student Transfers to CSU & UC



Upward Bound students from Everett Alvarez High School participate in a summer 2019 program.

Marcella Anthony, a recruiter for Stanford Medical School, presents to students during Transfer Day/ College Night on Oct. 30, 2019.

## Enrollment From Salinas Valley High Schools



# Dual Enrollment Grows and Evolves

**DUAL ENROLLMENT FOR** high school students has expanded and diversified at Hartnell College, growing from delivering three courses and 93 students in 2016-17, its first year, to 55 courses and 1,469 students during 2019-20. Courses were taught at 10 schools throughout the Hartnell Community College District and at San Benito High School in Hollister. Preparation is underway to soon add courses at Seaside High School.

Students in 10th through 12th grade receive high school credit while also earning college credit toward two-year and four-year degrees. Courses are taught at high schools during the school day by college-qualified adjunct instructors, with no cost to students for tuition or textbooks. This both speeds their degree completion and lowers the cost of degree attainment.

Participating students often begin with what are known as student-success courses, designed to prepare them for college as a path into the workforce. Other course subjects include English, math, art, history, ethnic studies, psychology, automotive technology and administration of justice.



Dual enrollment students from North Monterey County High School visit the nursing simulation lab on Hartnell's Main Campus on Nov. 14, 2020.

Resources to establish and grow Hartnell's program came from a five-year, \$2.75 million Title V grant from the U.S. Department of Education, directed toward Hispanic Serving Institutions with at least 25 percent Hispanic/Latino enrollment. Dual enrollment is distinct from concurrent enrollment, in which students enroll in Hartnell classes open to the public, and advanced-placement (AP) courses, through which students can earn college credit by scoring well on tests that evaluate their subject mastery.

Laurencia Walker, Hartnell's director of

college readiness, said growth in Hartnell's dual enrollment network has been achieved through active outreach and engagement with schools. "I'm getting texts from 8 o'clock in the morning, and also at night, and I'm answering them, because we're developing those relationships," she said.

Dual enrollment courses are administered under California Assembly Bill 288, a 2015 law that established new partnerships between California community colleges and high schools within their district. Its intent was to improve access to higher education for historically underserved students.



Salinas Valley Promise students Julissa Portillo, from Notre Dame High School, and Justin Ferrales, from North Salinas High School, with Promise program coordinator Chynna Obana (center) following a kick-off news conference on Aug. 8, 2019.

## Salinas Valley Promise Makes Strong Start

**DURING ITS PREMIER YEAR** as a student completion program, the Salinas Valley Promise in 2019-20 provided 621 first-time Hartnell students with leadership and personal development training, mentorship, a free laptop computer and a tuition scholarship, regardless of their family's income. Those students are eligible for a second year of benefits in 2020-21, as they are joined by a new freshman cohort that is close to 1,000. The program was launched at a news conference on Aug. 8, 2019.

"I would like every student and every parent – and every counselor and teacher at the high school level – to know that there is a community of people here at Hartnell College who are rooting for them," said Jackie Cruz, vice president of advancement and development and the Hartnell College Foundation.

The Salinas Valley Promise builds on the state-funded California Promise Grant, which provides free tuition to income-eligible students, by extending that benefit to all first-time, full-time students. It also includes a summer leadership institute, quarterly workshops and regular mentoring by volunteer professionals.

"The program was developed with the premise that every student has the ability to succeed and achieve their educational goals if they're provided with the appropriate support and information and if they have meaningful connections to faculty, staff and peers," said Bronwyn Moreno, director of student affairs for special programs, who is leading the Salinas Valley Promise program.

In order to fund students who do not qualify for the state fee waiver, the Hartnell College Foundation has invited private donors and local governments in the district to lend their financial support. The largest local partner is the County of Monterey, whose Board of Supervisors voted April 23, 2019, to commit \$200,000 to the Promise program. The cities of Gonzales, Soledad, King City and Greenfield also contributed.

"Too many of our young people are convinced they do not have what it takes to earn a college degree. Others lack confidence when it comes to taking their new knowledge and training into the workforce," said county District 3 Supervisor Chris Lopez, who represents south Monterey County. "I am confident the Salinas Valley Promise will enable students in our communities to get past those barriers."



# PROMISE Student Voices

## **ASANTE MADRIGAL** SALINAS HIGH SCHOOL

Asante Madrigal learned about the Salinas Valley Promise when a Hartnell counselor came to his English class at Salinas High School. The opportunity for two years of free tuition caught his ear, and he learned more about the program.

“Every student in the Salinas Valley Promise was given a mentor that we can communicate with, and it really gives us an outlet to express our concerns – anything we have issues with in college,” said Madrigal, who is studying communication studies and sociology.



## **SALINAS VALLEY PROMISE HIGHLIGHTS**

**STUDENTS SERVED:** 627 first-time, full-time students in 2019-20; 1,094 students applied for 2020-21.

**STUDENT SUCCESS:** 72.5% of Promise students were successful in their courses, compared with 62.3% among comparable students not participating in the program. Promise students also took more courses on average per semester.

**PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FUNDERS:** County of Monterey and cities of Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King City, as well as Chevron, Bud and Rebecca Colligan, Bank of America, D'Arrigo Consulting and Hartnell College Foundation.

## **ABRIL ALCALA** SOLEDAD HIGH SCHOOL

As she works to complete an Associate for Transfer degree in sociology and continue on to Sacramento State University, with plans to study law, Abril Alcala said she was surprised at first that her volunteer mentor came from business management, not the social sciences.

“It’s been really helpful even psychology or sociology aren’t his main focus,” she said. “He’s still helping me and giving me tips along the way. I feel like the mentorship program is about helping us have a guide and connections once leave Hartnell.”



# Garza's Journey Takes Her From ESL to Valedictorian



**WHEN SOFIA GARZA** Guzman graduated from Hartnell College on May 29, 2020, she was among 17 valedictorians with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. Garza completed associate degrees in Spanish, history, liberal arts and general studies. She is continuing her studies at Cal State Monterey Bay, and she plans to become a Spanish teacher in the Salinas area. With a belief in education instilled in her while growing up in Mexico, the 43-year-old mother and former fieldworker has come far since she took her first English as a Second Language (ESL) course from the Salinas Adult School in 2010.

That journey included marriage, motherhood and completion of her GED through Hartnell's High School Equivalency Program in 2020. Staff in the college's Mi CASA program helped her complete paperwork to become a full-time student.

"I want to motivate students to follow their dreams for higher education and help them achieve their goals."

— **SOFIA GARZA GUZMAN**  
Valedictorian, 2019-20



## ABOUT THE ESL PROGRAM

**THE ENGLISH AS A SECOND** Language (ESL) program at Hartnell College continues to grow, while staying focused on its goal of helping adults with limited English skills gain competency to function in English-speaking settings and pursue career goals through higher education.

**Reaching a potential audience of 70,000 adults in the Salinas Valley who lack English proficiency, the ESL program has grown by 56% over the past 10 years.**

Students can begin with lower-level courses available from partners in the Salinas Valley Adult Education Consortium and continue on to classes at Hartnell. The college also has taught ESL for employees of Driscoll's, Taylor Farms, Matsui Nursery and the Teriyaki Madness restaurant in Marina.

Over the past four years, half of all students who completed ESL 233, the lowest level of advanced ESL, went on to complete college-level English 1A, which can be applied toward

an associate or bachelor's degree.

Most ESL students are working adults who favor evening classes, but many are stay-at-home parents who prefer daytime classes while children are in school, said Ana Gonzales, Hartnell's director of continuing education.

Since 2019-20, Hartnell has offered free and repeatable non-credit classes at the low intermediate level, as well as affordable for-credit classes at the high intermediate and advanced levels.

# Mi CASA Expands Its Immigration Outreach

**MI CASA (CENTER FOR** Achievement and Student Advancement, a Hartnell College hub for students and the entire community on immigration-related matters, in April 2020 launched a new outreach partnership with the UFW Foundation.

The collaboration, part of a statewide network called the Community College Immigration Legal Services Project, provides ongoing opportunities for students, faculty and staff to receive free online legal services. Immigration attorneys and Department of Justice-accredited representatives provide culturally competent and reliable expertise. All consultations are completely confidential, in accordance with California Professional Rules of Conduct for attorneys. Services include immigration eligibility consultations, naturalization and family-based immigration.

The work of Mi CASA, which is part of Hartnell's Office of Equity Programs, has been strengthened by its receipt in 2018 of a three-year, \$375,000-a-year California Campus Catalyst fund grant from the non-

profit organization Immigrants Rising. The support seeks to further build Hartnell's capacity as a regional leader in training, education, information and support for undocumented students and families.

On June 22, 2020, Mi CASA assisted in preparing a campus-wide message hailing the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that allowed the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program to continue providing rights to 700,000 people whose parents brought them to the United States as children. The administration of President Donald Trump sought to terminate the program.

A message sent by then Acting Superintendent/President Dr. Romero Jalomo stated, "We urge Congress to pass immigration reform that will enable undocumented people and their families a pathway to citizenship in the United States."

The following month, on July 29, Mi CASA and the UFW Foundation followed up on the ruling by presenting a free DACA information session led by licensed immigration attorneys. Among other ongoing efforts by Mi CASA

has been observance of a statewide Undocumented Student Week of Action.

On Oct. 14-18, 2019, activities included an application workshop for the California Dream Act, a Dreamer Ally Mixer for students and employees and a presentation of the film "Rocio" by its creator, Dario Guerrero. The Hartnell Community College District Governing Board adopted a resolution that pledged the college to advocate and provide support services for undocumented students, including about 900 who attend Hartnell.



Students express their determination and mutual support during a Dreamer Ally Mixer in the Student Center on Oct. 15, 2019.



Umoja members Michaela Miller and Tyshell Johnson-Hill present a program in celebration of the African-American holiday Kwanza on Dec. 12, 2019.

**HARTNELL COLLEGE HAS** established a chapter of the Umoja Community, a community college-based organization that supports and engages African American and other students.

Assisted by a coordinator, counselor Rosa Vidales, and with academic guidance from fellow counselor Tony Anderson, the group held several events on campus during

## Umoja Reaches Out to Black Students

2019-20 and sent participants to statewide programs focused on Black students. The name means “unity” in Kiswahili, and the college actively encouraged involvement from students of all backgrounds, Vidales said.

Along with opportunities to work with Black students from other colleges, Umoja offers such benefits as book and food vouchers for active participants. Participants attended forums on such subjects as scholarship opportunities and transfer to four-year universities. They co-presented Black History Month activities with the Office of Student Life and held a Kwanza Celebration with food, drinks, music and prizes.

Vidales said the year started strong when two of Umoja’s first participants, sisters Tyshell and Tayjah Johnson-Hill, traveled to the University of California, Merced, for the Umoja Student Leadership Summit on Aug. 1-3, 2019. They were accompanied for a day by Carla Johnson, dean of student affairs and student success, who joined with Anderson to give impetus to Umoja at Hartnell. Umoja participants attended the Umoja XV conference in Oakland on Nov. 1-2,

and a group also traveled to Oakland for the 20th annual Black College Expo on Feb. 8 and joined in a Super Saturday event for Black students at Cal State Monterey Bay.

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**Tyshell Johnson-Hill, who graduated from Hartnell in 2020 and is studying graphic design at Cal State Monterey Bay, said it was gratifying to organize “a community of like-minded people who want to see more things done for the Black community, including student allies as well.”**

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Vidales said Umoja hopes to soon have a dedicated space to gather on campus and is encouraging development of such courses as African American literature. She said the group was also a channel for students to express their feelings about the Black Lives Matter movement and related incidents.

“We provided a space for our Black students to voice how they’re feeling and above all to let them know that you do have allies, people that care and understand what you’re going through,” Vidales said.



## Uribe-Cruz Serves 'Family' of Student Veterans

**GEMMA URIBE-CRUZ'S** resume itemizes 24 aspects of her role as a veterans counselor, things like “provide academic, transfer, career and personal counseling” and “build a network with veterans organizations.” Not on the list, but tying it all together, is her unofficial job description: promoting a sense of belonging and connection among veteran students at Hartnell College.

With colleague Ligia Polio, who assists students with their veterans benefits, Uribe-Cruz strives to make the Veterans Service Center a welcoming, multipurpose resource for former service members and their

relatives. “Having a space to gather, to break bread every once in a while – it’s like a true family,” Uribe-Cruz said of the veterans’ hub within the Student Center on the Main Campus in Salinas.

She found her professional calling in 2013 when she joined the veterans center as a part-time counselor, going full-time in 2016. She said she learned the value of bonding with students from her mentor and former boss, Manuel Bersamin, who directs the TRiO student success program at Hartnell.

Although Uribe-Cruz already held a master’s degree in counselor education from San Jose State University, on top of her bachelor’s in health and human services from Cal State Monterey Bay, in 2020 she added a second master’s – in mental health and wellness from Grand Canyon University – because she wanted to better understand the full challenges many veterans experience. Quite a few of Hartnell’s veteran students also cope with physical disabilities, she said, particularly those who saw combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Hartnell typically has about 125 veteran students, including veterans’ spouses and

children of disabled veterans. They come from diverse backgrounds and cultures, including both Salinas Valley natives and those drawn to the area by marriage and jobs.

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**Uribe-Cruz said her labor of love often stretches into the weekend, when she and her Marine veteran husband bring their three daughters along to Veterans Club activities, such as fun runs, parades and barbecues. One of the club’s biggest projects is assembling Thanksgiving dinners for families of student veterans and others in need. Funds come from the club’s regular sales of “loaded” baked potatoes.**

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In addition, the veterans center loans textbooks, calculators and laptops and hosts a monthly visit from a mobile health van that provides free wellness care for veteran students. Wide-ranging services and strong student engagement have earned respect for Hartnell’s veterans programs, Uribe-Cruz said.

“When I go to conferences, I’m really proud to share everything we do,” she said. “They know where Hartnell is and what Hartnell does. I’m very proud of the tradition we’ve been able to build.”



# Success

## STUDENTS RIDE FREE ANYWHERE ON MST

Thanks to a partnership with Monterey-Salinas Transit (MST) and the support of a state grant to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, Hartnell College students were able to ride free on any MST bus throughout the 2019-20 academic year.

This opportunity expanded the college's Free Fare Zone partnership with MST, which had previously provided a half-fare discount for students boarding the bus at campus bus stops for travel to other Hartnell locations.

The free service, available to any student with a valid Hartnell ID, was especially successful among south Monterey County residents traveling to the Salinas campus, said Michelle Overmeyer, MST director of planning and innovation. More than 84,000 student trips were recorded until on-campus instruction was cut short by COVID-19.

## TEACHER PATHWAY AND PROMISE PROGRAMS RECEIVE HONORS

The Monterey County Children's Council and the Bright Futures Education Partnership honored Hartnell with its 2020 Champion for Children Award on Feb. 7, 2020, for the 2019-20 launch of the Salinas Valley Promise leadership and completion program for first-time, full-time students.

The Salinas Valley Promise also was singled out as one of a handful of "Bright Spots" by Bright Futures for the program's rapid gains in educational outcomes. Likewise, the Hartnell-CSUMB Teacher Pathway Program (TPP) – and specifically its impact in south Monterey County – was recognized as a Bright Point, as was development and expansion of Hartnell's Associate Degrees for Transfer and a 37 percent gain in the number of students from its district high schools over the past four years.



Accepting a Champions for Children Award for Hartnell on Feb. 7 at Cal State Monterey Bay are, from left, Dr. Romero Jalomo, vice president of student affairs; Jackie Cruz, vice president of advancement and development; and Trustee Manuel Osorio.

## FULL-SERVICE STARBUCKS OPENS IN STUDENT CENTER

Hartnell's very own full-service Starbucks opened Sept. 9, 2019, in the Student Center on the Main Campus in Salinas. It was only the second in the nation to open at a community college.

Student baristas, recruited from among 70 applicants, completed two weeks of training on the equipment and beverage and food protocols in strict adherence with Starbucks standards. Within weeks, the busy store had extended its hours 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until 4:30 p.m. on Friday. COVID-19 forced it to temporarily close in March 2020.

Under discussion since 2015, the project got the official go-ahead on March 5, 2019, when the Hartnell Community College District Governing Board agreed to hire Salinas-based Tombleson Inc. as general contractor. The work cost about \$900,000.



## Employee Giving Campaign Exceeds Goal for 2020

The Hartnell Employees for Student Success campaign exceeded its \$125,000 goal for 2020, receiving \$138,223 from 187 employees, including \$4,211 that went to the COVID-19 Student Emergency Response Fund.

## TRIO/SSS RECEIVES NEW AWARD

The TRiO/Student Support Services program at Hartnell in August 2020 received a second Student Support Services (SSS) award from the U.S. Department of Education, doubling its federal funding over the next five years.

In addition to the crucial renewal of its core SSS funding, totaling \$1.31 million, TRiO received an equivalent five-year amount to serve students for whom English is a second language and are enrolled in regular college classes.

The renewal funding will continue to serve 160 students who are first-generation, those from low-income households and individuals with disabilities. Manuel Bersamin, Hartnell's SSS/TRiO director, said the new ESL SSS project will serve 140 students from south Monterey County, including regularly scheduled programming at the expanded King City Education Center and the new Soledad Education Center. Services to be funded by both awards include academic advising and coaching, tutoring, financial aid workshops, financial literacy education and bilingual parent workshops.

Students record data for water samples taken from Natividad Creek in Salinas as part of a micro-internship in summer 2019.

# ACADEMICS



## Ramirez Receives National Scholarship in Chemistry



**AFTER EXCELLING AT** the University of California, Berkeley, former Hartnell student Jose Ramirez has received a \$5,000 national scholarship for outstanding undergraduate achievement in chemistry as he begins working toward his doctorate at the University of Illinois. He can thank nanotechnology specialist Dr. Jane Frommer, who for many years engaged aspiring students from Hartnell and Bay Area colleges while working as a chemist for IBM. She was

awarded the 2020 Perkin Medal for innovation in chemistry from the Society of Chemical Industry, which included the opportunity to select Ramirez as the Perkin Chemistry Scholar. While at Hartnell, the 2014 graduate of Everett Alvarez High School completed two internships, first as a computer programmer at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) and next in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at the Naval Postgraduate School.



# Taylor Farms Supports STEM with \$1.1 Million Gift

A **\$1.1 MILLION GIFT** from Salinas-based fresh produce company Taylor Farms in support of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs at Hartnell College was celebrated with a special event in front of the STEM Center on Oct. 8, 2019. The gift will support development of an engineering-technology pathway program at Hartnell to better leverage STEM and agriculture education to meet workforce needs in the Salinas Valley.

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**Taylor Farms Chairman and CEO Bruce Taylor said Hartnell can play a critical role in helping the company remain competitive by adapting emerging technology to increase productivity.**

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“We think the [Hartnell] STEM program is the way to do that,” he said. “We have great people, great resources right here.”

Although the plan had been to recognize the gift by adding the Taylor Farms name to the STEM Center, symbolizing the growing importance of STEM fields within agriculture, Taylor chose instead to pay tribute to former superintendent/president Dr. Willard Lewallen and his many contributions to the college from 2012-19.

“Never in my wildest imagination would I have imagined that my name would be on a building at Hartnell College.”

— DR. WILLARD LEWALLEN

Two weeks later, Hartnell’s STEM programs hosted another well-attended and successful Family Science Day, attended by an estimated 1,000 children and families who experienced engaging hands-on learning activities. A first-ever Family Science Day was held at the King City Education Center on April 5, 2020.

Just before the Fall 2019 semester, the STEM Center was the scene for another successful STEM Internship Symposium, during which

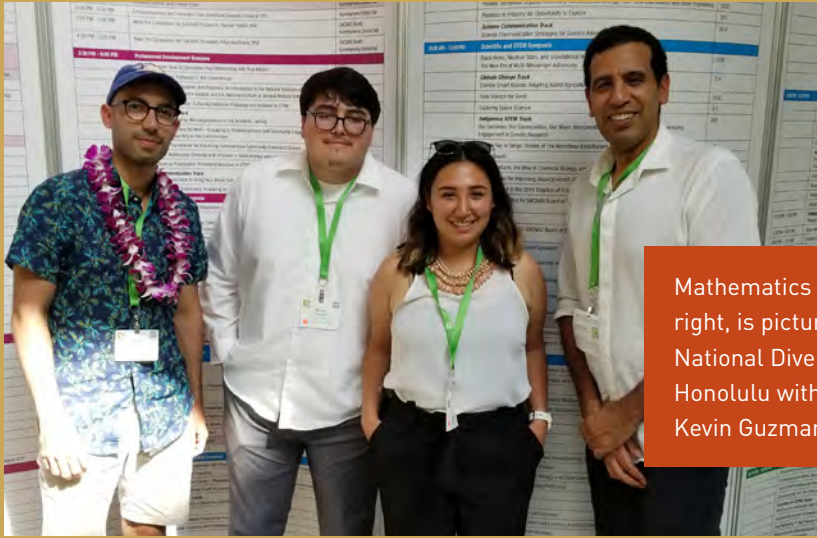
more than 60 student interns presented posters from their research experiences during the previous summer.

The 2019-20 academic year was also active for Hartnell’s K-12 STEM programs. Nearly 500 students at the Salinas City Elementary and Alisal Union school districts participated in the NASA Academy and coding classes, as well as Coder Dojo classes taught by students from Hartnell and Cal State Monterey Bay.



Bruce Taylor congratulates Dr. Willard Lewallen at an Oct. 8, 2019, ceremony for Taylor Farms' gift of \$1.1 million and renaming of the STEM Center for Dr. Lewallen. At right are Taylor's wife, Linda, mother, Joann, and Dr. Lewallen's wife, Michele.

## Dr. Yahdi Seeks to Provide Students Access to Success



Mathematics instructor Dr. Mohammed Yahdi, right, is pictured in October 2019 at the SACNAS National Diversity in STEM Conference in Honolulu with students, from left, Paulo Jauregui, Kevin Guzman and Dolores Mora.

**QUALITY OF LIFE** first drew Dr. Mohammed “Mo” Yahdi and his family to California from suburban Philadelphia in 2014, but it was the thriving mission of Hartnell College that convinced him to join its faculty.

Dr. Yahdi sought to maintain the highly engaged role he enjoyed among colleagues at Ursinus College, a small private school in Collegeville, Pa., where he rose from assistant professor to full professor and department chair.

When moving west to California’s pleasant climate and cultural diversity with his wife and two children, he had a specific professional goal in mind: “I looked for a

place where I felt I could make a difference immediately, a place where I could come in and be part of the system.”

Neither Dr. Yahdi nor Hartnell has been disappointed with his decision. He began the 2020-21 academic year as interim dean of academic affairs for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), building on a record of advocacy for students to stretch, grow and achieve at a high level. Outside the classroom, Dr. Yahdi has been distinguished by his work to encourage and challenge students by closing equity and access gaps in STEM fields.

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**Especially noteworthy has been his leadership as principal investigator of a \$1.47 million National Science Foundation grant to pilot a program of STEM micro-internships.**

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Over the past two years, with guidance from faculty and lab technicians, more than 360 Hartnell students have participated in one or more of these 25-hour applied learning experiences. They provide many benefits of a full-length internship, not the least of which is inspiring more underrepresented students to pursue careers in STEM.

In contrast to Ursinus College, where tuition is \$55,000 a year, Dr. Yahdi said he quickly appreciated why Hartnell’s primary commitment is to provide access to affordable, high-quality education as an engine for social mobility.

“When we can do student access and link it to student success, we can achieve even more,” Dr. Yahdi said.

# College Redesign Will Guide Students

**WITH SUPPORT FROM** the College Planning Council, Academic Senate, design teams and senior college leaders, the Hartnell College student-success initiative known as College Redesign will become a reality during the 2020-21 academic year.

Inquiry was the focus during 2018-19; the 2019-20 academic year was dedicated to design development and approval; 2020-21 is when the approved designs will first be implemented in order to directly contribute to student success, completion and employment in 2021-22.

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**Especially noteworthy are the Meta Majors, the foundation of the Guided Pathways method of steering students into broad categories of academic programs, even if students are unsure about their specific career plans.**

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These are not replacing deans' areas of responsibility, but rather are groupings to help students make more informed choices, select careers and get support on their pathways.

Among six plans advanced by College Redesign teams, composed of administrators, staff, faculty and students, three will be implemented by existing college committees: facilitated forums for employee engagement by the Professional Development Committee; a Welcome Center by the Outreach and Recruitment Committee; and pre-semester events open to all students (Guiding Panthers to Success — GPS), by the Summer Programs Committee.

The remaining three plans are being implemented by co-leads within Meta Major teams, hired from among instructional and counseling faculty: program mapping and career linkages, continuing students experience and the completing-students exit system.

The onset of the pandemic in spring 2020 has illuminated the critical role of the Hartnell.edu website in supporting the broad goals of College Redesign and the specific goals of the individual plans advanced by faculty-staff teams. For example, the original concept of a physical Welcome Center has been expanded



Counselor Norma Isla Cuevas presents a poster for the Pre-Enrolled Students team during the College ReDesign Open House Poster Session on Nov. 13, 2019, in the Student Center.

to integrate a “virtual” Welcome Center into the main navigation of the website, ensuring that prospective students can find information that fits their needs.

## Meta-Major Groupings

These program clusters will help undecided students find their path to a degree and a career:

- Arts & Languages
- Business, Agriculture & Industries
- Health Sciences
- Social Sciences
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)

# Respiratory Care Program Grows in Numbers & Reputation



Respiratory students, right, demonstrate use of oxygen delivery devices for nursing students during an all-day, interdisciplinary Competency Camp on Feb. 5, 2020.

**SUCCESS IN CREDENTIALING** and other key outcomes for students in the Respiratory Care Practitioner (RCP) program at Hartnell College continues to garner recognition from national accreditors.

With a 97 percent passing rate for its graduates on the Certified Respiratory Therapist exam and 94 percent on the next-level Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) test, Hartnell is a repeat recipient of

the Distinguished Credentialing Success Award from the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC).

An obviously important measure of success for the respiratory care therapy program is job placement for

graduates, which was 83 percent in 2019, above the national average. Annual salaries start around \$75,000 but can exceed \$100,000 with experience.

The Hartnell program had 43 students for 2020-21 after graduating 10 in 2020. At least a 2.5 grade point average in prerequisite science courses is required for acceptance. A majority are women, but the number of men students has been steadily increasing.

RCP enrollment has grown by about 50 percent in the past eight years, despite limitations of space. The program's new

home in the Center for Nursing and Health Sciences, scheduled to open for Fall 2021, will increase capacity to 24 students per cohort.

RCP courses were among those approved for on-campus instruction in Fall 2020 despite COVID-19 because of the requirement for experiential learning. Furthermore, the program is on a cohort model, with peer-led learning teams in which second-year students tutor first-year students.

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**Students are required to complete more than 800 hours of clinical experience, and Hartnell arranges those opportunities with 13 health care providers, which include health clinics, hospitals and rehabilitation centers.**

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Full-time RCP instructor Emily Brandt said the academic preparation and “polish” of Hartnell students make those same partners more likely to hire the program’s graduates.

“They’ve told some of our graduates in the interviews, ‘We love Hartnell graduates, and that’s why we needed to interview you,’” she said.

## Mase Takes Pride in Respiratory Therapy Work

**WHEN JENNIFER MASE** graduated from the Hartnell College Respiratory Care Practitioner program in 2018, she could not foresee that a coronavirus would push her field onto the front lines of a global pandemic.

“We’re the ones who put patients on the ventilators and manage the ventilators, so we play a very key role in what’s going on now,” said Mase, a respiratory therapist at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, where she also completed clinical training as a student.

The mother of three briefly attended Hartnell part-time after graduating from North Salinas High School in 2004. She returned to begin her respiratory care studies in 2016, inspired in part by seeing the benefits of respiratory care for a daughter with asthma.



“This is a career where you get to know patients. It feels amazing to see them walk out of the hospital, knowing that I made a difference in their lives.”

— **JENNIFER MASE**  
Respiratory care student

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## Cisneros-Aguilar on Her Way to Degree in Crop Science



**A DAUGHTER OF** Mexican-born ag workers and a leader in FFA at Soledad High School, Angelita Cisneros-Aguilar completed a double major in agricultural production and plant science at Hartnell College in 2020.

She is the youngest of five siblings and the first to go to college. Her mother is a cooler employee for Growers Express, and her father drives a tractor for Dole Food Co. At Hartnell, she was an Ag Ambassador, assisted as a student worker on the Alisal Campus and completed a 2019 research internship with the University of California

Cooperative Extension. Cisneros-Aguilar received six scholarships, including from the Women’s Education and Leadership Institute (WELI) at Hartnell and the Andrew & Phyllis D’Arrigo Endowment to the Hartnell College Foundation.

As she prepared to study crop science at California State University, Chico, she reflected on her two years at Hartnell: “The professors are always willing to help you out, and if you struggle they reach out to you – and it’s awesome.”

# Agriculture Programs Surpass Expectations

**THE AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS** and Technology Institute (ABTI) on Hartnell College's Alisal Campus is exceeding key performance objectives and making rapid progress on its 2018-23 Strategic Plan.

The metrics all focus on student success: degrees earned, student internships, transfers to four-year institutions and graduates joining the workforce. Another strategic goal, establishing a four-year degree pathway in agriculture with Cal State Monterey Bay, has also been achieved. In 2019, the number of degrees and

certificates awarded to students in ABTI academic programs surpassed the target by 36 awards and was on track to again surpass it in 2020. Not coincidentally, Hartnell ranked No. 5 in the nation for its total associate degrees in agriculture awarded to Hispanic students, according to a 2019 report by the magazine DIVERSE: Issues in Higher Education.

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**Students have also far exceeded goals for transfer to a California public university or private college, so much so that new stretch goals are being considered.**

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On another key metric, rates of agriculture employment for graduates were 93 percent in 2019 and 94 percent in 2020, already exceeding the five-year goal of 90 percent. The 2018 baseline was 67 percent.

Clint Cowden, dean of Career Technical Education and Workforce Development for Hartnell, credited those employment gains to creation of a Career Prep and Placement Center at the Alisal Campus. That move also drove marked gains in ag-related internships.

Starting from a 2018 baseline of 37, internships nearly doubled to 70 in 2019 and then leveled off in 2020, when COVID-19 disrupted workforce placements.

Participating students gain invaluable hands-on experience, develop new confidence and skills, learn about the professional workplace and establish contacts and references they can leverage when they graduate – either from Hartnell or after earning a bachelor's degree.

“They're able to make those connections with the different things they're learning in class and actually take them out into the real world,” said Belen Gonzales, who in 2019 stepped into a new role as coordinator of the Career Prep and Placement Center.

A major milestone toward achievement of strategic goals for ABTI is establishment of a degree pathway with CSUMB for a Bachelor of Science in Plant Science. Launched in Fall 2020, program is customized to focus on the specialty crops grown in the Salinas Valley, incorporating hands-on learning and industry or research internship placements.



Students meet during a summer 2019 mathematical modeling internship on strawberry production at Food Origins in Salinas. Standing in back is Food Origins CEO Nathan Dorn.



## Partnerships Drive Automotive Success

Advanced Automotive Technology instructor Pete Escoto, third from right, joins 2019 automotive graduates who received a free Snap-on tool cart valued at \$1,500.

**THE ADVANCED AUTOMOTIVE** Technology program at Hartnell College continues to expand local and national industry partnerships that strengthen students' academic success, career placement and earnings.

**In May 2020, the Hartnell Community College District Governing Board completed an agreement with Toyota's Technical Education College Support program that makes the college a certified Toyota training center. Toyota will provide Hartnell with additional training vehicles, specialized equipment and additional curriculum.**

That spring, Hartnell had 89 advanced automotive students and three instructors – among the most in any comparable programs

across the country. With key support from local dealer Salinas Toyota and its president, Max Jamiesson, the Toyota program is a point of pride for the entire college.

“The automotive industry has been resilient even during the COVID-19 crisis, but qualified technicians to work on cars with newer technologies are harder to find,” said Roman Raymundo, fixed operations manager at Salinas Toyota.

Hartnell students also participate in the Ford Motor Company's Automotive Career Exploration (ACE) program, sponsored by Salinas Valley Ford, and the National Coalition of Certification Centers (NC3) automotive certification program, sponsored by Snap-on Tools. All graduates have

received a \$1,500 tool cart – supported by a discount from Snap-on. The top academic performer also wins a starter tool set, valued at \$3,500.

These partnerships have received strong support from Hartnell's Ag Steering Committee, chaired by David Gill of King City. An automotive advisory group, called the Automotive CEO Roundtable, has included leadership from Jamiesson and Sam Linder, owner of Sam Linder Honda.

A new aspect of Hartnell's NC3 partnership in 2020 was its participation in National CTE Letter of Intent Signing Day. On Feb. 20, 2020, 21 seniors from six Salinas-area high schools committed to studying automotive technology.

# Chicanx Studies Program Finds Broad Relevance



Hartnell College Chicanx Studies instructors Phillip Tabera and Hermelinda Rocha-Tabera present a framed poster to educational consultant Rosa Gonzalez for her facilitation during the 2019 Hartnell Ethnic Studies XITO Conference, held Sept. 20-21 at the Alisal Campus.

**CHICANX STUDIES FACULTY** at Hartnell College are joining with Salinas-area colleagues to raise awareness of the value of ethnic studies for all students. Their work dovetails with efforts to make ethnic studies a California requirement for high school graduation, just as it has now become in the California State University system.

All Hartnell students must already take at least one ethnic studies course to complete

an Associate of Arts degree, and the Salinas Union High School District (SUHSD) has adopted its own graduation requirement, effective in fall 2020.

On Sept. 20-21, 2019, the Hartnell faculty hosted a second annual XITO Conference for ethnic studies educators who seek to apply culturally relevant methods in their teaching.

“It’s really critical that ethnic studies conferences happen in our own community so that we share our experiences and pedagogy,” said Hermelinda Rocha-Tabera, a full-time instructor who has taught at Hartnell since 1986.

One outcome of the same conference in 2018 was establishment of the Salinas Valley Ethnic Studies Collective, which links Hartnell’s Chicanx Studies/Ethnic Studies courses to like-minded counterparts in high schools, at Cal State Monterey Bay and in the greater community.

Rocha-Tabera said Chicanx Studies courses in culture and the arts are broadly relevant to a wide range of majors at Hartnell – and to students’ personal experience growing

up in the Salinas Valley’s Latinx-majority communities.

“Whether it’s a cinema class or ethnic studies or leadership class, the immigrant story is our story and everything that has evolved in our community, from the root to fruit,” said Rocha-Tabera, a Greenfield native and 1980 graduate of Hartnell.

The Chicanx Studies program has five part-time instructors: Luis xago Juárez, Carla Gonzalez, Dr. Ana Gutierrez, Dr. Nereida Oliva and Phillip Tabera. They also frequently invite guest speakers to share their own lived experience, among them U.S. Rep. Jimmy Panetta and other community leaders.

Tabera, a 1978 Hartnell alum, helped push for the new SUHSD ethnic studies requirement as a member of the district’s school board.

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**He said a hoped-for next step is to develop Chicanx Studies as a course within Hartnell’s dual enrollment program so students could fulfill a high school, community college and four-year degree requirement all at once.**



# Killian Scholars Program Nurtures Musical Ambition

**LIKE ASPIRING HARTNELL** College students before him, Jaycen Florez of Salinas received both encouragement and tangible support for his talent and ambition during the 2019-20 academic year thanks to the Killian Music Scholars program.

Florez plays the euphonium, a brass instrument that is slightly larger than the baritone, and he aims to perform professionally with an orchestra or ensemble and teach music. During the past year, he played with Hartnell's orchestra and jazz and concert bands, and he is now in the concert band and choir.

**"You have a group skill – something that you all have that you enjoy doing together. I enjoy being part of a big group ensemble."**

**– JAYCEN FLOREZ  
Killian Music Scholar**

Florez's musical commitment earned him a second year in the program during 2020-21, bringing him a \$2,000 scholarship award each semester, free private lessons from an

approved euphonium teacher and program-funded field trips to universities and concerts – coronavirus permitting.

Since its establishment in 2018, the Killian Scholars program has benefited up to 10 full-time music students a year who apply and audition for the opportunity, which also requires maintaining a 3.0 grade point average and evidence of financial need. It was endowed by a gift from the estate of Jack and Suzanne Killian, longtime supporters of the arts at Hartnell.

The Killian award has enabled Florez to take private lessons with an instructor in Soquel, helping him prepare pieces for his intended audition to transfer for a four-year degree in music performance at the University of the Pacific in Stockton. He aims to graduate from Hartnell in 2022.

Spring 2020 Killian scholars Jack Madison and Pedro Campos were accepted into the audio recording program at Cal State Monterey Bay for fall 2020. A 2019 graduate in English and music, percussionist Yvette Ayala, was inspired to explore ways of using music as an instrument of social change,

particularly by working with young people.

"If it's not music that they pursue, it's fine," Ayala said. "But they've learned to discipline themselves enough to sit and practice an instrument, and then come back the next day better than they were the day before."



2018-29 Killian Scholar Yvette Alaya teaches percussionists with the Alisal Center for the Fine Arts in July 2019.



A Hartnell nursing student in training at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital.

## NURSING PROGRAMS EARN TOP RATING

Three times during 2019-20, statewide rankings of nursing education programs put Hartnell in the top 10, continuing a multi-year trend. “Hartnell’s associate degree in nursing and LVN to RN programs prepare students to care for a variety of patient populations,” said the website RegisteredNursing.org. The online ranking and information service ranked Hartnell’s Associate Degree of Nursing program eighth, ahead of four-year and two-year programs, and awarded a score of 97.94 based on students’ performance on the NCLEX-RN licensure exam.

Similarly, the website NursingProcess.org ranked Hartnell ninth in California for associate degree registered nursing programs and among the best nursing schools in the nation with a grade of 97.06%. The recognition was capped in January 2021 when another website, nursingprocess.org, ranked Hartnell’s RN program No. 1 in the entire western United States.

## GRANT RAISES BAR FOR ONLINE COURSES

A \$500,000 state grant funded specialized faculty training to more than quadruple the number of Hartnell courses receiving the California Community College system’s highest rating for online instruction. The college was awarded the money in 2019 through the California Virtual Campus-Online Education Initiative (CVC-OEI).

Courses were evaluated against standards established by the CVC-OEI. These include providing clear connections between course content and learning objectives, thoughtful navigation and pacing of course material, strategic use of multimedia learning tools, ease of communication between students and online instructors, and promotion of online support tools, such as a free 24-hour online tutoring service by NetTutor.

# Academic News



An online student’s laptop, notes and textbook.



Exonerated death row prisoner Anthony Hinton speaks in the Mainstage Theater on Sept. 12, 2019.

## EXONERATED PRISONER HIGHLIGHTS RACISM

Speaking to a packed audience on Sept. 12, 2019, in the Mainstage Theater, exonerated death row prisoner and anti-capital punishment activist Anthony Ray Hinton recounted how institutional racism kept him behind bars for 28 years in his native Alabama for two 1985 murders he did not commit.

Hinton thanked Hartnell English students who wrote him letters last academic year to express how moved they were by his book, "The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row," and to invite him to come and speak in Salinas.

## COLLEGE RECEIVES FIRST-EVER NEH GRANT

Hartnell was one of just 300 U.S. educational and cultural institutions to share in \$40.3 million awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities from federal CARES Act funding for COVID-19. A total of 2,300 applications were submitted.

The college will use its \$263,000 grant, announced in June 2020, to strengthen online teaching in its humanities programs, which include languages, the arts, ethnic studies and philosophy, as well as social sciences such as psychology and political sciences. The college also offers a liberal arts degree with 12 different areas of emphasis.



Readers of the Monterey County Weekly newspaper selected The Western Stage fall presentation of the musical "Evita" (above) as the "Best Theater Production of 2019" and named Hartnell the "Best Local Ag Educator" for a sixth straight year.

Board members, community leaders and representatives of architect Kasavan Associates and general contractor Avila Construction join in a Dec. 3, 2020, groundbreaking ceremony on the site of the King City Education Center expansion.

# FACILITIES



## Measure T Projects Stay on Schedule



Work continues on the Main Campus central plaza in this January 2020 photo.

**TRUE TO THE PROMISE** of Measure T, a \$167 million bond measure approved in 2016, the Hartnell Community College District began five major construction projects during fiscal year 2019-20. Those are: a new Center for Nursing & Health Sciences, a transformed central plaza landscaping and classroom building renovation on the Main Campus; a new Hartnell education center in Soledad; and an expansion to add laboratories and double the size of the 18-year-old education

center in King City. Construction of a third education center in Castroville started in October 2020.

At the same time, Hartnell continued its commitment to reducing consumption of fossil fuels through building efficiency and expansion of its solar power generation, which now meets nearly two-thirds of the college's electricity demand.

# Anticipation Running High for South County Centers

**APPROVAL OF THE** Measure T bond launched an expansion to double the size of the King City Education Center and build an entirely new Soledad Education Center, both completed in winter 2020.

Initial academic programs at the two centers will include courses in plant science, business and teacher education, as well as general education courses and English as a second language. Soledad will also offer administration of justice, and King City will offer computer science, public health science, agricultural automation and engineering fundamentals.

Participants in 2019 community forums expressed an overarching desire to develop and retain local talent, reversing a “brain drain” of educated and skilled individuals away from Monterey County and the Central Coast.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the 16,750-square-foot Soledad center was held Nov. 8, 2019, on the southwest corner of Metz Road and Orchard Drive. Groundbreaking

for the 12,500-square-foot expansion in downtown King City was held on Dec. 3, 2019. Both projects include wet and dry science laboratories, Student Success Centers and community rooms.

Governing Board President Erica Padilla-Chavez, who spoke during the Soledad ceremony, said that center was becoming a reality “because so many people have rolled up their sleeves and gotten to work.” She also noted that the city of Soledad provided the 3.7-acre site to Hartnell for a symbolic price of \$1.



“The moral of the story is that where there’s a sense of conviction and partnerships in place, anything is possible.”

— **ERICA PADILLA-CHAVEZ**  
Governing Board president

## SOUTH COUNTY EDUCATION CENTERS

### King City Education Center

Expansion of the building originally opened in 2002 from 12,500 to 25,000 square feet, including lobby; two active-learning classrooms; study/computer rooms; wet and dry science laboratories to support education and training for STEM, health care, agriculture and teaching; Student Success Center; kitchenette; courtyard; and community room.

**Groundbreaking:** Dec. 3, 2019

**Completion:** Winter 2021

### Soledad Education Center

A 16,750-square-foot multipurpose education facility with four classrooms and wet and dry science laboratories to support STEM, health care and agriculture training, as well as a Student Success Center and a courtyard and community room. The site will accommodate future expansion.

**Groundbreaking:** Nov. 8, 2019

**Completion:** Winter 2021

## Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System Center for Nursing & Health Sciences



Two-story, 24,000-square-foot building to expand student capacity and provide flexible, state-of-the-art facilities.

**Projected completion:** Fall 2021

## Classroom Buildings D and E (Main Campus)

A two-phase project to widen, modernize and improve flexibility and accessibility of classrooms on second and third floors, plus a new exterior elevator on Building D.

**Projected completion:** Building D in Fall 2020 and Building E in 2022.



## Central Plaza (Main Campus)

Re-landscape inner-campus pedestrian area with terraced walkways, lawns and seating areas.

**Completion:** Fall 2020

# Plaza, Classrooms Accompany Nursing Building on Main Campus

**THE ENORMOUS IMPACT** of Measure T bond funding on Hartnell College's Main Campus in Salinas was unmistakable by September 2019 as contractor Avila Construction fenced off the entire Main Quad area and began ripping out lawn and asphalt and trees. Work on a new tiered and landscaped central plaza and the modernization of buildings D and E – twin classroom-administration buildings completed in 1977 – had begun.

In December 2019, construction started on a new two-story, 24,000-square-foot Center for Nursing & Health Sciences, situated on a former parking lot at the corner of Alisal Street and Homestead Avenue and facing the transformed plaza. After months of work to prepare the foundation and pre-fabricate its steel frame, the building's skeleton emerged in August 2020.

A Dec. 12 groundbreaking ceremony celebrated a \$3 million donation from Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System, whose name will be placed on the building. The gift will help fund new faculty to meet the region's growing demand for graduates in nursing, respiratory care and emergency medical response.

"Having everybody in the same building will give our students more opportunity to work together, and ultimately the patients will be the ones who benefit from that," said Aurelio Salazar Jr., then Governing Board president.

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**Scheduled to open by 2021, the center will expand student capacity and provide a flexible, state-of-the-art teaching environment for all Hartnell College healthcare programs. Meanwhile, progress continued on buildings D and E, made easier for contractors by the near absence of students and employees because of COVID-19.**

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Work on Building D was complete by July 2020, and a new exterior elevator shaft was ready for exterior brickwork and installation of the elevator itself. The combined renovation on the two buildings will provide eight newly modernized classrooms, including one "super" classroom seating up to 65, as well as renovated restrooms and a new elevator in Building E.

# Castroville Center is Bringing Hartnell to North County



**BY SUMMER 2022**, a new, Measure T-funded education center for Hartnell College in Castroville should be ready to serve students from throughout north Monterey County. Construction on the 13,750-square-foot Castroville center on Merritt Street just east of Highway 1 started in October 2020, following design approval by the Division of the State Architect. The single-story building will have three classrooms, wet and dry science laboratories, a Student Success Center and a community room.

The college held a series of community meetings to gather input for its new facilities, including one in August 2019 at Ocean Mist Farms in Castroville. With that guidance, the center's offerings are expected

to include plant science, food safety and agriculture production and an engineering certificate.

The project is a \$10.56 million design-build partnership between contractor Dilbeck & Sons Inc. and In Studio Architecture (ISA), both of Salinas. It has been an enormous source of pride for Manuel Osorio, former Area 1 trustee for the Hartnell Governing Board, who long advocated for a center in north Monterey County.

"Before I became a board member for Hartnell, I was a member of the North Monterey County Unified School District board, and I saw that a lot of our students were not moving on to Hartnell," Osorio said. "But now that we're opening this building, our North County students will have more opportunity to take advantage of what Hartnell has to provide – and Hartnell has a lot to provide!"

## ON THE MAIN CAMPUS

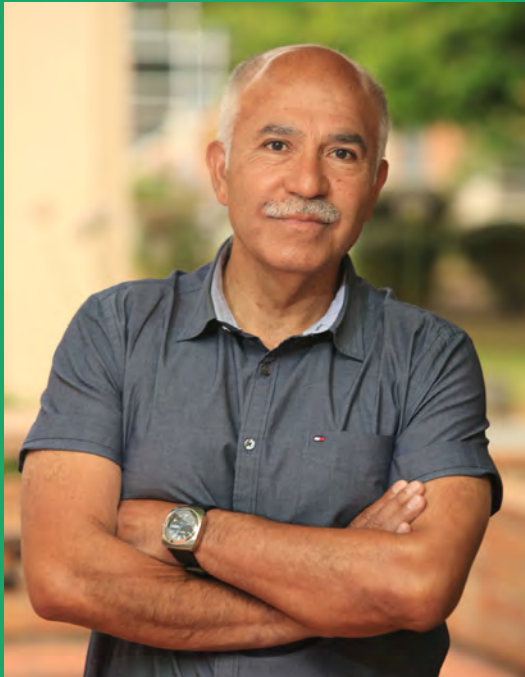
### Performing Arts Center Gets Upgrade

**A RIBBON-CUTTING** on Nov. 14, 2018, opened a new box office, marquee and community atrium at the Center for Performing Arts, Building K — home to The Western Stage theater company. Thanks to a \$200,000 gift from the Sally Hughes Church Foundation and funding from Measure T, the building entrance now has a lighted sign, digital event marquee and a walk-up ticket window.

### Welcome Kiosk Added

**WITH THE PLACEMENT** of a rooftop "Hartnell College" sign on July 2, 2019, a new Welcome Kiosk on the south end of the Main Campus parking garage turnabout was officially completed. Also funded through Measure T, the kiosk can be staffed by a public safety worker able to answer questions about parking and wayfinding, as well as general campus information, including public safety.

# Reyes Stays Focused on Each New Day



"I truly feel fortunate right now. I love what I do; I love the people we work with; and there are days when it doesn't seem like work."

— JOSEPH REYES  
Executive Director of Facilities

**SPEND AN HOUR** with Joseph Reyes, executive director of facilities, planning and construction management, and you begin to understand why he sleeps well at night. Reyes has the calm focus of a Zen master, despite overseeing five Measure T-funded construction projects worth \$70 million.

"I heard it once said, 'Who can gain height to their stature by worrying?' No one," he said. "What I also realize is that we only have control over ourselves; so I can wake up in the morning and decide I'm going to have a great day."

In spring 2011, just a week or so after he joined Hartnell, Reyes could see that construction of the new Alisal Campus wouldn't be finished that summer. Fall class schedules were already set.

"I called a meeting with all of the vice presidents," he said, "and I asked, 'What's your Plan B? And they all looked at me.'" Before Hartnell, Reyes was in a similar role with the K-12 Aromas-San Juan School District, and before that he was an operations manager in the high-stakes world of Silicon Valley. He now leads a team of 35 people responsible for fulfilling an ambitious building and renovation agenda while managing existing facilities.

"My staff knows me now: If I assign a project, then either the next day or the next couple days I will follow up with you," Reyes said. "The items don't go away until they're complete."

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**His role demands that he keep multiple jobs on track, including some that are more than a year from completion.**

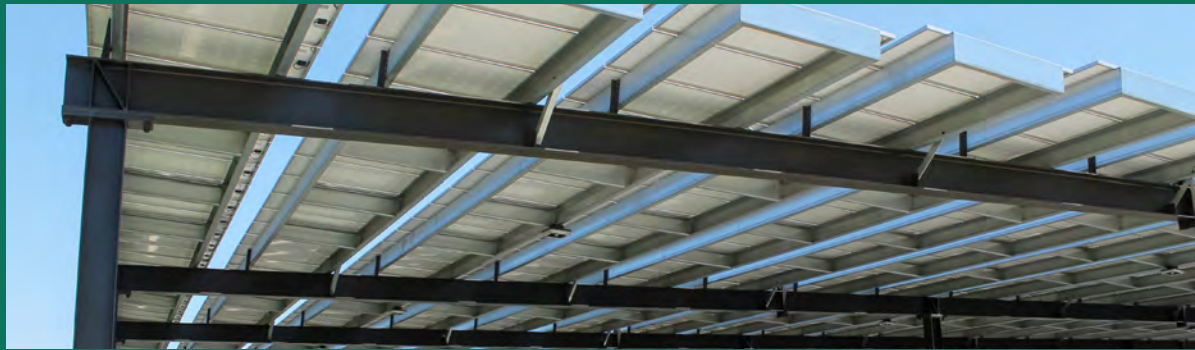
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"I don't work on the same project all day," Reyes said. "Today, I've gone from working on the flooring in the president's restroom to a construction meeting for the safety kiosk, to also working with legal counsel for the agreement for the Soledad property."

Away from work, he is the 50-something father of a 15-year-old, who a few years ago asked his dad what he wanted him to be when he grew up. Reyes' response:

"I thought about it for a minute, and I said, 'I want you to be happy.' And it surprised him, because he looked at me, and he said, 'Really?' I said, 'If you can find a job that you really love and enjoy, then first of all, it won't seem like work, and second of all, the money will come.'"





## Solar Panels Yield Growing Dividends

This 1.3-megawatt canopy solar system on top of Hartnell's Main Campus parking structure went online in July 2020.

**THANKS TO NEW** and existing projects, solar energy will meet more than 60 percent of Hartnell College's total electricity needs in the years ahead. Reduced costs "go back into savings that can be used for more student programs," said Joseph Reyes, executive director of facilities, operations and asset management.

Rooftop photovoltaic panels will meet half the power needs of the new Soledad Education Center, and an installation on the roof of the expansion at the King City Education Center will generate all the energy needed for the expansion, which doubles previous square footage. A rooftop system at the new Castroville Education Center will likewise meet 100 percent of its needs.

A key contributor to this growing capacity is a new 1.3-megawatt solar canopy system on the top level of the Hartnell Parking

Structure on the Main Campus in Salinas, online in July 2020. Like similar systems in front of Building J and at the Alisal Campus, the panels sit atop piers, with room for parking underneath.

That project alone will save the college \$110,000 a year. Rather than spending \$6.5 million to purchase and install the panels, the college will buy discounted electricity from investors. In 2019, to make way for the new nursing and allied health building, the college relocated canopy panels from Parking Lot 3, on the southeast corner of the Main Campus, to ground level in a former parking lot off of Central Avenue.

All of this has happened since 2012, when then superintendent/president Dr. Willard Lewallen – with encouragement and approval from the Governing Board – spurred construction of Hartnell's first solar system

in the main parking lot of the Alisal Campus. Those panels, rated at 565 kilowatts, continue to meet 95 percent of electricity needs there. Building efficiency is a vital factor in this strategy to save money and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

All of the new buildings funded with Measure T bonds, approved by district voters in 2016, are designed to meet a "silver" efficiency standard set by the U.S. Green Buildings Council. In addition to energy-efficient windows, lighting, insulation, ventilation and other mechanical systems, the buildings are carefully oriented to the sun.

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**Hartnell College received a 2020 Excellence in Energy and Sustainability Award from the California Community Colleges system for solar power generation and other energy-saving steps expected to save \$26 million over their lifetime.**

Sophomore forward Adrian Serrato, here in action against Cerritos on Aug. 30, 2020, was named 2020 Coast Conference Player of the Year.

# ATHLETICS



## Panther Backer Campaign Takes Programs to Next Level

**BUILDING ON A STRATEGIC PLAN** developed by coaches, volunteers and Hartnell College Foundation staff, Hartnell Athletics in July 2020 launched a “Panther Backer” fundraising campaign in support of student-athletes and their teams.

Through communications sent by email and mail, the campaign reached about 5,500 athletics alumni and donors, as well as thousands of others who contribute to other

foundation efforts. The effort is focused on several areas of greatest need: academic support, equipment, travel, scholarships and recruitment. In the campaign materials, both alumni athletes and current student-athletes shared their experiences relative to these opportunities to give.

Men’s soccer player Noe Vega talked about how a new tutoring center for student-athletes could make a difference for others like him.

“I had a great experience with the Panther Learning Lab,” Vega said. “Tutors there were helpful and friendly, and I was able to comfortably complete my coursework. But they usually close pretty early. I have night classes along with many other athletes, and we don’t have as flexible of a schedule to make it in time to the lab.”



CONTRIBUTE TO THE  
PANTHER BACKER CAMPAIGN

Visit [hartnellfoundation.org/give-to-athletics](https://hartnellfoundation.org/give-to-athletics)  
Contact Dan Teresa, Dean of Athletics  
(831) 755-6837 or [dteresa@hartnell.edu](mailto:dteresa@hartnell.edu)

## HARTNELL ATHLETICS GAINS THREE NEW HEAD COACHES

### Erin Houston

SOFTBALL



In softball, Erin Houston moved up from an assistant role in July 2020 following the retirement of 28-year veteran Andy Watt.

Houston, who grew up in Spreckels, completed her collegiate pitching career at William Jessup University in 2010. Among her accomplishments at WJ were being named to the All California Pacific First Team in 2011 and Pitcher of the Year.

While still at Notre Dame High School in Salinas, she connected with Hartnell as a volunteer coach at the Hartnell Softball Camp, and began as an assistant coach in 2014. “I fell in love with softball because of Hartnell,” she said.

“We are building this program with the intent to compete,” Houston said of her goal for the Panthers. “We also want our student-athletes to look back at their time at Hartnell with a sense of accomplishment.”

### Joel McKown

SWIMMING & DIVING

Joel McKown came on board to revive the Swim and Dive program after a 17-year hiatus, building a team from scratch to compete in Spring 2020. He competed in swimming and water polo for the University of California, Santa Cruz, and had a successful professional water polo career in Australia and New Zealand from 2008-10.



Hired for a full-time position that includes teaching a variety of

physical education courses, McKown came to Hartnell from Cabrillo College, where he had been assistant men’s swim and water polo coach and an adjunct instructor in kinesiology since 2018. He began college coaching in 2015 as head women’s swim and water polo coach at West Valley College in Saratoga.

“I think the biggest part of it is providing an experience that benefits these students’ time at Hartnell,” McKown said. “Simply put, my job is to help people accomplish their goals.”

### Natalie Marlowe

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL



Natalie Marlowe came from Cal State Monterey Bay in June 2020 to lead Women’s

Basketball. She was an assistant coach at CSUMB for two seasons and previously was an assistant at University of Texas-Dallas and University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio. She is a native of South Milwaukee, Wis., and competed as a guard at Chicago State University.

“I’ve been an assistant coach at every level of the NCAA – D1, D2 and D3 – and it has helped me see and develop different styles of basketball,” Marlowe said. “I’ve helped rebuild and turn around other programs, been able to recruit and evaluate talent and have gained so much experience along the way. I feel I have developed a very good outlook and gauge of student-athletes and their fit.”

Her plan for her team’s success boils down to a single phrase: “We’re going to be the hardest workers.”

## WOMEN'S TRACK

(abbreviated season)

- Defending NorCal Conference champions.
- Alyssa Ceja Pena tied the 10th best hammer-throw mark in school history within the season's first three meets.

## MEN'S TRACK

(abbreviated season)

- Won Wildcat Cup hosted by Cuesta College.
- Wildcat Cup record in 200m and 15th-fastest at Hartnell by Hiroki Terada.
- 4 received scholarships to four-year universities.

## VOLLEYBALL

- Made state playoffs for 8th consecutive year.
- Ranked 15th in Northern California; 13th in state.
- 3 players made All-State Academic Team.
- 5 sophomores transfer to four-year universities.

## MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

- 2nd in Coast Conference, 4th in Northern California and 7th in state.
- 8 runners All-Conference.
- 4 received scholarships to four-year universities.

## SOFTBALL

(abbreviated season)

- Erin Houston named head coach.
- 1 sophomore transferring to 4-year university.

## BASEBALL

(abbreviated season)

- Garick Poblick made All-State Academic Team.
- 5 sophomores transfer to 4-year universities.

## WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

- NorCal champions (2nd consecutive) and 4th in state.
- Coast Conference champions (7th consecutive).
- Head Coach Christopher Zepeda named CCCAA Women's Cross Country Coach of the Year for second time.
- Assistant Coach Rachel Shimabukuro named 2019 statewide Cross Country/Track and Field Assistant Coach of the Year.
- 2 runners All American, 3 All State, 8 All Conference.
- 5 received scholarships to run at four-year universities.



Panther Women's Cross Country team members and Head Coach Chris Zepeda after winning a second straight Northern California Championship on Nov. 8, 2020, at their home course in Toro County Park.

## FOOTBALL

- 9th straight winning season.
- 7 players All Conference, 3 All Region.
- David Freeman (RB) statewide rushing leader — rushes and yards.
- No. 2 defense in state.
- 10 players receive scholarships to play at four-year universities.

## MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIM & DIVE

(abbreviated season)

- Doug Lynch 1st in 1M and 3M dives at Coast Conference Kick-Off.
- Men 5th at Coast Conference Kick-Off.
- Women 7th at Coast Conference Kick-Off.
- Jeremiah DiSimone 12th fastest 50m breaststroke in state.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

- Daniel Bost (G) All-Conference.
- 3 players transfer to 4-year universities.

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

- 9th in NorCal and competed in state tournament.
- In Coast Conference, Carli Lowi (FW) named Player of the Year and Mayvene Molina (FW) named Freshman of the Year (both also All State).
- 5 players named First Team All Conference.
- 6 players received scholarships to attend four-year universities.

## MEN'S SOCCER

- Competed in state playoffs.
- Ranked 16th nationally among community colleges by the United Soccer Coaches.
- Adrian Serrato (FW) named Coast Conference Player of the Year (also All State and All American).
- 3 players First Team All Conference.
- 5 players received scholarships to play and attend 4-year universities.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- Isabella Dorado (G) named All Coast Conference.
- 4 players returning for 2021.
- Natalie Marlowe named head coach.

# Student-Athletes Receive Bill Elliott Scholarships

**HARTNELL COLLEGE ATHLETICS** awarded the \$1,000 Bill Elliott Scholar-Athlete Scholarship to four students on June 24, 2020, in recognition of their outstanding athletic and academic accomplishment while attending Hartnell.

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**Two of the four were also valedictorians in the graduating class of 2020, with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.**

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The two women scholarship recipients are Daniela Salazar-Salas, a track and cross country team member, and volleyball team member Jesslyn De Anda. The two men are football team member Drew Schuler and Doug Lynch of Hartnell's newly revived Swim/Dive team.

The scholarship winners were selected from among nine students nominated by head coaches in Hartnell's 14 men's and women's intercollegiate athletic teams, all of whom transferred to four-year universities in fall 2020. The remaining five honorees received a \$100 gift certificate.

"Congratulations to all of you," said Dan Teresa, dean of academic affairs, athletics, physical education and health. "We wish you the best on your academic and athletic journey."



The scholarship program, now in its third year, is named in honor of the late Bill Elliott, a Salinas native and Hartnell football player in 1957-58 who with his wife, Barbara, donated approximately \$225,000 in support of Hartnell Athletics. Their generosity helped fund uniforms, equipment, team travel and facilities in the years before Elliott's death in July 2019.

"Bill's generosity enabled us to support our student-athletes in ways that the college couldn't," said Dan Teresa, dean of academic affairs, athletics, physical education and health. "This support was life-changing for many students who came through Hartnell College and for those still to come."



The five other 2019-20 honorees, their sport, high school and transfer university are:

**JULISSA QUINTANA, SOCCER**

Pajaro Valley High School  
Westcliff University in Irvine, Calif.

**JUSTINE WARWICK, VOLLEYBALL**

Salinas High School  
Fresno State University

**DANIEL BOST, BASKETBALL**

Salinas High School  
Thomas River University in Kamloops, B.C.

**ISAIAH BUENO, BASEBALL**

San Benito High High School  
Cal State Monterey Bay or Cal State San Marcos

**JESUS AVALOS, TRACK AND CROSS COUNTRY**

King City High School  
University of Alaska-Anchorage

**COACH SHAW HELPED  
MOLD CHAMPIONS IN LIFE**



Hartnell College lost one of its most legendary athletics figures on July 1, 2020, with the passing of former track, cross country and football coach Gary Shaw at age 75 in Roseville.

In a message to the college and greater community, Hartnell Community College District Governing Board President Aurelio Salazar Jr. extended deepest sympathies to the Shaw family.

"We will forever cherish the memory of Gary Shaw and his outstanding service to Hartnell and its students," Salazar said.

# Athletics Hall of Fame Honors 17



**Sam Albanese\***  
Track & Field and Football  
1970-72



**Mike Breschini\***  
Baseball and Football  
1972-74



**Tom Campbell**  
Swim and Water Polo  
1974-76



**Chuck Dillard\***  
Football and Baseball  
1952-54



**Benny Guerra**  
Wrestling and Football  
1966-68



**Kathy Kuchta**  
Track & Field, Softball  
and Volleyball  
1976-78



**Rosa (Montejano) Griffith**  
Basketball and Volleyball  
1989-90 and 1993-94



**Gary Plumlee**  
Football  
1961-63



**Claire Shakelford**  
Swim  
1976



**Vanessa Yebra-Barrientos**  
Track & Field, Basketball,  
Soccer and Softball  
1998-2001



**Dick Casper**  
Coach  
Track & Field and Cross Country  
1980-86



**Chuck Felice**  
Coach  
Football and Baseball  
1980-89



**Phil Garcia**  
Volunteer/Track & Field Athlete  
Since 1971



**Lyman Lowe\***  
Volunteer  
1982-1996



**Gene Mazza\***  
Volunteer  
1976-2003



**Football Team**  
1960



**Baseball Team**  
1977



Members of the 1960 football team accept their honors.

Hartnell Athletics honored 17 individual and team inductees in the 2019 Class of its Athletics Hall of Fame, presented on Oct. 2, 2019. Former athletes, coaches and volunteers were recognized for their lasting legacies of success and support. Plaques honoring each inductee were unveiled on the Hall of Fame wall in the Hartnell Gymnasium.

# FOUNDATION

## Letter from the VP/ Executive Director

DEAR FRIENDS OF  
HARTNELL COLLEGE,

**M**Y GRATITUDE and appreciation for your loyal support for Hartnell College students is difficult to put into words. We finished the 2019-20 academic year under unprecedented circumstances, but it has not hindered our accomplishments.

Without a doubt, the supporters and volunteer leaders who continue to advance the work of the Hartnell College Foundation have demonstrated great strength in forging ahead despite the adversity of COVID-19, and so have our outstanding students.

Thanks to you, our foundation has maintained the vitality that makes us one of the most successful community college fundraising organizations across California and the entire nation. Your gifts

have funded hundreds of laptops, mobile wireless hotspots and emergency grants to, as we say, keep “Hartnell Students Strong.” Student after student has attested to the enormous importance of that support in allowing them to continue learning.

Little did we know in November 2019, while enjoying another wonderful Gala for the Arts, that we would soon have to shift all our special events online, beginning with the Party in the Library last May. Thanks to the creative energy of our staff, partners and volunteers, it was one of our most successful fundraising events ever!

We also came together to develop and launch a new five-year President’s Task Force Funding Plan, which has an ambitious goal of raising \$30.5 million to further Hartnell’s tremendous positive impact on the economy and quality of life in the Salinas Valley.

Likewise, we have successfully launched a campaign to raise near-term operating funds for the three new education centers built with funds from Measure T.

You, our donors and partners, have kept us moving forward, no matter what. Thank you all, on behalf of Hartnell College, our students and the communities we serve.

Sincerely,



**JACKIE CRUZ**

Vice President of Advancement & Development & Executive Director of the Hartnell College Foundation



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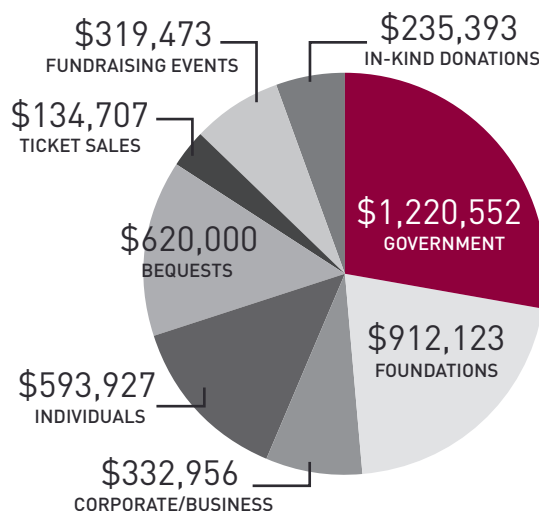
## HARTNELL COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Connect.  
Grow.  
Catalyze.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

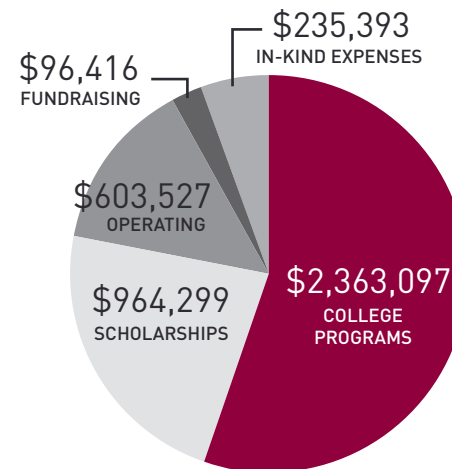
In the 2019-20 academic year, Hartnell College and the Hartnell College Foundation awarded 946 scholarships, totaling \$1,232,987.

### REVENUE



**TOTAL: \$4,369,131**

### EXPENDITURES



**TOTAL: \$4,262,732**



# 2019-24 Funding Plan Seeks \$30.5 Million

**THE HARTNELL COLLEGE** Governing Board adopted the President’s Task Force Funding Plan for 2019-24 on Aug.11, 2020, setting in motion a strategic effort to raise and invest \$30.5 million in private funds for the greater good of the Salinas Valley.



Paulette Bumbalough, retired dean of the King City Education Center (left); Harry Wardwell, vice chairman of retail banking for Rabobank in Salinas; and Pete Delgado, CEO of Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System join in a small-group discussion during a President’s Task Force meeting on Feb. 26, 2020.

Jackie Cruz, vice president of advancement and development, described it as a “comprehensive assessment of innovation ideas and vision for meeting the strategic priorities of Hartnell College.”

The previous President’s Task Force plan, for 2012-17, had an initial goal of \$14.2 million

and ultimately raised \$45 million. The new five-year plan was developed by community leaders and campus representatives, working with the Hartnell College Foundation Board of Directors. It included Governing Board Trustee Candi DePauw and was co-chaired by Kurt Gollnick and Alfred Diaz-Infante.

Over the course of three meetings in February and March 2020, the task force ranked needs identified by students, staff and faculty based on what they felt would attract the most funding support over the next five years. That support may come from business, individuals and foundations, as well as competitive grants.

Their work was guided by the question: **“How can Hartnell College best nurture the prosperity of the Salinas Valley economy and the lives of its residents?”**

The top 15 needs were folded into six funds that are linked to the college’s overall 2019-24 Strategic Plan.

## PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE PRIORITIES 2019-24

- 1 **Agriculture Business & Technology Institute student internships** - \$1 million
- 2 **Nursing & Allied Health expansion and new center** - \$4 million
- 3 **Computer Science Bachelor’s Degree Program in 3 Years (CSin3)** - \$2.6 million
- 4 **NASA Aerospace Academy and Coding for Salinas Valley Youth** - \$1.07 million
- 5 **Hartnell College and Grower-Shipper Foundation Educational Fellowship** - \$20,000
- 6 **Scholarships for Hartnell College students** - \$1.3 million
- 7 **Salinas Valley Promise program support** - \$2.7 million
- 8 **Agriculture & Business Technology Institute student leadership and outreach** - \$680,000
- 9 **Athletics** - \$2.17 million
- 10 **Funds for the Arts: Creative Skills for the Modern Workforce and a Thriving Community** - \$2.6 million

# Land Gift Among Andy Matsui's Many Legacies



Andy and Mary Matsui accept the Transformational Philanthropic Award from then superintendent/president Dr. Willard Lewallen on Nov. 2, 2017. At left is then Hartnell Governing Board president Manuel Osorio, and at right is the Matsuis' daughter Teresa Matsui and her husband, Walter Schneider.

**HARTNELL COLLEGE AND** the Salinas Valley mourned the loss of floral entrepreneur and philanthropist Toshikiyo “Andy” Matsui, who passed away Dec. 11, 2020, at age 85.

Matsui was a multimillion-dollar founding scholarship donor to the Computer Science in 3 (CSin3) program, a degree partnership between Hartnell and Cal State Monterey

Bay. That groundbreaking initiative, begun in 2013, is acclaimed for its success in graduating women and minority students, who have long been underrepresented in computer science and other STEM-related fields.

In 2017, the Matsui Foundation gifted 215 acres of northeast Salinas farmland to the Hartnell College Foundation.

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**The property's estimated value in excess of \$20 million makes it the largest gift to a single California community college.**

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Matsui, born into a traditional Japanese farm family, immigrated to California in 1964 with his wife, Yasuko (“Mary”), and the first of their four children. The Matsuis established their own nursery outside Salinas in 1969 and moved into orchid production in the mid-1990s. They pioneered sale of potted orchids in grocery stores and became one of the world’s largest potted orchid growers.

The Matsuis' historic land gift awaits sale and development for new housing, expected within the next several years. Farm rental income from the property continues to fund scholarships for the CSin3 program.

The Hartnell acreage, on Old Stage Road between Williams and Natividad roads, is divided into four distinct and walkable neighborhoods, with land set aside for schools and open space. Eighty-four percent of the land is planned for single-family homes, and 16 percent is planned for multi-family housing, such as townhomes.

# Centennial Celebration Includes Opportunity to Leave a Legacy

## A CENTURY OF SERVICE, TRANSFORMATION & EXCELLENCE



"I look back on Hartnell as a great foundation for going on to higher education. When I went to UCLA, I felt very well prepared for the big university experience and the classes I took."



— **SHARILYN PAYNE**  
**1980 GRADUATE**  
**Attorney**  
**Fenton & Keller**

### MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the Centennial and developing plans, please email [astoddard@hartnell.edu](mailto:astoddard@hartnell.edu). To learn more about joining the Hartnell College Legacy Society, call the Hartnell College Foundation at (831) 755-6810.

**HARTNELL COLLEGE IS** determined not to let the pandemic stand in the way of celebrating its Centennial, even if that means moving it into its 101st year. Though the health emergency prevented community and alumni events originally planned for 2020-21, planners are looking ahead to 2021-22 activities if they can be held safely.

Meanwhile, the Hartnell College Foundation encourages alumni and other supporters to join a Centennial-themed "100-by-100" campaign for new planned gifts. By including Hartnell in their estate planning, donors become members of the Legacy Society, which allows them to designate their support or make an unrestricted bequest to the areas of greatest need. Members also receive tickets to the annual Party in the Library and Gala for the Arts, as well as a personalized paving brick outside the college library.

In addition, Hartnell invites alumni and families to share memories, photos and souvenirs that span its journey from a humble founding in 1920 as Salinas Junior College to the engine of opportunity it continues to be. Against the backdrop of American and world history, Hartnell has reflected Salinas' demographic change and social forces such as the farmworker rights movement of the 1960s and '70s. The Centennial theme is "A century of service, transformation and excellence."



Salinas Junior College in 1941.

# Party in the Library Moves Online in Style

**THE HARTNELL COLLEGE** Foundation raised almost \$400,000 through an 80-minute online “party” on May 9, 2020, that was inspired when COVID-19 forced cancellation of Hartnell’s most important yearly in-person fundraiser, Party in the Library.

Net income from the virtual event, dubbed “Re-enVision 2020” was \$399,623 from auction purchases, drawing tickets, donations, pledges and sponsorships. That was the second highest total since Party in the Library began 14 years ago.

The in-person celebration typically draws about 400 supporters who enjoy gourmet food, wines, live music and more. The 2020 online event via Zoom conference, with much lower expenses, attracted 100 viewers — many of whom were dressed up and enjoying a glass of wine or cocktail.

Participants in the Party in the Library on May 9, 2020, join in a toast by event Co-Chair Susan Gill during the celebration via Zoom.

The annual Leadership Award went to Anne Secker, a Salinas-area community leader and two-time past president of the Hartnell College Foundation Board of Directors. Secker, an attorney with Noland, Hammerly, Etienne & Hoss, has twice served as foundation board president and remains a board member and co-chair of the Planned Giving Committee. At a foundation Board of Directors meeting on May 20, event co-chair Susan Gill of King City underscored the

significance of such success under daunting circumstances.

“Our sponsors, donors and committee members stuck by us and continued to support us with their dollars, leadership, time and a range of resources so that others would be inspired to support students at this time of transition,” said Gill, whose co-chairs were fellow board members Alfred Diaz-Infante and Kurt Gollnick.



# WELI Forum Inspires Support for Women Students



A panel during the 2019 WELI Forum featured Adrienne Laurent, at left, of the Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System, and Andrea Bailey of Chevron Inc. Facilitating was Jackie Cruz of Hartnell College.

**ON ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL** September 2019 evening at Tehama Golf Club, the Sixth Annual Women’s Education & Leadership Institute (WELI) Forum, raised funds to support socioeconomically disadvantaged women students at Hartnell.

This event celebrated the success of WELI, which since 2011 has graduated 200 women scholars and granted approximately \$400,000 in scholarships. Participants receive leadership training, mentorship and a \$2,000 award per student. The evening began with a reception and dinner, followed by presentations from Vice President of

Advancement and Development Jackie Cruz and Nelida Ponce, a WELI alum who is now a Pister Leadership Scholar at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

As in the past, another highlight of the evening was a panel discussion. This year’s panelists were Andrea Bailey, public affairs representative for Chevron Inc., and Adrienne Laurent, chief strategic communications officer for the Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System. Both shared their personal journeys and how overcoming challenges has contributed to their success.

# Arts Gala Features ‘Evita’ Performance

**HARTNELL COLLEGE PRESENTED** its 14th Annual Black & White Gala for the Arts on Nov. 16, 2020, with 400 guests and a featured performance of the musical “Evita” by The Western Stage theatre company.

This benefit that raised \$24,113 for Hartnell arts programs began with an opulent reception and silent auction in the newly renamed Willard Lewallen STEM Center and concluded with the musical performance in the Center for Performing Arts.

The Western Stage production of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Evita” in Hartnell’s Mainstage Theater plunged the gala audience into the climactic story of Eva Peron’s unlikely rise to power in post-war Argentina.

“We’re grateful to the Hartnell College Council for the Arts and all of our patrons and donors for ensuring that the Salinas Valley thrives with education and the arts,” said Jackie Cruz, vice president of advancement and development.



Former Hartnell Governing Board trustee Manuel Osorio and his wife, Susan Osorio, enjoy the Black & White Gala for the Arts on November 16, 2020.



# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

“Every single Hartnell College student, both today and for many years to come, benefits from the generosity of donors to the Hartnell College Foundation. Our family of donors continues to grow year after year, and their donations help provide life-changing opportunities for Hartnell students. On their behalf, please accept my profound thanks for your continuous support!”

- **JACKIE CRUZ**, Vice President of Advancement & Development & Executive Director of the Hartnell College Foundation

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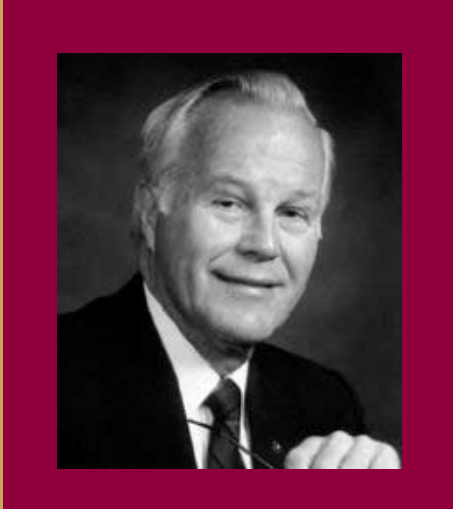
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# Dr. Fassett Leaves Enduring Legacy

**THE HARTNELL COLLEGE** Foundation is deeply grateful that the late Dr. James R. Fassett, Hartnell alumnus, former trustee, foundation director and dear friend, remembered the college with a bequest of \$620,000. Prior to his death in 1994, Dr. Fassett created a charitable remainder trust with a life estate for a longtime friend, and the Hartnell College Foundation was named as one of its beneficiaries.

Dr. Fassett grew up in Gonzales and was a graduate of Hartnell, subsequently transferring to Stanford University, where he also completed medical school. After Army service, he finished his residency at Monterey County Hospital, now Natividad Medical Center. He then returned to Gonzales, where he was a family practitioner from 1948 until his retirement in 1988.

As a leader within the Hartnell College Foundation, Dr. Fassett was instrumental in convincing his friend, the late Villeroy



Gleason, also a trustee of the college, to bequeath the Gleason Center in King City to the foundation for use by Hartnell. Dr. Fassett served as a Hartnell trustee for more than 24 years and was extremely proud of his involvement in establishing Hartnell's registered nursing Program and the cooperative physician's assistant program between Hartnell and Stanford University. In 1983, he received the Hartnell College Foundation Distinguished Service Award, recognizing his accomplishments and service to the foundation, the college and the community.

Said Jackie Cruz, vice president for advancement and development at Hartnell, "Dr. Fassett's generosity and leadership have transcended and changed Hartnell College for the greater good of the Salinas Valley."

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Joe Gunther, the late mayor of Salinas, speaks with Respiratory Care Practitioner program students Neftali Lazara, left, and Jasmine Salazar, following the Dec. 12, 2019, groundbreaking ceremony for the Center for Nursing and Health Sciences building, to be named after Salinas Valley Memorial Healthcare System.

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 Comcast Spotlight  
 Community Connection  
 International House Davis  
 Complexions Skincare  
 Leticia Contreras  
 Matthew and Kieri Coombs  
 Ko Cooper  
 Francisco Corchado  
 Gary and Anna Lee Courtright  
 Clint Cowden  
 Crowe LLP

Culligan Water Conditioning  
 Louie Curtis  
 CWO-3 Diane M. Kelsey, USN (Ret.)  
 Cynosure New Media  
 D'Arrigo Consulting  
 David Werner, Inc. / Retriever Payment System  
 Davis Properties  
 Chris and Kathy Davis  
 Michael Davis  
 Victoria Davis  
 Deerpoint Group, Inc.  
 Del Fresco Produce Ltd.  
 Mercedes Del Real  
 Fred and Martha DeYoung  
 Matthew Dodd  
 David Doglietto  
 Cheryl O' Donnell  
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 Drew Massa  
 Transportation, Inc.  
 Kyle Dunn

Richard and Anita Dunsay  
 Ted and Barbara Durham  
 Eagle Research & Development  
 James and Sharon Eckhart  
 Edward Jones Investments  
 Alexander Edens and Christa Fink  
 Jeffrey and Joyce Eikenberry  
 El Camino Machine & Welding, LLC  
 Elizabeth and Brian Birkeland  
 Elkhorn Packaging Co., LLC  
 Parviz Entekhabi  
 Michael Enz  
 Jan Eperjesi  
 eSponsorNow, Inc.  
 Liz Estrella  
 Steven and Aya Ettinger  
 Evaristo Garibay  
 Executive Event Services, LLC  
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 Charlotte Eyermann  
 Rachel Failano  
 John and Ardell Fair  
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 Paul Farmer  
 Laura Fatuzzo  
 Scott Faust and Lee Richmond  
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 Benjamin Figueroa  
 Patricia Filice  
 First Alarm Security & Patrol, Inc.  
 Suzanne Flannigan and Joseph Calado  
 Elizabeth Flores  
 Janet Flores  
 Ralph and Joy Beneke Flores  
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 Grower-Shipper Association of Central California  
 Grunsky, Ebey, Farrar & Howell APC  
 Grupo Flor  
 Juan Guzman  
 Hahn Estates  
 Kent Hansen  
 Happy Boy Distributors  
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 Grant Holder  
 Hood River Distillers, Inc.

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 Peter T. Hoss  
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Jackie Cruz, vice president of advancement and development and executive director of the Hartnell College Foundation, introduces and thanks outgoing Board of Directors members, from left, Terri Belli, David Warner and Anne Secker at the President's Circle Holiday Reception on Dec. 11, 2019.

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 Valley Farm Management  
 Valley Pride



**Betsy Buchalter Adler, in her former role as a trustee of the Claire Giannini Fund, gives closing remarks during a Jan. 31, 2020, induction ceremony for the Teacher Pathway Program, a partnership with Cal State Monterey Bay. At left is Dr. Jose Luis Alvarado, who was dean of education at CSUMB.**

Allan and Donna Vannoy  
 Luis Vargas  
 Anthony Vasquez  
 Jerry Vega  
 Lance and Jennifer Volland  
 Dorothy Middaugh Wallace  
 Gary and Carolyn Walter  
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 Daniella Zapata  
 Cristina Zavala  
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 Emilia Zuniga

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# Growing Leaders Since 1920



## **PANDEMIC RESPONSE | p. 11**

Hartnell loaned ventilators to Salinas-area hospitals.

## **ON THE FRONT COVER**

Welding on the Center for Nursing & Health Sciences in November 2020.

