

COMMUNITY NEWS

ALLAN HANCOCK COLLEGE

January 2021
www.hancockcollege.edu



The Faces of Determination

Students Lead in the COVID-19 Response

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Community,

It goes without saying that this year has been unlike any other on record.

The global pandemic upended all of our lives and drastically changed the way Allan Hancock College offers its teaching, learning, and support programs. Like nearly all colleges in California, we have transitioned most of our services online. This has been disappointing and challenging for all our students, faculty, staff, and administration.

The Bulldog spirit cannot be broken. I am amazed and impressed with the strength of the Hancock community. Faculty turned their classrooms into online learning modules seemingly overnight. Students displayed flexibility and perseverance to complete their courses in a way I have never seen. Staff found innovative ways to continue offering our excellent level of service while protecting our community's health. Administrators worked countless hours to develop a pandemic plan that is now a model for other colleges around California.

We came together, as one Hancock team, to continue our pledge to change the odds for the community.

This issue of Community News is a testament to that resilience. We honored the college's commitment to an in-person commencement ceremony this past summer (page 8). We fed thousands in the community through our Food Share Because We Care program (page 4). Our programs stepped up and made masks and ear savers (page 6). And equally as important as our response to the COVID-19 crisis (page 12), we are recommitting ourselves to social justice through new policies and procedures (page 11).

These are trying times, and we at Allan Hancock College see ourselves as a critical component to build a stronger, safer, and more equitable community. In these uncertain times, know that we remain committed to doing our part to ensure Hancock students have access to a high quality, supportive, and enriching education.



Kevin G. Walther, Ph.D.



Community News

January 2021

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Career Programs Train Our Essential Workforce

Camila Schafer descends a ladder from the second story of a smoking building with a 100-pound dummy in tow.

While most Hancock students took their classes from home remotely this past fall, Schafer and the other cadets in the AHC Fire Academy continued their rigorous training at the college's Public Safety Training Complex (PSTC) in Lompoc.

"Whether it's a pandemic, or a fire, or a surf rescue, we'll answer that call," said Schafer, who served as president of the academy's Battalion 146.

The academy is just one of the training programs at the PSTC that continues the important work of training the next generation of first responders while keeping trainees, faculty, and their families safe. Today, the program employs a number of safety protocols, including smaller academy classes, screening cadets and staff before they enter the facilities, ensuring cadets are socially distanced during training, and requiring cadets and trainers to wear face masks.

During fall of 2020, cadets like Schafer did their part outside of class, following safety and health guidelines to protect themselves and their classmates.

"On weekends, we're studying. We're hitting the books," she said. "We're making sure that we're not out there putting our battalion in jeopardy and possibly getting this virus."

The PSTC academies are not the only Hancock Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that have adapted during the pandemic. Hancock's nursing program enacted similar safety measures to continue training additional frontline healthcare workers. In December, as the country continued to grapple with the impact of the virus, the college's nursing program graduated 66 new nurses from its vocational nursing and registered nursing programs.

Other career programs switched to hybrid classes, allowing students to attend their lecture class remotely through Zoom and get hands-on experience in a safe

and socially distanced lab setting.

"It's all about hands-on training," Hancock machining and manufacturing Assistant Professor

John Gerrity said. "We have reduced the number of students we allow in the labs and put other safety measures in place to allow them to still get that experience and build those skills."

Hancock continues to offer a wide range of degrees and certificates across 47 career disciplines. Learn more at

www.hancockcollege.edu/cte



SCHAFER / **Camila Schafer**



Operation Feed The Community

Food Share Because We Care Helps Thousands Locally

Local food insecurity immediately became an issue when the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March 2020.

In response, the college's Santa Maria campus and Lompoc Valley Center

quickly became emergency food distribution sites through a partnership with the Food Bank of Santa Barbara County in Santa Maria. Since then, dozens of Hancock students, staff,

faculty, and administrators have spent hundreds of hours prepping, packaging, and distributing free food via drive-by distribution sites.

BY THE NUMBERS:

 Approx.
100 Events

 **1.1 Million+** Lbs. of food

1,000
Families each week



45,000
Families served



200,000+
Individuals



"Our food share program has done a phenomenal job of helping folks in the community and providing a vital resource during these challenging times," said Hancock Superintendent/President Kevin G. Walthers, Ph.D. "This is one way we change the odds for our community."

The drive through food share distribution takes place every Tuesday and Thursday at 11 a.m. For more information, visit www.hancockcollege.edu/foodshare.



**Watch behind
the scenes at
Food Share**



Hancock's Helping Hands

AHC Dance Reimagined

The challenges posed by the pandemic left many Hancock programs seeking new and innovative solutions allowing them to serve and engage students.

This was especially evident in Hancock's dance program.

As the college's dance students sheltered-in-place during the early days of the pandemic, Hancock's dance instructors began working with them virtually. Classes were held in real-time online and instructors collaborated with the students to create unique dance videos.

The videos showcased students turning their homes, neighborhoods, and the wider world around them into creative spaces. The effort culminated with the program's fall performance, Dimensions in Dance, held online in place of in-person performances.

"As director of Dimensions in Dance's virtual performance, I was wildly impressed with how the students have adapted to change," said Hancock dance Assistant Professor Sydney Sorenson.

"The narratives they are working with are related to their personal experiences with the effects of COVID-19. It is a brave endeavor to express such vulnerability."

For information on upcoming dance performances visit

www.hancockcollege.edu/dance.



PCPA Serves Community During COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pacific Conservatory Theatre (PCPA) canceled its summer and fall 2020 theatrical seasons.

Shortly after the statewide stay-at-home order went into effect, members of PCPA's costume department pulled out their sewing machines at home and put their creative skills to work by creating cloth masks. In total, the department sewed more than 500 masks, all distributed to Hancock staff, students, and local essential workers.

PCPA also found ways to continue bringing enriching arts and entertainment to the community. Using live streaming and online programs, PCPA's virtual offerings included "PCPA Reads@Home," a video series featuring acting students reading from a collection of more than 40 books. PCPA resident artists participated in "Rediscovery Reading Club," a virtual book club that included discussions and performances of select books.

PCPA will continue its virtual offerings while it prepares to eventually return to the live stage.

To learn more about PCPA, visit
www.pcpa.org.

Hancock Lends 700 Laptops, Hotspots



As Hancock transitioned to remote learning in response to the pandemic, it quickly became apparent that students needed more access to technology in order to stay on track to meet their educational goals.

In response, Hancock established a laptop lending program, giving students the ability to check out laptops for home use. Since spring 2020, Hancock's Information Technology Services department prepared and loaned out more than 700 laptop computers to students. The department also expanded its support hours, allowing them to

further assist students with connectivity problems, software licensing issues, hardware issues, and other common problems.

In addition to the laptop lending program, Hancock allowed expanded internet access by loaning out Wi-Fi hotspots and launching free Wi-Fi connectivity in areas of the college's parking lots.

To learn more about Hancock's laptop lending program, visit the AHC COVID-19 webpage at www.hancockcollege.edu/covid and select Student Technology Resources.

Hancock Professor and Students Manufacture "Ear Savers" For Masks

Over the past year, local first responders and healthcare workers risked their lives to remain on the front lines during the COVID-19 pandemic, wearing protective masks for hours on end.



Hancock Assistant Professor of machining and manufacturing John Gerrity and students used their knowledge and skills to offer essential workers some relief by manufacturing thousands of "ear savers." The small plastic devices allowed nurses, healthcare workers, and first responders to wear protective masks for long periods of time without causing irritation or soreness on their ears due to the mask straps.

Gerrity created custom molds for the devices then ran an initial test batch using an injection molding process. Once perfected, Gerrity began manufacturing ear savers daily. In total, Gerrity created and donated more than 1,500 to organizations across the Santa Maria Valley, including Marian Regional Medical Center.



In Their Own Words

Students share their thoughts on attending college during a global pandemic.

"My advice to students is to plan out your week. It was easier for me to adjust when I created an agenda for how my week should be and when I needed to do homework. I would also say contact your professor when you need help! There is nothing wrong with asking for help."

Ana Rosas Pacheco

Major: Administration of Justice

Career Goal: Police Officer

"My experience was rough at first. One day I went from seeing my friends to another day seeing black screens on my laptop. Now, I have adjusted, and I am used to learning online. I will be transferring this year."

David Bautista

Major: Business Administration

Career Goal: Run a Non-Profit

"I have a stacked schedule – four classes and two jobs – however, it's this struggle that helps me learn how to become more independent. This experience promotes the confidence I have in my own abilities. And Hancock is giving me time to think about what exactly I will be doing the rest of my life."

Francisco Avila

Major: Engineering

Career Goal: Undecided

"In my classes, students are making the effort to reach out to anyone in the class that may need help. Students are having Zoom meetings and studying, encouraging other students to participate. We are doing the best we can in this situation."

Froylan Escalante

Major: Engineering

Career Goal: Civil Engineering

"The Hancock staff and faculty have done an amazing job adjusting to the circumstances in order to be safe while still providing a lot for the students! A quick piece of advice - check your student portal at least twice a week! Even when you think you have all assignments done there might be one you forgot about."

Ronaldo Rendon

Major:

Criminal Justice

Career Goal:

Crime Scene
Investigator



Ana Rosas Pacheco



Francisco Avila



Froylan Escalante



David Bautista



Ronaldo Rendon

Focused on the Safety of Our Students and Community

As the spring 2021 semester rapidly approaches, Allan Hancock College continues offering most classes remotely.



A note from Superintendent/ President Kevin G. Walther, Ph.D.

Over the past nine months, we all have learned a great deal about the coronavirus, and the science is clear: virus transmission increases in enclosed spaces, asymptomatic carriers can spread the virus, and wearing a mask and practicing social distancing is our most effective tool to flatten the curve.

With more than 85 percent of our students living at home – many in multi-generational households – returning to campus at full capacity poses a risk, not only to our students, faculty, and

staff, but also to the entire community. Committing to remote instruction allows our faculty to optimize their classes for remote instruction without worrying about developing a second set of lesson plans in the case of a mid-semester return to the classroom. And students are guaranteed the modality will not suddenly switch, further disrupting their lives.

Faculty and staff will continue doing all they can to maintain a personal touch with students. Lecture classes that normally meet in person will be taught through video conference, providing students and faculty an opportunity for

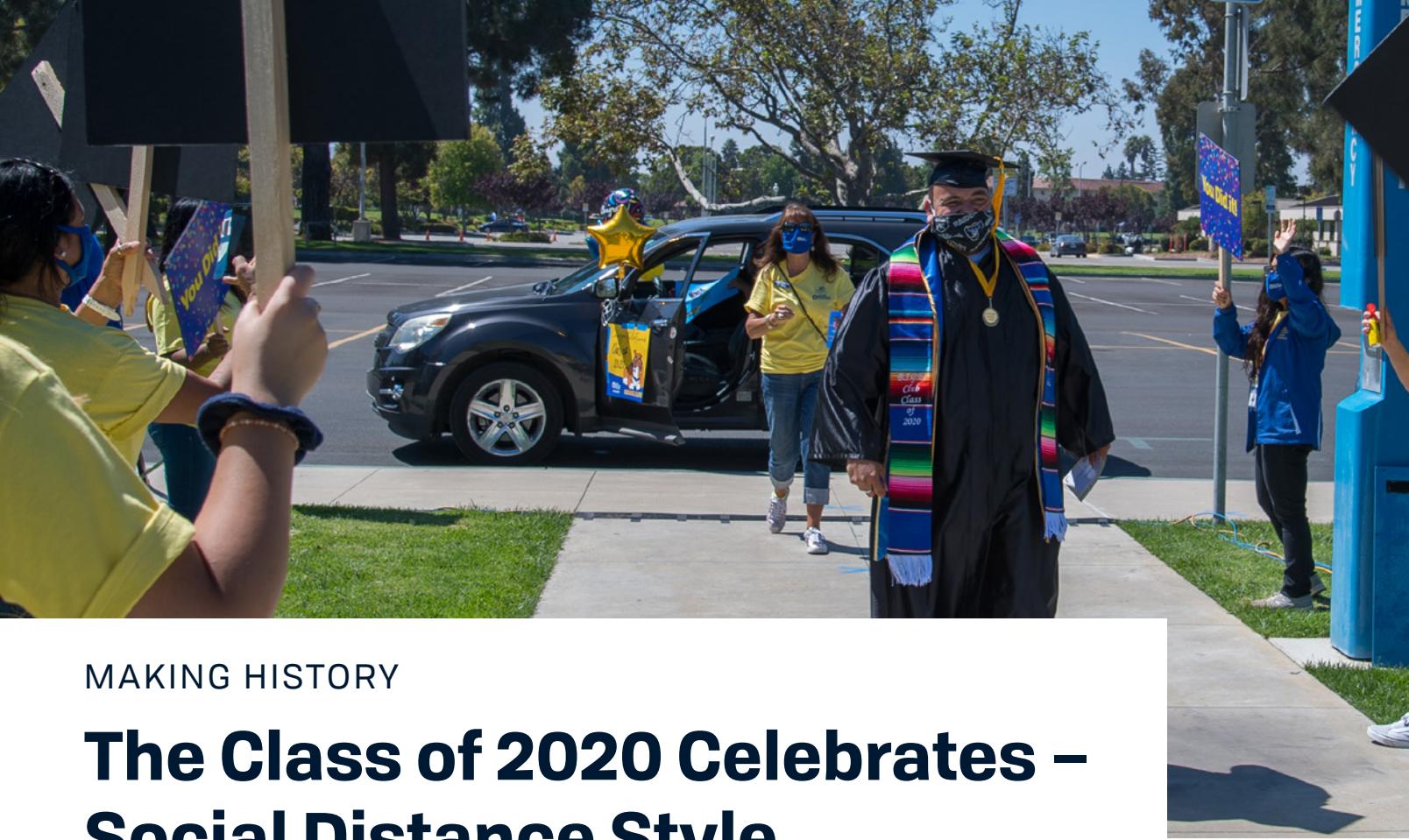
real-time interaction. Only a few classes – primarily in health sciences, public safety, and career education – will be offered in person, with strict safety rules and close monitoring.

The task this spring, as we approach the end of the school year, is getting students to complete their financial aid forms, educational plans, and apply for graduation. Our excellent student support services will help accomplish these goals.

We will continue to offer many services in-person, but with strict health guidelines in place. To facilitate interaction, safety barriers are installed at our student service windows, and signage is placed throughout the college's buildings to ensure social distancing. Masks will continue to be mandatory in public spaces on each of our campuses and required to be worn at all times during face-to-face instruction.

The spring semester will continue to present challenges at Allan Hancock College. However, our community should rest assured that our faculty and staff are committed to keeping students on track to graduate, transfer, or pursue a career even in these demanding times.

For updates on COVID-19 and resources available, visit www.hancockcollege.edu/covid.



MAKING HISTORY

The Class of 2020 Celebrates – Social Distance Style

Graduates did not let COVID-19 affect their dream to participate in an in-person graduation ceremony.

A total of 320 students from Hancock's record-breaking 2020 graduating class participated in a safe and socially distanced commencement ceremony. They drove onto campus, walked across a stage, received their diplomas, and took official graduation photos—all in front of their proud parents, families, and friends.

"We created the ceremony in a way that will live on forever for our students and their families," said Associate Superintendent/Vice President of Student Services Nohemy Ornelas, Ed.D. "These students reached the end of a journey that is also the beginning of a

new adventure. They are proof that if you start here, you can go anywhere."

"The class of 2020 is unlike any other that has existed before because we encountered a situation that no other class has ever encountered. You should be proud of what you've done because no one else has done it before," said Hancock 2020 graduate and ASBG Class President Tyler Little, who spoke to the graduates.



Watch 2020
Commencement





99th Graduating Class

1,888 

Graduates

2,507 

Degrees

850 

Certificates

1,000+ 

Cars

320 

Participants





AHC Class of 2020 Reflections

Hancock's 2020 graduating class faced unprecedented challenges during their final year at Allan Hancock College.

Former Student Trustee Heidi Mendiola and former ASBG President Tyler Little were just two of a record-setting 1,888 students who graduated in May 2020, overcoming the obstacles and disruption created by the pandemic to change their odds and pursue their dreams.

Hancock checked in on these two recent alumni.

Where are you now?

Heidi — I was admitted to UC Berkeley for spring 2021, where I will be studying legal studies. I'm currently working as a student ambassador at Hancock until it's time to start school at Berkeley.

Tyler — I'm living in Santa Ana. I moved there after taking a road trip across the country and back. I'm currently a drama student at University of California, Irvine.

What are your career goals?

Heidi — My career goal is to work in a law firm or in the criminal justice system. After graduation, I plan to apply for grad school to get my doctorate in law and criminology.

Tyler — My intention is to become a film director and producer, as well as an actor. After I graduate, I see myself writing and directing films and continuing to work on a current project documenting endangered species.

How do you feel about making the transition to a four-year school?

Heidi — To be honest, it can feel a bit overwhelming because the whole UC system is very different than the Hancock community college system. I can say that Hancock helped me find resources at other schools.

Tyler — I found that transferring from Hancock to a four-year university was easier than I expected. Hancock really prepared me for the transition.

How did Hancock prepare you to make that transition?

Heidi — Working as a student ambassador really helped me. I was able to learn about different departments and how to find the resources I or other students needed. The training I was able to get through the ambassador program was also very helpful.

Tyler — One of the most important things I learned at Hancock was knowing what questions to ask and what to look for. Hancock even helped me decide which college I was going to attend. I got accepted into 10 different colleges and had no idea which one to choose. A lot of the staff and faculty at PCPA are graduates from UCI in the same program. Maybe after I graduate you may see me at Hancock again!

The class of 2020 faced a lot of challenges. How did you deal with those challenges and stay on track to graduate?

Heidi — I was taking 17 units when the pandemic started and the whole school went remote. I was also working, and this past semester was the hardest semester of all three years I'd been here at Hancock. I was fortunate enough to have great instructors. I stayed on track by going to my instructor's office hours and by studying more outside of class time.

Tyler — To me, Allan Hancock College will always hold a special place in my heart. It felt like a family, from the students that I worked with every day like Heidi, to all the faculty and staff members. I'm not from Santa Maria, and the closest family I had was more than 2,500 miles away, but I felt very at home at Hancock.



Transfer Students Get Special Celebration

On May 22, Hancock staff and faculty came together to honor the class of 2020 transfer students during a special drive-through ceremony on the Santa Maria campus.

Hundreds of transferring graduates and their families decorated their caps, gowns, and vehicles, drove onto campus, where they were greeted by cheering Hancock employees. The transfer

graduates also received gift certificates, gift cards, and commemorative medallions from the University Transfer Center.

Hancock transfers an estimated 300-500 students to universities each year, with many choosing to continue their education at public and private four-year colleges both in and out of state. During the 2019-2020 academic year, Hancock once again maintained the highest acceptance rate to Cal Poly, SLO, with a total of 68 percent of Hancock applicants gaining acceptance to the university.



Happy 100, Hancock!

College celebrates centennial year.

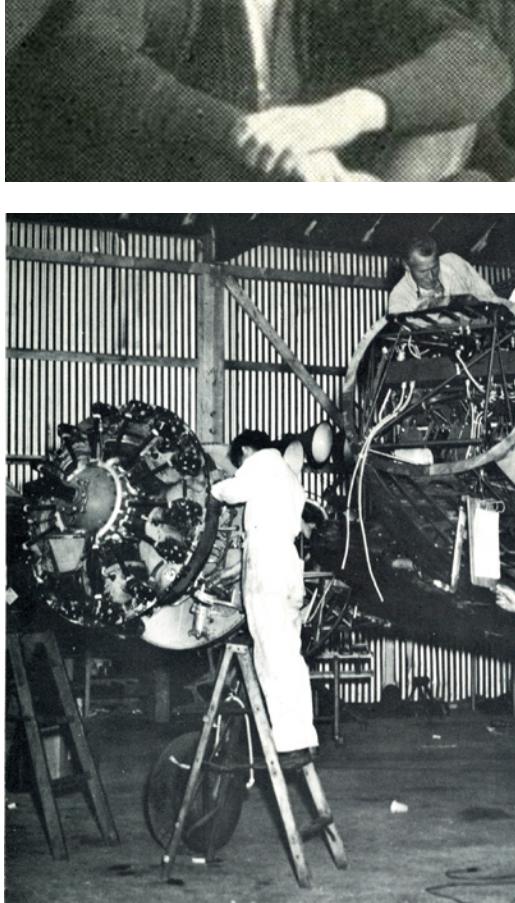
Allan Hancock College began as Santa Maria Junior College on the Santa Maria High School campus. The first class consisted of just six students.

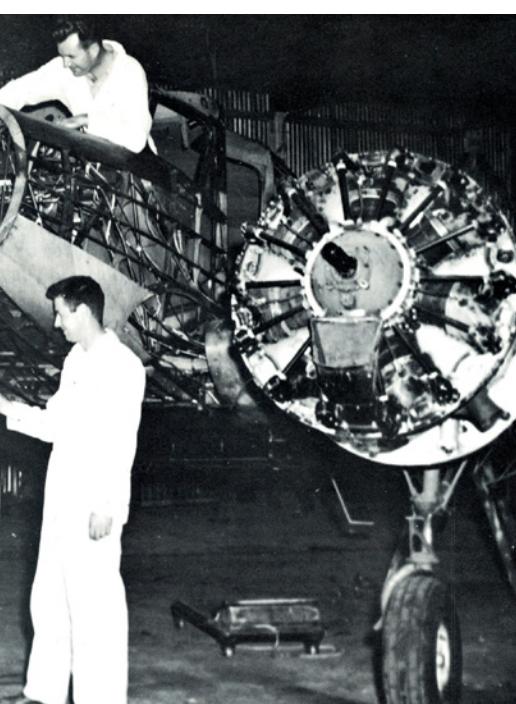
One hundred years later, that small college is now Northern Santa Barbara County's premier higher education institution serving 20,000 students annually. To mark this milestone, Hancock invites the community to spend the 2020-21 academic year celebrating the college.

Hancock kicked off the Centennial Celebration on Sept. 24 by unearthing the

college's 75th anniversary time capsule and opening it during a live streamed, online event. "When we buried this time capsule, we wanted to let the people in the community know how important the college was and the role it played for the citizens in the college district," said Ann Foxworthy Lewellen Ph.D., who was the Hancock superintendent/president when the capsule was buried. "We wanted to capture a slice of this moment in 1995, and it has been fun reliving that time."

Visit www.hancockcollege.edu/100 to learn more about the centennial celebrations.





Hancock Memories

"Everything was brand new in the 1950's, and everyone was happy to be there. It was a really exciting time to be on campus."

— Marilyn Cronk

"During my very first semester, I took a marine biology class with Professor Luke Blacquiere. I wasn't sure how I was going to like college, but that class showed me that not only is college very different from high school, it is also something I wholeheartedly enjoyed! Luke's marine biology class was an amazing experience that I'll remember for the rest of my life. I am now majoring in biology and plan to

become a biologist, something I had not previously imagined I would want to do!"

— Hannah Steger

"My last two semesters at Hancock - both scrambling to get my own academics completed while getting to work with Dr. Kate Adams as her peer facilitator – were some of the most challenging and fulfilling times of all my years at Hancock. Everything that I have done there and all of the people and students I have encountered have helped to prepare me for the world at large."

— Marguerite Knowlton

Share your memories with us!

We want to hear from you! Email **memories@hancockcollege.edu** and let us know what you remember about Hancock.

Community Supports Hancock Promise Campaign

Launched in December 2017, the Hancock Promise campaign enters its third year with \$4 million in gifts and pledges committed to this important community cause – providing first-year tuition and fees to all district high school graduates who attend Hancock full time. As a permanent endowment, the Hancock Promise Fund will support this critical community service for generations to come.

Individuals, businesses, and community organizations across Northern Santa Barbara County are joining together to support the Promise, recognizing that supporting students is a direct investment in our community.

To make a contribution to the fund, go to www.AHCFoundation.org/give, or contact the AHC Foundation to discuss a gift.

Promise Campaign Receives \$250,000 Grant

Allan Hancock College received a highly competitive grant for \$2.9 million from the U.S. Department of Education's Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program. The award includes a \$250,000 matching grant for the Hancock Promise Fund, which must be matched dollar-for-dollar in private donations.

Centennial Merchandise Benefits Promise

Want to help Hancock celebrate during its centennial year? Show some Bulldog pride with official Hancock Centennial shirts, hats, jackets, and other merchandise. And the best part?

A portion of your purchase goes back to the college to directly support student scholarships. Start shopping now at www.hancockcollege.edu/100.



BY THE NUMBERS

\$30 million
in total foundation assets

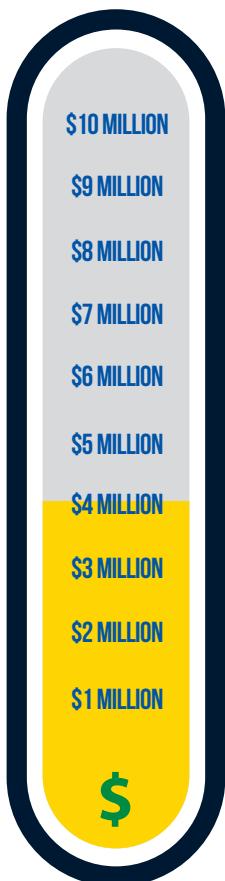
450
total scholarships awarded

\$277,667
secured in private grants

\$56,082
contributed from donors and
the Santa Barbara Foundation
for COVID-19 relief

Hancock Promise Endowment
\$4,066,000

\$2.1 million
largest individual gift to the Promise fund





Hancock Promise – First Year Free at AHC!

Get ready now for fall 2021!

The Hancock Promise provides local high school graduates with a year of free tuition at Allan Hancock College! The Promise is open to all students who enroll at Hancock immediately after graduating from a high school located within the district. Students who are homeschooled or complete their GED through a local adult education program within the district (GED and HiSET graduates) are also eligible.

The Promise removes financial barriers to higher education, which is more important than ever.

To apply, visit

www.hancockcollege.edu/promise

Benefits for students include:

- More than \$1,200 in tuition and fees waived.
- Early registration for classes.
- Personalized counseling for academic success.
- Free tutoring and other academic support services.
- **New for 2021 high school grads** – a book voucher! When you receive the Promise, you will also receive a voucher that will help cover the cost of textbooks.

3,700

**Promise students
in three years**

1,300

**Promise students
in 2019-20**

More than

\$945,000

in student fees covered

District Accomplishments

July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

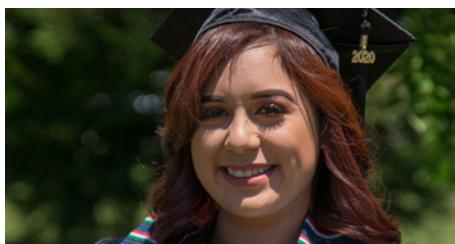
The college achieved great things over the past year. Here are just a few.



The first-ever CTE Career Carnival brought 1,020 local middle-school students on campus.



Five hundred students assisted by the Basic Needs program since March 2020.



Auto-awarding of degrees to students who fulfilled degree objectives launched, greatly increasing the number of graduates.

The Jobspeaker program offers an employer-student-faculty engagement platform, integrated with LinkedIn Learning, credit and noncredit students, including all Concurrent Enrollment students to allow job-seeking and career-developing students to engage with businesses and industry.



The Lompoc Valley Children's Center opened January 2020.

\$3 million in Title V grants awarded to all credit, noncredit and concurrent students from the Department of Education to address equity gaps for low-income, first-generation, Latinx students.



Allocated more than \$30,000,000 in grant funding for California Department of Food and Agriculture and K-12 Strong Workforce programs.

EOPS participated in Santa Barbara County's 100-day youth homeless challenge, helping meet a regional goal of housing 50 homeless youth.



\$5 million CARES Act funding awarded from the Department of Education and the California Community College Chancellor's Office COVID-19 Block Grant to move classes to remote learning and provide technology to students continuing their educational paths.

Community Education expands access to programs via a simplified admission form, and provides extended in-person service hours during evenings and Saturday mornings.



Student Health Services provides ongoing weekly workshops in meditation and movement for relaxation and stress relief.

\$100,000 awarded from the National Science Foundation: Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics to provide up to 75 financially challenged engineering major students with two-year scholarships.



Twenty percent increase in use of student support programs compared to the previous year.

The Admissions and Records team streamlined methods to receive documents from currently enrolled high school students.



More than 2,300 students from 24 schools attended five Bulldog Bound events.

The Veteran Success Center designated grant dollars to the Basic Needs program to provide direct support to student-veterans and participated in the local Veteran's Collaborative.



Two AIM to Dream centers opened, supporting students transferring from noncredit English classes to college-level courses in both Santa Maria and Lompoc.



Hancock Conversations - a new college podcast - was developed in spring 2020 and will launch spring 2021. Check it out at www.hancockcollege.edu/podcast.



The district police department participated in the Southern California Special Olympics events, enriching the lives of more than 500 community athletes with intellectual disabilities.

Total grant funding to the college amounted to \$4.7 million



The college was selected as one of 63 community colleges to offer free immigration legal services to students, staff, and faculty.

Fiscal Impact to the Community

According to new research released in 2020.

The average associate degree graduate from AHC will see an increase in earnings of

\$9,200 each year

compared to a person with a high school diploma or equivalent working in California.

1 out of every 146

jobs in the college's district is supported by the activities of AHC and its students.



The net impact of the college's operations spending added

\$91.6 million

in income to the regional economy.



The expenditures of relocated and retained students added

\$21.5 million

in income to the AHC district economy.



The net impact of AHC's construction spending in the fiscal year was

\$1.8 million

in added income for the AHC service area.



The net impact of AHC's former students currently employed in the regional workforce amounted to

\$426.2 million

in added income.

For every
\$1 invested



AHC students gain
\$4.00
in lifetime earnings



Taxpayers gain
\$1.30
in added tax revenue and public sector savings



Society gains
\$8.90
in added state revenue and social savings



AHC Calls for Equity

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force works to remove systemic barriers on campus.

The college is determined to be a safe and supportive place where students have access to an equitable and inclusive education regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, or sexual orientation.

"It's not enough to be a passive supporter. We need to honestly assess our institutional processes and ensure they match our aspirational values," said Hancock Superintendent/President Kevin G. Walthers, Ph.D. "We are ensuring that our systems – employment, housing, education, justice – are transforming to recognize the inherent inequity that too many of our neighbors face on a daily basis."

In June 2020, the college invited students to share their thoughts, feelings, and ideas during two Black Lives Matter student town hall meetings. One result

was the new Black Student Union club.

"We live in a very diverse world, and educating and assisting students about Black history, their lifestyles, and experiences will benefit any student's academic growth and occupational opportunities," said BSU faculty advisor and business instructor Earl Murray, Jr. "The BSU allows students an opportunity to get to know other students of all races and embrace diversity and positivity for all."

The college's 5th annual Equity Summit in October focused on bringing attention to voices that are often silenced through systemic oppression and inequity. It also provided practical recommendations for implementing practices to promote equity and the interests of vulnerable communities.

Hancock is also conducting a system-wide review to ensure that all students have access to an equitable and inclusive environment. In July, the college's Board of Trustees voted to approve a resolution declaring that Black lives matter and called for the college to convene a task force of campus stakeholders to conduct a campus-wide equity review.

In addition, the college created a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Taskforce. The DEI Taskforce is examining policies, procedures, processes and programs, and working to remove systemic barriers that inhibit the ability of underrepresented groups to fully participate in the opportunities provided at Hancock. By removing those barriers, Hancock is determined to create a college community that is actively committed to promoting equity and belonging, denouncing systemic racism, and actively working for racial justice.

AHC Athletics

Like all student-athletes, the COVID-19 pandemic brought AHC baseball player Travis Welker's training, workouts, and games to a screeching halt.

For months, Welker and his teammates had to sit their practices and season out.

But now Welker and many other Hancock student-athletes are back on the field, training and working out in a safe and socially distanced manner.

"It's really great to come back in any capacity," said Welker. "The staff, coaches, and faculty worked very hard to allow us to do it safely. It's great to have a sense of normalcy and be able to train again."

Hancock student-athletes and staff resumed workouts and training under

strict protocols and guidelines, including mandatory temperature checks, sanitation, and zero-contact exercises designed to keep student-athletes and staff healthy and safe as they train. Players and staff also participated in a mandatory two-week training course to educate them about the new rules and best practices.

"The coaches and staff have done a tremendous job implementing these safety measures into their practice sessions, and our student-athletes have really been committed to following those procedures so they can keep themselves,

their teammates, and their families safe," said Hancock Athletic Director Kim Ensing.

The new protocols and policies were developed by Hancock's Return to Play Taskforce, a group of Hancock staff, faculty, and administrators who developed a plan to help student-athletes practice safely based on guidelines from the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department, the Centers for Disease Control, and Hancock's team doctor. Ensing said the taskforce's work allowed the college to gradually help student-athletes return to workouts and practices in a safe and healthy manner as the county also continues to recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

"Being able to come back, even in a limited capacity, has been very helpful for these students," Ensing said. "Being able to be back on campus and working out and seeing their coaches and teammates has been a boost for them. It's helped them take steps toward normalcy during a very difficult time."

Ensing said that the college will continue to adapt its plan for student-athletes based on the county's guidelines. For student-athletes like Welker, the department's efforts mean he can continue to play the game he loves while getting a college education.

"It's really nice to have some routine again, and everyone has worked very hard to ensure that we are able to do it safely," said Welker. "It's a blessing."

For more information on our Athletics programs, visit athletics.hancockcollege.edu.





Hancock in the News

Fine Arts Complex

The college broke ground on the new Fine Arts Complex on Sept. 30 at the Santa Maria campus. The \$48 million facility will be a hub of creativity and learning. The two-story, 88,000 square-foot facility will include a 400-seat concert and recital venue and house the college's dance, drama, film, graphics, music, photography, and multimedia arts and communications programs. The facility is expected to open in fall 2022.

Free Community Education Classes

Hancock's Community Education offers new free, short-term noncredit courses for community members and job seekers wanting a new career or advancement at a current job. Older adults seeking to improve their balance and mobility may be interested in Health and Safety (HEAL). A wide range of noncredit English as a Second Language (NESL) classes, and parenting courses (PARN) are available. The classes are offered online in real-

Free Noncredit Community Education classes



time. For more information, visit hancockcollege.edu/communityed.

New Degrees and Programs Launch

Foster a fundamental understanding of Latinx history, culture, and aesthetics through the Latino/a studies program. Explore the agricultural program and its two new degree-for-transfer programs in agricultural plant science and agricultural business or its new courses in agricultural plant pathology, economic

Viticulture program produces award-winning wines





Fine Arts Complex



**New commercial
truck driving class**

entomology, weed science, and qualified applicator training. An LGBT studies course began this year that examines a wide range of issues related to the lesbian, gay bisexual, and transgender community.

Viticulture Program Produces Top-Rated Wines

In 2020, three of the AHC wines earned scores of 90 or above from Wine Enthusiast. The 2018 Malbec earned a 91 rating and was named "Editor's Choice." The 2018 Chardonnay earned a 91, and the 2018 Albariño scored 90 points and

received a "Best Buy" designation. Order wine at www.hancockcollege.edu/winery.

New Commercial Truck Driving Program Begins

Gain the skills to enter the commercial trucking industry – for free! The program consists of two consecutive classes: Commercial Truck Driving Prep (VOCE 7800) and Commercial Truck Driving:

Behind the Wheel (VOCE 7801).

Completing the courses and earning a license will allow participating students to qualify for entry-level positions in the trucking industry.

For more information, call Community Education at 805-922-6966 ext. 3209.

Allan Hancock College
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Periodical

Postal Customer

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Register now for spring 2021 credit and noncredit classes

All students register online at www.hancockcollege.edu via myHancock. This system allows for 24/7 access.

Registration Dates

Open Registration: Continues through January 18, 2021

College Now! Registration: Continues through January 18, 2021

Registration with an add code begins the first scheduled day of each class.

Classes begin January 19, 2021

For a complete look at classes offered this spring, including course descriptions, prerequisites and other class details, go to www.hancockcollege.edu and click *Search Classes* on the home page.

Fees

All California residents pay \$46 per credit, plus other minimal fees.

Financial aid is available. Visit www.hancockcollege.edu/financial_aid or call the Financial Aid office at 805-922-6966 ext. 3200

Need Help with Registration?

For registration assistance, contact the Admissions & Records office at 805-922-6966 ext. 3248.

Check out spring class offerings in...

Accounting (Remote ERT/Online)
Administration Of Justice (Remote ERT)
Agribusiness (Remote ERT/SM)
American Sign Language (Remote ERT)
Anthropology (Remote ERT/Online)
Apprenticeship Training
Architecture (Remote ERT/SM)
Art (Remote ERT/Online)
Astronomy (Remote ERT)
Athletic Training (Remote ERT/SM)
Auto Body Technology (Remote ERT/SM)
Automotive Technology (Remote ERT/SM)
Biology (Remote ERT/Online/Hybrid)
Business (Remote ERT/Online)
Computer Business Information Systems (Remote ERT/Online)
Computer Business Office Technology (Remote ERT/Online)
Chemistry (Remote ERT/Online/Hybrid)
Computer Science (Remote ERT/Online)
Cosmetology (SM)
Culinary Arts (Remote ERT/Online/SM)
Dance (Remote ERT)
Dental Assisting (SM)
Early Childhood Studies (Remote ERT/Online)
Economics (Remote ERT/Online)
Education (Remote ERT/Online)
Electronics (Remote ERT)
Emergency Medical Services (SM/Lvc/Online/Hybrid)
Engineering (Remote ERT/SM)
Engineering Technology (Remote ERT)
English (Remote ERT/Online/Hybrid)
English As A Second Language (Remote ERT)
Entrepreneurship (Remote ERT)
Environmental Health & Safety (Remote ERT)
Family And Consumer Science (Remote ERT/Online)
Fashion (Remote ERT)
Film (Remote ERT/Online)
Fire Technology (Online/LVC)
Food Science And Nutrition (Remote ERT/Online)

French (Remote ERT)
Geography (Remote ERT/Online)
Geology (Remote ERT/SM)
Global Studies (Online)
Graphics (Remote ERT)
Health Education (Remote ERT/Online)
History (Remote ERT/Online)
Human Services (Remote ERT)
Humanities (Remote ERT/Online)
Law Enforcement (LVC)
Leadership (Remote ERT)
Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual & Transgender (Remote ERT)
Library (Online)
Machining & Manufacturing Technology (Remote ERT/SM)
Mathematics (Remote ERT/Online)
Medical Assisting (Remote ERT/SM)
Multimedia Arts And Communication (Remote ERT)
Music (Remote ERT/Online)
Nursing (Remote ERT/SM)
Paralegal Studies (Remote ERT)
Personal Development (Remote ERT/Online)
Philosophy (Remote ERT/Online)
Photography (Remote ERT/Online)
Physical Education (Remote ERT/Online/SM/LVC)
Intercollegiate Athletics (SM)
Physical Science (Remote ERT/Online)
Political Science (Remote ERT/Online)
Psychology (Remote ERT/Online)
Reading (Remote ERT)
Real Estate (Remote ERT)
Recreation (Remote ERT/SM)
Stern (Remote ERT)
Sociology (Remote ERT/Online)
Spanish (Remote ERT/Online)
Speech (Remote ERT/Online)
Theatre (SM)
Theatre Arts (Drama) (Remote ERT)
Veterinary Technology (Remote ERT)
Viticulture And Enology (Remote ERT/Online/SM)
Welding Technology (Remote ERT/SM)

Allan Hancock College provides quality educational opportunities that enhance student learning and the creative, intellectual, cultural and economic vitality of our diverse community.

The Allan Hancock Joint Community College District ("District") is committed to equal opportunity in employment and all access to institutional programs and activities. The District, and each individual who represents the District, shall provide access to its employment opportunities, services, classes, and programs without regard to national origin, religion, age, sex or gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, color, medical condition, genetic information, ancestry, sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental disability, or military and veteran status of any person, or because he or she is perceived to have one or more of the foregoing characteristics, or based on association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.