Naval Postgraduate School’s Information Sciences Professor Tony Kendall, Community College Catalyst Program Manager Alison Kerr, Hartnell alum Andrew Davis and current Hartnell student Claudia Garcia recently presented at the STEMTech Conference in Kansas City, Mo. The conference, sponsored by the League for Innovation in the Community College, was attended by over 1200 college and university faculty members, K-12 teachers, administrators, government officials, community and business/industry representatives.

The presentation highlighted the partnership and processes cemented through the Hartnell College and Naval Postgraduate School’s highly successful summer internship program. Professor Kendall addressed the needs research faculty face and how the Hartnell interns have filled important roles for his team. Several of the interns that have worked with the Distributed Information Systems Experimentation (DISE) research team have been hired into the NPS system, have secured security clearances necessary for their ongoing work, and are now earning either undergraduate or Masters degrees at NPS. Alison Kerr outlined the internship program components, as well as the 100% success of interns that have come through the NPS internships.

One of the key differences of the presentation was the inclusion of students. Claudia Garcia, the internship coordinator during summer 2011 and a computer science intern in the Ethical Hacking Lab during summer 2012, spoke about the Hartnell intern prep class Science 124 and the value of her experiences at Hartnell. Andrew Davis featured his ongoing goals of higher education being sparked by his time at Hartnell and the power of the internship and subsequent hiring into the DISE research group in attaining those goals.