

BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE | DECEMBER 2021
BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

PRESIDENT'S SHOUT-OUT



In early December I attended a holiday party sponsored by the Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA). Besides having a “Holly Jolly Good Time” as the invitation promised and donating a plane and boat to huge pile of Toys for Tots, I was there to see the BTC Foundation to accept a donation of \$32,000 from WSPA.

That in itself is notable news and represents a great deal of good that will be done for our students, but it is just the tip of the iceberg. The BTC Foundation, ably helmed by Foundation Director Dean Fulton and Foundation Board Chair Mike Burke, has been making great strides this year. The Foundation’s goal for the fall scholarship campaign was \$300,000; they have so far raised over \$445,000, with additional gifts in the works to come before the end of the month.

But scholarships are just one of the means that the Foundation uses to assist students; Foundation fundraising also supports student success and campus activities in numerous other ways. With capable coordination from Program Specialist Valerie Frank, the Foundation provides emergency grants to students and helps fund the on-campus food pantries. In addition, the Foundation works with various campus constituencies and programs to facilitate equipment and material donations, provide professional development opportunities, support campus projects, and assist with specific fundraising activities.

One recent example of the great work that the Foundation does is their support for the Academic Credit for Prior Learning program. Because ACPL credits are not covered by federal financial aid, some students cannot access this opportunity, so the Foundation has established a fund to underwrite these fees. This has enabled a marked increase in students able to leverage the program.

We all know that public higher education is supported by a complex web of funding sources from the State Board, the federal government, and various program grants. We are so pleased and proud to have the BTC Foundation employees and Board of Directors working so hard and so successfully in and with the community to support our students, supplement our funding, and bridge the financial gaps.

Walter Hudsick



The Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA) presents BTC with the proceeds from their annual benefit golf tournament. The donation will support student scholarships at the college. From left, Holli Johnson, WSPA Golf Chair; Dean Fulton, BTC Foundation Director; Jeff TenPas, WSPA Associate; and Walter Hudsick, BTC Interim President.

COMPLETION OF THE TITLE III COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT (CAD) GRANT

BTC and WCC's Title III Cooperative Arrangement Development (CAD) grant project (which began on October 1, 2015), came to an end on September 30, 2021. This project owed its success to the hard work of many employees and students over the last six years and is something worth celebrating! Let's take a look at a couple of major achievements related to this work during the last six years:

- The InsideTrack coaching model was implemented on campus through the STAR coaching program and eventually led to the institutionalization of coaching services through the new college navigator structure (college navigators combine coaching and academic advising). Now, and as a result of this work, all new students receive coaching services and an individualized educational plan via their college navigator. Between WCC and BTC, over 100 employees received InsideTrack training as a result of the Title III CAD grant.
- The evidence-based Reading Apprenticeship model continued with the support of the Title III CAD grant via faculty-led trainings for faculty and staff. Additionally, Reading Apprenticeship faculty leaders (in collaboration with the BTC Foundation) hosted a best practices conference at BTC in Spring 2020. Attendees included 67 participants from BTC and WCC, and 39 participants from other community and technical colleges statewide.
- The Title III CAD grant funded the expansion of institutional research on campus through the addition of a research analyst position. Through this additional support, BTC was able to complete a large data clean-up project and focus on developing accurate data tracking tools to better help us analyze student outcomes based on demographic groups. The new, user-friendly data dashboards allow faculty and staff to learn more about enrollment and course progression patterns in order to identify potential structural challenges.

STUDENT LIFE / ASBTC

The Associated Students of Bellingham Technical College (ASBTC) hosted several events and programs recently, and attended some professional development to better serve their constituents. We hosted two inclusive and beginner friendly virtual yoga classes with Bellingham-based yoga studios. Participants did yoga with their cameras off and got to stretch, relax, and unwind, while being guided by amazing teachers.

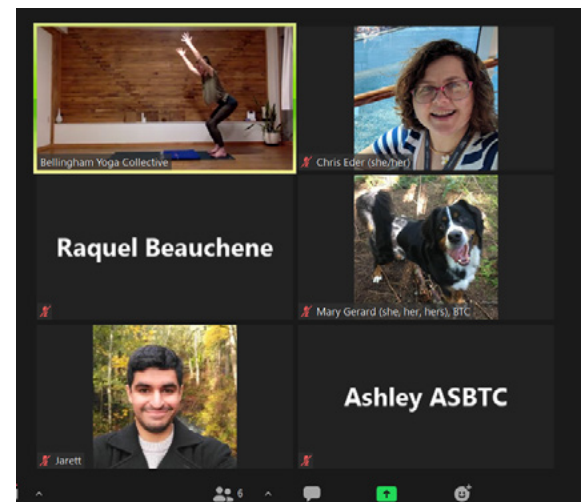
BTC's very own Destiny Rodenberger, ASBTC Director of Legislation, co-presented the CUSP Legislative Platform to the State Board in early December. Destiny, along with Josie Acevedo-Lara, and Ashley Harrison, participated in the creation of the CUSP Legislative Platform during the weekly Washington Community and Technical College Student Association (WACTCSA) meetings in fall quarter.

Some of the ASBTC Executive Team attended the powerful four-day virtual Circle of Change Virtual Leadership Conference in November. This conference was incredibly uplifting and taught leaders to take responsibility, and all attendees made a lot of connections with leaders across the country! ASBTC wishes you all a wonderful and happy winter break. See you all in January.

FOUNDATION & MARKETING

The Foundation's Community Report is hot off the presses from the Foundation and designed by BTC's Marketing Communication & Graphic Design Department, sharing all about our College for the 2020-2021 year;

[Read it here!](#)



GET READY FOR OUR SITE VISIT: KNOW YOUR KPIS!



BTC's year seven accreditation visit is set to take place in a few short months on **April 27th-29th**. To help prepare, we'll be using this space to review a selection of our **campus' Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** each month until our visit. The KPIs were developed by employees and students on campus to evaluate our success in achieving our 2018-23 strategic plan goals, and ultimately, fulfilling the school's mission. In this edition, we'll review our participatory governance KPI and provide a summary of the school's qualitative KPIs.

KPI 10 measures the percentage of BTC employees who feel represented by BTC's participatory governance structure. Each Spring, the employee survey asks about the extent to which employees feel represented in BTC's participatory governance structure that year. In Spring 2021, **89% of respondents indicated that they felt somewhat or very represented in BTC's participatory governance structure, exceeding the 2020-21 annual target of 85%.** The results of the annual employee survey can be reviewed on the Data & Research SharePoint page.

BTC currently has eight KPIs that measure progress toward putting a new process into place on campus (i.e., qualitative KPIs). The qualitative KPIs associated with BTC's 2018-23 strategic plan are focused on:

- developing systems to provide students with **educational and career planning (KPI 2),**
- establishing **campus-level student learning outcomes (KPI 3c),**
- providing **career services and support to students (KPI 7a),**
- assessing the quality of the College's **external partnerships (KPI 8),**
- establishing a campus-wide plan for **employee professional development (KPI 9),**
- **connecting strategic planning to resource allocation (KPI 11),** and
- providing an **inclusive (KPI 12b) and safe (KPI 12c) campus environment.**

Currently under consideration by governance committees and the Board of Trustees is converting KPI 12a (employee and student satisfaction with the campus environment) to a qualitative measure, which would focus on developing a survey to assess this outcome in the coming years.

Each qualitative KPI has a campus workgroup that is responsible for making progress toward meeting the particular KPI annual target and finalizing the process by the end of the 2018-23 strategic planning cycle. In 2020-21, each workgroup met its annual target except for safety (KPI 12c), which met standard due to a strong focus on the College's COVID-19 pandemic response.

As a reminder, you can **find more detail on each KPI on the Strategic Planning SharePoint page**, and find the most up to date results for each KPI on the Key Performance Indicator Dashboard.

Feel free to contact Diana Knight (dknight@btc.edu) with any additional questions.

CULINARY

A former Culinary and Pastry Arts program student has opened up the new Turkish Coffee House downtown! Kristofer Konutgan and his brother are excited to bring downtown Bellingham a slice of Istanbul, Turkey. Serving Turkish coffee and a variety of delights! Stop by and give them your support! www.ashuri.co



SUBMIT YOUR NEWS

Notable News publishes in the third week of each month, aligned with our Board of Trustee meeting schedule.

Please send your news and photos by the **9th of every month to msmayer@btc.edu** (Marketing Department) and say Notable News in the subject!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US!



[**CLICK ON CARD**](#)

WISHING YOU A HAPPY & HEALTHY
NEW YEAR 2022