

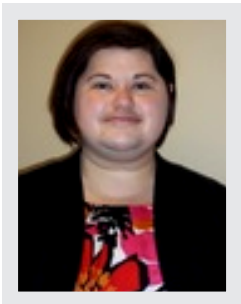


STTACC CHAT

Volume 14, Issue 4 - Spring 2017

In This Issue

A Letter from the President - Paula Boerner



Happy Spring Quarter to all of you! The STTACC Board had its quarterly meeting in February. It was a great opportunity to share ideas and input for the remainder of the year. I am extremely proud and excited to be working with such creative and dedicated individuals.

The annual STTACC Conference is scheduled for August 9th & 10th at Skagit Valley College. Early Bird Registration is \$125.00. Registration will be opening

soon, so be on the look-out in your inbox. If you would like to be a presenter at this year's STTACC Conference, please contact Amy Erickson at (360) 416-7723. Also, start thinking about who you would like to see nominated for the Exemplary Staff Award. Nomination forms will be emailed out shortly.

The spring quarterly meeting is on April 28th at Skagit Valley College. My goal for this meeting is to work on details for our annual conference in August.

I wish you all a wonder Spring Quarter and look forward to updating you on the Board's efforts at our annual conference.

Paula Boerner
STTACC President
Grays Harbor College
President@sttacc.net

STTACC Who's Who

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MISSION

"STTACC supports innovation, training and leadership by providing resources and connections to our Classified Staff members throughout Washington State."

**WIN FREE REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017
STTACC CONFERENCE!**
See page 16 for details.





STTACC 2016-2017 BOARD MEMBERS

Paula Boerner	President, Grays Harbor College
Eric Corp	President Elect, Tacoma Community College
Cindy Cannella	Secretary, Pierce College
Marjie Stratton	Treasurer, Grays Harbor College
Niki Nelson	Communications Coordinator, Green River College
Steve Evans	Co-Webmaster, Olympic College
Will Frankhouser	Co-Webmaster, Everett Community College
Kristine Horndt	Past President, Everett Community College
The Board includes the Region Coordinators, listed below.	

Region A	Region B	Region C	Region D	Region E
Coordinator	Coordinator	Coordinator	Coordinator	Coordinator
Barb Crowell	Cathy King & Mary Cox	Shelly Scanlan	Barbara Collins	Amelia Fortuno
Grays Harbor College	Bellevue College	Everett Community College	Big Bend Community College	Bates Technical College
Region A Colleges	Region B Colleges	Region C Colleges	Region D Colleges	Region E Colleges
Centralia College	Bellevue College	Bellingham Technical College	Big Bend Community College	Bates Technical College
Grays Harbor College	Cascadia College	Edmonds Community College	Community Colleges of Spokane District Office	Clover Park Technical College
Lower Columbia College	Lake Washington Institute of Technology	Everett Community College	Spokane Community College & Institute for Extended Learning	Green River College
South Puget Sound Community College	Renton Technical College	Shoreline Community College	Spokane Falls Community College	Olympic College
State Board for Community & Technical Colleges	North Seattle College	Skagit Valley College	Walla Walla Community College	Pierce College
	Seattle Central College	Whatcom Community College	Wenatchee Valley College	Tacoma Community College
	Seattle Colleges District			
	Seattle Vocational Institute			
	South Seattle College			
Past STTACC College Members				
Clark College		Peninsula College	Columbia Basin College	Highline Community College
			Yakima Valley Community College	

Please visit www.sttacc.net for up to date contact information for each college and our board members.



Live Learn Educate

STTACC Conference 2017

August 9-10, 2017

Skagit Valley College

Cost per person: \$130 (Early Bird \$125)

Dinner will be a wonderful buffet hosted by McIntye Hall from Skagit Valley College.

Hotels:

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriot Burlington 360-757-2717

Best Western Plus Skagit Valley Inn Mount Vernon 360-428-5678

Both hotels offer a government rate of \$91.00 per night.



Guest Speaker:

**National Geographic Explorer
and Bestselling Author**

**Helen Thayer of Snohomish, Washington
<http://www.helenthayer.com>**

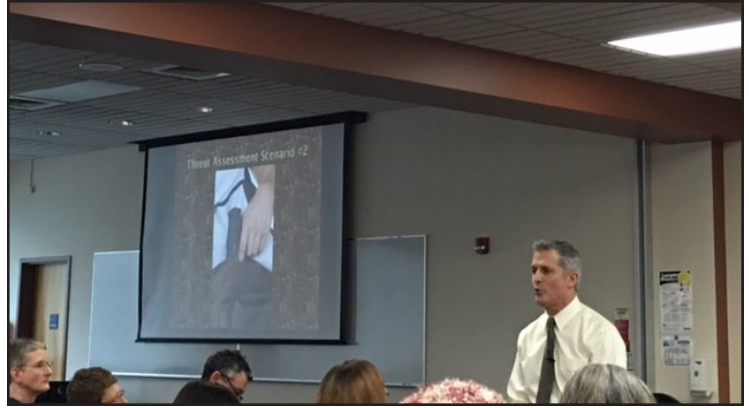
More information coming soon!

http://sttacc.net/event_2017.html



Submitted by Amelia Fortuno

Bates held their annual Professional Development Day on March 17. The day started with a presentation by Jesus M. Villahermosa Jr. (from Crisis Reality Training, Inc.) titled Threat Assessment: Stopping the Threat Before it Strikes. We learned about the health or safety emergency provision in FERPA (The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), which provides that schools may disclose information from a student's education records when there is an immediate need, in order to protect the health or safety of the student or others. Under this provision, schools must define the term "health or safety emergency" and can only disclose education record information to those who require the information in order to protect the students and others.



Different types of threats were reviewed, including direct, indirect, veiled and conditional and we heard some of the circumstances involved in active shooting incidents at schools in the past. The presentation was very interactive. The interactive presentation included three actors role-playing scenarios. With minimal information to set the scene, the audience had to ask him or her questions in order to assess whether or not they posed a threat to themselves or others.

In the afternoon, Nerissa Del Rosario (from Human Resources) facilitated discussion with classified staff regarding what professional development opportunities are available and courses or events that could qualify. She also reminded us about our incentives, such as the \$500 stipend (for every fifty hours or five credits) of approved professional development training completed, and a new grant (introduced this year) which allows each classified staff member to get reimbursed for up to \$200/year in any related costs spent on approved professional development training.

Staff then selected two breakout sessions to round out the day. Options included:

- FMS Query (Financial Management System)
How to run and understand budget reports.
- Records Retention and Travel
What to save and for how long, as well as rules for travel authorization.
- Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)
Assess intercultural competence, the capability to shift cultural perspective and appropriately adapt behavior to cultural differences and commonalities.
- Strengths-Focused Identity (SI) Practice
A coordinated group of activities to recognize positive moments and use them to strengthen those aspects of your self-identity.



Bellingham Technical College
Submitted by Alyssa Jones, Accessibility Resources & Title III



I had the opportunity to attend the University & College Designers Association (UCDA) Design Summit in Greenville, South Carolina from March 29-April 1. I was able to collaborate and network with other educational designers, from large universities to small colleges all around the country. I gained skills, tips, resources and connections that will help support me in my job at BTC. Since I am the only graphic designer on campus, collaboration and brainstorming can get tricky. During this time away, I was able to ask other designers how they deal with the more difficult parts of our design jobs. The biggest aspect I benefitted from was getting to relate to others who really understood what my job entails. This professional development conference allowed me to get inspired by what others are doing and how we can continue to improve at BTC. I am incredibly grateful that BTC and BEST supporting me with this. —Emma Kelly-Glasoe



Washington Association on Postsecondary Education and Disability

I recently attended the bi-annual WAPED (Washington Association on Postsecondary Education and Disability) conference as well as sit-in on the half-day DSSC (Disability Support Services Council) meeting in beautiful Leavenworth, WA. It was my third spring-session WAPED and while each meeting has been a fantastic learning and networking experience, I was especially impressed this year. I was able to attend a full-day presentation by Paul Grossman, textbook author; retired, OCR, San Francisco, Chief Attorney; AHEAD Board Member; and Adjunct Professor of Disability Law, Hastings College of Law, University of California. For over 40 years, Paul served as a civil rights attorney for the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and having the opportunity to speak to our group was a huge privilege. It was a great motivator when returning to campus and focusing on increasing inclusion and access here at BTC. Furthermore, I was able to expand and strengthen my connection to the network of DSS providers across the state and exchange valuable information regarding emerging trends in the field. – Alyssa Jones

Next week, a group of BTC employees including several classified employees will be attending the Washington State Student Services Commission Conference in Tacoma, Wa. There will be many professional development workshops and the staff members here have chosen a wide selection of the offerings to attend based on personal and professional interests. Some folks will also be attending their council meetings, if appropriate, during the last day of the conference. It will be an exciting time to bond with colleagues, expand statewide partnerships, and bring valuable information back to our campus to strengthen our student support services and opportunities.



Big Bend Community College
Submitted by Barbara Collins



Professional or personal development training January to March reported for classified staff is 266.5 hours. These hours include campus workshops, online webinars or staff attending statewide meetings and conferences.

There is currently nine members on the STAR Committee. Term role for members is a minimum of one year. Our hope is that members stay longer as they rotate into designated leadership roles. We continue to recruit other classified staff to fill the membership of 12 for this committee.

Our STAR Committee hosted a Program Learning Experience in January and invited all campus personnel to see the renovations in the student services building featuring admissions, financial aid, counseling, ASB, Vet Corps, Workforce Education, Student Success Center, and the TRIO SSS (Student Success Services). The focus of these events is educating all campus personnel about how BBCC programs and services align with the college Mission and Vision Statement for student success and inclusion.

Continued on next page



Big Bend Community College cont.

The Buddy System was expanded to provide opportunity for all classified staff and has been very successful. An employee is assigned to a new hire to welcome them to BBCC, introduce them to other campus personnel, and help them acclimate to the college campus and processes.



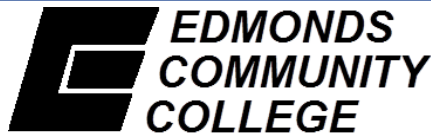
Community Service Projects

Due to limited volunteers, the STAR Committee will not promote the spring project for Vision 20/20 Moses Lake cleanup in May. It will be added to the 2017-18 planning calendar.

Other Campus Activity

The STAR Committee will support the Big Bend Foundation with a ceramic flower pot for their annual auction event, **Cellarbration! For Education** on May 20. Volunteers teams will assist with setup and check-in.

It is time for classified staff to consider their nominations for Outstanding and Emeritus awards. Employees who are nominated and award winners will be recognized at the all campus celebration in June. Eight retirees from classified staff, administrative exempt, and faculty personnel will also be recognized at this celebration.



Submitted by Patti Pollardo

I attended our first Region C luncheon at Boston's at Smokey Point. It was really nice putting faces to individuals I have been communicating with via email. We discussed many things. One of the questions that came up was regarding professional development funds and finding out that every college seems to deal with it differently. At Edmonds we have an \$8,000 fund that we can apply for. We can apply for up to \$500 per year. There is an application process, and then a committee makes the decision if the employee meets the criteria. It's kind of a first-come-first-served basis until the funds run out. These funds can be used to attend workshops and conferences that will help us in our jobs. We can even apply for funds to attend the STTACC Conference. It is really nice that the college offers this.

Every year in May on a day there are no classes we have Building Community Day. This year is it going to be May 12. It is a day for all college employees (faculty, staff, Admin) to come together and catch up with each other. There are many workshops offered throughout the day. A few of the workshops include Drug and Alcohol Prevention (EdCC has a comprehensive Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program); Guy Code 2.0 (this sounds interesting!); Cognitive Errors; Accessibility (geared for faculty who do online classes); Interrupting Micro-aggressions; Social Justice; Behavioral Intervention Team, Student Conduct and Title IX, just to name a few. These all sound pretty heavy-duty, but there are some fun workshops, too (i.e. Collage Hour and Creative Card Making). There will be a luncheon, as well as Service Awards. There are supposed to be surprise activities in continuation of celebrating our 50th year anniversary. I'll be sure to let you know what they were in our next STTACC Chat.

We received an email from our President, Jean Hernandez, advising us that she plans to retire the end of December. We always know this day will come, but many of us were rather surprised at this news! The college will begin a search soon so they can get someone hired before Jean leaves. I have a good working relationship with Jean as an employee and as Chief Shop Steward for our classified employees. President Hernandez has been a great advocate for our college and has accomplished much during her six (6) years at Edmonds CC. I will miss our conversations and working together, as I know others will too. Change will be coming!



Submitted by: Glorianne Bora & Dan Murphy

Spring Means Scheduling! Here in the 4th week of Spring quarter, EvCC's Administrative Assistants are creating class schedules for the Summer and Fall quarters. This is a huge job, but our dedicated AAs will keep at it to ensure the proper number of class sections to serve all of our students.

Diamond Anniversary. This year, all of EvCC is celebrating the college's 75th anniversary of continuous operation. Among other events, an historical and moving display of photos, artifacts and mementos documenting the college's history is on display at the Russell Day Gallery on campus (see a sampling [here](#)). From a humble beginning in a converted elementary school to its ever-expanding campus, EvCC has become an institution of which both campus and community can be proud.

Fighting for Fair Pay. A group of classified staff from EvCC and other state agencies hopped on a bus and went to Olympia in February to lobby state legislators in support of their Collective Bargaining Agreements. An even larger street demonstration took place April 19, with EvCC staff and employees from neighboring state agencies holding signs, conducting chants and sending the message to all passers-by that we deserve the raises for which we bargained last summer. This is a challenge affecting every state employee, and all community college staff need to reach out to their representatives and senators to urge them to fund our contracts for 2017-19.

Mentoring for All. On April 7, a number of classified staff attended EvCC's 2nd Annual EvCC Mentoring Conference. Keynote speaker Dr. Brandy Brown from the University of Arizona gave an inspiring talk on Motivation, Knowledge, Strategy and Action; one of the sessions on "Self-Mentoring" referenced Green River College and its amazing program, in which mentors get paid and new students are required to participate. Way to go, GRC!

Student Success. A fundraising breakfast on April 25 sponsored by the EvCC Foundation highlighted how young people's lives are changed — often dramatically — by the scholarships they receive to and by the programs and services provided by staff at community colleges. It was truly inspiring to remember that what we do on the job, day in and day out, really does make a difference.



Mentoring Mavens. (L to R): Katie Jensen, Dean of Transitional Studies; Chayuda

Spring Training. Ahh, Spring. It's here, right?? Maybe not yet, but EvCC's version of Spring Training ("Spring Away from Stress") for classified staff will take place on May 5. On the schedule is a timely workshop on "Resilience," two therapists providing free neck and back massages, and a guest speaker from the Employee Assistance Program.



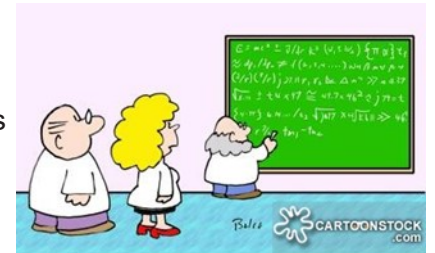


YEAR ROUND REGISTRATION

This was our first year of year round registration! It was started as a retention tool. Gail Winkelman, the wizard behind the curtain to make it happen, said it's a lot of work to get entry codes for classes for all year, the schedule set up for the year and to get it published all at once. What can be challenging is getting registration pins for all four quarters when we require students to see an advisor their first quarter to get their pin to register for classes. After their first quarter they are allowed to use their global pins to register. The only complaint that was really heard was when faculty lost their pins and entry codes over the span of the year. Those that work closely with Gail notice she works so quietly "behind the scenes". This must require a lot of details but Gail is good with details! Her coworkers appreciate her patience and willingness to help solve their problems while she is working so diligently to set things up for students for the year.

It's the little details that are vital. Little things make big things happen~ John Wooden

As far as the retention that was hoped to be gained from this? We haven't heard anything yet in response to these efforts whether they worked or not but our students seem to love making a yearly plan. J One would think that it would free up an advisor's time after the first quarter as well. Let's see how our second year goes as we prepare for 17/18!



"It's not part of his research project — I think it has something to do with his time card."

TIME AND LEAVE REPORTING

Carmen Hammonds, who recently was awarded the quarterly staff award, has been busy in the Human Resources office undertaking the online Time & Leave Reporting project adding a new department each pay period. The plan is to have all employees reporting online by the end of the academic year. While working out the kinks does take some additional time and trouble shooting, in the long run it will save a lot of paper and time. Earlier in the year Carmen had also changed the pay cycle for all students and 1050 employees to two times per month. This requires her to process twice as many payrolls for these individuals but it allows them to receive their pay they have earned sooner. Way to go Carmen! Her supervisor has noted there have been no complaints from employees about their paychecks and contributes that to the efficient and accurate work that she does while having a great attitude.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Chelcie Bailey, from the Community Education department, came to our quarterly potluck before spring quarter started and shared some information regarding the great classes being offered with Ed2go <http://www.ed2go.com/ghc/>. With the variety of different courses from personal enrichment or sharpening your workplace skills, there's something for everyone with the flexibility of 24 hour access. SDTC funding assistance may be available for these classes too! Some of our staff are taking advantage of the many the evening fitness and computer Community Education classes at GHC but they would love to have more participate. One event coming up, GHC has partnered with Peace of Mind Pacific County to offer a FREE Mental Health First Aid Workshop on Saturday, June 10th at the Riverview Education Center in Raymond from 8am-5pm. They have blocked out 10 spots for any GHC staff members who would like to join!



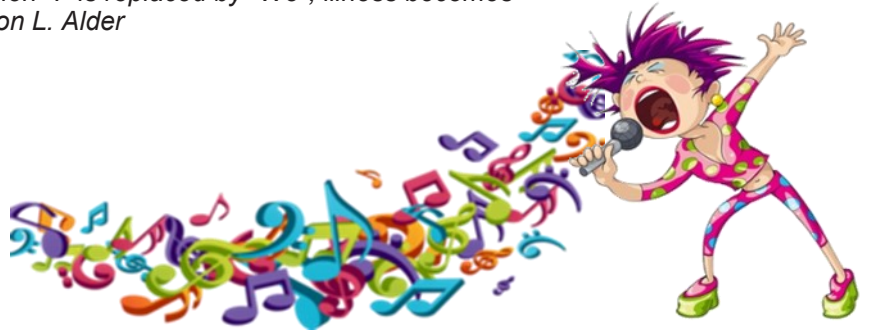


Grays Harbor cont.

"Never give up on someone with a mental illness. When "I" is replaced by "We", illness becomes wellness." – Shannon L. Alder

BIRTHDAY GRAMS

Kristi Daniels, who works in the Welcome Center with both the Financial Aid Office and Admissions and Records, began a fun new fund raising idea for their SDTC. Randy Karnath, was easily talked into joining in the fun. Requests can be made to have a singing telegram sent to the recipient of their choice on campus for students, faculty, or staff. They receive a short, sweet, and a bit silly song, a candle in a faux cupcake they blow out while making a wish, and any other special gift that the purchaser wants to provide to be delivered with their request. They wear a couple of birthday hats to look "official" in presenting their telegram. It has brought some interesting looks as they travel about campus but it's all about the mission. J A donation is asked to be made to SDTC for the cause. As a recipient of SDTC funds herself, Kristi felt it was a way for her to contribute



Submitted by Judy Brenden



Our college is always buzzing with excitement and activities on a daily basis with all our students, faculty and staff. I have highlighted a few of events below. The first one is through our foundation...



Thank you for Saying Yes to students! Over the past month, 88 Green River Faculty and Staff joined more than 120 current employee donors in supporting students through contributions to the Green River College Foundation.

While the fun of the Winter Quarter 2017 Employee Giving Campaign came to a close with the Sayestival on March 22nd in Salish Hall, Foundation staff is still available for presentations at meetings, one on one visit, and other ways to connect to discuss getting involved in supporting students. And there may be another fun spring quarter event coming your way.

Speaking of the Sayestival, more than 50 employees stopped by the Salish Lobby, tossed an airplane from the second floor walk way, gave the hula hoop the ol' college try, sampled items in the bake-off and potluck, and popped a balloon to see what prize they earned. Thanks to Student Life for lending the popcorn machine, to Salish Hall Secretaries for helping secure the space, and for volunteers from across campus that brought fun and energy throughout the day.

We know you 'Say Yes' to students every day. Through the Foundation's new Gator Pledge and Completion Funds, you have the ability to connect domestic students with a resource that can knock down small financial barriers that are in their way. Also, faculty and staff donations launched the Gators Feeding Gators Project, which includes binders that hold \$10 gift cards to the Gator Grill and Paper Tree to help students who may be having a rough time get something to eat.

Thank you Gators and learn more at www.greenrivercollegefoundation.org/sayyes.



Continued on next page



Green River College cont.

The second one was a volunteer trip to the Bay Area in California. The students loved it as you can see by the pictures. The link is attached.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/95277745@N03/albums/72157679703434342>

Spring All-Campus In-Service Day was April 12

GREEN RIVER TASTING TOURS DURING IN-SERVICE DAY!

Your In-Service Day Committee is excited to kickoff **Green River's Tasting Tours during In-Service Day this year!** You may ask, what are talking about? Tasting Tours are scheduled campus events for faculty and staff to visit divisions/departments in their respective work areas to take guided tours of buildings/classrooms/work areas (if possible), engage in conversations about what the divisions/departments do and learn about their new programs/initiatives– all the while enjoying food and getting to know each other better!

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS!

You asked and we listened! Our first In-Service Day Workshops that you can receive Green River Continuing Education credits for are Coaching, Time Management, and Power of First Impressions. Remember that faculty can use continuing education credits to increase their total number of credits up to the maximum 360 credits.

The in-service day consists of a variety of sessions being offered:

- Advisor Training
- AP Style for Green River Writers
- Drawing-Break on through to the right side
- CPR and AED training
- Finding your Communication Style

This is just to name just a few sessions.....

Green River has a new President

Green River College's Board of Trustees announced that four finalists were selected in the search for the school's next president. The candidates visited campus April 10-13, 2017.

The 12-member presidential search committee was comprised of representatives from Green River's board of trustees, faculty, students, staff, as well as members of the community.

Following a national recruitment process, the search committee forwarded the four finalists to the Green River College Board of Trustees for consideration. The Board announced on Wednesday, April 25th that our new President will be Suzanne Johnson. She will replace Interim President Scott Morgan, and is expected to begin her duties this summer.

For additional information on the search, including candidate bios, go to greenriver.edu/president. A special thank you to Scott Morgan for filling in as Interim while the search and selection is being finalized.



submitted by Cindy Cannella

The Classified Staff In-Service will be June 7, 2017 at the beautiful Dumas Bay Centre in Federal Way. Our theme this year is Empowering Your Future. We will start the day with Sally Heilstedt from Lake Washington Institute of Technology who will lead a Strengths Finder 2.0 session on discovering the power of a strengths based approach to work and life. Later that morning we will hear from [Helen Thayer](#), the first woman to travel alone to any of the world's Poles when at age fifty she skied to the Magnetic North Pole without dog sled, snowmobile, resupply or support. During lunch we will investigate how to play an active role in your Professional Development Plan. After lunch we will delve deeper into Strengths Finder 2.0 with Sally and finish the day with Greg Brazell from Pierce College exploring Growth Mindset by learning the difference between a fixed mindset and a growth mindset and how they impact your work. Pierce College recently received the Achieving the Dream's Leah Meyer Austin Award for making outstanding progress in changing to a student-focused culture, the second-highest honor that an American community college can receive. To learn more about Pierce College's investment in student success, [click here](#).



Submitted by Amy Erickson

Pathways to Success: Corrections to College

For a number of years SVC has been collaborating with community representatives to increase educational opportunities for persons leaving jail and prison. Much of our work in this area has been led by the Workforce Grants programs.

Recently a Pathways to Success planning effort was funded by the WSBCTC to develop a set of model policies and practices that would facilitate the **transition from incarceration to college** for persons leaving state and local correctional facilities. We are working closely with Brian Walsh from the State Board in implementing this project. This important effort is consistent with Governor Jay Inslee's Executive Order 16-05 directed toward BUILDING SAFE AND STRONG COMMUNITIES THROUGH SUCCESSFUL REENTRY. http://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/exe_order/eo_16-05.pdf.

This planning project is convening four planning meetings between February and June that will include representatives from six community colleges and several state and local corrections facilities. **We will be working together to craft a transition model and set of protocols that can be used state wide to assist those who have been incarcerated successfully integrate into college.** We will be joined in this effort by **John Bae, from the Vera Institute of Justice**, who is involved in criminal justice system reform on a national level.

Key staff from Skagit Valley working on this program are Aaron Kirk, WorkFirst Navigator; Jere LaFollette, Human Services Faculty and Co-Department Chair; and Amy Erickson, WorkForce Program Coordinator.



Submitted by Carrie Kirby-Dietrich

We've Got a New Attitude in our Gym

This week, we realized an ambition that many at SFCC have had for decades: the ground-breaking on a new gymnasium with other remodeling included. ([link to the Spokane news](#) for full article and details)

Thank you Students, for having the vision to leave a legacy that benefits the college and also the many community organizations that use our facilities.

This new, \$18 million facility, funded by students, will be completed in 2018. It will include a new fitness center, weight room, lounges and a two-story climbing wall. Most importantly, the 237,000 square foot gymnasium, seating 1900, will be accessible for ALL students.

Continued on next page





Spokane Community Colleges Cont.

SFCC Pullman Has New Digs, Too!

This week the Sasquatch moved into the [Cougar's den](#). In April, SFCC students in Pullman began taking CCS classes on the WSU campus, primarily in Kruegel Hall and the Math Annex.

Our CCS Foundation received a \$24,000 gift from METERGroup to be used for Pullman Center Program Support Fund and Pullman Center Scholarship Funds.

Washington Wellness has recognized SFCC's support for our commitment and contribution to building and growing a sustainable wellness program with the Zo8 Award. This very prestigious award comes from the Governor's office. A representative of Health Care Authority will present our award at our year-end celebration. Congratulations, Wellness Coordinator and Cheerleader Sheri Staudinger and everyone who participates in our Wellness Program!



Tacoma Community College sponsored several opportunities for staff and students to learn about the communities around them during the month of April. Examples included:

A Conversation about Gender Diversity: Aidan Key

April 11

Sponsored by Equity and Diversity Council, CARES, Classified Staff Org, and Office of Student Engagement

TCC 500 Mile Challenge: Melody Griggs

April 14-June 1 (ongoing)

Track your hours of exercise (or physical chores) as a team and compete with other teams.

Teams should consist of at least 4 people. Send the team name, the members, their emails, and Melody will send the link to your teams tracking sheet.

TCC (R.A.D. COURSE): Misty Hadfield

April 17, 18 & 20

The Rape Aggression Defense Basic Personal Defense System is a national program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques taught for women only. All courses are taught by nationally certified R.A.D. Instructors. The goal of R.A.D. is to provide realistic self-defense options to women, regardless of their level of physical conditioning. Students at all levels of ability, age, experience, and strength will be provided with techniques and information that can be effectively used from the first day of class. R.A.D. is not a martial arts program, nor does it require students to be athletes in training to succeed.

Continued on next page



Tacoma Community College cont.

TCC “Walk-a-Mile in Her Shoes”

April 28

“Walk a Mile” raises awareness and funds for the Pierce County Sexual Assault Center. Team Titan’s organizers have set an ambitious fundraising goal -- \$3,000. They also want TCC to have a larger presence at the event, with students and employees participating as marchers and as spectators.

You can join the team and/or donate at the team page. If you happen to unearth any high heels while you spring clean, you are welcome to pass it on to the “shoes for students” collection soon to be curated by Campus Public Safety. Large sizes are especially welcome. Donation boxes will be set up soon the Building 14 Campus Public Safety office and in the Student Center.

Courageous Internal Conversation: Inclusivity @ TCC

April 11

Join us for a Courageous Internal Conversation about inclusivity. Before we bring this conversation to our students, we’re hoping you’ll join us for this important discussion. This discussion is open to all employees.



Submitted by Sarah Aschenbrenner

The college is taking workforce training to the next level. At the Clarkston campus they are preparing to open a new technical center this fall. Visit the *Lewiston Tribune* [website for the full story](#).

The 15,000-square-foot center brings new programs to the Clarkston campus and opens the door for industry collaboration. Students from the Industrial Maintenance program have been helping to install equipment for the College’s Workforce and Business Development Center

A handful of students got a jump start on technical programs when WWCC reached an agreement with the Clarkston School District two years ago to use Clarkston High School's shop space. With the technical center complete, two new programs - welding and plant operations mechanic - will begin at the college in the fall, with capacity for 15 to 16 students each. A machining program is expected to follow soon after.

The program director expects the combination of new degree and certification programs for WWCC will provide students with professional training opportunities and boost the workforce employment in the Lewiston-Clarkston Valley.

The school intends to work with area businesses and manufacturers to offer customized job skill training for employees, Miltenberger said. That might mean designing training sessions for a computer application a business needs its office staff to learn - or doing the same for a specific welding skill on the technical side.



Continued on next page



Walla Walla cont.

Local community partnerships with high schools and industry contribute to the success of this new facility. Equipment, materials, and funding for the programs are coming from a variety of different sources, including community and industry partnerships, grants and institutional resources. The college still owns several surrounding acres, so the need for expansion is there if needed in the future.

On April 30, the college will host a free activity, Try-A-Trade. The event will provide visitors and English-language learners an opportunity to explore what is offered at the college. Attendees will participate in hands-on activities, meet college instructors, explore trade- and technology-related programs and learn about career opportunities in a variety of fields.



Submitted by Amy Smith

Due to the unpredictable weather, WVC has had the most late starts and closures anyone can remember. A number of classified staff were on maternity leave and personnel continued to help out with projects and tasks until they returned.

Beth Hayes, Fiscal Analyst 2 had a baby boy on December 29 and Maria Lagunas had a baby girl January 27th.

Each quarter classified staff can submit an application and request funds to use for professional development training. During fall quarter Mary Conley attended a two-day conference for procurement and travel card training. With the information Mary received from this training, she developed new forms and processes to increase efficiency for the institution and launch the program. Some of the benefits using these tools will save the college money, time, and provide safe and secure transactions.

WVC we will be celebrating the following classified staff for their service to WVC!

David Hauck, Maintenance Mechanic 1	10 Years
June Johnson, Fiscal Technician 3	10 Years
Ann Reyna, Custodian 1	10 Years
Zach Stephens, Custodian 1	10 Years
Paul Vargas, Custodian 1	10 Years
Amy Smith, HRCA 2	15 Years
Jocelyn Vincent-Ramsey, OA3	15 Years
Joan Pizzano, Retail Clerk Lead	20 Years



Mary Rabchuk, Information Tech Spec. 2, will be retiring in June of this year after 18 years at WVC in Omak!

Susan Root, Program Coordinator at the Omak campus will retire in October. We will feature her in the next publication of the STTACC Chat.

Continued on next page



Wenatchee Valley cont.

Construction of a new recreation center is on schedule to open fall quarter 2017! This building is built for students by the students and being paid for with student fees! This building will have several basketball courts, a workout area, workout room for dance and yoga.



Submitted by Linda Compton-Smith



Whatcom Community College celebrates its **50th anniversary** with a special history exhibition at the **Whatcom Museum**, Old City Hall @121 Prospect Street, Bellingham, WA. Open to the public March 18 – May 31, 2017. For more upcoming anniversary events see Whatcom.edu/50.



Reaching out to students, faculty and staff interested in collective power, WCC Student Life and WCCFT co-sponsored “Union 101: What’s in it for me” on April 13th. Guest speakers included representatives from AFT, former President of United Steelworkers, Steve Garey and instructor Marc Hobbs from Pierce College.



Earth Week is celebrated this week with daily informative events organized by the WCC Sustainability Club. Club members will join Professor Jennifer Zovar’s students as they conduct a “Trash Audit” to find out how well Whatcom students and staff are doing at recycling and composting.

Friday, May 19 is Bike to Work & School Day. A WCC celebration station will be in front of Kulshan Hall, where goodies and prizes will be handed out!

In honor of National Poetry Month, the WCC Library is sponsoring its 11th Annual Poetry Challenge inviting all students, faculty and staff (including former members) to participate. Submissions must be received by midnight, April 30th. Collected poems will be published in an attractive booklet with a poetry reading as the culminating event. Time to wax poetic!



WCC said goodbye to Curt Freed, vice president of Instruction, who accepted a new position out of state. Ed Harri is serving as interim VP until a replacement is hired. Ed has been with the college for many years, beginning as a math instructor, and most recently serving as Dean for Instruction. Good choice and congratulations, Ed! Congratulations are also in order to Dave Knapp (pictured left), who has been appointed WCC’s Director for Academic Advising and Career Services. Dave has over 20 years of experience in education and social services in northwest Washington. He has been at Whatcom for seven years, starting as a part-time advisor for professional technical program students, then serving as the Associate Director for Advising and Career Services for the past four years.



WIN REGISTRATION TO THE 2017 STTACC CONFERENCE!

We have one paid registration for each region available.

Names will be randomly selected from all entries received by Tuesday, May 23.

[ENTER HERE](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BGV66N8)

if the link doesn't work type the following into your browser:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BGV66N8>

If your college or classified staff committee has the funds to send you, please do not submit an entry.

GOOD LUCK!

STTACC Chat Deadline

Your input to the STTACC Chat publication is critical to the mission of this organization. Below are the quarterly deadlines to submit news about the professional development opportunities available at your campus. Articles may also include interesting facts about your college and photos. This your chance to share what is happening at your college.

Articles are due to your Region Coordinator
(Please see page 2)

SUMMER EDITION

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Include the following in the subject line of the email:

1. Your college name
2. The words "STTACC Chat Article"