



Big Bend Staff Members Collected School Supplies for those in need.

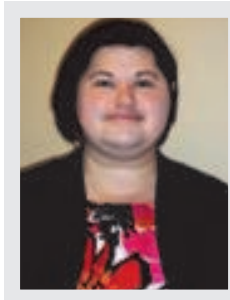


# STTACC CHAT

Volume 14, Issue 3 - Winter2017

## In This Issue

### A Letter from the President - Paula Boerner



Welcome to Winter Quarter!

I hope everyone's holiday season was filled with peace and happiness.

Planning for the STTACC Winter Board meeting is underway. The meeting is being held on February 24<sup>th</sup> at Everett Community College. Part of the agenda will include archiving and storing of STTACC Documents, and how to successfully transition information to new board members.

We will also receive an update on the **2017 STTACC**

**Conference** hosted by **Skagit Valley College**, **August 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>**. I would like to thank Any Erickson and the Conference Committee for taking on this challenge. We are greatly looking forward to this year's conference.

I would like to welcome **William Frankhouser** to the STTACC Board as a Webmaster. For the past two years William has been the Lead IT Web Developer at Everett Community College and has a combined 10 years of experience of working within the College Systems. **Welcome Will!**

At this time there are no scheduled Regional Conferences so I would like to encourage you to host one. STTACC has funds available to assist with hosting a regional conference. If you are interested, please email me at [president@sttacc.net](mailto:president@sttacc.net). I know that many colleges had or are gearing up for staff training and we would like to know what works, what you have learned, what you want to learn so we can have more training ideas for training opportunities to present on the website and at the summer conference.

STTACC is here for you, to listen to you, to consider various suggestions from you, and to assist you in any way that we can. Please feel free to contact anyone on the STTACC Board and we will listen!

*Paula Boerner*  
STTACC President

### STTACC Information Chart

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### College Updates

See what's happening in your region.

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### STTACC CHAT Due Dates

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## MISSION

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

## 2016 - 2017 Board Meetings

- November 3-4, 2016 - Trollhaugan Lodge
- February 24, 2017 - Everett Community College
- May 5, 2017 - TBD
- August 2017 - Skagit Valley College

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Past STTACC College Members				
Clark College			Peninsula College	Columbia Basin College
				Highline Community College
				Yakima Valley Community College



Submitted by Patti Pollardo



Happy New Year Everybody!

Edmonds Community College celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary 9/16/2016 at our Triton Field on campus. Music through the decades was played by “The Burg” from 4-5pm. Then from 5:30-6:30pm we listened to 80’s music by “The Spazamatics”, and “The Afrosiatics” rounded things out from 7:00-9:00pm with 70’s music. People were dancing all over the field! Local Food Trucks (Chopstix, Street Treats, and Dirty Dog) provided fare to munch on and there was a “no hose” beer and wine garden. The weather was great, and fun was had by all.

We all know that sleep matters. Living Well Alliance from PacMed gave a presentation on the critical importance of sleep. In a recent national survey, over ¼ of adults said they missed work, events or activities or had made errors at work because of sleep-related issues in the past three months. Information regarding what sleep really is, what happens when we don’t get enough and strategies to improve the amount of quality of sleep were covered.

Every Thursday beginning around May we are able to purchase farm-fresh produce from our On-Campus SAgE Student Farmer’s Market. They have fresh produce, as well as flowers and vegetable and plant starts. All of this is grown by students following organic methods. One week they even had organic chicken to purchase. Every week the offerings are different and the prices are great! The students set up their tent in our courtyard and are usually open from 9am-2pm or 4pm depending on the quantity they have to sell. It’s definitely best to be there early for a good selection!

January 23 & 24 our college is presenting a workshop by “The People’s Institute on Undoing Racism”. I’m sure that your colleges have offered the same workshop over the years. This is an intensive 2-day workshop designed to educate, challenge and empower people to “undo” the racism structures that hinder effective social change. The training is based on the premise that racism has been systemically erected and that it can be “undone” if people understand where it comes from, how it functions and why it is perpetuated. I plan on attending this so will try to give you an update in our next report.

On February 3, the college is going to celebrate Lunar New Years at Szechuan Garden in Lynnwood. Those who attend will enjoy a 9-course dinner. This is the first celebration like this that we have done. There will be two seatings, one at 5:30pm and one at 7:00pm. We weren’t able to reserve 200 tickets on the actual January date, so grabbed the next available date. There is excitement on campus about this! I’ll let you all know how it went. If it is a success, I know they’ll plan another celebration next year.

Is your campus tobacco-free? Edmonds CC will be moving toward becoming a tobacco-free campus by Fall 2018. A task force was created and they developed a plan, held forums with our campus community, and did surveys. Now HR will develop a draft policy to have approved by the unions, President’s Cabinet and Board of Trustees, etc., then put it out to the campus community. Those who smoke are not exactly thrilled about this, but they understand that the State Board for Community & Technical Colleges is recommending this to all colleges. If your campus is tobacco-free, how is it working?

One thing that Edmonds has done that I really like is they turned our Payroll over to Bellevue College to do for all employees. It is called Time & Leave Reporting (TLR) and is such a better system than Liquid Office! Leave balances are always current, as the hours you use are subtracted from the totals the minute you add the entry to your time-sheet. A couple of our payroll employees were invited to come and work at Bellevue--no one in payroll here lost



## Edmonds Community College cont.

Throughout the year employees are offered the opportunity to attend exercise classes, de-stress workshops, financial workshops, retirement workshops, health-related workshops (many include healthy recipes), free CPR/ First Aid training, de-escalation training, Title IX training, and many others.

One of the workshops offered was “Transgender 101”. It was presented by Yee Won Chong, a nationally acclaimed trainer, strategist, and speaker who is well known for helping organizations create intercultural communities in which everyone is empowered to thrive. The training focused on helping EdCC staff and faculty gain a better understanding of the students we have on campus who are either transgender or gender non-conforming and the challenges which they face. I’m hoping this workshop will be offered again at some point in time, as I was not able to attend this one.

And last, but not least, every February individuals from EdCC volunteer to help out at the Verdant Healthier Community Conference. This year it is being held at the Lynnwood Conference Center again on February 27. This conference brings together national speakers and the Puget Sound Regions leading experts in health, wellness, and community building. Participants can choose 4 of 12 breakout sessions in 3 interest tracks. Included in the registration fee is a healthy breakfast and lunch. It is a very educational, informative and enjoyable conference open



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Submitted by Alyssa Jones

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Bellingham Technical College currently employs 81 classified staff under two unions, Teamsters and BEST. Through bargaining agreements, BEST members have access to a College fund of \$5,000 per year for professional development (\$250 max per member, on a first come first served basis). For Teamsters, the College provides a pool of dollars, based on one hundred twenty-five (\$125) dollars per bargaining unit member, for the purpose of employee voluntary in-service activities. Four hundred-fifty (\$450) dollars of this Teamster’s fund is dedicated to implementing campus wide voluntary in-service activities. Additionally, the BTC Foundation offers grants of \$600 per biennium for staff who need funding above the regular fund amounts. Those with questions regarding how to access these funds can contact their member rep, Human Resources, or the Foundation for more information.



## Everett Community College

Submitted by Dan Murphy

### An Anniversary to Celebrate.

Although remembered for far more sobering reasons, 1941 was a very good year for Everett Community College, as the institution began its second life in a renovated (since razed) elementary schoolhouse owned in downtown Everett. In celebration of its 75<sup>th</sup> year in 2016-17, college staff members are conducting monthly special events to showcase EvCC's multiple locations, variety of programs and expansive facilities, including:

**AMTEC** ( the Advanced Manufacturing Training and Education Center), which was recently expanded by 17,000 square feet to accommodate EvCC's precision machining, welding and fabrication, engineering tech, composites and pre-employment programs.

**Health Sciences**, which occupies Liberty Hall, the newest building on campus and offers nursing, medical assisting, phlebotomy, radiology tech and risk management programs.

**The Nippon Business Institute**, also the center for Japanese classes, cultural events like the annual Anime-Manga Festival, and the site of the Nishiyama Japanese Garden, a landscape of trees, flowers, and a footbridge made from wood salvaged from the 340-year old Kintai Bridge in Everett's Sister City of Iwakuni, Japan.

**Extreme Grazing.** Every community college should have its own version of EvCC's Winter Grazing Event, a celebration of food and festivity for which most people go into training (or fasting, as the case may be) to survive the more than a dozen campus departments that go all out with holiday-themed treats and even entire meals.

The celebrating starts 7:30 am (the "Cop Stop Special" coffee and doughnuts provided by Campus Security officers and staff), continues through a mid-morning breakfast burrito buffet provided by Budget and Accounting to a lunch-time "Stuff on Sticks" snack table created by Advising, Enrollment Services and Financial Aid staff, on to the "3.1415926 Festival" (a "pie" tasting — get it?) put on by staff in EvCC's



Happy Holidays!



**Holiday Spirit.** The Parking Pass Christmas Tree (L) and the Business and Applied technology team (L to R in front): Paul Chandanabhumma (visitor), Leanne Shults (classified), Aiman Azhan (work study student), Stephanie Doyle (classified); (back): Leigh Christianson (classified), Ryan Davis (exempt).

**Take a book, give a book.** Thanks to several EvCC classified employees, a "Little Free Library" was installed where the campus meets the neighborhood, with free books to borrow or swap. The EvCC Foundation, headed by Executive Director John Olson, provided funding; Cathy Groger (center), an admin assistant in Communications and Social Sciences, came up with the design; and Maintenance mechanics Darrell Gulliford and Boyd Culver spent hours building and installing the kiosk in November. (Also at left: Marianne Le, EvCC faculty member in Arts





**Everett Community College cont.**

**Going Out in Style.** December 2016 marked the retirement of long-time classified IT Specialist and campus personality Dennis Ryan (at left with Kimi Crombie, 2016 STTACC Exemplary Staff Award winner for Region C). After 27 years, Ryan told a gathering of more than 75 colleagues and family members, he decided to “pursue full-time the activities I’ve already started doing in my spare time” — like traveling as a full-time tourist.



Above R): Dennis Ryan (classified), Shelly Scanlan, Region C Coordinator, Dan Murphy and Glorianne Bora, College Contacts.

Dennis has been a fixture at EvCC, appearing as Santa Claus during the holidays, as the college’s Trojan mascot during Fourth of July parades in downtown Everett, and among other roles, as a clueless older student attempting to navigate the new Guided Pathways in a skit during EvCC’s Opening Week celebration in Fall Quarter. As an employee who contributed so much more than merely “doing his job”—though he did that awfully well—Dennis is the embodiment of the service and skills classified employees provide their institutions. EvCC’s STTACC members and classified staff wish him well as he heads out to see the world.

# Whatcom COMMUNITY COLLEGE

January 2017 kicked off Whatcom Community College’s 50th anniversary celebration. What began as a “college without walls” is now regarded as one of the nation’s top 2-year colleges (Aspen Institute, 2016). A host of events are planned to celebrate our past, present and future. Check out details on our calendar, [Whatcom.edu/events](http://Whatcom.edu/events).

Martin Luther King, Jr., Human Rights Conference FREE! WCC Syre Building  
Saturday, January 14, 2017

We were pleased to be co-host the 19th Annual MLK Human Rights Conference with this year’s theme “Working Passionately and Unrelenting for Justice.” This event included speakers, workshops, films, panels and discussions.

FREE Bus Pass for currently enrolled WCC Students. Effective Jan. 2017 Student I.D. (Orca) cards now include unlimited, pre-paid access to local bus service. This was accomplished through a student initiated, student approved fee of \$20 per quarter. Go green with WTA!

Professional Development Day Feb 21st.

The college will be closed Tuesday to allow all WCC staff members to participate in the day’s activities which include key note speakers along with a variety of informative workshops and training opportunities.



**Big Bend Community College**

*Submitted by Barbara Collins*

**Staff Training and Recognition (STAR) Committee**

Professional or personal development training (Sept to Dec) reported for classified staff is 931.5 hours. These hours include campus workshops, online webinars or staff attending statewide meetings and conferences. This information is included in the BBCC Board of Trustees meeting packet.

The classified staff STAR Committee has volunteer roles for 12 members. Currently there are nine members and they continue to recruit and fill the remaining vacancies. They coordinate campus Fast Friday trainings with the Leadership Development Team. Travel Procedures, FMS Query, Hiring Committee; Recruitment and Selection Process, and Basic Accessibility were some of the topics. The STAR Committee organized a variety of Program Learning Experience workshops for the year with the BBCC testing center and TRiO Upward Bound (1000 building) being the first one held in November. The focus of these events is educating all campus personnel about the BBCC campus programs and services. This will then help personnel understand the BBCC Mission and Vision Statement for student success and inclusion.

With renovations completed in the 1400 building, it was a great opportunity to have the second Program Learning Experience featuring admissions, financial aid, counseling, ASB, Vet Corps, Student Success Center, and the TRIO SSS (Student Success Services) on January 27.

The Buddy role is included in the STAR Committee members' responsibilities. With over 22 new classified staff hired since January 2016, extending the Buddy System to include all full-time classified staff was very helpful.

**Community Service Projects**

Our summer quarter project included collecting 291 school supply items for the Grant and Adams County Foster Care Program. For our fall project, the STAR Committee helped with promotion for collecting needed items for the Viking Food Pantry and the Community Toy Drive. For December and January, we placed collection boxes on campus for the Winter Clothing Drive. Grant and Adams Foster Care Program received 145 warm clothing items. The Committee will provide sweet treats for all campus personnel in February for their generous contributions.

**Other Campus Activity**

We love it when the whole campus joins for a celebration. At the holiday social, the STAR Committee coordinated the Minute-to-Win-it games and the photo booth. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon fun!



**Big Bend**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Continued on next page.



## Big Bend Community College (Continued)



STAR committee having fun and collecting clothing items for the Grant and Adams Foster Card Program.



## STTACC Chat Deadlines

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 Region Coordinator

Please see page 2 for your region contact information.

Spring Edition

Friday, April 7

Include the following in the subject line of the email:

1. Your college name

2. The words "STTACC Chat Article"