



# STTACC Chat

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Spring** is a time for renewal in nature. All sorts of flowers are all blooming, they smell so nice and they are so cheerful and make people smile and feel happy. It seems like the possibilities are endless. This is a time when we can be renewed in our work lives too. Opportunities are out there for everyone - training to increase your skills in your work as well as for your own personal enrichment.

We are all trying to keep up with the changes that are happening on our campuses at such a rapid pace. Doing more with less is a very common feature for all of us. One of the things that can enable us to deal with all the changes that keep popping up on the horizon is training. Every campus deals with training a different way. Some are more funded than others, some have great committees, and some are in reset and modification mode.

A great resource for all of us is the annual conference. This year it will be held in Lakewood at Pierce College – Steilacoom. It is a great time to get training on a variety of topics, network with your counterparts, see a different college that has its own environment. Now is the time to start thinking about making plans to attend. Save these dates – August 14 and 15th 2019.

Just a reminder about an upcoming opportunity for classified staff that will be presented at the annual conference but if you want more info please contact me president@sttacc.net

I have been working with Franklin Covey, they are a global company specializing in performance improvement, and their mission statement is “We enable greatness in people and organizations everywhere. We don’t tell you what that greatness is; we help you define it and then help you achieve it.”

They are willing to extend a new option to all classified staff in the Washington technical and community college system. If we can get at least 100 classified staff across the community and technical colleges to commit to 1 year at \$150 a person (and you can discuss with your classified development team or your managers to see if they will pay) then you would be able to join the ‘All-Access Pass’ which allows you unlimited access to all of their world-class content, tools and videos.

For less than the cost of most training you will have access for 1 year to improve your skills in speaking, project management, dealing with difficult issues, etc. You are able to receive certificates for finishing programs and this will definitely help you in your job. We will be having a speaker at our summer conference (just another great reason to attend!) and sign-ups will be at the conference with a lot more information but we wanted to alert you as to this is coming to STTACC. Feel free to check them out at [www.franklincovey.com](http://www.franklincovey.com) and listen to one of their webcasts at <https://www.franklincovey.com/Events/webcast-series.html> If you have any specific questions, please email me president@sttacc.net and I will respond as soon as possible.

We’d love to hear from you and let us know what you think. Feel free to contact anyone on the Executive Board (board@sttacc.net) and we will listen!!



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Region A.....	4
Region B.....	7
Region C.....	9
Region D.....	11
Region E.....	14

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- STTACC Conference 2019
- Article: Unpack the whole package
- STTACC Exemplary Awards Nominations are Coming Soon!

## 2019 STTACC CONFERENCE

By Cindy Cannella

Planning for the 2019 STTACC conference on August 14-15 at Pierce College Fort Steilacoom is in full swing. Our theme this year is ‘Work Hard, Play Harder!’



STTACC Keynote: The Mind-set, Skill-set and Tool-set for Effective Work and Meaningful Play

“Work hard and play harder” is a wonderful theme for the 2019 Annual Conference. Many of us work incredibly hard. We put in long hours and strive to reach the bars set for us. We want to produce at our highest achievable level and operate at peak performance. But what if working hard isn’t the same as working effectively? What if a change in our mind-set, skill-set and tool-set would allow us to work diligently, while at the end of the day still have the energy and motivation to play with abandon?

Our keynote speaker Dennis Chernekoff, Ph.D. will point us in the direction of greater effectiveness. He will provide a plan to fine-tune our perspective, meet our commitments and structure our time so we not only reach our daily productivity goals, but do it with energy to spare. Come join us and learn how you can “Work Hard and Play Harder”.

After the keynote you will have the opportunity to choose a variety of trainings to include viewing a fantastic show in our Science Dome, learn about finding joy in your life, the secrets of networking and lesson of un-successes plus fun things like getting your groove on (meditation and movement), rock painting, Pokémon Go and a nature walk around Lake Wog-hop, just to name a few.

We have a unique opportunity this year. STTACC is hoping to partner with Franklin Covey to create an ‘All-Access Pass’ for STTACC members for one year of unlimited training. The cost for this pass would be \$150 per person and we would need 100 to sign up to receive this incredible deal, (this is the first time they have offered this to a group of individual colleges).

We thought the best way to for members to see what they can get for the ‘All-Access Pass’ is to attend trainings so on day one of the conference you will get opportunities to see what Franklin Covey has to offer with 3 breakout sessions. They will include – Speed of Trust, The 5 Choices to Extraordinary Productivity, and Working Across the Generations.

We are excited to bring this opportunity to our STTACC members.

So mark your calendars and save the date: August 14-15, 2019. Registration will open in early June.

Watch the website for updates.



## UNPACK THE WHOLE PACKAGE...

**By Rogue Daugharty**

Several years ago, I moved into a new apartment where the windows were floor to ceiling and opened like French doors. I loved this about my windows until I realized I would never be able to leave my bedroom windows open nor would they accommodate a traditional AC unit. As an alternative, I brought home a package with a box fan inside. I unpacked the package, shoved the fan between the two doors, and called it good. Later that summer I tried to use the same fan in the hallway to my living room but it would not stand up...it would blow itself over every time.

I tried to lean it up against stuff to get it to stay and eventually flipped it over to see if there were, feet that I needed to pull out or something. What I discovered were slots where feet should be and would have been had I taken the time to explore the package. I realized then that I threw out the feet along with the packaging and instructions... ultimately diminishing the value of the resource I purchased.

Where am I going with this?

When we start a new job or position it is understandable to rush (or feel rushed) through the onboarding process and to overlook much of what is included in the comprehensive employee benefits package offered by our employer. We look for things like insurance and paid time off as we have come to expect them. However, just as each job is unique so too is the benefits package an employer can and will provide its staff. Depending on where you work your employer may provide you with free cable, free coffee, free hotel rooms, free food, and even free public transportation.

As an employee of an educational institution you have access to perhaps one of the most valuable resources of all... knowledge. Depending on your school you may have access to a number of free or discounted educational opportunities. Are you utilizing this resource to start or finish a degree? Perhaps you would like to learn how to use a particular software, make a craft, or learn a skill. These opportunities and more may be merely a few click away if you know who to ask and what to ask for.

One example is The Washington State Employee Tuition Exemption Program. This is one of the most valuable benefits offered to classified staff and is perhaps one the most underutilizes resource in your package. With other resources available such as evening and online classes utilizing this resource should be something we all strive to use each quarter. Reach out to your local human resource department and be open about your goals. This first step should get you on a path to take advantage of growth opportunities at work, in a classroom, and online.

As your knowledge and skills grow so too will opportunities for increasingly challenging and rewarding career changes. If your goal is not to climb the ladder where you work now, or to move to another department or institution, these resources can help you make improvements in your personal life as well. Perhaps you have always wanted to start your own business or learn to scuba dive...start with the resources around you, you may be surprised to learn just how close you really are.

## REGION A



## CLARK COLLEGE

**Submitted by Malissa Fife**

Clark College has been focused and very busy with our transition to PeopleSoft! Our course catalog is in the process of being built for the transition. There are approximately 7,000 records that need to be updated, and so far, half of them have been completed! Our Legacy system will be shutting down in October to ensure a smooth transition for all our staff members. UAT (User Acceptance Testing) is happening at the end of April and will continue through August.

In conjunction with several community resources, the Homelessness Prevention and Housing Partnership has been extended for another year. This partnership will continue giving Clark students resources for those who are homeless or are at-risk. This past year, we've helped nearly 50 students find housing!

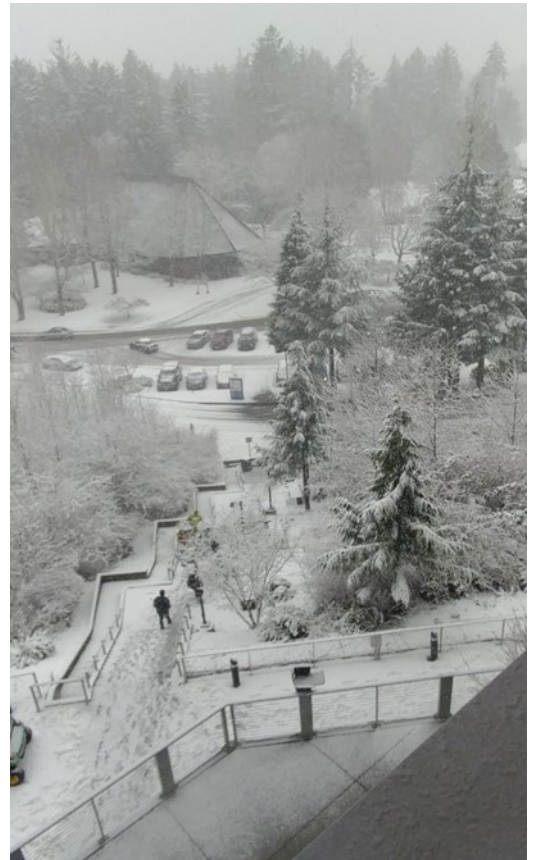
Spring term is under way for Clark! Everyone is in good spirits gearing up our students! Financial Aid has current, up-to-date process times, our new orientation sessions are being implemented and spring is in the air!

## GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE

**Submitted by Stephanie Gibson**

### Snow day

Snomageddon has come and gone, but the staff and students seemed to enjoy it while it was here. Students were found building snowmen around the campus just before the campus was shut down at 11am. It continued to snow for the next few hours and the campus had a two-hour delay the next day.





## GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE, *REGION A CONTINUED*

### Quarterly award winner!

Matt Crollard works in our maintenance dept. He was nominated for his dedication to helping out and making sure people were safe getting on and off campus during Snomageddon. Whether it is fixing the HVAC system or salting the icy paths, he's there to help. He is even known to direct traffic leaving campus to keep cars from piling up in one direction or another. This is the nomination that was submitted for him:

It was a dark and snowy/stormy morning this past winter, still quite dark out as I was making my way up the hill to the school. As I was driving, I was thinking to myself; why someone should do something about this icy hill and lo and behold there was this figure not quite bundled up hunched over trying to make their way up the hill on the slippery ice and getting it salted manually. Wow! I thought there is dedication for you. And it was Matt. As I made my way to the building, it began to snow. Ut Oh I thought, this looks like it may last. And last it did. As the snow piled up the notices went, out that, school was being cancelled and it ended up being cancelled sooner than later. As I cautiously made my way down the hill, noticing that everyone else was doing the same, but driving carefully. There at the bottom of the hill again was Matt again out braving the elements, directing traffic so that the release of the hoards was done with caution and safely. There was another person helping with the incoming traffic; but I could not see who it was, but thank you also.

He truly deserves this award and is a great asset to our campus.

### Spring quarter Potluck

Janet Parker, our amazing grounds person shared some gardening tips on how to keep the pesky moles and slugs out of the garden beds to keep the flowers and vegetables healthy and thriving.

Some tips:

- Plant beds from east to west (you can use your phone as a compass) plant the bigger stuff in the back
- Beer- slugs are attracted to the beer. Put it in a place a little off from the garden.
- Copper wire/copper strip- there's a chemical reaction to the slug (this will kill them)
- Castor oil mixed with water and a lemon citrus dish soap – repels moles from the area. Spray on the problem area. The actual recipe can be found here:

[www.humeseeds.com](http://www.humeseeds.com)

Aside from the tips, Janet also shared some websites with gardening tips:

[www.nwedibles.com](http://www.nwedibles.com)

<http://gardening.wsu.edu>

[www.humeseeds.com](http://www.humeseeds.com) (this site has tons of gardening information)

Lauren Garrett also came in to share about the new Sunday Market coming to downtown Aberdeen opening in May. There will be vendors from local small farms including Sky Island Farm, Fyfe Family farms and Harbor Eden Farms. Brady's Oysters and Moon Rabbit Kombucha are also going to be there. At the end, some of the staff members made real life potato heads.

For more information, please feel free to check out their website:

[https://www.aberdeensundaymarket.org/?fbclid=IwAR1p7e7KSifn-IvNHL3tP2F-bg6VMurmFF5Wdapo\\_3qs4lwCsXEhS\\_yo-oi](https://www.aberdeensundaymarket.org/?fbclid=IwAR1p7e7KSifn-IvNHL3tP2F-bg6VMurmFF5Wdapo_3qs4lwCsXEhS_yo-oi)



## GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE, *REGION A CONTINUED*

### **Fish lab**

Student volunteers at the fish lab and our biology instructor Amanda Gunn invited the public into their space to release chum (baby salmon) into the creek to grow. The fish lab help raise the chum from eggs and release them once they reach a certain size. Instead of just dumping them into the creek all at once, they let the public take a mason jar that contained a chum and let them walk down a short path to release them into the creek themselves.

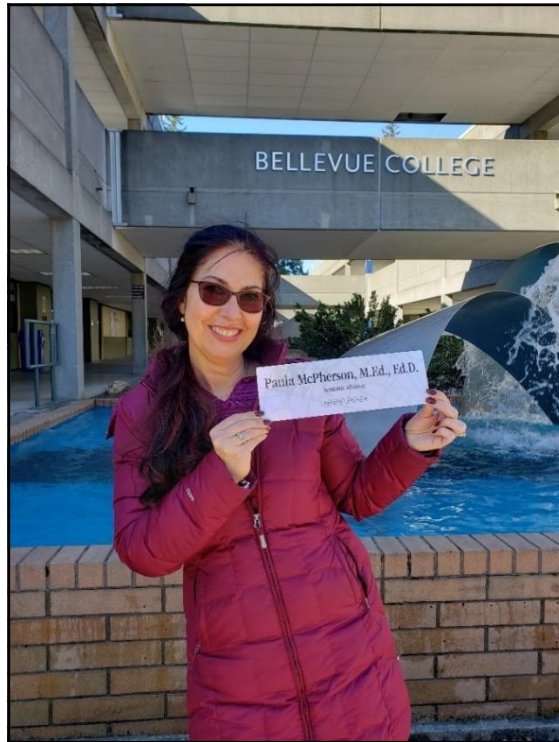


## REGION B



## BELLEVUE COLLEGE

### McPherson earns Doctorate degree



One of the Division's Academic Advisors, Paula McPherson, earned her Doctor of Education (Ed.D) degree from Concordia University in Portland, Ore. on Feb. 21 with a concentration in Higher Education Management. McPherson primarily advises Business Admin. Transfer students.

McPherson has been working on her degree during her free time at nights and on the weekends for the last 4 1/2 years but feels grateful to have completed the degree.

Originally from Brazil, McPherson came from

humble beginnings. Her parents told her to use education as a way to a better life. With hard work and a lot of studying, she received scholarships and now has a B.A., M.Ed., and Ed.D. with a 3.81 GPA.

One of the most challenging aspects was being an ELL student. This barrier was difficult with the formal academic papers and English requirements. While graduate school at University of Washington was tough, this program was tougher for McPherson.

McPherson's passion is working with students, specifically underrepresented student populations. As an Academic Advisor, she wanted to know why so many of her students were on academic probation. Specifically, she wanted to look at Latino/Hispanic college students experiencing academic probation. Her dissertation being published this month is called "Understanding the Experiences of Latino College Students on Academic Probation." Spanning 207 pages, McPherson performed a case study of nine students who struggled in starting college but found strategies to get back on track. McPherson's research should be helpful to anyone who works with students to better understand student needs. Specifically, she found the first and second quarter of students' college careers are most likely to result in academic probation or a total drop-out.

According to McPherson, "Academic Success depends on the interactions between institution and students, for Latino students building a relationship is essential for their degree achievement."

## BELLEVUE COLLEGE, *REGION B CONTINUED*

### **McPherson selected as commencement speaker**

One of our Division's Academic Advisors, Paula McPherson, received the prestigious honor of speaking on behalf of the entire School of Education at Concordia University-Portland's upcoming commencement ceremony.

McPherson stated it was especially meaningful for her as an immigrant and to represent women of color. Beginning as an ELL student at BC in 2007, she was able to learn a new culture, conquer numerous barriers, and earn a Ph.D. After receiving guidance from others, her passion is to guide and serve students here at Bellevue College, many of whom share a story not too dissimilar from her own.

Congratulation Paula on this honor!

### ***STTACC Mission***

### ***Statement***

*STTACC supports innovation, training and leadership by providing resources and connections to our classified staff members throughout Washington state.*



## REGION C



## EVERETT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Submitted by Hannah Lovett**

**EvCC Board of Trustees offers college presidency to Daria J. Willis**

*Taken from Press Release from April 29th, 2019*

Everett Community College's Board of Trustees voted unanimously tonight to offer the college presidency to Daria J. Willis. She has accepted, pending completion of contract negotiations.

The decision was made at a special board meeting Monday after a national search, a campus visit earlier this month with student, faculty, staff and community forums and an in-depth interview with the Board of Trustees.

Willis, Ph.D., is provost and senior vice president for academic affairs at Onondaga Community College in Syracuse, New York within the State University of New York system.

Originally from Atlanta, Georgia, Willis began her career as an adjunct faculty member teaching History at Tallahassee Community College. She relocated to Houston, Texas serving as an Assistant Professor of History, department chair, faculty senate president and executive dean of centers at the Lone Star College system with over 95,000 students. She also served as dean of Academic Studies in Baytown, Texas at Lee College.

Throughout her career, Willis has implemented programs focusing on transforming the lives of students, faculty, staff and community members, with special attention to providing access and equity to underserved and underrepresented populations. Programs such as Weekend College, Box of Books, and the adopt-a-school partnership with local elementary schools have engaged campus and community stakeholders for the benefit of students.

Willis is a 2018 recipient of the American Association for Women in Community Colleges' "40 Under 40" award. She was featured in the national publication of "Diverse Issues in Higher Education" magazine as a 2017 Cohort Fellow for the Thomas Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership.

She has also served in a variety of community organizations, most recently as the chair of the NAACP's education committee and a member of the Executive Leadership Team for the Syracuse Chapter of the American Heart Association's Go Red for Women campaign.

Willis earned a doctorate in history from Florida State University. She earned her bachelor's degree in history education and a master's degree in history from Florida A&M University.

Current EvCC president David Beyer announced in September that he plans to retire in June 2019 after 13 years leading the college. EvCC worked with the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Searches to conduct a national search. ACCT will continue to assist EvCC during the contracting process.

EvCC's next president will lead an institution that educates more than 19,000 students per year at several locations throughout Snohomish County, with most students at the college's main campus in Everett. In the past decade, EvCC has added more than \$150 million in new construction.



## EDMONDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE—REGION C, CONTINUED

### Submitted by Charly Eaton

Edmonds CC is excited to announce the State Board gave its final approval for us to offer our second BAS degree in Application Development (currently we offer a BAS in Child, Youth, and Family Services). The Board also gave its initial approval to move forward with the next phase of our third BAS degree in Advanced Materials and Manufacturing.

The Edmonds Community College's Marketing and Public Information office took home a Paragon award and a national Rising Star award at the recent annual National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) national conference in San Antonio, Texas. Edmonds CC earned a silver Paragon in the Brochure-Booklet category for its Student Resource Guide. Laura Daniali, communications specialist of Edmonds CC's marketing and public information office, was named NCMPR's 2019 National Rising Star.

Governor Jay Inslee visited our campus in March tweeting, "I met with students and faculty in the engineering technology program yesterday at @EdmondsCC. It was great to see career-connected learning in action and hear about their current projects. All WA students should have multiple pathways to quality education and career training."

We are also excited to see progress on our much anticipated 70,000 sq ft STEM building scheduled to open in 2020.



## REGION D



## BIG BEND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### Submitted by Barb Collins

Spring is in the air! Since December, training and professional development on campus continues. All campus participated in the February in-service to review analysis and evaluation of core theme objectives for the academic master plan. Departments also discussed planning and budget requests. During the lunch session, we all celebrated the hard work and success of the Ad Hoc Report to NWCCU.

We also started Steven R. Covey, "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People." A variety of faculty and college administrators have completed this training in the past, and now are facilitating workshops for all campus personnel.

This is an excellent training for classified staff, especially if you are considering a leadership role in the future. I am excited that the STTACC Board has agreed to support this training into the 2019 conference in August. Read some of the comments from the training so far at BBCC.

#### Habit #1-Be Proactive

"So many new changes happen and I lost focus on what makes me happiest at work, building and establishing relationships. I need to be proactive and step out of my private cubical and engage in what is happening around me."

#### Habit #2-Begin with the End in Mind

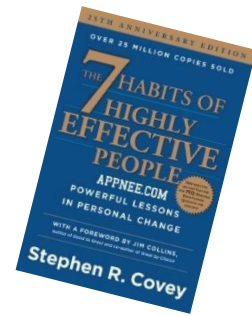
"Finding my personal center has helped determine how I make decisions, how I react, and how I am motivated in my personal and professional environment."

#### Habit #3-Paradigms of Interdependence

"The place to begin change is inside ourselves; with practice it can make a difference."

#### Habit #4-Think Win/Win

"This is a frame of mind; I don't need to be in control of every situation. Team members have much to contribute. As a leader, I must be a good listener."



Congratulations to Cassandra Fry for her new administrative exempt role as Financial Aid Advisor. In 2010, Cassandra enrolled in the Workfirst and Opportunity Grant programs to complete life skills and keyboarding. After the birth of her first child, she returned to BBCC the winter of 2011 to start her degree in Business Information Management (BIM), completing the winter of 2013. She became a part-time office technician in January 2014. BBCC hired her as a full-time classified staff program assistant in July 2014. In January 2017 she transitioned to the role of Veterans Administration Coordinator (Program Specialist II).

Cassandra served as a member at large on the classified staff STAR (Staff Training and Recognition) Committee since 2015, and became the Co-chair Lead in 2018. Her goal is to complete a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration with a minor in Accounting. Along with completing her degree, Cassandra and her husband are raising two daughters and purchased their first home in 2018.

## WALLA WALLA COMMUNITY COLLEGE-REGION D CONTINUED

### Submitted by Corinna Whitehurst

The WWCC Clarkston campus recognized Debbie Scharnhorst as employee of the year. Debbie's well-earned title is due to her hard work and dedication to assisting people on the Clarkston campus. Although she had at first planned to pursue a Nursing degree, she discovered her love for technology and began taking classes at WWCC. Debbie has been working at WWCC since 2004 in her current role as an Information Technology Specialist 2 in the Technology Services department. She is truly an inspiration to college staff, students, and her community.



Read full article published in the Lewiston Tribune at:

[https://lmtribune.com/business/co-workers-call-tech-specialist-an-inspiration/article\\_f801e880-b38e-5615-95f9-71126771c5b1.html](https://lmtribune.com/business/co-workers-call-tech-specialist-an-inspiration/article_f801e880-b38e-5615-95f9-71126771c5b1.html)

## WENATCHEE VALLEY COLLEGE

### Submitted by Amy Jo Smith

Here at Wenatchee Valley College we are excited to see green hills and warmer days! Looking forward to spring quarter and even planning some summer experiences!



Joan Pizzano will be retiring from Wenatchee Valley College as of June 1, 2019. Joan has worked in the Bookstore as a Retail Clerk Lead for 21 1/2 years! She brought to WVC fabulous customer service, caring, loving ways to all the students! Her plans are to travel with her husband to see family in Arizona, New Mexico and then back east to see family in Minnesota, Washington DC. They will visit most of the National Parks along the way!



Marilyn Brincat works in Allied Health as an Instructional and Classroom Support Tech 3. Marilyn plans on attending the WSSMA Medical Assistant Conference in May which will be held in Bellingham, WA. This conference is a three day conference covering many current healthcare topics and best practice in healthcare. This will provide her with several hours of continuing education that supports her role as Medical Assistant and her RN licensure for Allied Health Sim Lab.



Brent McGinnis works as our Electronic Media Production Lead and went to Denver, Co to the OLC Innovate 2019 conference. He participated in the Community College Summit that provided highlights of the innovative work being done across the country. A daily innovation studio focused on course design, as well as workshops focused on accessibility and equitable learning.



## COMMUNITY COLLEGES OF SPOKANE— REGION D CONTINUED

Submitted by **Carrie Kirby-Dietrich**



Spokane Falls Community College has completed their search for a new president. Dr. Kimberlee Messina will start June 2019.

“Dr. Messina has the qualifications, experience and proven reputation to lead SFCC,” Johnson said. “She is absolutely committed to the mission of community colleges and to our ability to open the doors to new opportunities for people seeking affordable high-quality education in our region.”

Dr. Messina is a first-generation college graduate and is a strong supporter of student success and equity. She has served the community college system in California for more than 27 years. Before working at Clovis, she served as the interim vice chancellor of educational services and planning for the San Mateo County Community College District. Messina has a bachelor’s degree in sociology, a master’s degree in Spanish and a

doctorate of education from UC Davis. She began her career as a tenured professor of Spanish and Dean of STEM at Santa Rosa Junior College.

“Spokane Falls Community College is a dynamic college with an outstanding faculty and staff, and strong partnerships with the community,” Messina said. “I am honored to be selected as the president of SFCC and am looking forward to continuing the positive momentum and energy of achieving SFCC’s mission and vision. On a personal note, my husband and I are excited to explore our new city and the beautiful surroundings of Spokane, and this move will bring us closer to family in Washington.”

### IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEXT STTACC CHAT, WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

- Submit an article about an informative conference you went to.
- Tell us about the types of training or classes you have participated in.
- Who is retiring? Who was just hired? Who received a promotion?
- Highlight a unique department or program on your campus.

STTACC welcomes the opportunity to share training workshops, classes, conferences attended, certifications obtained, and other professional development opportunities geared toward classified staff.

STTACC Chat is published quarterly. The Communication Coordinator, also acts as editor. If you see any errors or omissions, please contact [communicationcoordinator@sttacc.net](mailto:communicationcoordinator@sttacc.net).

## REGION E



## BATES TECHNICAL COLLEGE UPDATES

Submitted by Amelia Fortuno

### Professional Development Day

On March 20, the college closed to the public to allow employees to participate in Professional Development Day. They spent the morning learning about the importance of accreditation, and our accreditation visit. Dr. Pam Goad, Senior Vice President of NWCCU (Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities), gave an overview on accreditation and what we could expect. We then looked back at our accreditation history from the past seven years, celebrated last year's accomplishments relating to our core themes, and reviewed a draft of our strategic plan.

The afternoon was divided into breakout sessions. There were three tracks to choose from. Track 1 was composed of two short-sessions. Ha T. Nguyen, Policy Associate, Basic Education for Adults WSBCTC, did a session called "Who Me? That Couldn't Be!" Equity in Higher Ed. In it, participants developed an "equity lens" through self-reflection and critical dialogue to examine practices, policies, and programming. The goal is to help close the state's educational equity gap within the state's Guided Pathways initiative. The second session with Laurie Lynch, Rainbow Center Education Coordinator, was LGBTQ Sensitivity, which introduced current laws, terminology, and how to be an ally to the LGBTQ community.

Tracks 2 and 3 were long sessions from representatives of the Washington Education Association. Jessica Upton, did a session called Micro Aggression: Gender Bias. It analyzed why gender bias includes a wide spectrum of conduct and can marginalize women in hiring, promotion assignments, and the working environment. The other track was Navigating Difficult Conversations in Higher Education team taught by Rina Paul and Kandis West. Participants discovered their conflict management style and learned strategies to communicate effectively through challenging moments whether dealing with parents, educators, or administration.

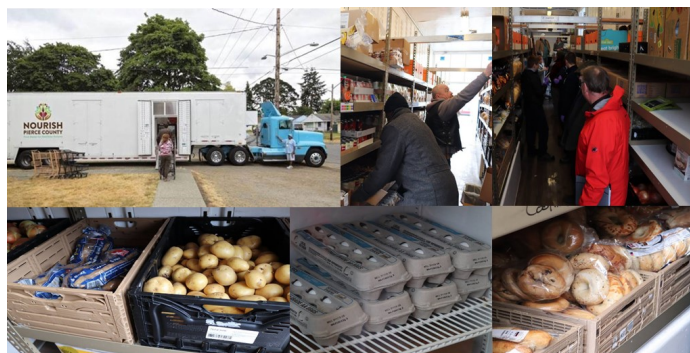
### Bates Partners with Nourish Pierce County Mobile Food Bank



On February 14, Bates celebrated its partnership with Nourish Pierce County, which brings free access to perishable and non-perishable food to students, staff, faculty, neighbors and the greater community. For those not familiar with the program, a large semi-

truck comes weekly carrying fresh fruit and vegetables, frozen meats, canned goods, and more. New clients provide basic information (i.e. name, birthdate, current address) for them and those in their household for tracking purposes. While clients will be asked to show identification, those who do not have any identification will still be served. Clients are able to visit any Nourish Pierce County Mobile Food Bank once a week and are encouraged to bring their own bags, if possible.

This partnership also provides the Bates community an opportunity to dedicate their time to a wonderful cause. Volunteers help with preparing the truck for visitors, stocking the shelves, and assisting clients putting the food into their vehicle. To learn more about Nourish Pierce County and the mobile food bank, please visit [nourishpc.org](http://nourishpc.org).



## GREEN RIVER COLLEGE—REGION E CONTINUED

Submitted by Judy Brendan



**We made it thru the SNOW!** Green River's Campus' were closed for several days this winter due to the snow. Thanks to the outstanding efforts of our facilities/grounds crew and the Emergency Operations Committee the campus was successfully restored and classes resumed and all is well, back to normal and we are all so excited about spring finally arriving!

### **New Green River Classified Staff**

Deborah Diggins - Program Manager A – Waterworks Professional Growth

Melissa Garland – Retail Clerk Lead – PaperTree Bookstore

Joshua Little - Program Coordinator – Assessment and Testing

Jessica Perez – Program Specialist 2 – Financial Aid

Shawn Warner – Program Coordinator – Financial Aid

## GREEN RIVER COLLEGE—REGION E CONTINUED

### From our Classified In-Service day workshop in February

Our speaker for the day was Erin Jones. We had a good turnout of around 60-70 classified staff for her morning and afternoon workshops.

Erin Jones is an independent education and systems consultant. She has been involved in and around schools for the past 26 years. She has taught in a variety of environments, from predominantly Black to predominantly White to some of the most diverse communities in the nation. Erin received an award as the Most Innovative Foreign Language Teacher in 2007, while working at Stewart Middle School in Tacoma and was the Washington State Milken Educator of the Year in 2008, while teaching at Rogers High School in Spokane. She received recognition at the White House in March of 2013 as a “Champion of Change” and was Washington State PTA’s “Outstanding Educator” in 2015.

After serving as a classroom teacher and instructional coach, Erin worked as an executive for two State Superintendents. Erin left the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction 5 years ago to work in college-access at the school district level. She left her job to run as a candidate for State Superintendent and was the first Black woman to run for any state office in Washington state, a race she lost by a mere 1%. Erin has given several TED Talks which can be found on YouTube.

Erin Jones is widely known for her culturally-responsive practices. Her message was about “your power and what you are doing and why what you are doing is so important.” She talked about organizing a major event while attending high school in The Netherlands and moved on to her topic Living On Purpose – addressing everyone as “world-changers.” She also spoke about her campaign for state superintendent: “Losing is an incredible gift ... I’ve lost a lot in my life ... Embrace the losing.”

Being a world-changer, she said, involves three key points:

\*Having clear purpose and dreams (“dream a dream that’s bigger than you”)

\*Investing in self and others

\*Committing to act with courageous love (“are you willing to stand in the gap for people who don’t have a voice?”)

She shared a few highlights of her great life – which started at a hospital where she was left by her white mother, with no knowledge of her black father, adopted by a white family, not all of whom accepted her. She told personal stories of her life, from that point on – as an athlete, a mom, an educator – that evoked laughter and tears. “You have opportunities in your life to hate or to love,” she advised, urging all to choose love. Another message: “You get to be world-changers right now. ... Find something to believe in. ... Don’t be average.”

Erin Jones was a very enjoyable, thought-provoking speaker that connected well and gave us all things to think about. We would recommend her as a speaker.



## GREEN RIVER COLLEGE—REGION E CONTINUED

**Green River GatorCast Continues!** Green River's President Johnson is continuing on with her GatorCast Podcasts and offers in-depth discussions with a variety of people and departments on the Green River Campus. Check it out!

<https://www.greenriver.edu/gator-news/articles/gatorcast-ep-7-why-wait-to-make-your-voice-heard---an-interview-with-asgrc-representatives>

**Looking forward to the summertime** - Summer hours to start July 8

Green River College will transition to summer operating hours beginning July 8. The general hours of business operations will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, with the campus closed to the public on Fridays.

More info in the next STTACC Chat!

Enjoy a wonderful Spring!

### *BE A GUEST WRITER!*

Do you like to write? Do you have a special skill or experience that would benefit other Classified Staff ? Or know someone else you does? We are looking for guest writers to write for the STTACC website and STTACC Chat.

## STTACC EXEMPLARY AWARDS NOMINATIONS ARE COMING SOON!

**STTACC Exemplary Staff Awards** have been established to provide annual recognition of Community and Technical College Classified Staff, and these distinguished awards will serve as an accolade to recognize one of the most critical attributes to a successful institution.

Nominees for the STTACC Exemplary Staff Award should have consistently demonstrated commitment and excellence in job performance and dedication to the mission and goals of their institution, as well as dedication to the professional development of the classified staff on their campus. Request for nominations will be distributed to STTACC member institutions and will be posted on the STTACC web site.

Award recipients will be selected without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital or veteran status, the presence on a non-job related medical condition or disability, or any other legally protected status.

Award recipients will be honored at the Annual STTACC Conference Awards Banquet and will have their conference registration fee covered.

### **Nomination Process**

Each nomination will be scored on a points based system (out of 100 points). In the event that a person is nominated more than once, the highest score will be accepted of his or her nominations.

There will be one award recipient per region. The winners will be announced at the awards banquet during the annual conference, hosted this year by Pierce College – Fort Steilacoom.

- 1) How does your nominee go above and beyond their job duties? (30 points)
- 2) How does your nominee foster positive work relationships within the college community? (30 points)
- 3) How does your nominee contribute to professional development at his or her college/institution? (30 points)
- 4) What other information do you feel we need to know about your nominee? (10 points)

### **Eligibility Requirements**

Nominees must be permanent, classified employees within the Washington State Community and Technical College system. The nominee must be employed by a paid member institution of the STTACC organization.

### **Selection Process**

One award recipient will be selected from each of the five regions within the STTACC organization. The STTACC board will determine award recipients. Selection will occur and award recipients will be notified with adequate time to register for the conference and make travel arrangements.

**LOOK FOR NOMINATION INFORMATION ON THE STTACC WEBSITE BY MAY 15TH!**

