



STTACC CHAT

SUMMER 2018

Letter from the President

Summer has arrived and what beautiful weather it has been! Although, being from Grays Harbor I kind of miss our cooler weather. ☺ If you have not yet registered for the 2018 Annual Conference hosted by Wenatchee Valley College, it's not too late. Go to the STTACC website at sttacc.net and get registered. There were many great nominations from every Region for this year's STTACC Exemplary Award. I can't wait to announce the winners at the Conference.



Please help us celebrate STTACC's 40th Anniversary! If you have any past photos' please send them to the STTACC Webmaster at webmaster@sttacc.net. Also, if you have any old memorabilia items we would like to display then at this year's conference. Each conference attendee will receive a special item during the Regional Meetings.

Do you have strong leadership skills or are looking to strengthen your skillset? Please consider applying for a position on the STTACC Committee. Open committee positions are President Elect, Secretary, Webmaster, Communication Coordinator or Region Coordinators (A, B, C, D, & E).

We are also looking for a college willing to host the 2019 STTACC Conference! Please contact me at president@sttacc.net to find out what is involved in hosting a conference. The STTACC Committee is also willing to help Co-host a conference with a college.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing at the conference!

Sincerely,

[Paula Boerner](http://PaulaBoerner.com)

STTACC President

Grays Harbor College

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President Elect Update– [Micki Wells](#), Green River College



Look forward to hearing news from Micki in the Fall edition of STTACC Chat.

Secretary Update– [Cindy Cannella](#), Pierce College



The STTACC conference is right around the corner. A major component of the conference is electing the board for the next year. If you are looking for a professional development opportunity involving leadership, consider running for one of the available positions. STTACC has been a wonderful leadership building opportunity for me. At the 2004 conference I was encouraged to run for the Region E coordinator, and I remember being terrified, wondering if I could do it. Looking back, of course I could, and so can you! Don't let fear stop you. We are here to support you in your journey, plus it looks great on a resume. To the person who encouraged me, I'm so glad you did.

Treasurer Update– [Marjie Stratton](#), Grays Harbor College



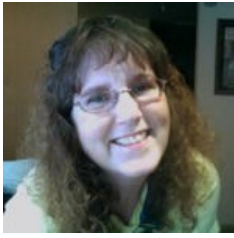
It won't be long until the STTACC Board presents the voting members with a new budget proposal for the 2018-19 fiscal year at the annual STTACC Conference. Unlike our community college, the fiscal year for STTACC ends September 30th. This works well for planning as we can include most of the revenue & expenses from our conference in our planning. It is my goal to provide the most recently approved Treasurer's report in each edition of the STTACC Chat. Keep in mind that the Board meets quarterly so there is some delay in information getting reported in this format. If your college ever has any questions or concerns about what your membership dues are providing, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Past President Update– [Kristine Horndt](#), Everett Community College



Look forward to hearing news from Kristine in the Fall edition of STTACC Chat.

Conference Coordinator Update– [Wendy Glen](#), Wenatchee Valley College



We are at full throttle at Wenatchee Valley College preparing for the 2018 STTACC Conference, 40th Anniversary Edition! We have a great team planning this, and they have been a tremendous amount of help for me! I just coordinate away, and they get it done. We have 15 different workshops to choose from, (you only get to choose 4!) ranging from Professional Development to Personal Enrichment. Our keynote speaker is Sharon Lacey (sharonlaceycomedy.com) and she is a great motivational speaker/humorist. You can learn more about the conference on the STTACC website. Please join us on August 16th and 17th for the Conference, and Take a Walk on the Wild Side of the State!

Communication Coordinator Update– [Hannah Lovett](#), Everett Community College



My name is Hannah and I am taking over as Communication Coordinator as Shelly is starting a new adventure in California. I will miss her greatly but I am glad she introduced me to STTACC. If you would like to read more about me, check out my bio on the STTACC website. I am still learning the ropes of being Communication Coordinator, but one of Will and I's goals, is to recruit more guest writers for our website and STTACC Chat to provide helpful professional development content for you! If you are interested in writing for us or know someone who is, please email me at communicationcoordinator@sttacc.net.

Webmaster Update– [William Frankhouser](#), Everett Community College



We are gearing up for the 2018 Conference August 16-17, 2018 at Wenatchee Valley College. Please make sure to visit the [2018 Conference](#) page to view the preliminary Workshops and Agenda Schedule. This year we moved our 2018 Exemplary Staff Award Nomination Form to our website and we saw very good turn out in submissions. We have also seen a slight increase in viewers and followers on our social media too. Please make sure to share STTACC with your classified employees.

Follow STTACC On:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)

Looking forward to seeing you all in August in Wenatchee!

Region B Coordinator Update– [Nancy Harris](#), Seattle Central College



Well it has been a very busy year. During spring quarter our Dental Hygiene program has three cohorts for total of 60 students. One group getting ready to graduate and start working as Dental Hygienists. One group moving from the junior class to the senior class. One group just begging to learn how to take vital signs and all about the head and neck anatomy, human pathophysiology, as well as HIPPA, OSHA and other requirements and laws.

I have been a little stressed due to a change in my supervisor, and my daughter (bridezilla) getting married. Hopefully life will start balancing out again now that the wedding is over and bridezilla has turned back into my beautiful daughter. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the 2018 STTACC Conference in Wenatchee WA.



Region A Coordinator Update– [Barb Crowell](#), Grays Harbor College



Continue reading to see news from Region A!

Region C Coordinator Update– [Amy Erickson](#), Skagit Valley College



Continue reading to see news from Region C!

Region D Coordinator Update– [Barbara Collins](#), Big Bend Community College



Continue reading to see news from Region D!

Region E Coordinator Update– [Amelia Fortuno](#), Bates Technical College



Continue reading to see news from Region E!



Take a Walk on the Wild Side!
Wenatchee Valley College



Have you registered?

The Take a Walk in the Wild Side Annual STTACC Conference will be held at Wenatchee Valley College on August 16 through the 17th.

The Registration cutoff is coming up on August 3rd!

The cost is \$125 for early bird, \$150 after July 6th, and \$150 for non-STTACC-member colleges. Price includes lunches, conference attendance, refreshments, workshops and Thursday night buffet banquet.

You can register on the STTACC website at <http://www.sttacc.net/conference/2018-conference/>

Come experience keynote speaker **Sharon Lacey**, a motivational humorist and author of, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to Dementia."

Hotel Information

We have blocked out rooms at the **Wenatchee Coast Hotel** and **Best Western Chieftain Inn** at the government rate. Both are excellent choices; the Chieftain offers a full breakfast, whereas the Coast Hotel is right across the street from the Thursday night banquet venue.

40th Anniversary Facts

- 1978**– STTACC began with an intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) grant stipulated that a classified developmental advisory board be developed, A task force (tentatively called the Classified Development Network) was established to set up the organization structure.
- 1979** –The first "general" conference was held (at Big Bend Community College). The constitution and bylaws were developed and the first nominations for officers were accepted.
- 1980** – The organization adopted the name Washington State Community College Classified Staff Development and Training Association (WSCCSD&TA).
- 1983** – The organization officially changed its name to Staff Training for Technical and Community Colleges (STTACC).



Take a Walk on the Wild Side!
Wenatchee Valley College



Workshop Offerings: (Subject to Change):

Pacific Crest Trail - Richard Brinkman

Pacific Crest Trail is 2650 mile footpath that runs from Mexico to Canada and passes four national monuments, six national parks, five state parks, 25 national forests and 48 federal wilderness areas. Our Sociology Instructor, Richard Brinkman hiked the PCT from April through September 2015. He studied the long-distance hiking subculture as a participant observer and conducted interviews with fellow thru-hikers along the length of the trail. His journey took 150 days. Come learn what it takes to hike 2650 miles and how he survived. If interested in doing this yourself, he is a wealth of information!

True Colors - Laura Singletary

In this workshop, you will take an assessment to identify your primary personality/leadership traits. From there, we will learn about the four main styles and the strengths/challenges of each. Having a deeper understanding of your style and the style of others will allow you to have better communication and working relationships with others. Come prepared to learn and engage in this fun and interactive workshop!

Know Your Worth – Jennifer Cawdery

Value (noun): 1. having worth or importance 2. something intrinsically valuable or desirable. Intrinsically meaning “essentially or naturally.” Your values are the internal ideals that are essential to your worth. By learning to identify your core values, you can begin to make value-based decisions that assert your worth and inspire you to live with intention. Jennifer will walk you through a series of practical steps to identify and apply your values in all aspects of your professional and personal life.

ctcLink Project Update - Andrew Tudor

The State Board’s migration from legacy administrative software to PeopleSoft is a large, enormously complex project that got off to a rocky start. We have new project staff in place, an excellent project governance structure, and a great team of college project managers collaborating to make the project succeed. Come find out the project’s current status, how the new implementation process will work, some of the key differences between PeopleSoft and the legacy system, and where you can get more information.

Security, Safety and Emergency Management – Maria Agnew

Maria is retired law enforcement and has surprises around every corner. She will be discussing Workplace safety in an interactive format, addressing your personal concerns. Topics may include how to recognize and report a suspicious person/situation. What determines a threat and what are my next steps for my personal safety as well as my work environment? Bring your questions and concerns and let’s talk about a plan and taking action

Presented by Sompheng Batch

Bachelors Programs at WVC: BAS and BSN Come learn about our bachelors programs! The first ones offered at Wenatchee Valley College! Dr. Sai Ramaswamy will present on the Bachelor of Applied Science in Industrial and Agricultural Technology. Dr. Kristen Hosey will discuss the Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN) program.

Campus Sustainability Tour

Come join us on a walking tour of Wenatchee Valley College campus with Facilities and Operations Director, Rich Peters and Sustainability instructor, Joan Qazi. Learn how you can assess how sustainable your campus operations are and how you might improve sustainability. This tour is intended especially for facilities staff, but is open to anyone interested in learning more about energy efficiency, water conservation, and waste diversion.

Chair Yoga - Susan Blair

Don't have time for full yoga session and your back, legs, neck are bothering you at work? Come learn some chair yoga that you can do on your chair at work.

Diversity - Erin Tofte

Understanding Diversity at Community and Technical Colleges – This session will help participants explore their own identities and biases through self-reflection and discussion. The session will also go over diversity, equity and inclusion terminology and how to use it effectively and clearly. Lastly, participants will discuss ways to make their work environments welcoming and inclusive for all students, staff and faculty. Provided by: Erin Tofte-Nordvik, J.D. Wenatchee Valley College Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

New and Notable Apps for Mobile Computing - Wendy Glenn Come learn about some new and notable apps for that computer in your pocket/purse! Learn about productivity apps and apps that just make life more interesting! Please bring along your suggestions of apps that you use and enjoy that make your life easier; we will share ideas! Office 2016 Tools & Tips for Documentation & Formatting Come learn how to best utilize standard Microsoft Office 2016 features and functions to prepare documents that are functional, accessible, and well-formatted for a variety of purposes. Discover some useful formatting and documentation tips that will save you preparation time and effort.

Building Your Network and Community Partnerships – Jessi Mendoza

Numerica Credit Union Jessi gives practical insights on how to better connect with the community in order to build lasting authentic relationships that expand your network in order to open the doors to unique opportunities. He shares his personal experience on how he was able to build his network with authenticity as a first generation immigrant starting out with no network. He delivers powerful ways to better communicate and engage with those key influencers who you want on your side. Bountiful Gardening in Small Spaces – Jan Clark, Wenatchee Valley College Learn how to best utilize small spaces for growing edibles and ornamentals in a variety of containers and alternative scenarios to the traditional “garden plot”. You don't have to choose between beauty and function – you can have your tomatoes and flowers too! As a long time gardener who specializes in herbs and edibles, I have enjoyed participating in the Master Gardener program since 2008.

Intro to Kayaking on the Columbia! Currently full

Winners of the Memorial Scholarship Opportunity Drawing

Congratulations to winners of a free registration to the 2018 STTACC Conference. Winners were randomly drawn at the Spring STTACC board meeting. Thank you to all who applied!

Region A:

- Kinda Sprague, Centralia College
- Renaei Z'berg, Centralia College

Region C:

- Alyssa Jones, Bellingham Technical College
- Leah Thies, Whatcom Community College

Region B:

- Evelyn Kasama, Bellevue College
- Juan Esparza, Bellevue College

Region D:

- Jackson Vance, Walla Walla Community College
- Anna Gozales, Spokane Falls Community College

Region E:

- Amrit Gill, Green River College
- Richard Lanhorn, Tacoma Community College

Grays Harbor College

Submitted by Kristi Daniels

Quarterly Staff Winner



Elissa Anderson was our most recent quarterly staff winner. She has worked here for years, many of which she spent training staff and student-employees, and helping students earning their education as a part-time employee. Her nominations indicated her hard work and dedication got her into a full-time position where she continues to serve above and beyond to staff, faculty and students at GHC, never hesitating to jump in and help when she sees someone struggling. She recognizes the importance of accessibility to our students and helps them by guiding their steps in many walks of life.

This year Elisa has joined the Leadership Development Program and has taken charge on much of the group projects, served as support to various departments, developed an outgoing, and more professional attitude and work ethic, while still maintaining her workload and 'duties as assigned' to near-perfection. I would like to recommend Elisa for this nomination, as I am constantly drawn to her new and improved positive, influential work ethic and attitude toward her public service. Thanks Elissa for all you do!

Food Pantry

Food insecurity is a growing issue on college campuses across the US and at GHC. For the past four years, GHC had a program called Food for Thought that has been there to help fill a void while students are on campus. However, that need extends beyond when our students are on campus.

During the last school year student government worked with the college foundation and Coastal Harvest <http://coastalharvest.us/> to provide a long-term solution for food insecurity on campus. Through this collaboration the Harbor Landing Food Pantry evolved: <https://www.ghc.edu/news/harbor-landing-foodpantry>. The pantry was open once a week for students to start but the long term plan is to operate more frequently starting in the fall. Harbor Landing is designed to bring in nutritionally adequate foods that will sustain students so they can focus on their education and not where their next meal will come from.



Donations are tax deductible and can be made to the food pantry held by the GHC Foundation either in person, online or via payroll deduction. Contact GHC Foundation <https://www.ghc.edu/foundation/contact-us> if you're interested in donating! Tangible goods can also be accepted. Their top 5 items they are looking for are peanut butter, canned protein, canned fruits or vegetables, brown rice, and

Staff Breakaway Day: All Aboard!

We are planning a road trip for our Staff Breakaway Day. We thought it would be fun to stop by our satellite campuses. Did you know we have 3 campuses total? <https://www.ghc.edu/contact>

We plan to stop down to our Raymond & Ilwaco campus, see their facility, and pick up other classified staff from GHC and have them join us for the day!

We will then continue on to the Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center & Cape Disappointment for a picnic lunch!

We thought it would be a great opportunity that many wouldn't want to miss as we're ordering sun and great company! Of course everyone needs supervisor approval and seats are limited but we're hoping all those that want to come are able to!



Graduation!

We tried our graduation at a different location this year!

Students were very pleased and thankful that we moved it to a location where they were not limited in the number of family and friends they can invite, rain or shine (which there were a few sprinkles and questionable at one point), we know the move was a good one and seating was not limited! HURRAY!

Our 1st Cohort Year of Bachelor Students Graduated!

Among the many that graduated we had 10 graduates in our first class with their BASOM (Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Management) degrees! Many of them were the first in their family to graduate with a Bachelor degree!

According to Lucas Rucks, Dean for Workforce Education, their next cohort has 18 students admitted for the beginning this fall 2018 and then a new cohort will begin every fall with 14-22 students (competitive-selection process).

Lucas thinks this is going to be a great group of students to work with. This next cohort brings students looking to advance their project management, political, supply chain & logistics, human resources, construction management, auto, insurance, health care management, non-profit, and public relations careers. He said he's so excited about their diverse backgrounds and career experiences and he's really looking forward to the leadership development discussions and applied learning, beginning this Fall, and then watching their careers take off as they contribute to the community.



Grays Harbor College Continued...

History in the Making

It's time to make way for the new! The tearing down of the 800 building has begun. We are making way for the new "HUB".

The new reference is the: **SSIB**: This is the working acronym for the replacement to our HUB building. **SSIB** (Student Services & Instructional Building) is in the design stage, and if all goes well the design should be completed in June 2019. Construction will be a 2-year project, and the schedule depends on funding from our state legislature. Construction will run from July 2019-June 2021, July 2020-June 2022, or July 2021-June 2023. At the moment, we know the SSIB will be built on top of 200/300, it will be 3 stories high, and it will house all of Student Services (with the exception of Trio, they are staying with LSS in 1500), Charlies, the Bookstore, a culinary arts program, the business office, and a large conference center supported by culinary arts. (Info from Keith Penner-Chief of Campus Operations).



Speaking of History...

From Laurie Chesterman

"I had an older gentleman stop by today looking for the family of John Smith who used to be the "Registrar" back in 1976. He said in 1976 he graduated with his Associate in Science, moved to Olympia and found work in a local Mill. He came home from work one day and found a package from Dr. Smith on his door step. In the package was a briefcase and a note that said "I thought you might need this when you go to a four year." This touched him so much that he applied and went on to graduate from a University. He was looking for Dr. Smith's family to let them know what an impression he had made on him and to say thank you."

"There's no point to living life unless you make history and the best way to make history is to help others" ~
Demi Lovato

Lower Columbia College

Submitted by Jenny Smith

Our WorkForce program at Lower Columbia College has been quite active in the training and delivery of the Bridges Out of Poverty information. They have been presenting this topic on campus, in various parts of the state, and encouraging students to participate in training as well. The results have been eye-opening and engaging.

Student Services are being trained in poverty awareness including the identification of resources, the impact of being under-resourced, causes of poverty, and the hidden rules of economic class. The information below highlights a small portion of the training that we have been receiving.

Resources, contrary to some belief systems, are not *only money*. *Resources include all of the following: Knowledge of hidden rules, mental/cognitive, emotional, motivational/persistence, integrity/trust, physical, spiritual, language, relationships/role models, and support systems. When you ponder on the lack of any of these resources, money becomes an obvious fraction of the equation.*

Causes of Poverty are also diverse, and compounded, can be debilitating:

- They can be individual; for example, disabilities, personal addiction, or dependence on someone who is abusive.
- They can be social; for example, there may be few living wage jobs in the area, or a lack of training/educational resources.
- Exploitation is often targeted at those who have little; for example, drug trade, discrimination, payday lenders, or sex trade operations.
- Even economic/political structures can impact poverty; for example job loss, the general decline of middle class, and immigration patterns.

Hidden class rules are the rules we operate by, without knowing how, why, or exactly what they might be. An example of hidden class rules follow:

- If a friend or relative needs a place to stay, they can stay here (generational poverty)
- Working overtime again and planning vacation (middle class)
- They seem nice enough, but they have no connections (wealth)
- Education is a waste of money (generational poverty)
- Tennis and dance lessons for the kids; prepare to chauffer (middle class)
- Almost no food is kept in the house, but can order food in 3 languages (wealth)
- Willing to fight with and for my property (family) frequently (generational poverty)
- Withdrew TV, computer, and other privileges from children as part of discipline (middle class)
- Insisted that our children be placed in private boarding schools at the age of 6 (wealth)

Retirement from Cascadia College

Hello STTACC,

I hope you are enjoying your summer so far. Well, I just want you to know that I officially retired on February 1st and so will certainly miss my colleagues and the annual conferences! During my tenure on the Board I progressed in my professional and personal life and I would like to thank each of you for all your support, guidance and assistance. I really enjoyed my role on the Board as Region Coordinator B and the many opportunities I had to meet staff from the various colleges—I will definitely miss that piece. I am still at Cascadia working part-time (Tuesday and Wednesday) and that keeps me in the loop as to what is happening with STTACC. But for now, I will enjoy being an alumni of STTACC and hoping to attend the conferences as schedule permits.

The friendships and associations I made while being a part of STTACC will remain forever. I wish you all a very bright future. Keep up the good work...you are making a difference! It will be a pleasure to be in touch so my personal email is hear4893@hotmail.com -- please stay connected! Hopefully our paths will cross again.

~Marion Heard



CDAC

Submitted by Nancy Harris-berg

The Classified Development Advisory Committee needs your involvement to advocate for staff development. Please read on...

What is CDAC?

The Classified Development Advisory Committee is a staff driven opportunity to create community and development opportunities for staff at Seattle Central College and Siegal Center. Each college in the district has a CDAC. And there's a budget to make things happen.

What does CDAC do?

CDAC reviews and approves mini-grant applications, plans an annual classified retreat and end-of-year celebration and training. CDAC also gathers experiences and information from staff to advocate for development opportunities for classified staff. This year the CDAC retreat is a district wide event at South on Veterans' Day. The retreat is a great chance to learn new things and meet with colleagues across the district. Stay tuned for more retreat information.

How do I apply for funds?

CDAC mini-grants of up to \$300 are available for staff training and classes. Download the simple [application form](#) to apply for funds.

How do I get involved?

Please consider joining CDAC to make sure it meets your needs and the needs of your colleagues. The committee currently needs members who can commit about 5 hours of CDAC work per month. The application requires supervisor acknowledgement.

To serve on CDAC: Complete the attached CDAC Leadership Application and email to employeedev.central@seattlecolleges.edu as soon as possible.

Questions? Please direct questions to Lynn Kanne (lynn.kanne@seattlecolleges.edu) until a new CDAC chair is in place.



Bellingham Technical College

Submitted by Alyssa Jones

Staff that have completed trainings:

- C-Anne Savage, Admissions Clerical Support, completed the Accessibility 101: The Basics of Inclusive Design 4 week (~25 hour) Canvas Course with Jess Thompson, SBCTC. This classes covered simple and quick steps to make materials accessible and taught accessibility concepts, practices, and inclusive design standards as well as the principles of Universal Design. I manage the Admissions and Assessment Center Webpages and all the digital content within and found the class very interesting and at the same time informative. I would recommend it to anyone that deals with public facing digital documentation.
- Maryn Gunning, Tutoring Center Manager, just attended the Spring Student Success Institute on May 8th at Clover Park Technical College in Lakewood Washington. This event focused on Guided Pathways – Essential Practices. The CCRC (Community College Research Center) shared their State-wide Scale of Adoption Assessment Results and Analysis of the self-assessment. Maryn states “I believe retention to be everyone’s business and all can share in the responsibility of keeping students enrolled and engaged. Great information was presented on this topic and I was able to network with other colleges about interventions they are using to help students academically. Had time to also ask others about which interventions are showing promising trends for better student success and lower attrition rates. Getting away from transactional encounters with students and moving toward relationship building with our students (and colleagues). I have not had many professional development opportunities in the 5 ½ years I’ve been here – so was very pleased to have this chance to meet with other colleges in Washington and network on best practices.”
- Alyssa Jones, Accessibility Resources Program Office Assistant, attended the annual spring Disability Support Services Council and Washington Association on Postsecondary Education and Disability on April 17-20 with colleagues from across the CTCs, public, and private two- and four-year higher education institutions.
- Rika Winqvist, Instructional Support for Nursing will be attending next week with Mary Curran the “4th Biennial NLN (National League for Nursing)/Boise State University Simulation Conference”. Below is the blurb from the website. The conference focus is professional development for faculty and staff using simulation in nursing education. “The National League for Nursing's Center for Innovation in Simulation and Technology and the School of Nursing at Boise State University are proud to co-sponsor the 4th Biennial NLN/Boise State University Simulation Conference. During this full two-day gathering at Boise State University, Thursday, May 17 – Saturday, May 19, participants will learn innovative strategies in designing and delivering simulations. From nurse educators in academia to health care practitioners in clinical settings, there will be something for everyone, conference organizers promise.

REGION D



Big Bend Community College

Submitted by Barbara Collins

Professional Development

During the annual End of the Year celebration, many classified staff were awarded for various honors. CarlaLouise Christian was the recipient of this year's Classified Staff Excellence Award. Other certificates were given to those staff members who attending numerous trainings throughout the year.



Two retirees received the Classified Staff Presidential Award

This award has seven criteria points and two 2017 retirees have been long-time employees at BBCC deserving of this award.

Margie Lane retired June 2017. She was a classified staff employee for 25 years in student services before moving to an Administrative Exempt role in the testing center in 2013. Randy Fish retired in March 2017. He was employed at BBCC for and was employed for 30 in the maintenance and operations department.



Congratulations to our classified staff graduates!

Tana graduated with an Associate in Arts and Science-DTA degree from Big Bend Community College.

Starr received her Master of Science in Management and Leadership degree from Western Governors University.

CaraLouise received her Master of Business Administration from Western Governors University.

Job well done!



CaraLouise Christian, Tana Richins, Starr Bernhardt

Community Colleges of Spokane

October 2017 marked the 50 year anniversary for Spokane Falls Community College. CCS is primary location for two college campuses, Spokane Falls (SFCC), and Spokane Community College (SCC) and several learning centers. Classified staff personnel totals 550 and all locations have exceptional employees to choose from when it comes to recognition and awards.



Each year classified staff who are qualified and motivated employees, and want to enhance their skills, have opportunity to apply for a scholarship award from the CCS Foundation. Recipients can use the award for professional development training, including taking college courses to complete a degree study. The following are award recipients this year.

1. Lena Finley, Instructional The at the Monroe Adult Education Center (AEC)
2. Candace Hopkins, Administrative Assistant III in the Corrections Education Department
3. Stacy Preder, Program Coordinator in Workforce Transitions
4. Molly Thorpe, Program Coordinator for Workforce and Worker Retraining

Outstanding classified staff awards go to:

1. Mary McDaniel, Program Coordinator-Proctor Testing SFCC Testing Center
2. Charles Robbins, Instructional Tech II, Felts Field Campus
3. Brenda Norman, Forms & Records Analyst 2 Marketing & Public Relations

We have an internal resource for staff training and development managed by the Human Resource office. Lynda.com is one of the resources and offers a variety of tutorials popular at CCS. The next classified staff training is on May 4.

Yakima Valley College

Submitted by Heather Newman

Employee of the Year

The Yakima Valley College Foundation is proud to honor Rebecca Cikauskas with the Darlene Koch Classified Employee of the Year Award. Rebecca is a Program Assistant for the Workforce Education Division's Nursing program.

Rebecca was born in Ephrata, Washington and lived in Ellensburg for a brief time before her family settled in Selah. She graduated from Selah High School in 1986 and enlisted in the United States Navy after graduation. In 1988, she was granted an honorable discharge to raise her family over the next several years.

In 2002, she decided to return to school and began taking courses at Yakima Valley College. She earned an associate of applied science degree in general information technology and an associate of applied science degree in network administration. In 2004, she was hired to work in YVC's Nursing program. Her various duties include class scheduling, technical support for the lab classes, equipment support, advising pre- and current nursing students, community outreach, club advising, and instructor support. She also serves as a liaison between instructors, students and community organizations that host YVC students for externships.

Rebecca is quoted to say; "I love the environment at the college," I felt like it was a place that I would be challenged at, and where I would be able to provide support to. I love how my position is always changing. It is never stagnant. There is always growth, whether it be within the program, the college or with students. The most rewarding aspect of working here is when you see the results for the students. When they've completed the program, and passed their boards, knowing that you've been there through it all with the students, to see their progress and finish is pretty special." Rebecca is a valuable resource for her colleagues. Cody Thompson stated, "Earlier this year, I was offered a position of Program Assistant at Yakima Valley College. As with any new position came trials and tribulations of learning the ins and outs of that role. The wonderful thing about being a Program Assistant in Workforce Education is that the position comes with a team of outstanding employees that are equipped to handle any challenge, and always willing to aid me along the way. Rebecca Cikauskas, with her vast knowledge of scheduling (my most difficult challenge to date by far), has been there for me through the learning process and continues to support me as questions arise even today." "Rebecca is the heart and soul of our program," stated Nursing Program Coordinator Rhonda Taylor. "Her dedication and attention to detail has served faculty and students in more ways than can be listed. Her contributions to the success of the nursing program far outweigh her job description. She goes above and beyond for each student and faculty member."

Rebecca lives in Selah with her fiancé Greg Sugden. She has four grown daughters, and a stepson. She also has two grandsons.



Wenatchee Valley College

Submitted by Amy Smith

STTACC conference 2018 is being held at Wenatchee Valley College August 16 & 17th! Register soon to get the early bird special price of \$125.00 after July 6th will be \$150.00.

What a fast spring quarter we have had! WVC had its **end of the year awards** on Tuesday, June 12th, and what a fun time was had by all! We had some new awards called the “Good Knight Award” that were silly and given a funny trophy. They were given to the following individuals:

- Lisa Koblenz for loaning a stapler to Derrick Sheffield for many course change forms.
- Maureen Bryant for always being able to fix a computer and being available.
- Larry Baker for always being available for ITV and computer issues.
- Nelson Martin for unlocking Rebecca’s door and keeper of the master key.

We also had drawings for parking passes, bookstore, café, and one large prize to the Sun Mountain Lodge!

The biggest prize for classified staff was the Alcoa Classified Staff Award, and it went to Angie Jaquish! She received \$1000.00! Angie works in financial aid and she is knowledgeable about all aspects of financial aid and has made it a point to keep up with the changing resources available to students. Angie does not let stress affect her position or helping students and parents. She is always willing to help. Angie has had some tough years but you couldn’t tell by her warm smile and peacefulness about her. She is dedicated to her work and her coworkers. Angie has participated in many financial aid and college goals and WVC events.



Retirements: We thank all of these retiree’s for their devotion and all they have done for WVC! We wish them happiness and joy with many relaxing days ahead of them. It is well deserved!

Roger Montanez. Roger has worked as a custodian 4 for 25 years here at WVC on our Omak campus! Roger is a dedicated worker who puts 100% into any job he is working on. He is a very key person in making sure the Omak campus looks its best. His attention to lawn care, snow removal, building condition, lighting, etc. is commendable. Roger is incapable of walking past a smudge, a leaf, a weed without immediately taking care of it.



Ann Tyrrell. Ann has worked as a program specialist 2 in registration for 22 years here at WVC. Ann’s dedication and commitment to WVC is greatly admired and above the call of duty. She took her work serious but also enjoyed a good laugh. Her knowledge and expertise will be sorely missed.



Ross Hay. Ross has worked as the information technologist specialist 3 for 22 years at WVC. Ross set up a lot of the technical infrastructure we use. Ross has the highest integrity, work ethic and reliability. He is very smart and always willing to share his knowledge with the rest of us. He came to work every day for all of us!

REGION E



Pierce College

Submitted by Cindy Cannella

Classified Staff In-Service

Pierce College held their Classified Staff in-service on April 26, 2018 at the Tacoma Yacht Club. We started the day with assigned seating. Although not thrilled at first, staff embraced it especially after the morning ice breaker where each table was tasked with finding 5 things in common. It was interesting to hear what those 5 things were table by table. Our keynote was Jake French of Jake French Inspires www.jakefrenchinspires.com. For those not familiar with Jake, it's amazing how he took a truly horrible situation that changed his life as he knew it forever and turned it into something positive. We then moved into sessions on Communication Styles and fitting Exercise into your day. During lunch we heard about Communities of Practice (CoP). During the first afternoon session, staff had a choice of attending Digital Self Defense- Protect Yourself and your Equipment from Threats presented by Curtis Thiel of Hard @Work Computers, LLC or Self-Care is not a selfish Act presented by Karen Harding, Faculty Emerita in Chemistry and facilitator for the Center for Courage and Renewal. During the second session, the choices were Budgeting Basics/Emergency Fund Boot Camp/Credit Score, Red Canoe Credit Union or The Art Form to Exceptional Feedback by Employee Assistance Program (EAP). 68 staff attended and a great day was had by all. Plus it was very relaxing watching the ferry boat come and go.

Service Learning Award

Becky Anderson, 2017 STTACC Region E Exemplary Award winner, was presented with the Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) Recognition Award on May 7, 2018 in the Legislative Building on the Capitol Campus. Becky was recently presented with an amazing opportunity to teach English in Seoul Korea. Although sad to see her leave Pierce, so happy for her to find an opportunity so close to her heart that she is so passionate about.



Pierce College Puyallup Names Its 5th President

Darrell L. Cain named the next president of Pierce College Puyallup. This ends a five-month search process conducted by a 14-member committee of faculty, classified staff, administrators, students, and community members.

Cain most recently served as vice chancellor for student affairs in Indianapolis at Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis. He has also served as vice president for academic affairs at Eastfield College in Dallas, Texas, and was dean for academic affairs at Atlanta Technical College. Cain has also taught part-time throughout his career, currently in the graduate school at University of Maryland University Center (UMUC) and has presented and authored numerous articles.

A first-generation college student, Cain attended Pasadena City College (a community college) and earned a bachelor's degree from Indiana University Bloomington and masters from Ball



Tacoma Community College

Submitted by Amelia Fortuno

Tacoma Community College staff are not just employees at the college, many of them have second jobs, talents, and skills that they use at home, for hobbies, or just because it's fun. To show that the classified staff at TCC are more than just their jobs, the Classified Staff Council, under the guidance of Jeanne Ernst-Williams, began to showcase one staff member a month at the Board of Trustees meeting. So far, we have found staff who are also photographers, writers, singers, store owners, and more. We plan to continue highlighting staff members in the coming year and remind everyone that classified staff have talents and skills beyond their jobs and that they offer so much more than many people might know.

To continue recognizing the talents of the TCC staff, the Classified Staff Council held their annual Breakaway at CI Shenanigans on May 31st with the theme "Hidden Treasures of TCC." The agenda included presentations on flint knapping, the TCC Archive, local geology, the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, and an introduction to the new college president. Other activities included a scavenger hunt along the waterfront, get to know your fellow co-worker bingo, and of course, good food and a great venue topped off a good day.

This coming year the Classified Staff Council will focus on bringing more professional development opportunities for staff while working in conjunction with the new president as he rolls out his plan for TCC.

Bates Technical College

Submitted by Amelia Fortuno

Bates Hires First Female President

Dr. Lin Zhou (pronounced L-ih-n J-oh) made history as becoming the first female president at Bates Technical College and the first female Chinese immigrant to serve as president at a public two-year college in Washington state.

Zhou and her husband, Jason, emigrated from Beijing, China in 1999. With already an associate degree in accounting from Renmin University of China, she enrolled in English as a Second Language at Lake Washington Institute of Technology. She later went on to earn her associate degree in computer science and network technology, and gained employment at LWIT as their dean of extended learning, and director of branch campus and continuing education.

Her interest in education motivated her to earn a master's degree in business administration from City University in Seattle. In 2013, while pursuing her Ph.D. in education, with an emphasis in community college leadership, from Oregon State University, she was hired at Bates. Initially hired as the dean of continuing education, apprenticeship and child studies, her leadership role evolved into dean of instruction, executive dean, then the vice president of institutional effectiveness and student success. In 2017, Dr. Zhou participated in the Harvard University's Institute of Educational Management program, administered by the university's Graduate School of Education.

A few of Zhou's priorities for the next two years include: accreditation, enrollment, updating policies and procedures, efficiency in work process, and accuracy of curriculum materials. Values that she holds important as president are being student-centered, communicating effectively, being transparent, caring for others, and leading by example.

Professional Development Training

In June, our counselor, Erin Hayden, did a session called LEARN™ Suicide Prevention for Higher Education Professionals. It was developed by the Forefront Suicide Prevention program through the University of Washington School of Social Work. The five simple and effective Forefront Suicide Prevention LEARN™ Steps empower individuals to help others move in the direction of hope, recovery, and survival.

In July, Michelle MacElvain, from our IT department, will be conducting a session called Organizing Your Time with Outlook Calendar. Participants will learn how to organize their day and coordinate meetings with co-workers. They will also utilize the other features of Outlook and how they integrate with its calendar. This session will be offered at two of our campuses.



Green River College

Summer Book Club – Green River is starting a Summer Book Club with weekly meetings to discuss the 2 books that have been chosen. They are *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* by Carol Dweck & *Whistling Vivaldi: How Stereotypes Affect Us and What We Can Do* by Claude Steele. Several staff and Faculty will be joining President Suzanne Johnson for discussion and dialogue on the books.

The New Vice President of Instruction, Rolita Ezeonu, officially joined Green River on July 2nd. Dr. Ezeonu has over twenty years of experience in higher education. Administratively, Dr. Ezeonu has most recently served as the Interim Vice President of Instruction at Highline College. Before assuming the role of interim Vice President of Instruction, Dr. Ezeonu served as Dean of Instruction for Transfer and Pre-College Education at Highline College for nine years. Prior to her administrative work, Dr. Ezeonu served as both an adjunct and tenured faculty member for eleven years in Communication Studies at Highline College. We are very glad to welcome Dr. Ezeonu to Green River College

Celebrating Student Success - Green River held their Commencement on Friday June 15th at the accesso ShoWare center in Kent. It was a wonderful celebration of achievement. This year was the largest commencement in GRC history (both in terms of attendees and students participating) with approximately 750 students participating and 4600 attendees. Green River honored all of the achievements of the graduates. For the first time, we had the Muckleshoot Canoe Family participate and provide a ceremonial blessing for the commencement proceedings. It was an outstanding successful evening.



Green River College continued...

Classified Staff Accomplishments! There was 3 classified staff who graduated with degrees that used classified funds to assist them in their accomplishments. Niki Nelson, Program Assistant in Information Technology received her Associates in Applied Science – Transfer, Information Technology - Network and Security. Ed Grube, Control Technician in Facilities received his Bachelors of Applied Science in IT, and Mary Butcher, Foundation for Success/High School Completion Plus Program Manager received her Bachelors of Applied Science in IT. Congratulations to those 3 and many others who have used the funds in the past to assist in getting their degrees!!

The Classified Staff and Development Committee at Green River helped pay for 47 classes and/or conferences, and 9 book requests. We had least 26 different employees served plus 92 classified staff members attended the re-launch of Classified In-Service Day. We are so pleased that our college supports professional development opportunities for classified staff!

Green River College summer hours – Green River College will be closed to the public on Fridays in the summer from July 9 to September 4th.

Enjoy your summer! That's all from Green River College

Olympic College

Submitted by Jeanne Gardner

Classified Connection sponsored by Classified Staff Development Committee

On May 04, 2018, Classified Staff Development Committee of Olympic College will be hosting the Annual Classified Connection full-day retreat at Island Lake Conference Center! The theme this year was *“May The Fourth Be With You” in reference to Star Wars. The day included a choice of three breakout sessions. We organized events for staff to breakout into smaller groups, each group doing a different networking project/game. We offered “Star Wars Thai Chi” which included Light Sabers and was led by Bethany Mauden, “Paint Along with Michelle”, taught by Michelle Van Berk-om, and a “Mindfulness Walk” led by Deb Montez. The breakout sessions were extremely successful and relaxing. Staff were given information and instruction on how each session would work.*

This May the Fourth Classified Connection we suggested they put their most creative foot forward with a Star Wars-themed costume contest – be it Alien, Wookie, Jawa, Ewok, Bounty Hunter, Human, Jedi or Sith. Staff embraced their creativity and the top 3 winners won awesome prizes. This was a great opportunity for team building and for networking. Staff spent time learning how to enjoy themselves and each other as well as learn new creative abilities and relaxation techniques, all of which can be applied in the workplace. The conference grounds served breakfast and lunch, and we presented staff with longevity awards, employee recognition awards, and door prizes.

A big THANK YOU goes out to all of OC's wonderful employees who came together and organized this event! This event held true to its promise of being a fun and uplifting event for all classified staff!

Andrea McCracken, CSDC Training Coordinator

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.

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. We are especially looking for articles about your STTACC Conference experience in the next edition. Email your submissions to your [Region Coordinator](#) by Friday, September 14th to be published in the Fall edition of STTACC Chat!

Want more?

Be sure to check out the [STTACC website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for regular updates.



Farewell and best wishes to Shelly Scanlan! Thank you for being an awesome Communications Coordinator. You will be missed.

STTACC Mission Statement

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