



SSTACC CHAT

WINTER 2020



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Welcoming Spring
Region Updates



LETTER FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

Spring is slowly and surely coming to us again in the Pacific Northwest! The days are getting longer and we are all getting a little more cheerful as it is brighter during the day. Even the rain is not as oppressive - it starts to be more of a greening up of the land and that brings hope to most of us.

We all talk about how wonderful and awesome our co-workers are, what a great job we have, what a wonderful job this specific department does for the students, how helpful everyone is, and what a great place your college is to work at. Just remember this; there may be a time when your life is filled with conflict. Suddenly, as you are working through many issues, you do realize that your co-workers and other people around you are not just 'employees,' but they are your family also. They are supportive, full of helpful thoughts, prayers, and well wishes. They love, listen, hug, talk, share words of wisdom, and similar experiences.

Remember to enjoy your family, and even your extended family, because they are there for you, and good for you!

Take time to stop and smell the flowers, learn to enjoy the process of what you do, and not just the outcome. It might surprise you as to how much you can learn from yourself.

It is time to put your thinking caps on and decide who you would like to nominate for this year's STTACC Exemplary Award 2020. There will be an email out in the not-to-distant future requesting nominations. There will be criteria to guide you in your decision. Choose wisely!

To all of you from all of us at STTACC - have a wonderful spring!

Micki Wells
STTACC Past President

REGION A UPDATES

Clark College

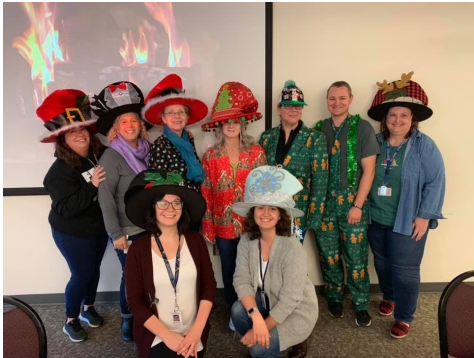
Submitted by Malissa Fife

Clark College is currently dealing with the after effects of the ctcLink launch. A ctcLink Stabilization Advisory Committee has been created to correct and establish processes with both technology and students.

On February 21st, the Board of Trustees announced Dr. Karin Edwards as Clark College's new president. Dr. Karin Edwards comes from nearby Portland Community College - Cascade Campus. She brings a wealth of experience, which includes 36 years of working in higher education.

Bryton Williams is the recipient of the 2019 Fall Quarter Classified Staff Excellence Award. Bryton is an Administrative Assistant 3 for Business & Health Sciences at Clark College WSU Vancouver Campus. Other nominees include:

- Brenda Schular (Purchasing)
 - Everett Yu (Facilities)
 - Peg Estes (Credential Evaluations)
 - Thao Schmidt (Human Resources)
 - Neil Fykerud (Transitional Studies)
 - Mitch Sott (Workforce, Professional, & Tech Ed)
- Information Technology team that includes Mike Silva, Rick Bartz, Brandon Johnson, and John Condit.



Student Affairs held their Annual Holiday Potluck, complete with a dessert competition. Pictured is part of the Enrollment Services team at the potluck.

On December 5th, Clark College Women's Choral Ensemble and Chorale performed at Vancouver First United Methodist Church.

Tibetan Buddhist Monks from South India visited Clark College to construct a Sand Mandala in the library from January 13-17.



REGION B UPDATES

Bellevue College

Submitted by Heather Rane & Tony Blanche



As part of Bellevue College, Tombolo Institute is a proud Northwest educator with a 50-year history of adult learning and inclusion. And, through strong relationships with top tech employers, we collaboratively design learning experiences that meet corporate demand.

Our rock star instructors have real world experience. Their tech industry day jobs enable them to deliver in-demand competencies that'll help you get to where you want to go. Our courses and custom on-site corporate learning solutions are geared for the

future, with a wide variety of offerings to keep professionals ahead of the curve. Tombolo Institute's stackable approach to education recognizes the need to build ever-evolving skills that will help you stay on track to compete for jobs that haven't even been invented yet.



Bellevue College Community Education will offer our courses in art & design, personal enrichment, world languages (including the T&I certificate), TELOS and teens.

Bellevue College has been awarded a four-year, \$1,970,027 grant from the National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education (NSF ATE) program. The grant project, titled Engaging Educators, Strengthening Practice, will design and facilitate workshops and virtual communities for community and technical college educators nationwide on how to create and sustain industry partnerships.





It was in the mid-1990s when Al Fenkner enrolled at Bellevue College (then-Bellevue Community College) and entered the Information Technology (IT) program. Before he even graduated, he was offered a job that would open the door to others in the IT field, and eventually land him in a role at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory via Columbus Technologies.



Bellevue College's Marketing and Communications team, part of Institutional Advancement, was recently recognized by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) for excellence in design and communication. NCMPR's annual Medallion Awards competition is exclusive to marketing and public relations professionals at two-year colleges.

The Title III grant will be used to improve retention, completion and transfer rates of all students while also closing achievement gaps experienced by underserved populations. As a member of Achieving

the Dream, a national network of community colleges seeking to improve student outcomes, BC developed an action plan that served as a foundation for the grant's work plan.

Lake Washington Technical Institute

Submitted by Cindy Chalmers

LWTech will host the 45th Legislative District Town Hall meeting for Representatives Roger Goodman, Larry Springer, and Senator Manka Dhingra. This a great learning experience, a great opportunity to hear about what's happening in the legislative sessions, hear concerns from community members, fellow LWTech employees, as well being able to ask our District representative's questions about the things in the legislative session that have an effect on our college and us as employees. If you are around on Saturday, February 22nd from 11 am to 1 pm I would encourage you to stop by W404 to hear what's going on first hand.

The E-board has been working with HR to have ongoing training opportunities in addition to the Classified In-Service/Training day that takes place late winter/early spring. We have come up with and agreed to start holding 1-hour training session on a quarterly basis. The training classes will vary each session and may include topics that the leadership team will be training on as well.

Seattle Colleges

Submitted by Nancy Harris

The Winter 2020 schedule for professional development opportunities through the UW's Professional & Organizational Development department is now available. Registration for these courses has already begun.

- Courses are held at the University of Washington, and course content and instructors are provided by the UW. Course attendees are primarily UW employees, however the course content and materials are applicable to employees of any organization.

- There is a fee (generally \$150 to \$240) for each course. HR Services will pay UW and register you for the class. We will then charge your department for the course fee and it will show up in the following month in the Sub Object "EG" of your budget.

- Once you are registered, you will be sent information on the course location – within the UW-Seattle campus.

- Please note that each course has a separate registration deadline.

- Cancellations must be received 7 days prior to the class date in order to receive a refund.

Sample Courses from the new catalog: Developing Assertiveness Skills, Thinking on Your Feet, Time Management, Working Across Generations, Writing Policies and Procedures

REGION D UPDATES

Big Bend Community College

Submitted by Barbara Collins



WVC is not the only campus with a demolition project. First floor of the WES building (Workforce Education Services) is the new home for classes in Automotive, Welding, Agriculture, Early Childhood Education, and Industrial Systems. As they settled in during fall and winter quarter, the hangar that was home for automotive was completely removed and construction began for the new building that will be BBCC's aviation maintenance technology program. As the college foundation continues to raise funding, a target date for completion is September 2020.

Since September, BBCC human resources filled the majority of open positions for classified staff, currently at 78. At the welcome back staff in-service, Dr. Leas and the Leadership Development Team presented a Campus Climate Plan that will include strategic workgroups and subcommittees. Core themes for each of these workgroups include communication, accountability, and community, with mandatory training throughout 2019-2020 as a part of this plan. In December, we started with a Michael Nash training, two others are sessions scheduled for winter and spring quarter. Other short trainings for January; *GenSpeak: Communicating Across Generations at Work*, *Resolving Performance Issues*, *Managing in a Union Environment*, and *Time Well Spent: Time/Labor Report*. Another event for engaging employees is a scheduled monthly celebration for birthday and longevity recognition.

Campus personnel are generous when a call for help is sent and many continue to support the Viking Food Pantry that helps all BBCC students. During November and December, staff hosted a holiday dinner and donated local restaurants gift cards so students could enjoy a warm meal.



Also during these months the Relay for Life team started fundraising where they hand-made and sold over 100 pies in a variety of flavors. Soup lunches started in February and will run through winter

quarter. Finally, Dr. Leas announced his retirement in June 2020. Open forums for five candidates were completed by January 30 and three finalists will move to the next step of the college process with the Board of Trustees.

Spokane Community College

Submitted by Paula Truman

SCC has the most comprehensive aviation maintenance and avionics program in the region with a variety of certificate and degree options. Boeing recently donated a 787 jet engine to the college aviation program. Employees are in high demand for aviation and aeronautics. The addition of this engine will provide students and enhanced level of learning to secure apprenticeship and/or employment in these career fields.

The annual competition food drive started on January 27. Collection areas are designated throughout the campus buildings. The challenge is on, and donations are strong! So far 1,838 lbs. is collected. But, can we beat the 13,840 lbs. from last year? We will give you the final results in the spring issue.

Spokane Falls Community College

Submitted by Carrie Kirby-Dietrich



During our seasonal Gala in December, we had a visit from one of Santa's elves, our own Dan Whye, who was planning to retire this year. It is with great sadness we share the news of his recent passing. He was loved by all and will be greatly missed. Who is going to take his place as our resident man of many disguises?

SFCC offers a variety of Cybersecurity degrees. SFCC is proud to offer a program and be part of training of people who will protect vital technology systems.

The National Security Agency (NSA and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently designated the Spokane Falls Community College's cyber security program a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education. Employers know how rigorous the requirements are and students who

complete programs with this federal designation have a significant advantage in securing jobs. The second annual Hack-A-Thon for student teams will happen in February.

Did you know that up until this academic year, only 12 of the 34 community colleges were implementing Guided Pathways? SFCC was one of the first to get early funding. With the passing of HB 2158 in 2019, now all 34 community colleges are funded. On January 15, Spokane Colleges hosted the 2020 Guided Pathways Launch Summit with live stream option to all 34 colleges. Agenda covered a variety of topics to make guided pathways a success on any campus.

KUDOS to our own Women's Volleyball Coach Jenni Rosselli-Hull. She is not only an outstanding coach, but also an exemplary role model and support for her student athletes on and off the court. She was recognized by the Board of Trustees as USMC/AVCA two-year college coach of the year! Congratulations to her on this well-deserved honor.

The new Spokane Transit Authority center at SFCC is officially open. The layout and features with off-street passenger boarding area improve safety and traffic access to the college campus. Covered shelters will protect travelers in increment weather, and site location will improve access to higher education.



Walla Walla Community College

Submitted by Corinna Whitehurst

WWCC is serious about student success and is making resources accessible and user friendly. They have made improvements to their website and use social media to announce many events and workshops. They were recently awarded a Title III Grant from the Department of Education to fund initiatives for increasing student success. Other happenings in fall 2019 include.

- Margarita Banderas, new Directory of Equity, and Diversity & Inclusion joined the Walla Walla campus. This is a newly created position funded through a generous grant from the Sherwood Trust Fund. Generous organization that helps programs for the Walla Walla Valley.
- One-day Financial Aid Party, a TRiO hosted event in collaboration with Financial Aid, Advising, Counseling, and WorkForce staff helping all students.
- The Tutoring Learning Center (TLC) available for any students who need help in Science, Mathematics, and Writing. The TLC launched (in January) a new online tutoring tool via CANVAS to supplement the work they are already doing on campus.
- In October, the WWCC library launched a new speaking series; *Out Loud in the Library*. Each week, the library features a different presenter or group of presenters from across the campus. So far, they have hosted the college's VPs, colleagues, and student groups who speak on various topics for their presentations and/or discussions.

- Also in October, both the Clarkston campus and Walla Walla Campus participated in the Great ShakeOut state-wide earthquake drill.

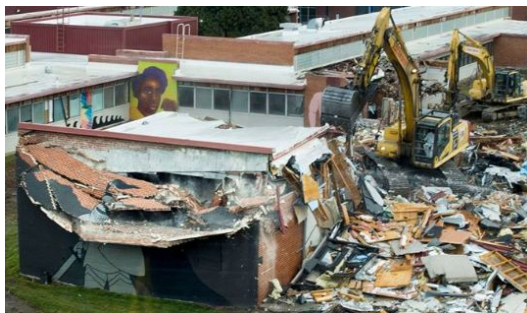


Moving into 2020, renovations are completed in the campus reception area. This is now the Welcome Center for students and visitors on the Walla Walla Campus. The main building remodel at the Clarkston campus will feature a new activity center for students. The project is funded by student fees for this gathering space. The space also includes the Student Government, a study room, and an updated advisor office. Target date for January 2020 completion has been slightly postponed but will hopefully be completed by the end of February. Student access continues for the following:

- The Library's first *Outloud* event for winter quarter was well received, featuring a panel of our International Students from various countries around the world who shared their stories with the campus community.
- The Office of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, Student Life, and the Walla Walla and Clarkston campus libraries collaborated to hold an MLK Zine event featuring Zine-Making workshops for students. Completed creations were entered for publication in WWCC's first Zine to celebrate and honor Martin Luther King, Jr. All WWCC students, faculty, and staff were all encouraged to contribute.
- Saturday workshop, *Financial Planning for College 101*, along with deadlines notices for scholarship applications.

Wenatchee Valley College

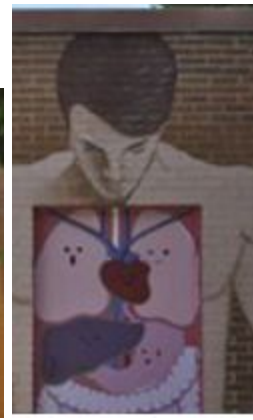
Submitted by Amy Smith



We are all in our own trainings for the new CTC coming soon. So much to do before we switch over. Each department has their own trainings to do throughout this process. With recent campus layoff notices staff are taking on additional responsibilities. We all love WVC and are sad to see anyone experiencing this challenge, especially our colleagues.

Demo for the building tear-down started in January. It is so much fun watching big machines come in and demolish!

We will all miss the paintings that were done on the buildings by our students. Here are some pictures:



WVC hosted the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network for Rapid Response Training in January. Focus was on Diversity & Inclusion, knowing your rights, and what to do when a situation occurs.

REGION E UPDATES

Green River College

Submitted by Leilani Hoglund

On Classified Staff In-Service Day, Friday February 7, 2020, Green River College was pleased to welcome a guest speaker, Christina Chang whom co-hosted a session, entitled “Building Inclusion through Self Awareness”, with the help of our very own Mark Brown, Learning and Development Manager, Human Resources. Which focused on increasing our awareness and discovering insights about ourselves, to build and deepen our understanding of others, and gave us additional tools for our diversity tool kits.

Christina Chang is Seattle-based race and equity consultant who has two decades of experience in higher education administration and is committed to transforming institutional culture and policy with a focus on diversity, inclusion, and equity.

Mark and Christina started the session out with first discussing the Dimensions of Diversity, and we were given a handout that was adapted from Gardenswartz and Rowe, which gave us examples from each of the diversity dimensions. These dimensions were broken down into: Your Core Identity, Internal, External, Organizational and Cultural. We were asked to write at least one of our identities from each dimension on “post-it” notes and then stick to our bodies and then walk around the room to interact with others to discuss our similarities or differences. This was a very interactive activity that allowed us to get to know one another, or learn new things about our co-workers we may have not known already.

Prior to attending the workshop, we were asked to complete a “DISC” personality test at Discpersonalitytesting.com, where we were able to assess what type of personality traits we have and to get a Free DISC Style Report for our Work Environment. Taken from my DISC Style Report.... “The foundation for the DISC Model comes from the work of a Harvard psychologist named Dr. William Moulton Marston in the 1920’s. He developed a theory that people tend to develop a self-concept based on one of four factors – Dominance, Inducement, Steadiness or Compliance. Marston’s theories form the basis on which they built the DISC assessment and report.”

The range of normal behaviors was built on understanding two basic drives: Motor Drive (also called the Pace Drive) and Compass Drive (also called the Priority Drive). The Motor/Pace drive was split into two: Outgoing/Fast-Paced versus Reserved/Slow-paced. The Compass/Priority drive was also split into two: Task-Oriented versus People-Oriented. The main characteristic trait for each behavioral type (quadrant of the DISC circle) is used as the representative word for that type:

- **Dominant**
- **Inspiring**
- **Supportive**
- **Cautious.**

We also had a few visitors come from Olympic College. It was nice to be able to open this event to all Classified Staff across our region!

GRC President Suzanne M. Johnson has been selected to join the inaugural class of the **Aspen New Presidents Fellowship**, a new initiative designed to support community college presidents in the early years of their tenure to accelerate transformational change on behalf of students.

President Johnson is one of 25 Aspen Fellows selected from more than 100 applicants for this opportunity, which is fully funded by JPMorgan Chase & Co. and run by the **Aspen Institute College Excellence Program**. The leaders, all of whom are in their first five years as a college president, will engage in a seven-month fellowship beginning in June 2020. We are so proud of Dr. J!

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) will perform a comprehensive accreditation evaluation visit to Green River College on April 29-May 1, 2020. The NWCCU evaluation team will meet with Green River students, faculty, staff and board of trustee members to evaluate the college's compliance with NWCCU accreditation standards and policies.

Lastly, Green River welcomes new Classified Staff –

Enrique Farias – Media Technician

Naja'e Stansberry – Program Coordinator – Running Start

Pam Norberg – Secretary Lead – Cedar Hall

Sarah Al-hwail - Instructional and Classroom Support Technician-Kent

Looking forward to our annual
STTACC Conference with you all!

www.STTACC.net/2020Conference

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