



Bellingham Technical College  
Press Release  
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## ***For Immediate Release***

### **BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPOINTS DR. PATRICIA MCKEOWN TO PERMANENT PRESIDENT POST**

**Bellingham, Washington – December 16, 2010** – At today's Board meeting the Board of Trustees at Bellingham Technical College (BTC) unanimously selected Dr. Patricia McKeown to serve as the next president of Bellingham Technical College.

Dr. McKeown has served as the Interim President since September 1, 2010 and previously held the position of Vice President of Instruction for Bellingham Technical College since 2002. Dr. McKeown earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Washington in 2002, an M. ED in Curriculum & Supervision and a B.A. in Education both from Central Washington University.

"After careful consideration as to the best way to proceed, the Board of Trustees assessed that there was no need to go through an expensive search process when we knew we had a highly qualified individual on our campus equipped to step right into the position," stated Board Chair, Yvonne Cartwright. "In addition to possessing impeccable credentials for the position of president, Dr. McKeown possesses considerable knowledge and understanding of the College and the challenges faced by our institution as a result of the economy. We look forward to working closely with Dr. McKeown as her role evolves from the interim position to that of the permanent elected President of BTC."

As Vice President of Instruction, McKeown worked to meet the workforce needs of regional business and community by developing and expanding several new programs including nursing, radiology, surgery technology, welding and process technology.

Dr. McKeown has strong success in acquiring federal and state grants for BTC totaling more than \$5 million dollars over the last five years. She began at BTC over 25 years ago, prior to her position of Vice President of Instruction she held a variety of positions, including: Dean of Professional Technical Education, Curriculum Specialist, Home and Family Life Program Coordinator, and Program Developer.

McKeown has long been a leader in her field and has served in a number of statewide leadership roles including the chair of the Washington Community and Technical College Instruction Commission and numerous state task forces and committees.

She currently serves as a board member on the Northwest Workforce Development Council, and the Northwest Economic Council and is a member of the following: The Manufacturing Institute Education Council; BTC Foundation; Homeport Learning Center; Sustainable Strategies Council; CTE Whatcom County Visioning; and, Alcoa Community Advisory Board.

“I am extremely honored to have been chosen to lead Bellingham Technical College. This college has an excellent reputation and a strong role in the economic health of the individual, business and community and I am committed to continuing that success. I look forward to working with the Board of Trustees, employees, students, the business industry and the community at large to forge new partnerships and to fulfill the mission of BTC,” said Dr. Patricia McKeown.

### **About Bellingham Technical College**

Bellingham Technical College is a leading educational institution and the only technical college in northwest Washington. BTC’s campus is located in the heart of Bellingham and educates a diverse population of 8,000 students each year in more than thirty associate degree and fifty certificate programs. BTC is recognized for collaborating with local industry, employers and state and local governments to identify the skills our workforce requires to keep the economy strong. Programs include professional/technical careers, college transfer, e-learning and basic academic skills. BTC excels at providing students with hands-on, high-tech training coupled with solid academic instruction.

Bellingham Technical College is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, and offers 34 associate degree and 57 certificate options providing professional technical education to support local and regional industry workforce needs. For more information, go to [www.btc.ctc.edu](http://www.btc.ctc.edu)

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