



Press Release

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*For Immediate Release*

## **BTC NURSING PROGRAM TO HOST OPEN HOUSE FOR CLINICAL SIMULATION LAB MARCH 10**

Bellingham — If you've ever wondered what goes on in the Nursing Simulation Lab at Bellingham Technical College (BTC), now is your chance to find out.

BTC's Nursing Program is hosting an open house for the Simulation Lab from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 10. The event will start with light refreshments and networking in Haskell

Center, Room 108, before a welcome greeting from BTC administration and Nursing faculty at 3:40 p.m. Attendees will then get to watch students perform a simulation, talk with students and faculty, and tour the simulation and skills labs in H Building.

The Simulation Lab is where Registered Nursing students prepare for the real world situations they'll face on the job as registered nurses. BTC's lab is a fully functional replica of a clinical setting, allowing students assume the role of the registered nurse and take care of complex "patients." These patients are actually high-tech, life-like



mannequins called *human patient simulators* that are controlled by the instructor using a sophisticated operating system. The instructor speaks to students through the patient from an observation room and can adjust the patient's physiological responses for each simulation — like real patients, the mannequins can have difficulty breathing, vomit, bleed and present a variety of symptoms. Registered Nursing students learn to pay attention to patient cues, prioritize their care and make clinical judgments, all in a setting that is completely safe.

“Simulation is increasingly being used in nursing education to help students prepare for complex practice as Registered Nurses,” BTC Associate Dean of Nursing Cindy Hollinsworth said. “Students are able to apply what they have learned in the classroom in a realistic patient care setting, and instructors are able to assess clinical competency before the students take care of a real patient.”

Those interested in attending the open house can RSVP at [www.btcnursing.eventbrite.com](http://www.btcnursing.eventbrite.com).

If you'd like more pictures of our Simulation Lab, please contact [zfraley@btc.ctc.edu](mailto:zfraley@btc.ctc.edu).

**About BTC's Nursing options:** BTC offers an Associate of Applied Science-Transfer degree in Nursing that prepares students to take the NCLEX-RN and begin careers as registered nurses; additionally, they are prepared to transfer to four-year colleges to complete their Bachelor of Science in Nursing. About 97 percent of BTC Nursing program students are employed within nine months of graduation. Graduates work in a variety of settings including acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, assisted living, skilled home care, hospice, clinics, day-surgery centers, schools, and public health.

**About Bellingham Technical College** Bellingham Technical College is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, and offers 37 associate degree and 51 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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