



KIM'S CORNER

I am incredibly proud and inspired by all of you here at BTC. Witnessing your collective action to continue to educate and support our students and each other during such a frightening historical time embodies dedication. When we are all working remotely, how, you might you ask yourself, can we come together for an Employee Awards Celebration? Will we hold an awards celebration? Yes, we will. This year's event will celebrate everyone's efforts here at BTC. Now more than ever is a time to recognize your unprecedented work and flexibility to keep our college viable and our students coming in the door, so they can walk back out of our doors as successful graduates and contributors to society.

Save the Date: This year's event theme, ***All In, Together*** will be held on **Wednesday, June 17, from 3-4:30 p.m. via Zoom.**

There are a few changes to share about this year's format. We will be recognizing all BTC employees rather than soliciting specific employee award nominations this year. The Awards Committee decided that that it was more appropriate to recognize our campus as a whole – at a time when everyone's spirit came together to pull us through. The retiree's and longevity portion of our event will remain much as the way it has, though from a distance! We look forward to seeing you and will be sending out more details in the near future.

Kimberly Peuy

BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE | MAY 2020
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ASBTC CORNER

Graduation in a box! ASBTC Executives Amy Gainza, Christopher Sanders, Angela Occhipinti, Cynthia Nokes, Lindsey Hanna, and Anna Casey are supporting the Class of 2020 Commencement participants by funding caps and tassels, providing diploma covers, and supporting shipping costs! ASBTC and the Campus Store partnered together to make this graduate package shipment happen. The ASBTC Executives wrote a letter to the Class of 2020 which will be included in the graduate package for each Commencement participant.

Here is an excerpt: *To the Graduates of 2020. We think you are brave. Brave for finishing out what single-handedly has been the wildest quarter of your academic career at BTC. Brave for showing up, day after day, despite not knowing how everything will unfold. We think it is incredibly brave of you to move forward despite the fear of the unknown that you may have. You have carried more than you should have, and for that, we see and acknowledge you. So, cheers to you, the class of 2020. Well-done on taking a risk and allowing the unexpected. Your student government team could not be prouder of you. We are excited to hear about what you will do in this community and beyond. Best of luck to you. We know you will continue onto greatness.*

A big thank you to the Commencement Committee and the Campus Store for being part of this amazing support for our Class of 2020 Commencement participants! And congratulations to the Class of 2020!

CAMPUS STORE

Curbside pick-up at its best!! BTC's Campus Store staff, led by Laura Fornalski, reported back to campus on April 6th after a period of working remotely. With focused energy and herculean efforts, they were able to receive all incoming course materials, load them to our website: **www.btc-store.com** and prepare for an online-only Spring quarter start. During the quarter-start rush, over 1,000 student orders were sent out.

Image depicts a typical day's shipment ready for FedEx.



NURSING

BTC has taken the first step in the process to develop a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (RN-BSN). On May 6, the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) approved BTC's Statement of Need for the program. This summer, the BTC Nursing department will begin work on a detailed RN-BSN Program Proposal to present to the State Board during the 2020-21 academic year. **BTC hopes to begin this new program in Fall 2021.**

PASTRY ARTS

What is a COVID cake? Hilde Korsmo explains: "It is a finished work of art after instructing students on the minute details of how to bake and construct a cake starting with a virtual 2 hour-long Zoom meeting, and additional individual virtual meetings with students throughout the week. After completion of the cake, the student schedules an individual virtual meeting with me where we analyze the cake together – referred to as Reading the Cake." This includes:

- 1. The WOW factor** – the sellable vs. non-sellable outcomes; first impression of the cake; and they are encouraged to ask a family member if they would buy this cake and why.
- 2. Visuals aspects** – evenness of work.
- 3. Color scheme** – harmonization of colors.
- 4. Texture** – each component will be broken down to its proper texture and mouth feel.
- 5. Flavor** – does each component carry over the flavor as it was intended?

These cakes take up to 3 days to complete for a student and up to 8 hours for professionals.

The students are required to submit pre-plan (Lab plan) including a drawing or picture of the cake which inspired them.

"At completion, we meet and witness and discuss their first reaction when they bite into the cake and I look at the interior structure of their work. After that, they are required to self-analyze and self-grade, at which they are doing a fabulous job. Student self-doubt and stress levels are high when performing this type of work. At school, I can provide immediate reassurance even with the smallest steps – getting them through these tough times virtually is a tricky business."

"These examples of cakes are my students' first stacked cakes, ever. To say I am proud of my students is an understatement. I am ecstatic! The quality of work I received was phenomenal, and each student participated much above what I could have expected. I am proud of my industry in general. We are not just cooks and bakers." A quote from a Pastry arts student: "I am pleased with my outcome overall, and proud of myself for overcoming challenges without becoming defeated, and pushing myself out of my comfort zone."

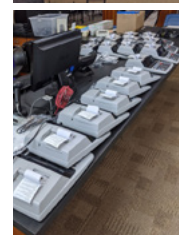
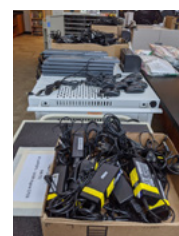


LIBRARY

The Library, in concert with of CISS, Facilities, the Campus Store, and Campus Safety employees, implemented curbside services to support remote learning and teaching during the Stay Home Stay Safe initiative. A small crew of on-site library staff with the support of several instructional technicians and other staff from areas beyond the library coordinated with colleagues working remotely to process and fill approximately **400 reservation requests from students and staff** between March and May. Items circulated included laptops, monitors, keyboard, books, dvds, articles, circuit boards, data ports, lab kits, graphing calculators, 10-key machines, headphones, Arduino kits, surgical scrub brushes, and more.

The Library continues to support students with technology, informational and research questions via Ask A Librarian, the Virtual Information Desk, email and phone.

The Spring Quarter Technology Camp training sessions were translated into an instructional video guide, found here: <http://btc.ctc.libguides.com/OnlineBTCtechcamp>



GROUNDS

Our campus grounds are something we all enjoy daily. A stroll through the campus is the perfect way to clear your mind. To keep our campus looking good takes unending work and knowledge. Back in March, the Grounds crew including Chris Glatz, Shelby Stamey and Tim Hawkins all attended the two-day WSU Pesticide Applicators License class (hosted here at BTC). They all passed with flying colors and are very proud to be certified applicators and state licensed for pesticide management.

GUIDED PATHWAYS

To support Washington State goals that call for 70% of State citizens to obtain a college certificate or degree by 2030, the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC) is working with all two-year colleges in the system to adopt the Guided Pathways model. The Guided Pathways model will help BTC create clear, accessible educational pathways and provide strong navigation support for all students. BTC's comprehensive Guided Pathways implementation work plan has been approved by the SBCTC. Reviewers have given us a feedback report which will help inform our planning and implementation efforts as we develop the Guided Pathways model on the BTC campus. More information will be coming soon!

STUDENT FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Student Financial Resources is assisting students with financial challenges during this time of emergency. BTC is using Federal and BTC Foundation resources to provide funds for emergency student requests. In the past month, over \$310,000 in emergency financial support has been provided to nearly 500 students. Funds have been provided to students who are experiencing financial challenges such as a loss of income, additional expenses related to the online environment of coursework and the reduction to financial aid due to adjustments to spring course offerings. Additional funding is available to help students succeed in their academic endeavors. All students facing financial challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic are encouraged to apply.

Students are now able to submit an application online at <https://www.btc.edu/EmergencyFunding>. For additional information, please contact Student Financial Resources at finaid@btc.edu.

Within one day after an eblast on Monday, May 12 advertising these support services, Student Financial Resources received over 170 new applications—and these numbers are increasing by the hour. **Our employees are moving mountains to help our students persevere!**

Words from a few who received this assistance represent current issues many of our students are facing:

"This pandemic has taken a toll on my financial situation, such as getting money for books for school and has made it hard to stay in school."

"I also had to purchase a home computer since all of my classes are online."

"I have not been offered hours at work due to coronavirus."

"Due to the COVID-19 I have lost a paid internship opportunity."

"This situation impacts every aspect of my life. I do not have the funds to pay tuition and bills."

eLEARNING

Since the beginning of March, in addition to providing Canvas support to students, eLearning has facilitated approximately 30 Canvas orientations, eLearning workshops, and online Zoom help sessions for faculty and staff. eLearning is available for scheduled faculty and staff one-on-one help sessions and small group workshops, via Zoom. Canvas support resources and eLearning workshop content are available on the BTC eLearning Faculty & Staff webpage. You can access the page via the 'eLearning' link on the 'Employee Login' page of the BTC website, or at www.btc.edu/eLearning ('Start Here-Faculty & Staff' tab).

AUTOMOTIVE

Many times, it is the small things that count. Going into spring quarter, Automotive Technology was challenged with teaching diagnostics to a 2nd year cohort without students having access to the most fundamental of diagnostic tools, a scan tool. Then, through our strong industry relationships, a Canadian company named **Lemur Vehicle Monitors** donated one of their **Blue Driver Bluetooth scan tools to each of our 2nd year students**. This simple yet effective scan tool allows the student to use their phone with the free app as the interface and will support the Automotive Technology program in its efforts to meet its intended outcomes for spring quarter. Many thanks to Lemur Vehicle Monitors for their support of our Automotive Technology program at such an unprecedented time.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

This month, our employee spotlight features the fantastic **Shelby Stamey**, Utility grounds specialist!

Q: What do you like to do for fun outside the office? Any hobbies?

A: I enjoy making art and playing video games

Q: Any fun or funny facts that folks might not know about you?

A: I have a moderate collection of bones I've collected in the woods.

Q: Any pets or pet plans?

A: I have two dogs Teeteet (Chihuahua) and Lula (Rat Terrier).

Q: If you could bring one food, book, and movie to a desert island, what would you choose?

A: I would bring a good supply of MRE's, a survival guide and probably nitrate film for its flammable quality.

Q: Feel free to add any other short but sweet items that I didn't ask!

A: Cactuses and sunflowers are my favorite plants.



RUMOR OF THE MONTH

Is it true Joel Hoines, John Palmer, and Gary Patterson spent the quarter fishing?

Yes! Look, they spent it fishing at Whatcom Falls Park. What a life!

