

Bellingham Technical College Jan. 6, 2023 Media Contact: Zoe Fraley, Director of Communications Phone: 360.752.8325 Email: zfraley@btc.edu

For Immediate Release

NEW BTC PRESIDENT JAMES LEMEROND JOINS CAMPUS; INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE FOR MEDIA

Bellingham, Washington — Bellingham Technical College is excited to welcome President James Lemerond to campus this week. His tenure began on Jan. 1, just before the start of winter quarter.

"In the brief time I have been at Bellingham Technical College, I am impressed with a culture so committed to our students' success," Dr. Lemerond says. "I am excited to continue to get to know the on- and off-campus community and help foster an educational environment where our students can thrive."

With more than 20 years of experience in

higher education in a technical college setting — and as a graduate of a technical college program himself — Dr. Lemerond is available to media as a knowledgeable source about the vital role of technical education in building a healthy workforce, as well as for technical education trends and news about Bellingham Technical College.

"As a technical college graduate, I understand the power of technical college education," he says. "The knowledge, skills, and abilities students get at Bellingham Technical College transition into high demand and high earning careers that can be transformational for the students and their families. I am proud to be part of an organization committed to helping students achieve their education and career goals."

Dr. Lemerond has worked in higher education, focused on student achievement, since 2000. He started at Lakeshore Technical College in Cleveland, WI, as an adjunct faculty in 2001. From there, he transitioned to teaching and managing a medical imaging program in Milwaukee, WI. In 2007, he moved back to Lakeshore Technical College full-time, where he served as Radiography Program Faculty/Chair, Dean of Health and

Human Services, and Dean of Business, Technology, and Hospitality. In 2018, he transitioned to the Vice President of Instruction at Lakeshore Technical College.

Dr. Lemerond earned his doctorate of education in education leadership from the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, KY; a master of science in training and development and a bachelor of arts in health arts from the University of St. Francis in Joliet, IL; and an associate of science in radiography from Northcentral Technical College in Wausau, WI.

Dr. Lemerond and his wife, Carie, moved to the Bellingham area in December and are looking forward to getting to know their new home.

Interested in an interview with Dr. Lemerond about his plans at BTC or his perspective on why now is a great time for technical colleges to shine? Please <u>reach out to BTC's</u> <u>Director of Communications and Marketing</u> to arrange an interview.

About Bellingham Technical College

Bellingham Technical College is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, and offers seven transfer degrees such as pre-nursing, computer science and business. Completion of these degrees prepares BTC students to transfer with a junior status to participating colleges and universities in Washington State. BTC offers 39 associate degree, 55 certificate options and two bachelor of applied science degrees providing professional technical education to support local and regional industry workforce needs. For more information, go to <u>www.btc.edu</u>. For more news, events, and photos from the college follow us on <u>www.facebook.com/bellinghamtech</u>, <u>www.twitter.com/bhamtechcollege</u> and <u>www.instagram.com/bellinghamtechcollege</u>.

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