

Community **REPORT**



2023-24

LEADERSHIP

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Robert DeCoteau
Jim Groves
Richard Kaiser
Ann McQuade
Dr. Bradley Smith

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Dr. James Lemerond

BTC Leadership

Dr. James Lemerond, *President*
Chad Stiteler, *VP Administrative Services*
Michele Waltz, *VP Student Services*
Dr. Heidi Ypma, *VP Instruction*
Dr. RaeLyn Axlund-McBride, *Executive Director of Institutional Planning & Assessment*
Zoe Fraley, *Director of Communications & Marketing*
Dean Fulton, *Foundation Director*
Hannah Simonetti, *Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion*
Tami Willett, *Executive Director of Human Resources*

Vision

Bellingham Technical College will be a recognized leader in providing innovative and effective technical education, maximizing student potential and supporting the regional economy through development of a competitive workforce.

Mission

Bellingham Technical College provides student-centered, high-quality professional technical education for today's needs and tomorrow's opportunities.

Values

Student-Centered

Creating a supportive and inclusive community that results in a high level of student competence, professionalism, and success.

Responsive

Embracing positive, effective change that creates opportunity and meets current and emerging needs.

Collaborative

Creating and leveraging partnerships and resources to achieve shared values and goals for students, the College, and the community.

Principled

Promoting a culture of respect and accountability, reflecting integrity in decision-making, and ensuring responsible stewardship of all resources.

2024-25 Incoming BTC Foundation Board Members



Perry Herrick
*Maintenance Manager,
Phillips 66 Ferndale Refinery*



Rob Hope
*Process Controls & Instrumentation Manager,
HF Sinclair Puget Sound Refinery*

Message from the president

As I look back at this past year, I see so many reasons for our campus to celebrate. Among them is the fact that BTC can boast one of the highest graduation rates of all public two-year colleges in our state. Behind that statistic, there are incredible collaborations taking place.

Our campus is working tirelessly to keep students engaged, offering flexible course delivery options to increase access and ensure students are prepared to succeed in their chosen fields. Our employees are dedicated to helping students persist, providing the academic and personal assistance they need to thrive. With the support of the Foundation, we are breaking down barriers for those who think college is out of reach, all while working to remove obstacles for students applying to BTC.

Our college community works diligently to maintain a safe, inclusive and welcoming campus environment, ensuring BTC is a place where students can focus on achieving their goals.

Every day, in every department throughout our college, employees are working hard to create a supportive, equitable ecosystem that helps students overcome challenges and reach their potential.

I invite you to explore this year's annual report to see the incredible work our campus has done to make BTC a place where all students can thrive.



Dr. James Lemerond
BTC President

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely of Dr. James Lemerond, written in a cursive style.

FROM THE BOARD



Lin Nelson
*BTC Foundation Board of
Directors, Chair*

BTC Foundation Board of Directors

Dear friends of the Bellingham Technical College Foundation,

As my two years as Foundation President wind down, I thought you would enjoy a summary of the Foundation's most recent accomplishments.

It's been a productive year. Thanks to the generous support of many, our foundation raised more than \$2 million to support our students and the college. This included a record 26 gifts of \$10,000 or more and the establishment of three new endowments. Additionally, the foundation raised the most scholarship dollars in its history to support BTC students.

Because of this success, the foundation was able to provide more than \$1 million in scholarship support to more than 475 students, funding 85% of all scholarship applicants this past year.

BTC is a special place that is very effectively impacting the lives of many people in positive ways. Thank you for your generosity, friendship and support. I look forward to working with our incoming Board Chair, Tiffany Blair, as the foundation continues its important work.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lin Nelson".



Ann McQuade
*BTC Board of Trustees,
Chair*

BTC Board of Trustees Chair

Bellingham Technical College is constantly striving to serve our students, the community and industry by providing high-caliber education and a competitive, well-qualified workforce. Achieving this requires planning and integration at multiple levels. Our annual report exemplifies the effort, dedication and success that BTC's staff and faculty have accomplished during their work in fine-tuning program offerings and providing access and support services for students. I invite you to read through and celebrate what our campus has accomplished this past year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann M McQuade".

Bellingham Technical College is pleased to have 689 graduates, awarding 13 bachelor's degrees, 393 associate degrees, 419 certificates, and 80 high school completion credentials over the past year. Here's an idea of what that graduating class looked like: 11% were students with disabilities, 32% were students of color, and 41% were economically disadvantaged. Our youngest graduate was 16, the oldest was 62, and the average age was 28. We are proud to be your technical college and to have served 3,981 students last year.

2023-30 STRATEGIC PLAN

Bellingham Technical College's strategic plan was developed by the employees and students of BTC to guide our institutional work.

Teaching & Learning

- Support student learning and development through quality instruction
- Provide clear and effective pathways for students
- Identify and address barriers to student access and learning
- Establish systems and support for employee success and professional development

Career Preparation & Achievement

- Support prospective, current, and returning students in identifying and achieving their career goals
- Maintain and develop external partnerships designed to help students succeed

Innovation & Responsiveness

- Prioritize continuous improvement through assessment, development, and alignment of practices and resources
- Keep pace with industry and workforce needs and emerging trends

Campus Community & Culture

- Cultivate an environment that supports student and employee engagement, satisfaction, and sense of belonging
- Strengthen college commitment to accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Unify the campus community through collaboration and open communication
- Maintain a welcoming and safe environment

BTC is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). Among other things, this accreditation status allows BTC students to access Federal financial aid and transfer their credits to other colleges. BTC maintains its accreditation status by assessing the quality of its operations, educational offerings, and student success efforts, and by reporting to the NWCCU across a seven-year period. During the 2023-24 year, BTC completed a self-study process, wrote its Mid-Cycle Self-Evaluation Report, and prepared for an evaluative site visit scheduled for Fall 2024.

DONOR SPOTLIGHTS

Anonymous donor adds \$300,000 to support BTC students

An anonymous donor who made a record-breaking \$1.2 million donation to the Bellingham Technical College Foundation in December 2022 has added another \$300,000 toward helping students pay for college. The donor finalized the newest gift in late December 2023, and has directed the money to go toward scholarships for students in BTC's Welding, Diesel Technology and Nursing programs. The initial \$1.2 million donation went toward scholarships and new equipment for BTC's Welding, Diesel and

Automotive Technology programs. New equipment included: a robotic welding station, CNC plasma cutting system and 100-ton press brake so Welding students can get hands-on experience on the technology they'll use in the field; a Tesla Model 3, Toyota CH-R and Volkswagen Jetta to modernize and expand the learning fleet for Automotive Technology; and mobile column lifts, a hydraulic cylinder training system and several rail diesel engines to give Diesel students real-world experience in a controlled environment.

For the 2023-24 academic year, BTC's Foundation awarded \$915,000 in scholarships, which included money from the initial anonymous donation. "This generous gift will make a big impact on our students and their ability to focus on their studies with less financial stress," BTC Foundation Director Dean Fulton said. "We are so grateful to this donor and all of those individuals, businesses, service organizations and foundations that support BTC and our students every year."

AGC Hosts Event Celebrating Women in Construction

The first annual Celebration of Women in Construction, hosted by the Associated General Contractors of Washington and the National Association of Women in Construction, took place last spring at the Bellingham Golf & Country Club, drawing more than 160 attendees. The event featured a dynamic panel of women professionals who shared their career journeys

in construction, earning a standing ovation. The event was made possible with a generous sponsorship from Dawson Construction.

The evening included a silent auction that raised \$3,000 for scholarships for women pursuing construction trades at Bellingham Technical College. Lance Calloway, AGC Northern District Manager and the event

organizer, also serves on the BTC Foundation Board and said "I felt this was a natural connection to further promote women in the trades by providing scholarship funds to women attending BTC in construction-related programs. This event highlighted the progress of women in construction and the commitment to fostering inclusivity within the industry."

Vietnam Veterans of America, Whatcom County Chapter 165

The BTC Foundation was the fortunate recipient of a \$20,000 contribution from the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), Whatcom County Chapter 165. This gift will be applied to the group's existing endowed scholarship at the college, which was established in 2016. The VVA group typically adds to the endowment each year by contributing a portion of

the proceeds from the group's annual classic car show. "We are deeply appreciative of our partnership with the VVA and their support of our veteran students at the college. This gift will increase our ability to serve our veteran students with scholarship support for many generations to come," said Dean Fulton, the BTC Foundation Director.



STUDENT SERVICES

Student Financial Resources

The Student Financial Resources (SFR) department supports former foster youth and unaccompanied homeless youth through the Passport to Careers program, a Washington State initiative that aims to improve high school graduation rates and post-secondary outcomes by providing financial assistance and comprehensive support services. Passport to Careers students may receive up to \$1,500 in additional financial aid, plus incentive grant funds, mid-way through their quarter in support of ongoing expenses. Students have access to Designated Support Staff (DSS) within SFR who serve as knowledgeable resources to assist students with navigating all aspects of their college experience. With the combination of

funding and support, the Passport to Careers program works to support this highly vulnerable population as they navigate college life and achieve their career goals.

SFR staff have begun to develop strategies to identify potential eligible students early and to better meet their unique needs, using data from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to proactively outreach to these students. We also connected with BTC Impact program staff, since many of the program's students meet program eligibility requirements. Over the past four academic years, these strategies have led to a 350 percent increase in enrollment of Passport to Careers eligible students at BTC.

Outreach and Community Engagement

During the last year, BTC's Outreach team has focused on expanding visibility and fostering connections, and increasing access for prospective students, particularly from underrepresented groups.

The Outreach team participated in several key community events in support of underrepresented populations this past year: Bellingham Pride and Whatcom Youth Pride, where BTC engaged with the LGBTQ+ community; and Amando a mi comunidad, a Latino/x-focused event that helped build connections with local families. Other events like the Lummi Veterinary Wellness and Lummi Career Fair were crucial in connecting BTC with Indigenous communities and promoting career pathways in healthcare, industrial trades, and advanced manufacturing.

The Outreach team facilitated Application Workshops,

Pathways Navigation Support, and Information Sessions at regional high schools to guide students through the college application process and explore career pathways. Campus tours and four major events on campus – Partnerships and Pathways, Tour Day, Learning with Leaders, and Info Session Night – gave students and families a comprehensive overview of BTC's programs, support services, and facilities.


A standout initiative of the last year was the Direct Admit Project, piloted in Ferndale, Meridian, and Lummi Nation high schools. This program provided seniors with a guaranteed admission letter from BTC and ongoing support throughout the application process. BTC hosted events at these schools to help students navigate their transition from high school to college with confidence and eliminate barriers to higher education.

BTC Personal Counseling

BTC's Personal Counseling Office continues to provide services to enhance student well-being, resilience, and academic success. The counselors' work focuses on providing timely and responsive personal counseling to BTC students, including same-day appointments when available, with the flexibility to meet in person, by phone, or via online video. Counselors also connect students to campus and community resources as needed.

In response to identified needs, critical efforts over the last year included offering suicide prevention training to students, student leaders, and faculty.

Additional resources provided this year included resilience-building workshops for every incoming nursing student to reduce their risk of leaving the field prematurely due to burnout; capacity-building opportunities for student leaders in TRIO and ASBTC to enhance their well-being and improve their interpersonal effectiveness; and efforts to support Impact students with stress management strategies, social and emotional learning opportunities, and easing access to mental health treatment through expanded community partnerships.

A woman with dark hair, wearing a black welding mask and safety glasses, is smiling. She is wearing a brown leather welding jacket over a black hoodie and brown leather gloves. The background is a workshop with various tools and equipment.

You are hands-on, work hard and you know that college will change your life. At BTC, you found the right affordable two-year degree for you in a field with high wages and the flexibility to take you where you want to go.

FORGE YOUR OWN PATH.

**be
you**

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Communications & Marketing

BTC's DEI Strategic Plan

In compliance with RCW 28b.50.920, BTC's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion office led a cross-campus working group to build a DEI Strategic Plan for the college focusing on equity-based objectives that support the pillars of the campus-wide strategic plan. Informed by data gathered from campus listening sessions and surveys taken by BTC students and employees, the plan aims to identify and address barriers and gaps for all current and prospective students and build a supportive campus community.

Campus Read

This past year, DEI supported BTC's inaugural Campus Read, purchasing copies of "From Equity Talk to Equity Walk: Expanding Practitioner Knowledge for Racial Justice in Higher Education" for the campus community to borrow. The book features equity research, strategies and examples from college campuses and was used as a tool for equity discussions throughout the year. The DEI office continues to support future campus reads and has selected the Children of the Setting Sun's "Jesintel: Living Wisdom from Coast Salish Elders," as its 2024-25 book.

Incident Reporting

DEI and Marketing worked together to raise student awareness about BTC's incident reporting process, creating a visual awareness campaign throughout campus and a streamlined process to make a report.

Spanish Outreach

With support from DEI, BTC's Communications & Marketing department intensified its outreach to Whatcom County's Spanish-speaking community over the past year. The department leveraged its earlier translation work to create a Spanish-language booklet featuring all of BTC's programs, important academic and financial support, entry steps, and information about courses for adult and English language learners. The department also created a series of postcards in Spanish directing recipients to key resources online that went out to more than 4,000 Spanish-speaking households in our service area. The DEI office dedicated funding to these efforts to ensure that the college can be proactive in its support of our local Spanish-speaking community.

National Recognition

BTC's Communications & Marketing department received several awards this past year recognizing the high quality of the work done by the department to effectively and creatively promote the college. Creative Services Manager Sebastian Schoelss was recognized as a Rising Star for the region by the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations. BTC's "Be You" logo and elements of the college's 2023 marketing campaign earned gold awards from NCMPR, competing against over 1,000 two-year colleges throughout the country. BTC's two-person marketing team accepted these awards at the national conference held this past spring in Seattle.



Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences Expansion

The Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences program was awarded a 2023-2024 Workforce Development Funds grant to develop, expand and improve in-person and online training in shellfish, microalgae and kelp culturing. Funds from the grant have been used to support faculty's professional development, curriculum development, modality changes, and equipment and supplies to effectively deliver skills training in these areas. Additionally, this project will support the development of new training curriculum to support kelp aquaculture, an emerging industry in Washington state. The project will prepare technicians to fulfill a broad array of workforce needs in the active aquaculture industry, increase incumbent worker access to further education, and provide schedule flexibility for program students.

The grant funds contributed to new curriculum that the Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences program was approved to begin in 2024-2025. The approved degree, certificate and curriculum revisions increased program offerings from two degrees and two certificates to four degrees and five certificates. The new tracks in Fish Specialization, Shellfish Specialization and Fisheries Science allow students to focus on specific skills. The program is also now able to admit quarterly, providing better and more flexible access for students.

Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences Receives Award

The Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences program was selected as a finalist for the 2024 Bellwether Awards for the collaborative work the program has done to increase the local Chinook population for tribal, commercial and recreational fisheries, and to feed an endangered population of orca whales. The Bellwether College Consortium identifies and honors outstanding and innovative community college programs. As a finalist, the college competed against nine other community and technical colleges throughout the country in the planning, governance, and finance category at the 30th Annual Community College Futures Assembly (CCFA). The award recognizes work that began in 2018, when the BTC Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences program was approached by the two government entities who co-manage fisheries in Washington state — Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Treaty Tribes — with the opportunity to rear and release 500,000 Chinook at the program's student-run hatchery at the mouth of Whatcom Creek in downtown Bellingham.

STUDENT LEARNING

Nursing Celebrates 70 Years

The BTC Nursing program marked its 70th anniversary in 2024 and celebrated this milestone with an Open House in May that was attended by program graduates, community partners, students, nursing faculty and employees of the college. The program has an excellent reputation and is known for its rigorous curriculum, outstanding faculty, staff and administrators, and its responsiveness to meeting the ever-changing needs of the healthcare industry. Our students continue to excel when they graduate from the program; the first-time licensure pass rate was 95 percent for registered nurses and 100 percent for practical nurses.

New Nursing Sim Lab

The nursing program opened and started using a new simulation lab in Fall 2023. This new sim lab provides additional space for BTC's 13 nursing cohorts to practice real-world skills in a safe environment before implementing care for patients in the community.

Transitional Studies Department

The program awarded 67 high school diplomas, 24 of which were through the department's partnership with Northwest Indian College. The program saw a 70% increase in degrees compared to the previous year.

Impact Program

This year, 110 Impact program students earned their GEDs. The Impact program offers eligible students a second chance at earning a high school equivalency credential (GED) and the opportunity to continue on at BTC in pursuit of an associate degree or program certificate at little to no cost to the student. This past year, 10 Impact students graduated with an associate degree from BTC.

Internships and Scholarships with bp

In spring 2024, bp invited BTC to participate in a pilot internship program. Three BTC students participated in six-week internships and all found the experience to be extremely rewarding. One student commented, "As interns at this facility we were given an opportunity to work in most of the different units. We didn't learn a specific unit but had the greatest overview of a plant that could be had."

These students were able to see and experience the importance of what they had learned in their college classrooms and labs translated into an actual work environment. This reinforcement is a critical component in the learning process. The internship pilot was such a success that plans are underway to expand the program.

In addition to the internship opportunities, bp also provided two full-ride scholarships for the upcoming year. These scholarships were awarded through the BTC Foundation's regular scholarship awarding processes.

Information Technology

Beginning winter quarter 2024, the IT department developed a recognition program to honor graduating students. At its midterm social lunch, Dean Katie Honeycutt presented medallions the department had made to congratulate 37 IT students who received CompTIA Certifications in Network+, A+ Software, Cloud Essentials, and Security+. These industry-specific certifications add significant leverage for students in their future careers.

Early Childhood & Family Studies

In February 2024, BTC's Early Childhood & Family Studies program hosted its 40th annual Focus on Children conference. The conference provides professional development to early learning professionals throughout western Washington. During lunch, 15 retired early learning champions from our community were honored, who have cumulatively contributed over 430 years to the growth and development of this field.

Machining

BTC's Machining program has received a five-year Aerospace High Demand FTEs grant award from the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges. The program will receive \$104,000 per year to expand enrollment and is exploring a gradual shift to competency-based instruction. These funds will support instructional design and curriculum development efforts, along with related supplies.



Tribal Land ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Bellingham Technical College would like to acknowledge that our service area today is within the usual and accustomed lands of the Lhaq'temish or Xwlemi (Lummi) Nation, and of the Noxws'a'ʔaq (Nooksack) Tribe of the Coast Salish peoples, as well as the original territory of the sʔéməš (Samish) Indian Tribe.

Our respect and gratitude go to our indigenous neighbors, whose care and protection of the land and water continues to this day.

List of LOCAL TRIBES

Bellingham: Lummi Nation and the Nooksack Tribe

Anacortes: Samish Indian Nation and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Everett: Tulalip Tribes, the Snohomish, the Stillaguamish Tribe and the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe

Kitsap Peninsula: Suquamish Tribe and the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Olympic Peninsula: The Hoh Tribe, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Makah Indian Tribe, Quileute Tribe, Quinault Indian Nation, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe and the Skokomish Tribe

Seattle: Duwamish, Suquamish, Nisqually, Snoqualmie and Muckleshoot tribes



BTC FOUNDATION

The mission of the BTC Foundation is to change lives by expanding access to quality education for the students of Bellingham Technical College.

We could not fulfill our mission without the generosity of individuals and organizations in our community. Our donors are diverse, but share a common goal: To see BTC students succeed and prosper. As a BTC Foundation donor, you can help change a student's life and contribute to a stable, vibrant and prosperous community.

Thank you for your support!

acknowledgments





2023-24 BTC REVENUE & EXPENSES

BTC continues to maintain a robust mix of revenue sources with a continuing emphasis on securing grant funding.

Revenues

Overall College Revenue **\$42.6 Million**

(excluding capital funds)







	State Operating Appropriation	\$21.1 Million
	Tuition & Fees*	\$5.5 Million
	Federal, State & Local Grants, and Contracts	\$14.3 Million
	Enterprise and Other	\$1.7 Million

*Net of scholarship discounts and allowances

The BTC expenditures mix reflects a strong commitment to instruction and student support services.

Expenditures Mix⁺

Operating Budget - Expenditures by Program

	Instruction	51%	}	DIRECT STUDENT SERVICES
	Academic Support	5%		
	Instructional Resources	2%		
	Student Services	13%	}	SUPPORT SERVICES
	Institutional Support	18%		
	Plant Operation/Maintenance	11%		

⁺The Expenditures Mix is based on the Operating Fund

BTC Foundation

FUNDRAISING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Thanks to generous support from area businesses, individuals, foundations and service organizations, the Bellingham Technical College Foundation is able to provide vital support to our students.

2023-24 Fundraising Accomplishments

Scholarships	\$1,368,313
Direct BTC Program Support	\$476,487
Greatest Need Fund [°]	\$171,661
Total Raised	\$2,016,461

This amount constitutes **252%** of the Foundation's 2023-2024 fundraising goal

Foundation Institutional Support

Scholarships Awarded (2024–25 academic year)	Amount
Foundation Scholarship Awards	\$1,192,136
Other Foundation Institutional Support	
Miscellaneous Campus Support ^{°°}	\$21,783
Direct BTC Program Support	\$476,487
Total Institutional Support	\$1,690,406

[°] The Greatest Need Fund supports a diverse spectrum of BTC programs & campus initiatives, including professional development grants, the BTC Food Pantry, direct student & campus support (non-scholarship), and student urgent funding contributions.

^{°°} Includes BTC professional development grants, the BTC Food Pantry, Veteran and Running Start support, direct student & campus support (non-scholarship), and student urgent funding contributions.

HOW TO GIVE

As a BTC Foundation donor, you can help change a student's life and contribute to a stable, vibrant and prosperous community. Our donors are diverse and share a common goal: to see BTC students succeed and prosper.

Coming from all backgrounds, BTC students are here to create better lives by achieving their academic and career goals. In recent years, students' financial hardships have increased, while state funding has decreased. More students than ever are applying for scholarships.

We can't do it without you. The BTC Foundation offers several ways to support:

Named Annual Scholarship

Minimum: \$1,000

Honor a loved one, establish a legacy or celebrate success. Named scholarships create a personal connection between BTC students and an individual, business, or organization. Donors may specify award criteria to reflect values and objectives.

Endowed Scholarship

Minimum: \$25,000

Make a lasting difference in the lives of BTC students. An endowment requires a minimum gift of \$25,000, which may be pledged over several years. Created through a bequest, charitable remainder trust, existing life insurance policy, or current gifts, an endowment is the best way to ensure your gift honors your passions and values and lives on in perpetuity. Each year, 4 percent of the fund balance is awarded to a BTC student, allowing the fund to continue growing.

General Scholarship Fund

Any amount

This is the easiest way to transform a BTC student's life. Individuals, businesses, and organizations may donate any amount to our General Scholarship Endowment or Annual Scholarship funds.

Program Support

Any amount

Your cash donation can help strengthen your profession and your community by training the next generation of skilled workers. Program funds allow BTC to quickly respond to industry innovations and changing demands through curriculum revision, equipment purchases, or student and faculty development. Just be sure to tell us which program you want to support.

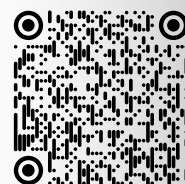
Greatest Need

Any amount

Unrestricted donations are vital to what we do! Large or small, the flexibility of unrestricted donations provides critical support for BTC students, and moves us closer to meeting our goals of student access, success, and retention, through:

- Student Emergency Funding
- BTC Food Pantry
- Student Support
- Equipment and classroom materials
- Meeting ordinary and unexpected expenses
- Faculty professional development support

DONATE NOW



Simply scan to donate or visit: www.btc.edu/Foundation and select the **"Donate Now"** button.

JOSE HERNANDEZ

Industrial Maintenance and Mechatronics and Billee & Herb Ershig Scholarship recipient



With his eyes on a career in aerospace, Mount Vernon High School graduate Jose Hernandez found a perfect match for his goals in BTC's Industrial Maintenance & Mechatronics program. His experience in the program has already earned him a job in the industry, and he's excited to continue his studies and see what's next on his career path.

Why did you choose to come to BTC and join the Industrial Maintenance & Mechatronics program?

I chose to go to BTC because it has the programs I was looking for, and the college nearby me didn't have any majors or programs like it at the time. As I researched more about BTC, I decided to study in Industrial Maintenance and Mechatronics, as it would offer me a new set of skills that could apply towards my future career and benefit me and the industry together.

What is the most exciting aspect of the program for you?

The most exciting thing in this program is the opportunity to brainstorm an idea and put the skills that you learned to use in a hands-on project. What really connects for me is being able to obtain skills from not only one role but from other positions such as electrician, piping, and welding. All of this goes towards my goal of working as an aerospace manufacturer, with the interest of working in a group to make aircraft and spacecraft using the skills I obtained from BTC.

What has your experience been like in the program and at BTC? What kind of support have you gotten?

My experience at BTC and with the program has been going smooth. The support we students have from program instructors and coaches definitely helps us keep on track towards graduation.

How do you feel like your time at BTC is changing the trajectory of your life?

Ever since I started my studies at BTC, I've been keeping my head up high knowing that I'll be able to gain a career with the industry. With the job that I've gotten since starting the program, I could see myself working there for a long while even after I graduate. Each quarter becomes more advanced as you get yourself closer to the finish line in the program and gives you an opportunity to put your teamwork and problem-solving skills to work, which is beneficial for everyone.

How do you feel like your program is preparing you for your career?

I am currently working in an industry that correlates with the skills I've obtained from Industrial Maintenance and Mechatronics. This program did a great job of teaching us what the industry would be like and the expectations set when you are hired to work in the industry.

What would your advice be for anyone who is considering whether a technical college is the right move for them?

My advice to those who are about to go to college: If you are looking for a college that is mainly centered around a career field, technical colleges would be the best choice for you. You will obtain necessary skills and knowledge to have you prepped for the future. Businesses and industries know about students who go to technical colleges; during my interview before I got hired, HR told me about how students from technical colleges are well prepared for the job.

SCHOLARSHIPS ENDOWED

Named scholarships make a profound difference in the lives of our students. Endowed scholarships leave a permanent and lasting legacy at BTC.

**Endowed scholarships established
through the BTC Foundation**

Aftermath Club Endowment
Anvil Corporation Endowment
Auto Body Craftsman Association Endowed Scholarship
Bellingham Technical College General Endowment
Bellingham Technical College Employee Endowment
Bellingham Technical College Foundation
Board Designated Endowment
Betty Young/Terri McMahan Endowment
for Women in the Trades
Bill Bond Memorial Endowment
Birch Equipment Endowment
BP Cherry Point Endowment
Brent K Marshall Family Endowment
Brian Pemberton Memorial Endowment
Brooks Manufacturing Endowment
Building Diversity Endowment
The Charles and Karen Lauckhardt Family Endowment
Curt Smith Endowment
Dave Dunning Memorial Endowment
David and Joyce Morse Endowment
Dawson Construction Endowment
D.C. Morse and Blythe Mechanical HVAC/R
Endowment (D.C. Morse & Jan Marchbanks)
Debra Jones Scholarship Fund
Douglas Blair Memorial Endowment
Echo Foundation Endowment
Edd and Virginia Perry Endowment
Evans-Perry Credits for Prior Learning Endowment
Fielding Formway Endowment
Gage Yates Memorial Endowment
Gary Solari Memorial Endowment
Greg Fulton Memorial Endowment
Haskell Endowment for Faculty Excellence
Healthy Pet Endowment
Helen DeVries Board Designated Endowment
Home Port Learning Center Endowment
IAM Local 2379/Intalco Employees Endowment
Isenhardt Family and Tiger Construction Endowment

Jack & May Meyers Endowment
Jack B. Cole Endowment
Jay Lund Fisheries Endowment
Jim Zuanich Memorial Endowment
J&R Small Endowment
Karen Louise Pearson Tarter Memorial Endowment
Kimberley Family Endowment
Laidlaw/Wallace Family Endowment
Larry Nace Endowment
Linda Crawford Family Education Endowment Fund
Malia Haglund Endowment
Mary Scott Memorial Endowment - "Scotty's Fund"
McArdle Endowment for Student Success
The Mickey and Carole Ghio Endowment
Mike McShane Memorial Endowment
Morse Steel Service Welding Endowment
Mount Baker Foundation Diversity, Equity
& Inclusion Endowment
Mt. Baker Imaging Endowment
Patricia McKeown Endowment
Pete and Naida Jane Deitsch Endowment
Phillips 66 Endowment
Ron Martinez Endowment
Rhodes Family Endowment
Rotary Club of Bellingham Endowment
Settlemyer Family Endowment
Sink the Dinghy Endowment (Bellingham Yacht Club)
Suzanne Taylor Lybecker Memorial Endowment
Thank You for Your Service Endowment
The Thomas and Martina Horn Foundation Endowment
United Steelworkers Local 12-591 Endowment
Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 165 Endowment

New endowments established in 2023-2024

Dave Dunning Memorial Endowment
IAM Local 2379/Intalco Employees Endowment
Jay Lund Fisheries Endowment

**The distribution to student scholarships from
the endowments was more than \$270,000.**

SCHOLARSHIPS ANNUAL

Available through the BTC Foundation for the 2024-2025 academic year.

4th Corner Elites Car Club Scholarship	HFSinclair Refinery Scholarship
Ahl & Ziels Scholarship	Holli Brawley Memorial Scholarship
AltaGas Lummi Scholarship	IBSS Scholarship
American Association of University Women Scholarship (AAUW)	IMCO Construction Scholarship
Ann & Rick Kaiser Scholarship	Ingram Family Fisheries Scholarship
Ariz and McQuade Scholarship	Jansen Foundation Scholarship
ASA/Frank Hanna Memorial Scholarship	Jim and Barbara Young Scholarship
Bank of the Pacific Scholarship	Jim and Joan Cunningham Scholarship
Betty Young Memorial Scholarship	John and Clare van Amerongen Hatchery Heroes Scholarship
Biella Foundation Scholarship	John and Mimi Ferlin Scholarship
Billee and Herb Ershig Scholarship of the Rotary Club of Bellingham Foundation	Katie Zowada WestEdge Credit Union GED Scholarship Fund
Bellingham Central Lions Club Scholarship	Kelly Knight Follis Scholarship
BIAWC Pathways to the Trades Scholarship	Lauckhardt Family Scholarship
Bob and Jeanette Morse Scholarship	Linde Gas Scholarship
Boersema Family Scholarship	LinuxFest NW Scholarship
BP Machining & Mechatronics Scholarship	Marion van Nostrand Scholarship for RN Single Parents
Brent and Cherie Walker Scholarship	Marty and Gail Haines Scholarship
BTC Foundation Scholarship	McNeese Scholarship
BTC Instrumentation Student Club Scholarship	NOAH Veterinary Scholarship
BTC Nursing Scholarship	Owl and Cedar Scholarship
Building Diversity Scholarship	Norma Smith Scholarship
Burnette Hazen Fund	Patterson Family Scholarship
BVTI Director Raymond S. Smith Scholarship	Peg Cutting Culinary Arts Scholarship
Cascade Natural Gas Scholarship	Peggy Hinton Memorial Scholarship
Celedo Fund COVID Heroes Nursing Scholarship	Price Brothers Surveying Scholarship
Champagne High School Scholarship	Pro Shop ERP Community Initiative Scholarship
Champagne Retraining Scholarship	Robert Boyles Memorial Fund
Chinn Women in Trades Scholarship	Robert L. Hinton Memorial Scholarship
Chuckanut Bay Gallery Scholarship	Russ Whidbee Accounting Scholarship
Chuckanut Health Foundation McEvoy Family Scholarship	Sharon and Steve Isenhardt Scholarship
Computer Network Programs Scholarship	Skeers Family Scholarship
CRSI Scholarship	Stantec Scholarship
Dan Bragg Memorial Welding Scholarship	Sunrise Rotary Club Scholarship
Dave Maricle HVAC Memorial Scholarship	Surveying and Mapping Scholarship
David & Cheryl Blair Scholarship	Technology Alliance Group Scholarship
David C Morse Memorial Scholarship of the Rotary Club of Bellingham Foundation	Thank You For Your Service Scholarship
David S. Goddard Trades Scholarship	Tiger Construction Company Scholarship
Dennis & Sylvia Holmstrom Scholarship	Topher Jury Memorial Scholarship
Douglas Blair Memorial Scholarship of the Rotary Club of Bellingham Foundation	US Bank Scholarship
EV Foundation Scholarship	Walker Kimberley Scholarship
Ferguson Foundation Scholarship	Walton Beverage Company Scholarship
For the Love of Pets Scholarship	Washington Fly Fishing Club Foundation Scholarship
foundry10 Scholarship	WCSRA/Velma Wendt Memorial Scholarship
Gary & Patty Nelson Scholarship	WECU Scholarship
Greg & Linda Cowan Scholarship	Whatcom Dream Scholarship
Group14 Technologies Scholarship	Whatcom North Rotary Club Scholarship
Ham and Dodd Scholarship	Williams Scholarship
Hank and Eric Baumgart Scholarship	Wilson Engineering Scholarship
	Women's Network of Phillips 66 Ferndale Refinery
	Western States Petroleum Association Scholarship
	Young Native American Women in Aquaculture Scholarship

DONOR HONOR ROLL

Includes gifts made between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the Honor Roll, errors may occur. Please inform us of any errors or omissions by contacting the Foundation office at 360.752.8684 or foundation@btc.edu

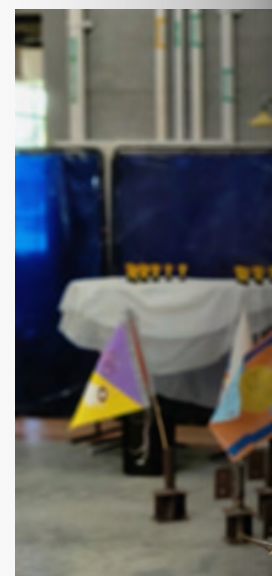
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A1DesignBuild	Chuckanut Builders	Barry and Brenda Hanson
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BTC Employee RECOGNITION

Last spring we held the annual BTC Employee Excellence Recognition Event: BTC Olympics – Work Together, Play Together. The BTC Foundation is proud to support the acknowledgement of BTC staff excellence at this annual campus recognition event.

2023-24

Honoring Our BTC Retirees

William Wells	10 years
Jennifer Lewis	13 years
Tim Stettler	18 years
Holly Kennedy	22 years

BTC Outstanding Performance Awards

The purpose of these awards is to recognize achievements, contributions and/or services that have significantly contributed to the goals, objectives and mission of Bellingham Technical College.

Nicole Carter, Culinary Arts Chef Instructor

Meghan Lippert, Veteran School Certifying Official and Funding Navigator

Annie Johnston, Central Receiving

Mike Mills, College Navigator

Academic Support Team: Library, eLearning & Tutoring

Haskell Faculty Award

Nicole Carter, Culinary Arts Chef Instructor

Employee Enrichment Award

Sebastian Schoelss, Creative Services Manager



BTC Advancement COLLABORATION

BTC Foundation

Dean Fulton, *Foundation Director*

Valerie Frank, *Program Specialist*

The BTC Foundation is located on the second floor of the David and Joyce Morse Center (MC) in rooms 201-202. Visit our website at www.btc.edu/giving to check our progress or support our mission.

Questions related to any Foundation information in this publication may be directed to Dean Fulton, Director of the Foundation, at dfulton@btc.edu.

BTC Communications & Marketing

Zoe Fraley, *Director of Communications & Marketing*

Sebastian Schoelss, *Creative Services Manager*

All publications produced on behalf of Bellingham Technical College and the BTC Foundation are created internally by the Communications & Marketing Team.

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