



PRESIDENT'S SHOUT-OUT

It can sometimes seem that we just pivot from response to response these days, whether it is new developments in pandemic conditions or more preparation for ctLink go-live or planning for accreditation visits. It can get lost that we still manage to deliver excellent technical education to our students at the same time and that creative initiatives are being explored in individual offices and programs and campus-wide. I'd like to shine the spotlight on just one of those today.

As part of the faculty professional development component of the Title 3/Guided Pathways plan, mentors have been assigned to new faculty. A faculty mentorship program has been a goal at BTC for some time; we consider it especially important since so many of our instructors come from industry, often with no experience in classroom instruction. Through the T3/GP work, we piloted the program last year and are providing mentorship on a broad scale this year. Mentoring is a great supplement to the onboarding work offered by Andi Zamora through the Teaching & Learning Academy and dovetails perfectly with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion goals embedded in the Guided Pathways outcomes and throughout our campus goals.

Current mentors are Brittany Palm, Jan Richards, Andrea Olah, Russell Jones, Scott Cory, Kyle Miller, Marcia Pederson, Judi Wise, Lisa Dzyban, and Greg Rehm.

Newer faculty in the mentor program are Spencer Berger, Nicole Carter, Patrick Harris, Natasha Barrow, Nina Karhinen, Laura Wurth, Mitchell Saberon, Ryan Anderson, Ali Ostadfar, Brian Aries, Mike Preuss, Todd Clardy, Carolyn Haupt, Michael Lanz, Audra Healy, Shelley Walker, Syvana King, and Kevin Burkeland.

As one of the participating faculty said, "I am really happy to do this. I have felt very isolated from my colleagues the last year and a half. This mentorship will engage me in a meaningful way beyond helping my students..." We appreciate the efforts of all those involved in the mentoring program.



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FISHERIES

Great news! The Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences program has an overloaded first year cohort and is looking forward to a new academic year. Of the incoming class, 48% are from outside Whatcom County and students have moved to Bellingham from Hawaii, California, Arizona, New York, Alaska, and Oregon to join the program. The program also has 100% retention from the previous spring quarter and second year students are working with instructors on a National Science Foundation (NSF) pilot project with the Ocean Observatories Initiative for oceanographic research. Of the graduating cohort from last year (June 2021), 83% are already working in fisheries and/or aquaculture related fields. Also, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science reached out to our program to recruit BTC graduates for shellfish jobs on the East Coast. We are currently setting up this pipeline to support the East Coast aquaculture workforce needs.

GRANTS

BTC partnered with the other technical colleges in Washington state on an Institutional Resilience and Expanded Postsecondary Opportunity (IREPO) grant application. This project is led by Lake Washington Institute of Technology and the grant was awarded in August. BTC will receive \$442,462 over the next two years, and will use this funding to provide additional eLearning support for students and faculty, as well as providing supplies and equipment to help BTC professional technical programs improve the quality of their hybrid and online offerings.

CTCLINK—GO-LIVE IS OCTOBER 25!

Many departments across campus are hard at work doing this transfer of systems. Please offer patience and grace if responses from coworkers are slower than usual. Check out the ctLink website for information, dates and training opportunities.

www.btc.edu/AboutBTC/ctcLink

SUBMIT YOUR NEWS

Notable News publishes in the third week of each month, aligned with our Board of Trustee meeting schedule. Please send your news and photos by the **9th of every month** to msmayer@btc.edu (Marketing Department) and say **Notable News** in the subject line!

STUDENT LIFE / ASBTC

The Associated Students of Bellingham Technical College (ASBTC) 2021-2022 Executive Team has hired three new Executives to complete the 7-person team. Our newest Execs are: Jarett Seiden, ASBTC Director of Finance, and Information Technology student; Destiny Rodenberger, ASBTC Director of Legislation, and Medical Administration student; and Josie Acevedo, ASBTC Director of Administrative Affairs. Josie is looking forward to being in the Rad Tech program once she completes early core courses.

The Associated Students of Bellingham Technical College (ASBTC) have collaborated with partners and colleges from across Washington state to celebrate two important cultural events: National Hispanic Heritage Month and Indigenous Peoples' Day. Through these collaborations, Bellingham Technical College was able to bring two high caliber keynote speakers to these events.

National Hispanic Heritage Month was celebrated on October 8th virtually through Zoom, with keynote speaker Maria Hinojosa. Maria is a Mexican-American journalist. She is also an Emmy award winning speaker, author, anchor, and executive producer of Latino USA on National Public Radio (NPR).

On October 11, BTC celebrated Indigenous Peoples' Day with keynote speaker Matika Wilbur. Matika is a member of the Swinomish and Tulalip tribes and is a critically acclaimed photographer who has spent the last ten years on her endeavor (Project 562) photographing over 400 Federally recognized tribal nations across the United States. You can view her project online at: www.project562.com

ASB Events:

Some of the ASBTC Executive Team members participated in the Whatcom Literacy Council Trivia Bee for BTC's team: Nursing & Welding & Trades, Oh My! This WLC fund-raising event drew 24 teams and was hosted by KAFE's Scotty VanDryver and Jeopardy!'s Ken Jennings. Our ASBTC team represented BTC and had a great time answering questions and being part of this event.

The Student Center's hours for fall quarter are:

Monday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (closed from 11:30 a.m. –12:30 p.m.)

Tuesday: 4 p.m. (closed from 11:30 a.m. –12:30 p.m.)

Wednesday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursday: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Friday: closed



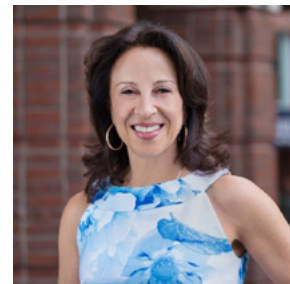
Destiny Rodenberger,
ASBTC Director of Legislation



Jarett Seiden, ASBTC Director
of Finance



Josie Acevedo, ASBTC Director
of Administrative Affairs



Maria Hinojosa



Matika Wilbur



Coast Salish Canoe Journey 2018

DATA & RESEARCH

October 25 marks the date that Bellingham Technical College will officially go live in PeopleSoft, our new student management system that is being implemented across all community and technical colleges in the state. While we know the new system will be a tremendous upgrade, it will also significantly change the way we operate here at the college and take a lot of legwork to get up and running. That is especially true for us here in Data & Research! If you are an individual who relies on us to provide data to help you with your work – in our dashboards or otherwise – here is what you'll need to know after we "flip the switch."

First, you'll still be able to access our BTC data dashboards, but they will be frozen, and no new data will be added for an extended period while we use the new system to rebuild the databases where they draw their data. Second, since we will be rebuilding our databases from scratch, we will be extremely limited in our ability to fulfill data requests. If you know you will need data, please plan accordingly and [submit your request](#) well in advance of when you'll need it. Third, PeopleSoft includes some built-in options for pulling data and reports, but since they are independently built and verified by users at other colleges and the State Board, we cannot guarantee the accuracy of the data they return. If you think you will need to pull data in this manner, please reach out to the Data & Research team and we will work together with subject matter experts on campus to verify their accuracy. Finally, it is to be expected that some of our data will look slightly different than it did before while we iron out the kinks in this completely new system. You can help us a great deal by notifying us anytime you find an oddity or something that looks a little strange. Together, we will be able to get back on our feet data-wise in no time! If you have any additional questions or want to learn more, please feel free to reach out to **Shawn Minnig** (sminnig@btc.edu).

VET TECH

Vet Tech Pinning Ceremony on September 15, 2021.

There are 22 students in the class of 2021 and 80% of graduates are already employed!!



BTC FOUNDATION

BTC Foundation Receives Major Gift. The BTC Foundation was the fortunate recipient of a \$30,000 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 adds to the endowment each year by contributing a portion of the proceeds from the group's annual classic car show.

This year they voted to increase their gift to support the students who were experiencing unusual financial stress during COVID. "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.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Featuring some of BTC's New Hires: It's hard to gather everyone together to show who they are....but here are a few new hires we managed to capture! We will find some other ways to share our other new teammates in the future!

In order of appearance left to right:

Brian Aries, Process Technology Faculty (tenure-track)

Trish Newbold, Director of Instructional Programs & Projects

Sarah Midgley, Admissions & Outreach Specialist

Spencer Berger, Chemistry Faculty (tenure-track)

Emilia Tyminski Holdaas, Counselor (annualized)

Patrick Harris, Nursing Faculty (tenure-track)

Michael Preuss, Electrician Faculty (tenure-track)

Cierra Johnson, Registration & Enrollment Clerk III

Angela Shipley, Registration & Enrollment Clerk IV

Annaliza Wilson, Registration & Enrollment Clerk III

Justin Webb, Helpdesk Supervisor

Michelle Rhodes, Program Office Assistant, Marketing (temporary)



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

BTC will hold a public hearing at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 30, 2021 via Zoom
<https://btc-tech.zoom.us/j/81147516935>.

The hearing will review the proposed revisions to
BTC's WAC 495B-121-250; 380; and 390, of the Student Conduct Code.

For more information, please contact Ronda Laughlin, Rules Coordinator at 360-752-8334 or rlaughlin@btc.edu.