I was so proud to be a part of ACT’s annual Transforming Lives Awards event this Monday, February 17. I attended with board members Jeff Callender and Brad Smith, as well as BTC’s student nominee, Irene Campbell. Now in her second year of our Dental Hygiene program, Irene returned to school after earning her bachelor’s degree so that she could provide a better life to her family. Her persistence, bravery and hard work is an inspiration.

She and the other outstanding student nominees are living proof that the work we do here at BTC, and throughout the two-year system, truly does change the lives of our students, their families and their communities. Events like this drive home the vital and transformative role that our college plays in people’s lives, and I thank each and every person on this campus for their work in support of our students.

ASBTC Executives Amy Gainza, Christopher Sanders, Cynthia Nokes and Lindsey Hanna attended the Council of Unions and Student Programs (CUSP) CTC Advocacy Day with President Perry in Olympia in January. The ASBTC contingent, along with President Perry, advocated on behalf of all BTC students with four legislators.

ASBTC also hosted Share the Love on February 11. Luis Ortega, from Storytellers for Change was our guest speaker. Luis shared community building and advocated for serving one’s community. He also talked about being vulnerable and bringing a true self to conversations and interactions with others. Overall, he encouraged us to connect with others! Chef Hilde’s Pastry Arts students prepared amazing desserts that delighted all the attendees!

ASBTC Food Pantry hours for Winter Quarter will be:

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday: 10 a.m.–12 p.m. & 2–4 p.m.
The Food Pantry is located on the third floor of Campus Center.

Food pantry Item of the Month for February:
Soup, stew, or beans in heat-and-eat containers

Upcoming Food-of-the-Month Items (non-perishable):
March: Grains in heat-and-eat containers
April: Chips, snacks, or crackers in individual serving sizes
May: Hotel-sized toiletries, personal care items

Donations are always appreciated!
VETERANS

The BTC Veterans Coat Drive was successful, and Alisen Outlaw brought five loads of donated clothing down to the Lighthouse Mission. Cosmetology also participated in the drive by offering a 25% service discount to those customers that participated. Thank you to BTC employees, students, and community partners who participated.

STUDENT FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Work-Study is available for the current 2019-2020 academic year!

Work-Study is a great opportunity for students to learn teamwork, develop new skills and earn income in support of educational expenses. Many Work-Study employees are placed by departmental referral. We encourage staff to consider whether you or your department are interested in hiring a student employee through the Work-Study program. To qualify, students must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), meet income requirements, be in good academic standing in an aid-eligible program and be 18 years of age. Work-Study employees typically work 10-15 hours each week and may earn up to $14.72 per hour.

Please contact Cathy McClellan in the Student Financial Resources Office for more information or to hire a student for a Work-Study position at cmcclellan@btc.edu.

ACCREDITATION

The Accreditation Steering Committee is still looking for two more faculty members to join to help inform the vital work the committee does on accreditation. Mike Massey says, “We are a well-organized and efficient committee,” and we’re fun! If you’re interested in joining, email RaeLyn at ramcbrie@btc.edu

CHILD & FAMILY STUDIES

BTC’s Child & Family Studies program hosted its 36th annual Focus on Children conference on BTC’s campus, with over 250 Early Learning professionals in attendance and 30 breakout sessions. Thanks to support from the Opportunity Council, WECU and PNW Chapter of WAEYC, we were able to give over 70 scholarships. Also, thanks to our amazing staff in Registration, Marketing, Computer Services, Cashiering, Facilities & Grounds, and Food Services. We could not do it without them!

TRY-A-TRADE

TUESDAY, MARCH 3 9 AM-1:30 PM
BTC CAMPUS (SETTLEMYER HALL)
COSMETOLOGY

Congratulations to BTC Cosmetology’s first graduate/licensed professional! (Pictured here with her client Carol) Way to go Ashley!

SHIFT

BTC’s SHIFT: Students Helping build an Inclusive Future for the Trades is putting on an Equity Summit at BTC February 27. The event, co-hosted with ANEW and the National Association of Women in Construction, will discuss best practices for supporting women and LGBTQ employees in non-traditional fields. Tickets that included dinner for $35 closed Feb. 13, but $15 tickets without dinner are still available. Rachael Wright shared about the event when she was interviewed on the Bellingham Chamber of Commerce’s Whatcom Report podcast on February 2.

SAFETY

February’s Safety Workshop will take place Tuesday, February 25, from 3:15–4:15 p.m. in the Cafeteria. The focus will be Trauma Response: Triage and Treatment Before the Medics Arrive, and it will explore campus emergency scenarios and what to expect when calling 911 from a campus phone. Nursing students and staff will discuss how to provide assistance prior to the arrival of the EMTs and Medics. To conclude the training, a representative for the Employee Assistance Program will discuss how to seek help and the programs available for secondary trauma you may experience after the event.

INFO SESSION WEEK

FAMILY & GUESTS ARE WELCOME! MARCH 9–12 5:30-7:30 P.M.
Is it true there’s a new lil fish in the Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences program?

Yes! Instructor Brittany Palm-Flawd had her baby girl, Everson, on January 31!