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KIM’S CORNER

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Student Life, Library, and eLearning put on the Winter Quarter New Student Orientation Tech Camps and Open House! We invited new and continuing students to attend two Tech Camps, offered by the Library and eLearning staff, and to visit the Student Center for a student ID card and to meet and network with ASBTC Executive Team members, Peer Coaches, MoneySmarts Mentors, and Student Ambassadors. We all made some great connections and helped students have a successful start to Winter Quarter.

Winter Quarter started off sweet with a pancake feed! ASBTC served 200 students who came in from the cold to get a piping hot stack of pancakes and all the trimmings. Students were able to connect and network with one another over breakfast, and then head off to class.

**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 January: Tuna, chicken, vegetarian proteins in ready-to-eat containers.

Upcoming Food-of-the-Month Items (non-perishable):
February: Soup, stew, or beans in heat-and-eat containers
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!

BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE | JANUARY 2020
BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

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NOTABLE NEWS: JANUARY 2020

**SHARE THE LOVE**

The annual Share the Love event will be held Tuesday, February 11, from 11 a.m.–1 p.m. in Settlemyer Hall. Students and employees can gather and share stories and food, including tasty desserts provided by BTC’s talented Pastry Arts students.

**FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE SCIENCES**

The City of Bellingham hosted a community work party Monday, January 20, for Martin Luther King Day with the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association and Washington Trails Association at Whatcom Falls Park. BTC’s Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences program hosted tours of the Whatcom Falls trout hatchery during the event so attendees could learn about the program and the work our students do. More than 500 people attended the event, including Congressman Rick Larsen and new Whatcom County Executive (and former BTC dean) Satpal Sidhu.

**HVAC-R**

BTC’s HVAC & Refrigeration program was rated first in the nation for value by Air Filters Delivered, which ranked schools throughout the nation based on program options, affordability and wages for graduates.

**WELDING**

The welding department is getting ready to complete its 1000th welder certification. The department is currently accredited to administer welding certification tests for Washington Association of Building Officials as well as American Welding Society certifications. All of our students that pass the welding test receive certifications from AWS and WABO. The AWS certifications are internationally recognized and we have had welders come from as far away as Ketchikan, Alaska, Surrey, BC and Bend, Oregon, to test. The next closest AWS test facility that offers testing to the public is in Redding, California. We offer certifications for the local marine-based industry that are proctored by the Coast Guard, certifications for structural steel including seismic for earthquake-resistant frames, aerospace with a mix of exotic alloys for local companies and structural aluminum.

The Sherriff’s Office brought the Welding program one of its recently acquired rescue and tactical vehicles for help with some updates and modifications. A group of second-year welding students were able to fabricate and weld up new bumpers for the front and rear, as well as numerous mounting brackets for all the new lighting. This project was a joint effort with the Automotive program as well, with John Palmer providing wiring expertise. Gary Patterson worked as the lead in getting this project done, and once again a great job was done by all involved.

The welding department has created and completed another project for a local non-profit group that helps out many in our community. The Lion’s Club wheel chair warehouse in Bellingham has always been a go-to place for help with many ambulatory needs. The project started as an idea from Gary Patterson to create signage for the warehouse and morphed into a very large-scale project that was fabricated by students Kathryn Sheffield and Lindsey Allen, using all donated materials from All American Marine and Jensen Lee Construction. All the aluminum welding was done by the students with much attention to detail. The final project is destined to be put on display at the wheel chair warehouse on West Bakerview Road.
MONEYSMARTS WORKSHOPS

BTC’s Money$marts is providing two free financial workshops for students this Winter Quarter! Students can learn how to budget and get helpful tips for reaching financial goals at the Financial Success Factors workshop on Tuesday, Feb. 11, and learn about credit at the Building and Maintaining Credit workshop Wednesday, Feb. 12. Both workshops take place from 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in G103 and are presented in partnership with WECU. Students who attend two Money$marts workshops in Winter Quarter will be entered for a chance to win a $25 Amazon gift card.

BAS

Students and the community can learn more about BTC’s Bachelor of Applied Science programs at a BAS Information Session Tuesday, February 11, from 3:45–5 p.m. in CC233. More exciting news on the BAS front: The Engineering Technology program goes fully online starting in Fall 2020!

BTC FOUNDATION

The Bellingham Technical College Foundation recently received a $28,000 gift to support student scholarships from the Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA). The member companies of the WSPA dedicate themselves to ensuring that we have sustained and reliable access to petroleum and petroleum products through socially, economically and environmentally responsible policies and regulations. This gift constitutes the largest single contribution that the foundation received to support student scholarships last year.

Every summer WSPA Associates and Partners organize a popular fundraising golf tournament, with all of the proceeds of the event benefitting scholarships at BTC. The scholarships primarily benefit students in programs that graduate and work in the petrochemical industry, including Process Technology, Instrumentation and Welding. “We are so grateful for WSPA’s support of scholarships here at BTC. This generous contribution dramatically affected the lives of fifteen students who were the recipients of this gift,” said Dean Fulton, BTC Foundation Director.
BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE
NOTABLE NEWS: JANUARY 2020

BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE
INFO SESSION WEEK
MARCH 9–12 5:30–7:30 P.M.

SAFETY
This month’s Safety Workshop will discuss basic workplace reporting systems, including when and how to submit a work order for safety concerns and maintenance, and who will respond to your request. January 28th, 3:30 – 4:30 in the cafeteria.

INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING & ADVANCEMENT FACTOID
Despite lower enrollment, we have a 16% increase of current students who are degree seeking and a 13% increase of in-program students compared to Winter Quarter 2019.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT
This month’s employee spotlight is shining on Rika Winquist, BTC’s Nursing Program Manager.

Q: What do you like to do for fun outside the office? Any hobbies?
A: Race sailboats and hang out with my dogs, preferably on trails and beaches.

Q: Any fun or funny facts that folks might not know about you?
A: I played Toto in the Wizard of Oz in middle school.

Q: Do you have any pets?
A: Two dogs, Lucky and Wyatt, and three chickens.

Q: If you could bring one food, book, and movie to a desert island, what would you choose?
A: Tacos, Zora Neale Hurston’s “Their Eyes Were Watching God,” and anything by Wes Anderson.

Q: Anything else we should know about you?
A: I started at BTC making coffee and working in the cafeteria, then I worked my way up from Tech I to Tech II to Program Manager.

RUMOR
OF THE MONTH
Does BTC’s Machining program have the key to the city?
Not quite! Machining students and faculty did create a key to the city for retired Bellingham Mayor Kelli Linville to recognize her 41 years of public service, and Machining Instructor Jeffrey Halfacre and student Romi Kinkade joined in the presentation of the key. Mayor Linville said the key was the greatest gift she’s received in her years of service, and something that will be cherished for years to come.