We want to welcome Interim President, Walter Hudsick!

Dr. Kimberly Perry, our past president, has officially retired and is now starting her new adventure on her farm in Georgia — and with that brings the good tidings of our new interim president, who many of us already know, but who in fact has a very interesting back story — read on about Interim President Walter Hudsick in his own words.

When I became VPAASL at BTC, I told people that I expected it to be my last, best job. I am delighted to be shown wrong and happy that the Board of Trustees has had the confidence to ask me to serve as Interim President.

My work experience has included stints in technical positions in the workers’ compensation insurance industry, as a small business owner, as a commissioned law enforcement officer, in library service, and as a community advocate. I have worked for city, county, and state agencies as well as in the private sector.

Latterly, I have found my focus and have been involved in higher education for the past 25 years or so. My first position in the field was as Director of Safety and Security at Clark College in southwest Washington. It was at this job that I found my calling in the community and technical college system and in our mission to change the trajectory of people’s lives. After finishing the appropriate education, I transitioned into the instructional side of higher ed as Director of the Writing Center at North Seattle College. I moved from the center into the classroom as a “freeway flyer” -- an adjunct faculty member at several schools in the Puget Sound area. I kept this up until I was offered a tenure track position at Cascadia College, where I did obtain tenure and also became Dean of Student Learning. I moved a little closer to Canada to become Dean of Professional/Technical Programs and later to serve as Vice President of Academic Affairs & Student Learning here at BTC.

I first attended college as traditional student in the 1970s and finally completed my undergraduate education in Criminal Justice and Philosophy as an adult learner 27 years later. Perhaps to make up for lost time, I managed to earn my master’s degree in Rhetoric in just 11 months.

While I grew up and came of age in New York City, I first moved to Portland, Oregon in 1978 and consider the Pacific Northwest my home (although I did live for a brief time in Charlotte, North Carolina). I now live in Fairhaven, adjacent to a greenbelt, overlooking Bellingham Bay, the train station, and the Alaska Ferry Terminal, a five-minute walk from Marine Park in one direction and Fairhaven Village Green in the other – overall, a pretty idyllic setting. I share my life with Coco (aka Wonder Wife) and our fur-kid, Selkie the cat. If I am in motion, it is likely walking the neighborhoods or riding a bike; if I am stationary, it is likely with the New York Times crossword or a graphic novel.

I am looking forward to my new position as Interim President and the chance to work across campus with the all the people who make BTC the innovative, service-oriented, student-centered institution that it is.

Walter Hudsick
On December 18, 2020, ASBTC held their annual Legislative Brunch with our local legislators. Attendees included: 42nd District Representative Alicia Rule; 42nd District Representative Sharon Shewmake; Amanda Hubik, Legislative Assistant to 40th District Representative Alex Ramel; President Kim Perry; Walter Hudsick, Vice President of Academic Affairs & Student Learning; BTC Board of Trustee (BOT) Chair Bradley Smith; BOT member Debbie Ahl; Foundation Board Chair Mike Burke; along with the ASBTC Executive Team: Luke Olson, ASBTC President; Kristina Daeley, ASBTC Director of Legislation; Max Millet, ASBTC Director of Finance; and Amy Redfern, ASBTC Director of Administrative Affairs, Kyla Lanham, ASBTC Director of Communications, and Christian Salvatierra, Director of Clubs and Organizations.

This year’s brunch was held virtually but we still had the opportunity to share a meal using DoorDash. We also mailed out appreciation boxes to the Legislatures and President Perry, of which were a great success! They included BTC branded items from Marketing and Communication and the BTC Campus Store, along with an epoxy bookmark handcrafted by the ASBTC team.

BTC library was selected for recognition by Alma which is the library software system that manages our library operations, including acquisition, cataloging, circulation, and the library’s online catalog. Traci Taylor submitted Dawn Hawley’s photo and a short sentence to be included in Ex Libris’ blog to celebrate 2000 Alma customers. BTC’s photo was one of five that were accepted out of many that were submitted.
2020 threw us multiple curveballs, yet through it all, our Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) went above and beyond to complete over 2600 hours of live trainings to prepare our college community for the transition to PeopleSoft in late October. Not only did they engage in multi-day trainings that spanned August through December, but they also completed scores of homework assignments and documents required for proper configuration of the software to meet BTC’s needs. The ctcLink Project Team and I (Nat Reilly, ctcLink Project Manager/ Organizational Change Manager) cannot thank the SMEs enough for their time, flexibility, sense of humor, and commitment to giving their all, not only during BPFG, but also in their daily responsibilities to students and college operations.

**A big Thank You to our Subject Matter Experts and project team leads(*)**.

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**IMPACT, TRANSITIONAL STUDIES & HS+**

We continue to help our community succeed. Fall quarter IMPACT! had 13 GED completers, and Transitional Studies had 13 HS+ diploma graduates, and 2 GED completers. Congratulations!

**CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Keep up on your learning with a variety of classes in our Continuing Education portfolio! Did you know that you can obtain training on your own terms and time schedule with our new asynchronous CE classes? BTC’s Continuing Education portfolio is ever expanding with classes for both employee and students. There are over 250 new asynchronous classes to choose from—check it out at [www.btc.edu/ContinuingEd](http://www.btc.edu/ContinuingEd).

**PAYROLL CHANGES COMING TO BTC**

As we prepare for a new payroll system to be implemented in the fall, the following changes are being made.

Effective April 1, 2021, all adjunct faculty, temporary and student employees will be paid twice a month on the 10th and 25th. For those affected, the first payment will begin on April 25, instead of May 10.

Timesheets will need to be submitted to your supervisor twice a month, by the 15th and last workday. Time worked between the 1-15 is paid on the 25; Time worked between the 16-31 is paid on the 10th of the ensuing month. Late timesheets will be processed in the following pay period.

Supervisors should submit approved timesheets to payroll@btc.edu by the 15th and last day of the month each month.

For those still receiving paper checks, we are requesting you complete a Direct Deposit form. Email payroll@btc.edu if you need a form for any question.
BTC FOUNDATION

The Bellingham Technical College Foundation is pleased to announce the formation of two new endowed scholarships at BTC. The Kimberley Family Endowment will benefit students in the dental programs at BTC and the Isenhart Family and Tiger Construction Endowment which will benefit students in any program at BTC. Both the Kimberley and the Isenhart families have strong ties to the foundation as Steve Kimberley is a current foundation board member and Sharon Isenhart was a foundation board member for many years and served as the Chair of the Foundation Board of Directors.

The total number of endowed scholarships at our foundation is now fifty-three (53) with a value close to $5 million. “These new endowed scholarships will positively impact many BTC students for generations to come - we are grateful for these remarkable donors and steadfast supporters of the college” said Mike Burke, the Chair of the BTC Foundation Board of Directors.

NURSING/ALLIED HEALTH

Last weekend our Nursing and Allied Health department partnered with PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center to get our front-line faculty and students their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine! PeaceHealth has been a fantastic partner and we appreciate their commitment to educating healthcare workers. Over two days they vaccinated 12 faculty, 50 nursing students, 15 rad tech students, and 12 surg tech students.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION

BTC is a finalist for the National Council for Marketing & Public Relations (NCMPR) Paragon Awards in the category of Annual Report which Sebastian Schoelss, BTC Graphic Designer designed. We are up against 5 other colleges across the US and the winners are announced on March 17, 2021.

Marni Saling Mayer served as one of five judges for the national Rising Star award for NCMPR, recognizing a college president for their outstanding contributions to the college system.

Notice of Public Hearing

BTC will hold a public hearing at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 26 via Zoom https://btc-tech.zoom.us/j/84479784399. The hearing will review the proposed revisions to BTC’s Washington Administrative Code 495B-121 Student Conduct Code.
For more information, please contact Ronda Laughlin, Rules Coordinator at 360.752.8334 or rlaughlin@btc.edu.