



## PRESIDENT'S SHOUT-OUT

There's so much happening on and with campus right now that we can forget that we are in the midst of implementing and institutionalizing the improvements to our instruction and services through the Guided Pathways initiative and that we are moving forward with a multi-year Title III grant to help us meet our goals. I would like to take a moment to recognize some people who are working hard in this area.

Director of Grants and Strategic Initiatives Susan Parker and Title III SIP/Guided Pathways Activity Director Tracy Reilly not only compete for holding the longest job title, but also serve as the sparkplugs for all the project aspects, keeping things coordinated as we move forward.

Dean of Professional Technical Programs Ray Kubista and Instructional Designer Lauren Hatch, along with faculty members Dan Beeson and Mike Massey, have made great steps toward the establishment of meta-majors and common course sequencing to improve student completion and reduce achievement gaps.

The indefatigable Andi Zamora has served as faculty lead for a nascent Teaching and Learning Academy, helping our faculty develop strong and equitable pedagogies.

Matthew Santos has led his Student Services colleagues in transitioning from an Advising structure to a Navigation model that provides wrap-around services to increase student success. Diana David and Shawn Minnig in IPA D&R are providing the research analysis and creating accessible dashboards, and Chris Flack has been developing the technology training that allows us to collaborate on data-informed decisions.

It's good to remember that even while we are responding to a pandemic and preparing to go live with a new computer system, we are still doing the good work of providing high quality, inclusive education to a diverse community. Thanks to everyone for their efforts.

BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE | MAY 2021  
BELLINGHAM TECHNICAL COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

## BEAUTIFICATION



You might notice a new addition to BTC's lower parking lot. About two weeks ago facilities installed BTC letters at the lower lot entrance. These are welded by Shelbie Stamey as a volunteer project to help brand and improve campus ground works. Fresh landscaping and hardscaping are in progress to dress up the base of the bed. Thanks to everyone who worked on this.

The Beautification Committee has been working on many ideas to spruce up the campus. The new BTC entrance sign welcomes students and park visitors alike, as they enter the main lower parking lot. This project was a successful collaboration between Facilities, Marketing and The Facilities Planning Committee, and proof that good plans often work out great for everyone. Reach out to [cglatz@btc.edu](mailto:cglatz@btc.edu) and we may get your idea to become a reality.

## EMPLOYEE CELEBRATION

**Join us** Wednesday, June 9, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Zoom for games, raffles and more! Join us for some camaraderie, and prizes. Don't miss your chance to win— Dress up as the super hero you are. What is your superpower?



## ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES

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Mary Gerard was invited to present at the Association on Higher Education and Disability's (AHEAD) National Spring Symposium. This was held on April 13 as a National Webinar due to COVID restrictions. Mary's presentation was titled **Disability Services: Critical Lenses Used in Our Work** which addressed ADA compliance, universal design, student development theory through the view that disability studies are not mutually exclusive schools of thought; they are critical lenses to analyze and inform our work.

## VACCINE CLINIC:

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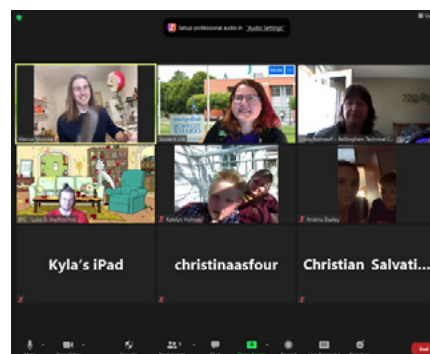
**Announcing: Walk-ins are now welcome** and our fabulous vaccine front-line volunteers are here to help. As a campus we need to get as many people vaccinated as possible to keep everyone safe, so encourage your students to come by and get vaccinated and stop by yourself too. Sign-ups are still available and now people can stop by—all to make it easier and more efficient. We challenge our campus to be the most vaccinated college in the system...let's make it safe for all!

## ASBTC

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The Associated Students of Bellingham Technical College (ASBTC) have some fun and educational virtual events planned for spring quarter. Up first on April 20, is Marcus Monroe, a high energy entertainer who combines juggling and comedy, and was a recent winner of the Andy Kaufman Award for originality and creativity in a performance. Next up, will be themed Trivia Nights every other Friday, starting Friday, April 23. Plus, the ASBTC are collaborating with several other CTCs during spring quarter. These events include C-Word Consent, to acknowledge Sexual Assault Awareness month, partnering with Whatcom Community College, Clover Park Technical College, Spokane Falls Community College, Walla Walla Community College, and Spokane Community College; and a Murder Mystery event on April 27 with Renton Technical College, Bates Technical College, Olympic College, and Skagit Valley College. Additional collaborations for spring quarter include celebrating and honoring Asian American Pacific Islander month and Pride month with speakers. More information about each event can be found at ASBTC's Canvas page. Enroll now at: <https://btc.instructure.com/enroll/XFX4HM>

The ASBTC Execs and some BTC students attended the 31st annual Students of Color Conference, via Zoom, over two days in April. Sessions included Mindful Moments: Finding Your Center During Challenging Times A Womxn's Place Is In the Struggle, Who am I? Exploring My Unique Identity, The Evolution of Alo-Ha: An Indigenous Way to Navigate Anti-Racist Conversations, A Discussion on Race, and Student Action-Challenging Hate and Inspiring Hope. This conference was guided by five main themes: Identity Development, Awareness of Others, Skills Development, Social Justice and Social Activism, and Personal Development. This conference was powerful and impactful. The speakers and sessions inspired the students to become more active proponents of their own education, life choices, and to expand the opportunities and possibilities for students to become agents of change.



## ACCREDITATION STEERING COMMITTEE

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The Accreditation Steering Committee (ASC) would like to give the BTC Campus a huge **"thank you!"** for participating in the development of the Year 6 report. So much hard work went into creating the report and the steering Committee wants to acknowledge just how big a part of it you all were.

The ASC approved the report on Monday, April 26, to move forward in the approval process. The next steps include approval from College Assembly, Administration, and the Board of Trustees.

## VET TECH STUDENTS, CHICKENS AND LIZARDS – OH MY!

These volunteer chickens came from a private pet flock (rescued animals) that belong to a Vet Tech Alumni! Four different breeds were in the lab and the students practiced handling; physical exams and nail trims on the live birds. This avian training also includes: anatomy; nutrition, common diseases and common nursing and diagnostic procedures.



Lisa Dzyban teaching  
Reptile Lab.

## CTCLINK



ctcLink continues to move forward towards our **Go-Live date of October 25th**. Your hardworking Project Team and SMEs (Subject Matter Experts) are gearing up to start Cycle 3 Data Validation. From May 13th to May 27th, SMEs will be reviewing how our existing Legacy data – data from FMS, PPMS, FAM, and SMS – populates in the new PeopleSoft environment. The work that is being accomplished at this stage of the project is vital to a smooth transition once everyone switches to using PeopleSoft. In addition to validating data, the Security Team has been meeting regularly to determine which security permissions are needed for each employee. Their number one priority is making sure each employee at BTC has the correct permissions in PeopleSoft to successfully complete their assigned duties. You might be wondering, “When will my training for ctcLink begin?” Have no fear! End User Training is scheduled to begin in August and continue through February 2022.

**Have questions about ctcLink?** Swing by the ctcLink Drop-In hours and chat with Nat Reilly! Every Tuesday from 9:00am – 10:00am, and every Thursday from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. <https://btc-tech.zoom.us/j/89477785839>

## BTC SHARES ACADEMIC ADJUSTMENTS INSIGHTS

On March 25, Mary Gerard and Julie Samms presented a virtual webinar: **One College’s Process - Academic Adjustments for English Language Learners**. The webinar outlined how BTC’s process for identifying and applying academic adjustments for English Language Learners has increased retention & completion at BTC, particularly in Allied Health programs. There were over 50 attendees from Washington State and a few from other states. The audience was made up of DEI Directors, ELL personnel, and civil rights advocates. Additionally, BTC’s former counselor, Jane Lowe-Webster, came out of retirement for an hour to help tell the story of how this practice developed. It was well received and many other colleges are considering adapting this best practice for their own institutions.

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

This month's Employee Spotlight features **BTC's very talented Emcee and BTC HVAC Instructor Marty Vande Camp**

**Q: What's your title here at BTC? Now and in the future?**

A: I am an HVACR instructor here at BTC. I plan to retire June 30th 2021.

**Q: What do you like to do for fun outside the office? Any hobbies?**

A: I like to fish, sing, spend time with my family, and impersonate people.

**Q: Any fun or funny facts that folks might not know about you?**

A: I have been in a few singing competitions (not American Idol).

**Q: Any pets or pet plans?**

A: Had a cat who we lost last year after 14 years.

**Q: If you could bring one food, book, and movie to a desert island, what would you choose?**

A: I'd bring Cheetos Cheese puffs, a good history book and the Movie Forrest Gump.

**Q: Anything else we should know about you?**

A: Grew up in a farming community in Southern Minn. and worked as a farm hand until I was 27 years old. At that point in my life I decided that it was time to set my own path. So, I went to trade school and learned about refrigeration, got a job in Northern Iowa and did OJT. Worked as a partner with my father in our own refrigeration business until my wife and I decided to move to Washington with our 4 children. I met several people over the years who were influential in helping me further my career. After 20+ years in the field there was a job posting for an instructor at BTC with my friend Dave M. I enjoy working with people who love helping people find a path to a fulfilling career in the trades. BTC has been a wonderful pace to work and get an education. The past year has been difficult for me as I am pretty social in nature and I really miss my colleagues and friends on campus each and every day. Carry on BTC!



## RUMOR OF THE MONTH

Marty is starting a tractor renovating business on the side. Well, not really but he has completely refurbished his own tractor:

This is my 1939 Farmall H tractor that my wife bought it for me in secret for my birthday in 2012 after seeing it along the road in Gold Bar, WA. To my surprise the engine was almost completely disassembled because one of the pistons was stuck, so I repaired it and have been attending local pulling events over the past 8 yrs. Finally last March, I repaired the brakes and seals on the tractor and decided to paint the brake covers. Well, that started the snowball effect that led to stripping all of the paint off of the tractor and now the whole tractor is painted and has a customized engine compartment and the black wheel rims.

I am hoping to present it at the Puget Sound Antique Tractor and Machinery Show in Lynden this summer.

