



Connections

AN ATD NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2 - October 5, 2022

IN THIS ISSUE

- [INTRO TO CONNECTIONS](#)
- [ATD RESOURCES](#)
- [TEAM HIGHLIGHTS](#)
- [HOW TO GET INVOLVED](#)

"Bellevue College gave me the confidence and trust in myself I needed at the time. My fellow students and teachers inspired me to dream bigger."

-- Michael Stewart (2021), BC Alumni

Intro to Connections

Welcome to the all new **BC "Connections" Newsletter**, your monthly resource for bite sized ATD updates! This month, shout-outs go to:

**BC students Daniel Eduardo Lam He, Theophile Theba,
& Ruth Quarshie!**

Let's welcome:

- **Daniel** will be joining MCS as the new Puente Peer Educator, representing for Costa Rica and majoring in Computer Science.
- **Theophile**, an original from the Republic of Congo, joins as the new UMOJA Peer Educator, bringing a wealth of ideas and an interest in Applied Sciences.
- And **Ruth** represented BC at the UMOJA Student Leadership Summit in August 2022 at UC Santa Barbara. There, students from CA and WA convened to discuss campus concerns and develop plans of actions to present at their colleges.

To learn more about other ATD Peer Educators, check out their highlights on BC's [Opening Day 2022](#) presentation.

ATD Resources

What is ATD?

ATD or "Achieving the Dream" is a national framework that Bellevue College adopted to improve its student success initiatives. In alignment with our ["Bulldog Trail"](#) and BC Guided Pathways model, students can clearly outline the requirements for graduation based on their chosen area of study or career objectives, from pre-entry to completion and beyond. Towards this goal, BC has developed several work teams including: **Data**, **First-Year Seminar (FYS)**, **Faculty Professional Development (FPD)**, **Guided Pathways (GP)**, **Integrated Student Support (ISS)**, and **Math Re-design**.

To learn more about BC's Approach to ATD and what goals we have accomplished for students, browse through [BC's ATD Homepage](#).

To stay up-to-date on milestones for our overall ATD work, check out our quarterly [Sway](#) E-report.



October Highlights

Umoja & Puente

The focus of the [**UMOJA \("Unity"\) Scholars Program**](#) at BC is to provide a supportive learning community and critical resources to enhance the cultural and educational experiences of Black, African American, and Pan-African students. The [**Puente Program**](#) at BC is a nationally recognized and award-winning academic program. It is dedicated to advancing the education of Latinx students, supporting them in reaching their academic potential and returning to their communities as leaders and mentors of future generations.

Both programs provide:

- Access to **mental health counseling** by African or Latinx diaspora Counselors
- **Connections** to financial, admission, and community resources and support
- Dedicated instructors with **culturally relevant teaching practices** for cohort classes and beyond, as well as tutoring from faculty and peers

- **Academic advising** specific to each community to create an academic road map and assist with the university transfer process

What's Happening:

Thanks go to **Shavon English** in Academic Advising for counseling UMOJA scholars enrolling in Fall 2022 courses!

- To kick off the Fall quarter, Puente and UMOJA held student orientations **Sept. 13th-14th**. Activities included faculty-staff networking, community building, and campus tours. Thanks go out to everyone from the BC Community that participated in welcoming students in-person!
- On **September 26th**, a panel for faculty and staff was convened in coordination with Faculty Commons to help faculty learn how they can get involved and become instructors for both programs' class cohorts.
- **Upcoming Events:** In late October, Puente will hold their first "**Noche de Familia**", where students, their families, and supporters will be invited to campus to meet and build community, while learning about the benefits that come with joining the Puente program.

For more information on how to join, direct students to [Umoja](#) or [Puente's](#) application sites.

How to Get Involved

We want you to be a part of student success! Three ways to learn more include:

- To connect with this volume's highlighted work team, contact [Darnita Boynton Howard](#) (UMOJA) or [Hector Guzman](#) (Puente), Program Leads.
- Plan to attend one of our ATD Core meetings held on the second Monday of every month from 3-4:30 pm. The link to join is via MS Teams.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[+1 206-899-2345](#) United States, Seattle (Toll)

Conference ID: 297 354 609#

- To become involved or connect a student to the work, email us at atdcomm@bellevuecollege.edu.



Bellevue College
3000 Landerholm Circle SE | Bellevue, WA 98007

Bellevue College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, language, ethnicity, religion, veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, including gender identity or expression, disability, or age in its programs and activities.

Please see policy 4150 at bellevuecollege.edu/policies/. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies: Title IX Coordinator, 425-564-2641, Office C227, and EEOC/504 Compliance Officer, 425-564-2178, Office B126.