



# Connections

AN ATD NEWSLETTER

VOL. 6 - February 6, 2023



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## Intro to Connections

Welcome to a special data-focused issue of the BC "Connections" Newsletter, your monthly resource for bite-sized **ATD/Guided Pathways** updates! This month, we're all about raising awareness of student success champions and data resources, as well as offering opportunities to inform decision-making on our student success goals and targets.

### Shout-outs go to:

BC Data Champions, ASG's Rebecca Mbaka,  
& Megan Watson

### Data Champions

Bellevue College is full of data champions—people who seek to be data-informed when making decisions and who think critically and thoughtfully about the data when seeking to make meaning. To that end, we want to highlight some key groups (and members!) who have demonstrated how data can advance student success and equity. This includes the **ATD Data Team, Bellevue College Deans, Excelencia Data Institute Participants and Pilot Team, Attendees of the Advising Summit, and our IDEAL Fellowship Participants!** For more on what impact these teams have on the students, checkout [February Highlights](#).

### Rebecca Mbaka

In alignment with it's mission of enriching student life, diversity, social justice and equity, we're proud to congratulate Rebecca Mbaka as BC's newly elected Associated Student Government (ASG) President. She is an international student from the Democratic Republic of Congo and is currently pursuing digital marketing. Check out our [featured quote](#) from Rebecca to see how ATD's equity goals align with her vision as a student leader.

### Megan Watson

The ATD/Guided Pathways Steering Committee and Leadership Team wish to recognize Megan for her outstanding leadership as ATD Communications Team Lead. Since 2021, she has worked to involve student voice early, guiding a team of Peer Educators to develop their communication skills through

managing the [ATD website](#) projects, facilitating modern outreach, and developing new communication outlets including this newsletter. Congratulations to Megan as she will be transitioning into a new role though she will be greatly missed.

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“[In Congo] it is commonly believed that women aren't capable of working [as] hard as men, especially in leadership positions. Experiencing that specific treatment really motivated me to run for this specific position as ASG President.”

--- *Rebecca Mbaka (2022)*

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## ATD Resources: Data Edition

### What is ATD?

ATD or "Achieving the Dream" is a national framework for improving its student success initiatives which Bellevue College adopted and made their own as **Guided Pathways**. To learn more about BC's Approach to ATD, including

information on our "[Bulldog Trail](#)", the BC's Guided Pathways model, and other workgroups YOU can become a part of, browse [BC's ATD Homepage](#).

## Would YOU like to learn more about how students are doing at Bellevue College?

All of our dashboards to help you explore our institutional measures of retention and completion are available via [BC Data Home](#) on SharePoint. Among these, the following two are specifically designed to monitor and report on our **ATD/Guided Pathways** student success initiatives:

- The [Achieving the Dream \(ATD\) Institutional & Supplemental Metrics](#) dashboard summarizes our ATD cohorts' progress through various measures of retention and completion, with the ability to disaggregate and filter by various student characteristics.
- The [Achieving the Dream Leading Indicators](#) dashboard looks at our ATD cohorts at quarterly points along their journey at Bellevue College to see where we may be able to invest resources to improve student outcomes. These may also offer early insights into how well we expect students to be able to persist and graduate.

If you would like to schedule a walkthrough of one or more of the college's dashboards, email [effectiveness@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:effectiveness@bellevuecollege.edu) to set up a meeting.



# February Highlights

## Data Team Impact

The **ATD Data Team** has worked tirelessly to establish a solid foundation for our understanding of student success metrics, goals, and initiatives. In addition to establishing the definitions for our student success cohorts and measures, the Data Team will be working to establish a proposed disaggregation framework for our dashboards and reports to be able to explore equity gaps and institutional effectiveness more deeply on meaningful student characteristics.

## What's happening:

- **Student Success Aspiration Goal Proposal**: On Monday, January 30, an email was sent to the campus community with a proposal establishing goals and targets for the student success measures of Fall-to-Fall retention and 3-year completion. Kindly provide your feedback through the **Student Success Goal Proposal Feedback Form**.
- **Data Champions:**
  - **ATD Data Team**: For their tireless work in establishing a solid foundation to our understanding and definitions for our student success cohorts and measures. To discover all the members of our data team, checkout our **ATD member roster**.
  - **The Bellevue College Deans**: For their thoughtful, deliberate, and data-informed approach to drafting goals focused on 3 year completion and Fall-to-Fall , and for their conversations around the transformational change necessary to make those goals a reality.
  - **The Excelencia Data Institute Participants and Pilot Team**: After attending the 2022 program built around using data to improve student success for Latino students, our team of faculty are pursuing a pilot project to explore the impact of those changes on student attendance, assignment submissions/grades, and disaggregated by race/ethnicity among other student characteristics. Thanks to ***Shayna Begun, Melissa Martinez, Zorica Wacker, Judy Hernandez Chapar, Ann Minks, Sandi Xhumari, Humaira Jackson, Cora Nixon, Jun Xu, and Christina Sciabarra.***

- **Attendees of the Advising Summit:** With the implementation of TargetX as our customer relationship management (CRM) platform for our students, there have been great strides in better documenting and communicating in a way that allows for us to glean important insights. Sincere gratitude to the academic advisors, program managers, and others who have participated in recent Summits, and especially to **Melissa Martinez** for facilitating the events.
- **IDEAL Fellowship Participants:** The SBCTC's Initiative for Diversity, Equity, Antiracism and Inclusion (IDEAL) Fellowship, a program in which a chosen few will convene with fellow students across the state, hear from guest speakers, and engage in critical equity discussions as they identify a practice on campus that is negatively impacting students and make data-informed recommendations for meaningful change to college leadership. Congrats to BC's five selected Fellows: **Jett Guymer, Akiel Joseph-Taylor, Rebecca Mujinga, Jeremiah Steel, and Mina Trice!**

For more information and to stay up to date with all work teams, check out [ATD Milestones!](#)

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## How to Get Involved

We want you to be a part of student success!

- **To learn** more about this volume's highlighted work team, connect with [Zach Morgan](#) and [Esteban Maldonado](#), ATD's Core Co-Leads.
  - To connect with Zach during available office hours:
    - **In-Person:** Monday, February 6, from 9-11am, Room A242D.
    - **On Zoom:** Thursday, February 16, from 2-4pm, Zoom link: <https://bellevuecollege.zoom.us/j/87618050302>
- **To attend** one of our ATD Core meetings held on the second Monday of every month from 3-4pm:

**[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)**  
**[+1 206-899-2345](#)** United States, Seattle (Toll)

- To connect an employee or student to the work, email us at [atdcomm@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:atdcomm@bellevuecollege.edu).



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