

Spring 2014

# EXCEPTIONAL

*the BELLEVUE COLLEGE magazine*

## INSIDE:

50th Anniversary Planning  
Begins

President Rule Completes  
First Year

New Veterans Monument  
Unveiled

**The New Health Sciences Building  
Construction is Underway** *(see pages 10-11)*



# EXCEPTIONAL

*the*  
**BELLEVUE COLLEGE**  
*magazine*

VOLUME I, ISSUE 1

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## About EXCEPTIONAL Magazine:

This issue is the first of two planned for 2014. The College Relations office welcomes comments from its readers. Address letters to Evan Epstein, Public Relations Office, Bellevue College, 3000 Landerholm Circle SE, Bellevue, WA 98007, or submit them via e-mail to [evan.epstein@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:evan.epstein@bellevuecollege.edu). The publication is also published online in PDF format at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/about/publications/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/about/publications/), or view at [Issuu.com](http://Issuu.com).

**On the Cover:** The Health Sciences Building NW Entry (architect's rendering)



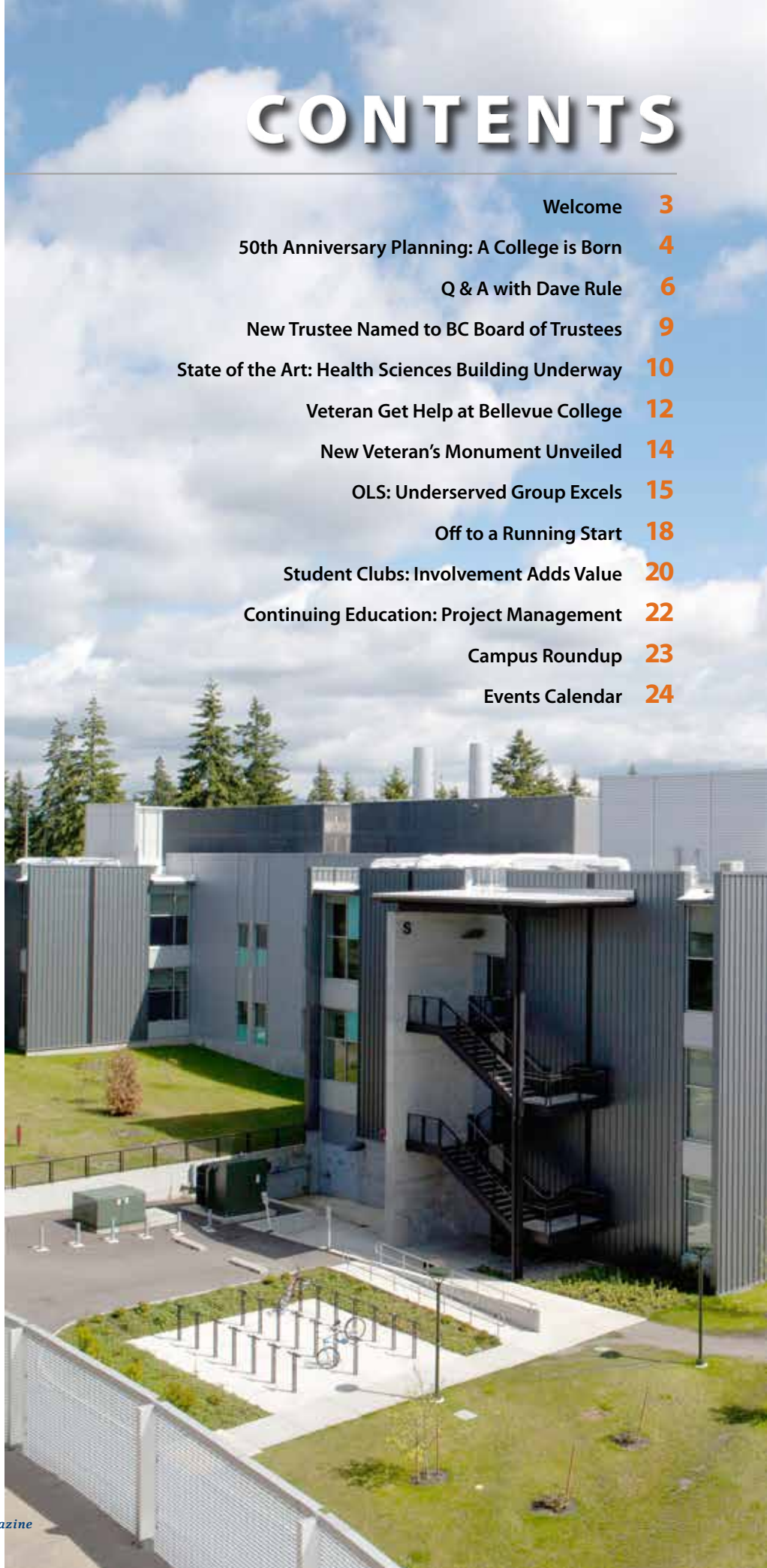
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# CONTENTS

Welcome	3
50th Anniversary Planning: A College is Born	4
Q & A with Dave Rule	6
New Trustee Named to BC Board of Trustees	9
State of the Art: Health Sciences Building Underway	10
Veteran Get Help at Bellevue College	12
New Veteran's Monument Unveiled	14
OLS: Underserved Group Excels	15
Off to a Running Start	18
Student Clubs: Involvement Adds Value	20
Continuing Education: Project Management	22
Campus Roundup	23
Events Calendar	24







The stairs in the Student Union lead to the recently remodeled Student Programs office.

# WELCOME

*to the first edition of Exceptional!*

**When you think of Bellevue College, what comes to mind?** Most alums are reminded of our qualities of innovation, diversity, and educational excellence. In this first issue, we celebrate the first year of our president's tenure, our history, our unique Occupational Life Skills (OLS) associate degree, our Veteran students, our Running Start students, the accomplishments of our faculty, and our rich culture of diversity and student involvement. By enriching student life through leadership opportunities, personal learning and cultural experiences, we are committed to building a campus community that fosters creativity, innovation and student success.

Created by the College Relations staff, this edition of the magazine marks an historic occasion as well as calling attention to our upcoming 50th Anniversary. In January, Dr. David Rule capped his first year as president of Bellevue College, the ninth president in our 47-year history. A feature article inside will give you a chance to learn more about Dave.

**As we approach our 50th Anniversary in 2016, we are calling for public and alumni support by sharing your personal story of involvement with Bellevue College, volunteering to join the anniversary planning committee, or offering a donation.** And if you have old photos of your, or your mother's, father's or grandparent's time at BC, we would be very grateful if you shared them with us.

Finally, we want to thank all of you for your continued support of Bellevue College. BC is a unique and special place and none of what we do could be accomplished without the generosity and interest given by our community.

~ The BC Magazine Staff

The BC Science Building is a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold building.

# A College is Born

*...celebrating our past, building for the future*

by Bart Becker



**In 1968, the first graduating class of Bellevue Community College had a total of 32 graduates. In 2013, there were 2,481.**

**In 1957, when the entire population of the Eastside was only 22,000,** a community college planning committee of Eastside citizens and school district officials was formed. That committee made enough progress in five years that voters in 1962 passed a \$575,000 levy to establish a junior college.

A year later, in 1963, the Bellevue School District purchased 70 acres


for a campus. And three years after that, in January 1966, Bellevue Community College finally opened with 464 students in a temporary home at Newport High School.

Classes on the main campus didn't begin until fall quarter of 1969. Even then, memories of those early days center on portable classrooms and the challenge of crossing vast muddy stretches of campus, which has

expanded to nearly 100 acres near I-90 and 148th in the Eastgate neighborhood.

Since then, BC's growth has paralleled the meteoric rise of the Eastside itself, from sleepy little towns to dynamic world-class cities.

In April, 2009, the college changed its name to Bellevue College. BC is the third largest higher education institution in Washington State (behind the UW and WSU) and the largest in the community college system. BC sends more students on to four-year schools than any other community college in the state and in the past several years has begun to offer bachelor's degrees in addition to programs that can lead to academic transfer to a 4-year college, transition to a new career, advance in a current career, or for personal enrichment.

The college serves an area which stretches from Lake Washington to the crest of the Cascades. In a typical year now, the college will touch the lives of some 37,000 learners. BC has long been a leader in lifelong learning, and has the largest Continuing Education program in the state, housed in a North Campus building near 148th and Highway 520. 

## Bellevue College Presidents

*(Bellevue Community College 1966-2009)*

<b>1966-1976</b>	<b>Dr. Merle Landerholm</b> <i>(at right)</i>
<b>1976</b>	<b>Dr. Roy P. Wahle</b> <i>(interim)</i>
<b>1976-1977</b>	<b>Dr. Wayne G. Siegel</b>
<b>1977-1983</b>	<b>Dr. Thomas E. O'Connell</b>
<b>1983-1988</b>	<b>Dr. Paul N. Thompson</b>
<b>1988-1989</b>	<b>Dr. Richard White</b> <i>(interim)</i>
<b>1989-2011</b>	<b>B. Jean Floten</b>
<b>2011-2013</b>	<b>Dr. Laura Saunders</b> <i>(interim)</i>
<b>2013-present</b>	<b>Dr. David L. Rule</b>







In 2013, the BC gymnasium could no longer accommodate the increasing number of graduates so commencement was held at the Key Arena in Seattle.



## Want to be a 50th Anniversary volunteer?

We plan to celebrate for one year in a variety of ways and then have a grand celebration on the 2016 anniversary date, so we need lots of ideas and lots of help! If you would like to help a little – or a lot, please email [evan.epstein@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:evan.epstein@bellevuecollege.edu).

## Are you a Bellevue College alum?

*If you have:*

- 1** Taken any type of class at Bellevue College
- 2** Earned a degree
- 3** Completed a program
- 4** Earned a certificate
- 5** Transferred BC credits to a university

*then you are a BC alum!*

# POST

Please post your BCC/BC memories and photos on our 50th Anniversary Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/BellevueCollege50thAnniversary](http://www.facebook.com/BellevueCollege50thAnniversary)





# Q & A with Dave Rule

*...president wraps up his first year on campus*

by Evan Epstein

**Dave Rule spent the past twelve months acclimating himself to his new role as Bellevue College's ninth president. As he prepares for his second year on the job, the father of three sat down with us to let us in on a bit more about his plans for the future and what makes the man on the motorcycle tick.**

## **Q: What does being president of BC mean to you?**

It means being extremely humbled and honored. Really, this is a dream job: Bellevue College is a destination college for someone in my position. It is the recognized flagship of the Washington State Community and Technical Colleges (CTC) system: we're the largest; we're known for our innovation; our willingness to be entrepreneurial. To have been selected to serve as its leader is just amazing.

## **Q: As what type of leader do you see yourself?**

I tend to be a participatory leader. I'm perfectly comfortable with the fact that I don't know all the answers; I don't need to have all the answers myself. One of the great things about working in a college is that we have an amazingly educated, talented faculty and administration, so while I lead, I do so by consensus and tapping into the brain-trust of the staff. No one person has an exclusive and perfect view of the college, so it's important to gather input from them. I try to be as transparent as possible in my decision-making process.

Every college struggles with communication – they're big, complicated places, and transparency is good for all involved.

## **Q: What is the BC identity and how do you plan to continue strengthening and cultivating it?**

We are entrepreneurial; we were the ones pushing for the baccalaureates; we're the center for excellence in IT; we have innovative programs; we're the largest transfer institution to UW. So part of my task is to continue that tradition and explore what that means for the future. As we struggle appropriately with questions of our identity, we have to examine, what does it mean now that we are accredited as a four-year school? What role will we play in the local community? How will our programming adapt to the community's needs for four-year programming and associate

degrees? What does the future hold for us as a residence college? We are a college in transition. And so my task, as I see it, is to move us into the future. The future is an undiscovered country and that's what makes it so exciting!

## **Q: How have you and how will you continue to engage with the BC community?**

I spend as much time as I can walking around the campus. I build in time to my schedule to walk around one building per day. I also like to sit out on the benches on campus, weather permitting, to get a sense of what is going on and meet people. I am a guest lecturer in classes as well. The office of the presidency can be a trap – this is my third time as a president and I know how the office can just suck you in, so I hold regular office hours in the faculty commons.



I also eat in the cafeteria with the students. Students are the reason we exist and I find they will tell me what is on their minds. You get an honest and unfiltered viewpoint from them and I really appreciate that. Off campus, I am involved with Rotary, several chamber boards, and I attend as many community events as my schedule will allow. Really, as much as is humanly possible, I try to get out there.

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### **Q: What are your plans for the next year?**

The primary goal for the upcoming year is for us to take the time to chart a course for our future. Bellevue College is going to celebrate 50 years of service to our district and the greater Puget Sound in 2016 and now is the time for us to pause and decide where we want to go as an institution. We are developing our very first strategic, academic and student plans that are both individual and integrated with one another. As we plan for our 50th birthday, we must also work towards building a foundation and reaching out to the community. I am often told that Bellevue College is the best-kept secret, and part of my task is to change that – I don't want to be the best-kept secret anymore; we need and must have a more outward focus.

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### **Q: Where would you like to see BC in 5, 10, 15 years from now?**

I would love to see Bellevue College becoming the premiere, urban two-plus-four-year college in the nation: Open enrollment, residencies, offering a full-array of associate and baccalaureate degrees – really meeting the needs of our community and being known for academic excellence, retention, graduation, transfer rates, and employment rates. I would love to find ourselves in a situation where we have too many requests from other

colleges and universities wanting to come to Bellevue to figure out our secret sauce.

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### **Q: What's the importance of the relationship that BC enjoys with Bellevue and the Puget Sound region?**

We have a stellar reputation. Whenever I am out in the community, whether it be in Bellevue, Issaquah, within the district, in Seattle, or anywhere in the state, everyone knows about Bellevue College and everyone speaks with the highest regard for Bellevue College. In that respect, the task for myself and the college is to acknowledge that place of leadership and to utilize these positive relationships and sentiments that people have about Bellevue College to help us really grow into this vision that we are all participating in. We need to use this to strengthen our partnerships with business and municipalities. I just came back from a week-long trade mission with the governor's staff to China, and I think that's a perfect example of how the college can step into that leadership role.

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### **Q: What do you see as the potential of Bellevue and the Eastside?**

One of the questions I am asked is why Bellevue dropped the word community from its title. Even though we dropped that word from the college's name as a means of announcing our accreditation as a four-year school, we're still a part of the CTC system and we are still the community's college. Our trustees are selected by the governor from our local community and the college's move toward offering four-year degrees, toward becoming a residence college, is



**President Rule spoke at the unveiling ceremony of BC's new Veteran's monument (see pg. 14)**

directly tied to the community's demand. Aside from the flagship university (UW) there is no other public four-year college in the greater Seattle-metro area. So, when I look at the eastside, we are responding to our community's need for a four-year college. Accredited degrees are a requirement for entry into a majority of career fields. We are who we are because the community needs us to be this.

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### **Q: What's the status of baccalaureate degrees?**

Our five, almost six baccalaureate degrees are coming out of their infancy and the academic master planning that is currently underway will provide us greater detail as to what specific areas may end up with a BA program in the future. Generally speaking, the college is known for its information technology – we are the state's center for info tech; we have strength in biology, com-



puting, and environmental science. Whatever direction we choose to go for future bachelor degree offerings, we will certainly leverage our current strengths. We will, however bear in mind that we are a member of the Community and Technical Colleges system and as such, we remain ever mindful of our counterparts and the areas of study in which they excel. It allows us the freedom to concentrate on our own strengths.

### **Q: How do you imagine continuing and strengthening the momentum that BC has achieved in the past decade?**

Campus-wide discussions such as the academic and strategic planning currently underway are helping to ensure that we keep a keen focus on our commitment to excellence in academics, social justice and diversity as well as our mission to remain nimble in our response to community needs. One of the things that any college has to be mindful of is losing its focus of who it is and where it wants to go. We don't want to personify the expression of a mile-wide and an inch-deep! One of my hopes for the current academic year with all this planning is to really focus and build consensus

around our direction as an institution. I like to use the analogy of a compass heading: We're not necessarily a career-focused school – a school that only does, say health professions and of the health professions, specializes in imaging – we're broader than that. But at the same time, a danger can be trying to be all things to all people. If you don't know where you're going, all roads lead there. So we need that compass heading.

### **Q: What successes at BC are you the most proud of?**

I've only been here a year! I am standing on the shoulders of the great women before me! I look out the window and I see the science and technology building going up. I see the science building that we have now; the acquisition of land to consider better-serving our eastside residents; the move into the baccalaureates and the desire to expand that part of our mission. The truly forward-looking leadership that this college has had from the faculty and the administration is what drew me here! I came from a place where I was a part of one of the largest community colleges in the nation – 95k students and growing – it took a place

like Bellevue to pull me out of that, because Bellevue's reputation, future-orientation, the amazing quality of the faculty and the quality of the leadership is second-to-none!

### **Q: What do you see as the biggest misconception about BC and how do you address it?**

We are now an accredited, four-year school, but there's this misconception that people have of what that means institutionally. Yes, we offer baccalaureate degrees, but we still offer the excellent associates degree programming and continuing education we did before. We may have changed our name, but we're still a part of the Community and Technical Colleges system. Also, there's a misconception about the speed with which we can respond to various needs. We are an academic institution, and because of that, it takes time to work through our development process. It takes appropriate time, granted it's at warp-8 compared to the large universities! A great example of this is the possibility of building dorms on campus: the fastest I could ever envision dorms with students in them is three years out. To our neighbors, this seems very slow, but it will take us a year alone to answer the critical questions: what do they look like? What will the student population be? How much should they cost?

### **Q: What do you like to do in your down time?**

I'm married with three children – I don't have any down time! I have two boys, 13 and 15 and a daughter who's 11. My first priority is my family: Running my eldest son to his fencing lessons and tournaments, or working with my middle son on his speeches for his debate team, or running my daughter around to American Girl doll stores or soccer games. My children have grown up on college

Motorcycle riding is President Rule's long time passion.






campuses – this is all they’ve ever known – their dad being a college president for the most part.

I’ve been motorcycling since the day after I received my driver’s license: I got my car license on my 16th birthday and I showed up the next day and got my motorcycle license. My wife rides as well. I didn’t get as many rides in this summer as I usually do since my family moved up from Portland this summer. So the only real trip I was able to get in was with a friend from Portland – we rode a lap of the Olympic Peninsula in September. Serving as a college president in various parts of the country I’ve been to Maine, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan via motorcycle. I ride year round here – the rain shovels easy! I’m from upstate New York and Michigan, where by now I would have put the motorcycles in a storage bin somewhere. Obviously I don’t ride as much this time of year here, but I have waterproof gear.

## Q: What about you might surprise people?

I ride motorcycles, have pierced ears, have tattoos – just two at the moment, but my children think I should get another one. I like turtles, partly for the symbolism: longevity, wisdom... but my favorite turtle is Crush from *Finding Nemo* and my boys have decided I should have Crush as a tattoo. I’m not sure my wife would appreciate that one.

I never planned on being a college professor or president – that just sort of happened. People ask me how I ended up in my career trajectory and I have to tell them that they give me way too much credit: I changed majors several times. If you were to ask my friends from high school, they’d say, “Dave? A college president?!” They elected me class president as a joke... little did they know! 



Washington Governor Jay Inslee named Merisa Heu-Weller, of Bellevue, to the Board of Trustees of Bellevue College. In this role, Heu-Weller participates in the six-member board, overseeing college operations and finance.

“Bellevue College is very fortunate to have an incredibly supportive community of civic and business leaders, ready and willing to step into governance roles,” Bellevue College President David Rule said. “Our board is second to none.”

Active in her support of education, Heu-Weller has volunteered with Rainier Scholars, an educational pipeline program in Seattle geared toward preparing seventh-grade children for a college career. She also helped launch The Learning Seed, a non-profit foundation providing scholarships for high school and college students, as well as SAT Coach, a SAT preparation admissions consulting business for area high school students.

## Heu-Weller Named to Bellevue College Board of Trustees

“I have a passion for higher education and Bellevue College is a critical resource for our community,” said Heu-Weller. “I am thrilled to serve on the BC board and be able to contribute to this important and valuable resource.”

Heu-Weller, an attorney for Microsoft, specializes in employment law. Prior to her tenure at Microsoft, she served as an employment and labor lawyer with Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP, and was a law clerk at the Washington State Supreme Court to the Honorable Mary Fairhurst. She has also been a contributing author to *Compensation Today*, a national human resources blog. She also writes articles about and speaks on issues related to social media and the workplace.

As an active member of the community, Heu-Weller also served on the Friends of Youth board and is a board member of the Leadership Team at Evergreen Covenant Church.

Heu-Weller earned her Bachelor of Arts degree with Honors in Political Science from Stanford University and her JD from the University of Washington.

Heu-Weller replaces Paul Chiles, who retired from the Bellevue College Board after a 10-year term.

Have you seen our CLOSING THE GAP VIDEO?

[www.bellevuecollege.edu/diversity/2013/09/30/watch-the-closing-the-gap-music-video/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/diversity/2013/09/30/watch-the-closing-the-gap-music-video/)





**Above:**

An architect's rendering of the Health Sciences building site plan featuring two green roofs and multiple rain gardens. Inset is the northwest entry as featured on the cover.

**Right:**

Two dedicated nursing labs will accommodate 20 hospital beds (shown is architect's rendering of a lab).





# State of the Art

*...Health Sciences building is underway*

by Bart Becker

## Right now it's just a construction site, muddy and surrounded by chain link.

But in 2016, Bellevue College's newest building will open – a state-of-the-art Health Sciences facility.

The \$39 million, 70,000-square-foot building will house BC's growing Health Sciences programs, with laboratories incorporating the latest technology, providing an improved teaching and learning environment for students and faculty.

"The new health sciences building will bring together diverse programs currently spread across campus, allowing for cross-disciplinary collaboration," said Leslie Heizer-Newquist, interim dean of the Health Sciences, Education & Wellness Institute.

Nursing, BC's oldest and most established Health Science program, dating to the college's founding in the mid-sixties, will benefit greatly from the new facilities, which will feature two dedicated nursing labs with 20 hospital beds, and a five-room medical simulation lab. The new building will complement the expected growth of the Nursing program and the bachelor's degree program in nursing.

Additional programs that will relocate to the new building include: Radiation Therapy, Radiologic Technology, Radiation and Imaging Sciences, Diagnostic Ultrasound, Neurodiagnostic Technology, Nuclear Medicine Technology, and BC's bachelor's degree program in Healthcare Technology and Management.

In addition to the nursing facilities, the building will incorporate two radiology labs with x-ray machines, separate labs for radiation therapy,

nuclear medicine technology and phlebotomy, and classrooms, administrative offices and meeting space. The building will be constructed according to LEED Gold standards, the second highest rating, and will incorporate environmentally-sustainable features such as a vegetation-covered living roof, the use of recycled building materials and geothermal heating.

The building will be located close to Landerholm Circle, across from the Science Building, which opened in 2009.

## Programs:

- › Nursing
- › Radiation Therapy
- › Radiologic Technology
- › Diagnostic Ultrasound
- › Nuclear Medicine Technology
- › Neurodiagnostic Technology
- › Health Professions (including phlebotomy, medical office reception and other certificates)
- › Radiation and Imaging Sciences
- › Healthcare Technology and Management



A BC nursing student practices her skills on a SimMan® patient simulator.

## Notable Features:

- › Two nursing labs with 20 beds, and a five-room medical simulation lab, featuring SimMan® patient simulators
- › Two radiologic technology labs with x-ray machines; separate rooms for observation and control
- › Radiation therapy lab, incorporating a 3-D simulator of treatment machines
- › Neurodiagnostic technology lab, the only one of its kind in the region
- › Phlebotomy lab
- › Classroom, lecture and meeting space; offices for faculty and staff in the college's Health Science, Education and Wellness Institute **B**

## SUSTAINABLE BUILDING FEATURES

- Constructed according to LEED's GOLD rating
- Design & construction will include environmentally-sustainable features such as:
  - › geothermal heating (a green power technology)
  - › integration of recycled and regional materials
  - › vegetation-covered living roof
  - › water-efficient landscaping

# Veterans Get Help

...at Bellevue College

by Sharon Berg

**Since the Post 9/11– G.I. Bill was passed in the fall of 2008, Bellevue College has responded by adding more services for veterans.**

Federal education benefits for veterans represent a substantial investment by the government and by veterans in time and effort. But veterans can encounter serious obstacles as they adjust to academic life and that is why BC's Veterans' Office is so important. Access to career and education advising programs enable more veterans to successfully complete degrees and to pursue satisfying careers.

In a Military.com interview, Kathy Snead, director of Service Members Opportunity Colleges, a government-funded organization that helps veterans complete their degrees, said

**Assisting U.S. Army veteran Thomas McElearney, Jr., are Leslie Strand, assistant financial aid director, and Veterans' Office assistant and U.S. Air Force veteran, Joshua Kienlen.**

"A campus veterans' organization or office that helps service members feel more engaged in student life is one key indicator of whether they will be academically successful." At Bellevue College they get both: a Veterans' Office and they can join the Bellevue College Association of Veterans.

Located in the Student Services Building, BC's Veterans' Office helps veterans activate their Veterans Affairs (VA) Educational Benefits, which can be confusing without help. Getting direction from the Veterans' Office staff is very important since there are actually several different GI Bills with different eligibility requirements and benefits. We're here to help them move through the process of getting the best benefits possible.

A lot of progress has been made in serving veterans in the past 10 years. We have established a Veterans' Advisory Committee (VAC), established the Bellevue College Veterans Associ-

ation (BCAV), and created a Veterans' Navigator position, in partnership with the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs. The current Veterans' Navigator is Pete A. Smith who helps our veterans work with all the various college departments to make their academic and professional life successful.

Over the years, through the direction of the VAC, BC has offered classes to faculty and staff educating them about how to work with veterans. Well-known experts on veterans' issues have been speakers, including Dr. Bridget Cantrell, Dr. Peter Schmidt, Dr. Edward Tick, and Dr. Scott Copeland.

The Veterans' Advisory Committee is actively looking for members. If you would like to participate in making a difference for veterans attending Bellevue College, please contact the Veterans Office at [veterans@bellevue-college.edu](mailto:veterans@bellevue-college.edu) or call (425) 564-2220.

Veteran's Office staff, several of whom are veterans themselves, help our student veterans through the hurdles to enrollment they may face. One of the hurdles is the timing of payments coming in from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). It can present a problem if receipt of payment doesn't line up with college tuition and class enrollment deadlines. If the VA tuition payment is past our tuition deadline staff can add a deferment code to ensure that veterans don't get dropped for non-payment.

The office also helps our veterans get the classes and books they need and when they need them. Students need to have their books at the start of the





quarter, so staff also works with the VA to get book allowances for veterans upfront.

Once veteran students receive aid, maintaining eligibility is an ongoing process. In addition to re-applying each year, they need to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and make sure they manage class enrollments and payments in a way that will not jeopardize or delay receiving their award. "We help them learn the ropes of how to keep their aid," says Leslie Strand, assistant Financial Aid Director in charge of the Veterans' Office.

Most veterans attending Bellevue College are young, many under 30 years old, and eligible for GI Bill assistance. BC also has some older veterans and retirees, but most of them have used up their entitlement. There are also benefits beyond education that the Veterans' Office can help with, including help finding resources and making referrals to other services through numerous agencies.


Though they make up a relatively small subset of the student population, veterans have made a positive impact on campus. Student veterans have created a culture of respect for veterans and enrich many classes with their contributions to class discussions and projects. 



Photo credit: Daniel Berman

**Aaron Malec,  
president of the  
BC Association  
of Veterans and  
Carl Moa are  
proud veterans  
and BC students.**

## BC Receives 2014 Military Friendly Schools® Designation

For the fifth consecutive year, Bellevue College has earned a place on Victory Media's Military Friendly Schools® list. Military Friendly Schools® are the top 20% of colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide that deliver the best experience for military students. These schools embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

The list was compiled through extensive research and a data-driven survey of more than 10,000 schools approved

for VA tuition funding and 4,000 student veterans. This feedback provides prospective military students with insight into the student veteran experience at particular institutions based on peer reviews from current students.


A full story and detailed list of the 2014 Military Friendly Schools® was highlighted in the annual Guide to Military Friendly Schools®, distributed in print and digital format to thousands of active and former military personnel in October 2013.



## Are You a Military Member or Veteran Seeking Career Help?

Bellevue College's Veterans Program is designed to assist military service members and their families with a broad array of career-oriented services. Whether you are active duty, a reserve member, or a veteran, we are here to help you and your family with assistance selecting a career path, writing a resume, connecting to jobs

or internships, and much more. Veterans' career help is available through The Center for Career Connections, located on the 2nd floor of the "B" Building (Student Services) on the Bellevue College Main Campus.

**Questions?** United States Air Force veteran Wesley Jones, BC's Veterans Career Advancement Program Manager (pictured left), would be happy to take your call at (425) 564-2279 or you can e-mail him at [wesley.jones@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:wesley.jones@bellevuecollege.edu). 

# New Veterans Monument

*...unveiled at Bellevue College*

*by Evan Epstein*

**Bellevue College leadership unveiled a new, permanent sculpture on the main campus Thursday, December 5, 2013, honoring American service men and women.**

Bellevue College President, David Rule, Marie Gunn, chair of the Board of Trustees, faculty artist, Ross Brown, and Aaron Malec, Bellevue College Association of Veterans president,

each spoke briefly to the students, faculty, staff, and community members in attendance on the impact and importance of honoring veterans prior to the unveiling.

"This important monument is one way of honoring and remembering all who have served and those who continue to serve in the United States Armed Forces," said President Rule.

The Bellevue College Association of Veterans (BCAV), a student program dedicated to serve and help student veterans succeed in their higher-education endeavors, first put forward the proposal to create a monument on campus honoring veterans in 2012. Final design approval and construction began over the summer of 2013.

"By accepting BCAV's monument proposal and funding the project, Bellevue College is showing its continued commitment to recognizing its veteran campus population and is a symbol of the college's commitment of helping its veteran students succeed in their educational goals," said Wesley Jones, Veterans Career Advancement Program Manager.

The 600+ pound cast bronze piece, designed and forged by Bellevue College faculty member Ross Brown, is mounted on a basalt column and was inspired by conversations Brown held with veterans both on and off campus. The boots represent the service to our country with the book representing the roll of veterans the college has supported in their transition from soldier to citizen.

"The monument was placed in a very central and visible location on campus and is a reflection of the visibility of the colleges' veteran population," said Jones. "It is just one of many steps the college has taken, and is continuing to take, in its long-term commitment of being a veteran supportive campus." **B**

**Veterans attending the ceremony helped to unveil the sculpture located in front of the college library.**





# Underserved Group Excels

*...in and out of the classroom*

by Evan Epstein

## A program as unique as its students.

On the second floor, of an otherwise unassuming office building at Bellevue, Donna Hudson is leading a lecture on environment and community. It's the type of scene you'd expect to see in a movie depicting college life: the professor asks a question of the class and in short order, a lively discussion is underway that quite possibly brings up more questions than are asked. It's the kind of student-teacher rapport most of us rarely get to experience - let alone on a regular basis.

As class progresses however, it becomes clear that this class is more than just a picture-perfect college experience, this class is preparing students to look beyond the coursework and establish how the topics at hand can parlay into the big picture: how the students affect the environment around them and how the environment then informs their actions.

The unique program of study to which these students belong is called OLS at Bellevue College-an associate degree program, offered at Bellevue College, for adults with cognitive disabilities. The program offers scaffolded instruction to teach and prepare students to become self-determined, contributing citizens and successful employees. 21st Century skills are infused into the curriculum focusing on critical and social thinking and self-determination. During the four-year-program,



A group of OLS students learned about fire safety while visiting a local firehouse.

students develop a career pathway, expand interpersonal skills, take part of service learning, and participate in internship experiences.

OLS students are what Program Director, Marci Muhlestein calls, "tweeners." They are adults who are often overlooked as potential college students. Some take a couple college courses elsewhere, but drop out because the traditional college classroom doesn't work for their learning style, while others are in a pattern of being hired and fired because they may not "fit in" to the work culture.

"Many of our students are those who have previously fallen through the cracks in the higher-ed system," said Muhlestein. "Everyone (in the program) has different disabilities, but they all have the desire to be in college - to pursue a degree - and move forward."

Most OLS students have multiple learning disabilities and have difficulty concentrating, remembering or making decisions, which interferes with their ability to learn in a traditional college environment.

Once accepted into the OLS program, students are placed in a cohort of 12. This cohort then learns together during the four-year, 90-credit program - experiencing their highs and lows together as a community and serving as a tight-knit support network for one another.

Demand for the program is high and as such, OLS is home to a geographically diverse student body, attracting students from as far away as Florida and Hawaii. Some students spend upwards of two hours commuting to campus each day. Muhlestein hopes this program will grow over the years to meet this demand, increasing new cohorts from 12 to 24 students.

### It takes a village

The start of what became OLS at Bellevue College began over a decade ago when a group of eastside parents, frustrated over the lack of choices afforded their children, came together with Bellevue College Continuing Education to create personal enrichment classes in which students developed a toolkit for working and socializing at work and at home. With each passing year, these enrichment classes grew in popularity and within four years, organizers took the necessary steps to create an accredited program.

By December of 2006, a 90-credit associate degree in occupational and life skills began recruitment for the following fall. And by the next year, OLS as it is known today came into its own. It has been thriving ever since.

### Addressing the employment gap

People with disabilities are three times less likely to have a job than people without disabilities, and if they are employed they tend to be paid less, according to a report released by the United States Census Bureau. More than half of workers with dis-

abilities earn less than \$25,000 a year.

To address this disparity, OLS at Bellevue College courses incorporate service learning in the community with local businesses such as Youth Care, Little Bits and the Ronald McDonald House, as a way to help students employ new skills outside of the classroom. Students create a career pathway over a three-year period that is specific to their skills, strengths and passions. This career pathway translates into a 200-hour internship completed during a student's last two quarters. Often, these mutually beneficial internships translate into jobs post-graduation and most students are employed in their career pathway within three months after graduation.

Katie Lynn Fournier, a current OLS student and brain injury survivor, plans to go into rehab counseling to work with similarly effected people in the community. "Right now I'm volunteering with The Brain Injury Association of Washington, and in January I'm going to start interning there," she said. "OLS was the best choice for me, because they go further

than just teach you. They help you grow, and realize what your worth and where you want to go in your life. Then in your final year they help you find, and place you in an internship in the career of your choice."

In King County, the number of people ages 18 to 64 with a cognitive disability is just over 50,000, with only 25 percent of those employed in any capacity. In contrast, 85 percent of OLS program graduates are employed; with an average pay of over \$11 per hour when most persons with disabilities are paid minimum wage, if they are employed at all.

"One of our main goals here is to see all our graduates gainfully employed, making a livable wage and contributing financially and socially to their communities," said Muhlestein. "We're providing a space where they can learn more about something they are passionate about so that they become agents in their own lives."

### Taking it on the road

Muhlestein says the "aha" moment that the OLS program was really on to something came during a poster

presentation at an AHEAD Conference, a professional organization focused on the development of policy and in the provision of quality

**Director Marci Muhlestein accompanies OLS student Chris Taylor as he receives his diploma from BC President Dave Rule during the 2013 graduation ceremony.**





services to meet the needs of persons with disabilities in higher education. During her session, she found herself swarmed by colleagues wanting to know how they could implement something similar. They all wanted a piece of what's made this program so successful.

So, with several years of successful programming under their belt and positive feedback from the BC Board of Trustees, Muhlestein and the OLS program staff developed best-practices curriculum and systems that has been packaged to share with other higher-education institutions around the country. In the past year, they've met with several community and technical colleges. Five of these meetings have led to partnerships in which OLS staff will begin the process of moving toward replication on these campuses.

"We want to educate as many people as possible to help to elevate the employment rate for adults with cognitive disabilities and really help them move forward in a life where they are happy and can contribute to their communities," said Muhlestein. **B**

## **INTERESTED IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF THESE INDIVIDUALS?**

It's easy to do through a gift to the Bellevue College Foundation. For more information about supporting OLS at Bellevue College, please contact Taryn Echert at (425) 564-2945 or go to [www.bellevuecollege.edu/foundation](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/foundation). Every donation, no matter the size, makes a difference.



### **Michael Elsworth Louis Hatt, Age 24. Assembly Technician for Skills Incorporated.**

#### **How did you learn about the OLS program and what helped you decide to check it out?**

My parents learned of OLS through a legal convention at Seattle University around 2006-2007 and then talked to staff and parents to learn more about their experiences with the program. I remember visiting the North Campus in March 2007. My parents brought me along to see what I thought and I made my decision because I want to join a group of students who have disabilities like me.

#### **What did OLS offer you that you couldn't find elsewhere?**

OLS at Bellevue College offered college-level academics, a chance to make friends with other people with disabilities who would be kinder and more understanding, and a chance to learn how to talk and socialize with others well.

#### **Why do you think you succeeded in the OLS program?**

I believe I succeeded because of my hard work and persistence. I strive to embody the qualities that will help me move forward: being cooperative and willing to listen, willing to try, and being honest, punctual and kind.

#### **If you could name the three top things you appreciated about the OLS program, what would they be?**

It is an official college program with high standards, opportunities to improve speech and socialization skills and make friends. OLS focuses on obtaining and keeping a job that you can feel good about and will challenge you, not just as a Walmart greeter.

#### **Tell us about your job as an assembly technician.**

I do various tasks every day, drilling rivet holes, rivet punching, applying sealant, and cleaning excess sealant that prevents leaks out of rivet locations on hundreds of green, white or grey painted parts for various sections of the Boeing planes. When the jobs are done, they have to be inspected, and, if approved, they go to the packaging area to get ready to be sent to Boeing factories in Everett or Renton.

#### **What is one thing about you that people wouldn't guess about you on first glance?**

I have difficulty understanding people who talk fast or use a lot of words, and it takes time for me to think of the words to say to express what I am thinking. It helps if the person talking to me speaks at a moderate speed and pauses occasionally to let me catch up.

# Off to a Running Start

*...high school students earn college credit*

by Sharon Berg



**Robert Lee is more than half-way to earning a transfer associate's degree and on track to enter a university – and he's still in high school.**

Lee is one of 1,593 Running Start students taking tuition-

free classes at Bellevue College (BC). Now in its 20th year, Running Start provides up to two years (six quarters) of paid tuition at any of Washington's community and technical colleges or public universities for 11th and 12th grade students. The Running Start students receive credit for classes just like it does for any college student.

By participating in Running Start, students can get a head start on their college education, decrease the amount of time spent in school, and make a smoother transition to college and reduce educational costs. Many students prefer the more challenging courses colleges offer, including BC Running Start student Rashel Rafat who found high school classes easy and the coursework redundant.

The added bonus is the cost savings, as students receive both high school and college credit for these classes. Rafat and Camelia Katoozian both say the cost savings was a factor in deciding to enter the program. Rachel said, "I always hear people complaining about how stressful and hard it is for them to pay for their college classes."

Another motivator is that some high school students and their parents see how participating in Running Start now can reduce their future need for student loans.

Students are responsible for paying lab and course fees, buying their textbooks and their transportation. There is a 15 college credit limit for the free tuition each quarter, but students who wish to take more than 15 college credits, or wish to attend summer school, may pay the regular tuition rate and still receive dual credit.

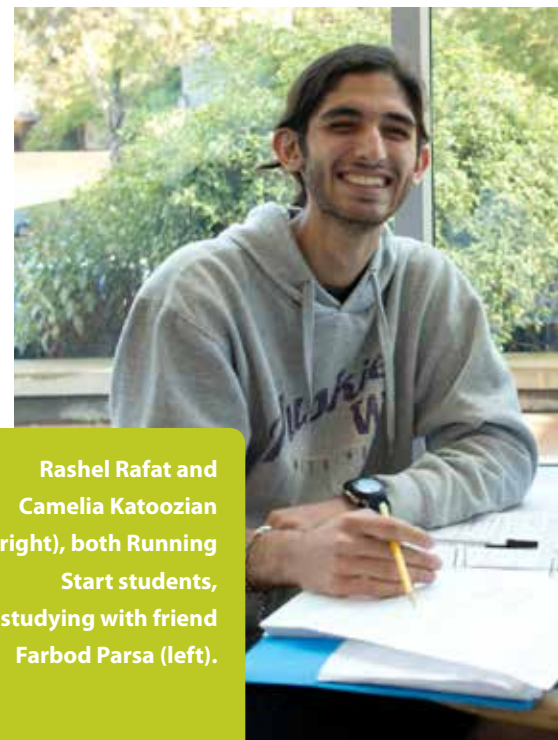
Enrollment in the program at BC is up 12 percent over last year, and now accounts for about 11 percent of BC's student body of nearly 15,000 fall quarter students. The program's growth continues an upward trend statewide as higher education costs have escalated at the same time household incomes have stagnated or declined.

A high grade-point average isn't required for acceptance into the program, but students must pass standardized tests and qualify for college-level reading, writing and math to make sure they are academically ready for college-level work. Successfully passing a course earns a student both high school and college credit. By participating in Running Start, students are establishing a college record. The grades they earn affect admission to a university and to an intended major. Those who pass the entrance exam may take part or all of their coursework at BC.

Running Start students can complete a substantial number of credits early toward their first two

years of college credits. That results in paying fewer college credits to finish before transferring to a four-year institution. It is possible for a motivated student to earn both a high school diploma and a two-year college associate's degree simultaneously. Some students enroll full-time as high school juniors and never take another high-school class, eventually earning an associate of arts or a technical degree in addition to a high-school diploma. More typically, they divide their time between high school and college, winding up with a year's college credit or several college courses.

Students can select courses from the entire college catalog, providing that they have met any prerequisites that the college requires of all students. The credits earned help meet high school requirements, and they also go on the student's permanent academic transcript and can count toward a college or university degree.




**Rashel Rafat and Camelia Katoozian (right), both Running Start students, studying with friend Farbod Parsa (left).**



Lee is aiming for a transfer degree and hopes to finish all the required classes by end of spring quarter. "But if not," Lee says, "then I will just have my credits transferred to the university where I expect to attend this coming fall. I plan to become a doctor and will pursue being a general practitioner. With 10 years of college ahead of me, getting courses out of the way now is an important time and money saver."

Students and parents strongly support the program because it expands their education choices, presents an academically challenging option for qualified students, while reducing the time and expense of completing their education. Washington families saved close to \$42.2 million last year using the Running Start program, according to the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges Running Start Annual Progress Report, 2011-12. For example, if a student wanted to attend Whitman College in Walla Walla, a private school, they could save about \$43,150, the rate posted on the Whitman website for one year's tuition. ([www.whitman.edu/offices-and-services/financial-aid/costs](http://www.whitman.edu/offices-and-services/financial-aid/costs))

"My motivation to be a Running Start student was to find out what being a college student feels like while I am still in high school and also, while getting college credits early. Another motivation was that when I took an AP class at my high school, I thought that it wasn't as motivating nor was it fun just sitting in the same class every day, said Robert. "Running Start gave me another advantage, which was experiencing courses that obviously didn't exist in high school, like medical courses, much more vigorous mathematics and science courses, and much more."

It is important that students see an academic advisor to create an academic plan to be sure they take the classes needed for the transfer degree. Colleges have specific courses required for various majors, so if students have already decided on a college major, BC advisors have information on the most popular majors and can work those requirements into the academic plan. It is always best that students acquire the latest information from their college of choice as early as possible. 



## Students at BC in Academic Year 2012-13

Students' Age	
<16 Years old or less	6%
17-18 Years old	88%
19-20 Years old	5%
Gender	
Female	54%
Male	46%
Race/Ethnicity	
American Indian/Alaska Native	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	13%
Black	2%
Hispanic	4%
Other	4%
White	44%
Unknown	32%

Source: ARICA: TRAN\_TRAN\_STU\_D, TRAN\_TRAN\_YRQ\_D



Photo credit: Daniel Berman

**"Running Start** creates an alternative way for students to transition to college. Running Start and other dual-credit programs provide post-secondary schooling for students whose options may otherwise be limited. For high school students, Running Start is one of the most readily available and cost saving entry to college-level learning opportunities in the state."

Quote from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction Website

# RUNNING START

# Involvement Adds Value

*...to students' college experience*

by Sharon Berg

Sophia Trinh, former  
ASG Pluralism and  
Sustainability Outreach and  
Advocacy Coordinator.



home. Not only members of BLC, but also advisers Leslie Lum and Judith Paquette. They were always there to help me and guide me. They were like my mom. I got so much great advice not limited to academics, but also personal issues."

Yoon later joined numerous other clubs and that "made me become less shy and more outgoing and sociable. Most importantly, it taught me various leadership skills from my peers on campus. Bellevue College is the most diverse college you will ever attend. I met so many different young leaders from different countries, and that taught me their leadership style and culture."

And there are other big payoffs to club participation.

"Joining and participating in club activities helped me not only develop my leadership skills and establish great networks, but also helped me transfer to prestigious universities as well," said Yoon. "I ended up being the Associated Student Government (ASG) VP of Student Affairs and Pluralism. It helped me get accepted at several universities including USC, Johns Hopkins, and UW, just to name a few. Currently, I am attending USC Marshall Business School as a junior. Experiences at Bellevue College helped my life at USC as well.

**"One of the reasons Bellevue College is such an outstanding place to be a student is that there are so many opportunities for involvement,"**

said recent BC grad Sophia Trinh, of Bellevue. Besides theatrical groups, musical ensembles, and athletics there are about 90 diverse campus organizations.

Students involvement in campus clubs is not just for fun, although there is plenty of that, too. Leadership skills are built, particularly by students who take on roles as officers. BC students have ample opportunity to put their commitment to service, leadership and social justice to work. Another advantage, participating in club activities can often be nice additions to a college application, scholarship application

or resume. Campus clubs also help students get acquainted with other students of like interests.

A perfect example of all those advantages is BC graduate Michael Yoon. As a BC freshman, Yoon's primary motivation was to get to know people, but as a club member, he accomplished that and so much more.

"I went to high school in South Korea, and I had no friends at Bellevue College," said Yoon. "I wanted Bellevue College to be a place where I could not only take classes but make some true friends.

I joined BLC (Business Leadership Club) because it related to my major. BLC made me feel like it was my

***"Joining and participating in club activities helped me to transfer to prestigious universities."***

Michael Yoon



**The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE Studies) shows that student success is directly linked to student involvement. According to NSSE, the higher the student involvement level the higher their grades are and the more likely they are to re-enroll for the next semester. Students who are involved devote more time and energy to academics, spend more time on campus, while participating actively in student organizations, and having more positive interactions with faculty and staff.**

*Source: OrgSync Blog, Alex Morales, OrgSync VP of Marketing. <http://blog.orgsync.com/2009/student-involvement-means-success-all-around/>*

I got several job offers by sending my resume and they were impressed at how involved I had been at BC."

Trinh's experience was similar to Michael's. "I was so shy I didn't even raise my hand in class. Getting really involved in clubs helped me get over my shyness."


She eventually joined Photography Club, Amnesty International, Rotaract, and several cultural clubs. She ultimately became ASG VP of Student Affairs and Pluralism and Sustainability Outreach & Advocacy Coordinator. "But one of the best things about it was that I got to know many faculty, program managers and administrators. I also learned a lot

about coordinating events and working with groups" said Trinh, and she thinks that helped her get accepted into the UW where she will major in Public Health Administration.

Several clubs coordinate community service projects. Possibly best known for that is Rotaract, sponsored by the Bellevue Rotary club. It is an international program for young adults who want to make a difference in the world. Among their service activities have been working at food banks, initiating fund raising campaigns for worthy causes, and holding events to raise disability awareness.

Many organizations add to a student's knowledge and experience in a particular subject, like Docs and Dents for pre-med and pre-dental students. Several clubs are built around an ethnicity or location, such as the Japanese Conversation Club, African Student Club, Indonesian Fellowship Club and Latin American Culture Club. Sports are another common interest for many students and students have also created clubs related to their religion. While some

other clubs provide personal growth and introspection there are clubs for students who just want to have fun, like the Flash Mob Club, Movie Club and Open Style Dance Club.

If there isn't already something for everyone, a student can create a new club with very little effort. Like student Connor Relph, Renton, who last year cofounded the Bellevue College chapter of SACNAS (Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science), a national society with a 37-year history of supporting minority scientists and science students. Students may form a club around academic or personal interests and may request formal recognition and funding through the ASG chartering process. Chartering gives a club access to campus facilities, ASBC funding, advertising support, and training. There must be at least five currently-enrolled students and a faculty or staff advisor in order to form a club. For a complete list of Bellevue College student clubs, visit [www.bellevuecollege.edu/stupro/clubs/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/stupro/clubs/). 

[www.bellevuecollege.edu/stupro/clubs](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/stupro/clubs)



**BC Grad Michael Yoon, former ASG Vice President of Student Affairs and Pluralism, is currently a junior at USC.**

# Project Management Students

*...help farmers market host successful fundraiser*

by Ellen Kurek

**Last Spring, students in BCs Continuing Education Project Management Practicum developed a plan for a Fall fundraising event for the Mercer Island Farmers Market.**

In the Practicum, CE's Project Management Certificate capstone course, students form a team and apply skills, techniques, and concepts acquired from the program's earlier classes to initiate, plan, execute, monitor and control, and close a self-managed project for a local nonprofit.

Along with the Mercer Island Farmers Market, the Practicum has also helped Friends of Youth, the Girls Scouts, Hopelink, the YWCA Family Village in Issaquah, and other nonprofits. "I like to see that we are filling a need in the community," said instructor Ashlyn Leahy, PMP. "It's

important that we give back and provide help to people who need it."

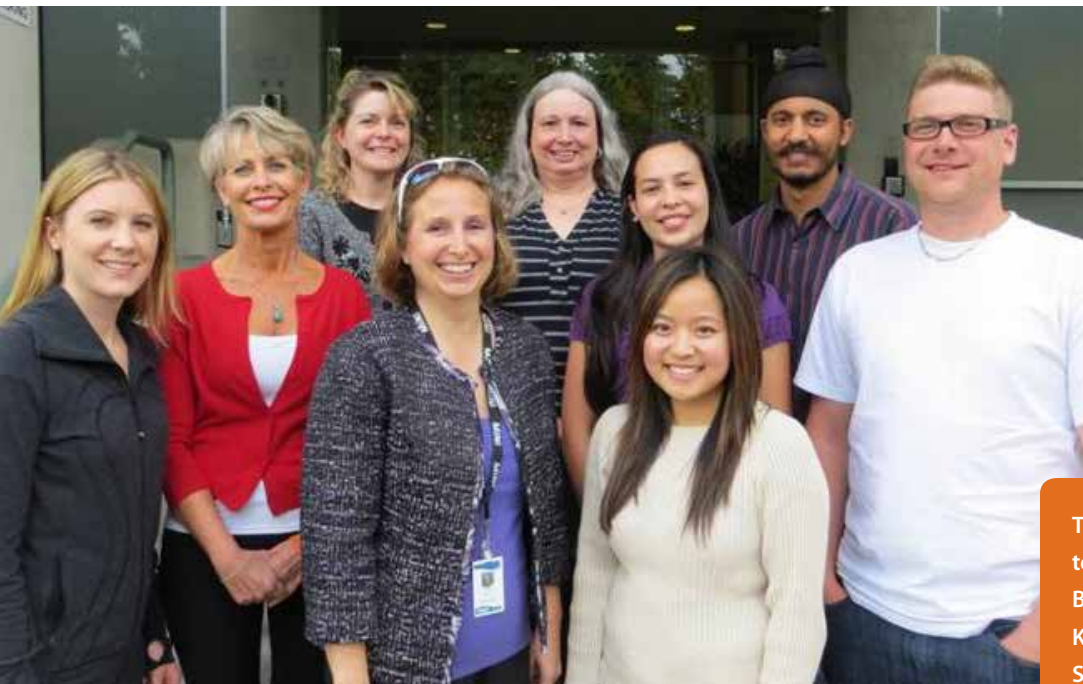
Leahy, who has managed projects for Boeing and Microsoft, noted that the Practicum is not a typical instructor-focused class. "I introduce the project scope and provide coaching and feedback, but it's not up to the instructor to manage the project," she explained.

Each student takes a turn leading a class and managing the project for one week. At week's end, the team discusses what worked well and areas for improvement. Each teammate gives that week's project manager a written performance review. Project managers also receive guidance from the instructor.



In the final class, the team jointly presents the project to the client. Leahy says, her students' presentation was well received: "The board members were very impressed with the amount of work that was put in and the level of detail."

Mercer Island Farmers Market Board President Kari Fisher reported that the fundraising event was "very successful. People were receptive, the event met our expectations, and we're grateful for the help the students gave us." 



The Friends of Farmers Practicum team included Tina Crispo, Debra Burke, Angela Wood, Amber Cassidy, Kirsta Cyrus, Adriana Duran, Sherrina Sezto, Ravi Sekhon, and Chris Curtin.



## News and events at Bellevue College...

### BC Foundation Funds Nine Mini Grants:

The grants, from \$300 - \$3000, support projects and programs that may not be eligible for support through other college funding sources. Grants can be for ongoing projects, one-time projects, or for seed money to start new programs.

- ▶ Hands On Anatomy, **Annalisa Lembo**, Math & Science
- ▶ Video Cameras for Students, **David Bruckner**, Digital Media Arts
- ▶ Accessible STEM Internship Project (ASIP), **Lee Steadman**, Disability Resource Center
- ▶ Staying Ahead of the Machine – Spatial Awareness and Safety in Radiation Therapy, **Linda Schinman**, Radiation Therapy
- ▶ Behavioral Intervention Team, **Pavy Thao**, Counseling
- ▶ ASL Assessment Videos, **Richard Mangan**, World Languages/Arts & Humanities
- ▶ Test Fest 2014, **Shanon Ehmke Reedy**, Institute for Business and Information Technology
- ▶ KBCS Studio Lighting Project, **Steve Ramsey**, KBCS & Rick Otte, Television Services
- ▶ Sonography Speaker Series, **Terry Hatcher**, Health Science Education and Wellness Institute /Diagnostic Ultrasound Technology

### BC Director Wins LENI Award:

**Marci Muhlestein**, Director of the Occupational & Life Skills program, was the recipient of the Insight Award, presented by Leadership Eastside's to non-profit leaders in the region.

### New Student Services VP:

**Dr. Ata Karim** has been appointed Student Services Vice President. He most recently was Director of Multicultural Services at BC.



### Seattle Magazine Features BC Staffer:

The November 2013 issue of Seattle Magazine featured **Sara Gardner** from the BC Disability Resource Center in an article about autism. She is a program manager of the Autism Spectrum Navigators program.

### New Dean of Student Success:

BC has hired **Ana Hernandez Blackstad** as Dean of Student Success. She most recently worked at Cascadia Community College.

### Anthropology Instructor Presents Paper, Awarded Grant:

**Katherine Hunt**, Anthropology instructor, in October presented a conference paper and received a grant. Her paper – "Finding a Balance: Maintaining Heritage Languages while Learning English" – was presented at Washington Association for the Education of Speakers of Other Languages Conference (WAESOL), at Highline Community College. In the same month, she received a \$4,500 Faculty Learning Community Grant from the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges; funding for the Social Science Learning Online Group at Bellevue College.

### Governor Inslee Visits Campus:

**Governor Jay Inslee** visited Bellevue College in September. Among other BC campus stops, he viewed a demonstration

of undergraduate research by **Dr. Gita Banger** and her students. The ComGen: Community College Genomics Research Initiative, which Science magazine identified as one of the nation's pioneering community college research projects, was created at BC several years ago with a National Science Foundation grant.

### BC Wins Six Medallion Awards:

BC's creative team claimed the most awards by any of the 47 participating colleges in the Northwest Region marketing and public relations competition. BC took home two Gold, three Silver, and a Bronze.

### BC's President Among Washington Coalition to China:

**Dave Rule** was among members of a coalition to China, led by Governor Inslee, in November. Washington is the number one exporter of goods to China of all US states, even eclipsing California. The state is also a major exporter of services such as software development, architecture, engineering and education.

### BC Art Faculty Member Has Exhibit:

**Dale Lindman**, BC art instructor, and artist Norman Lundin, provided the last exhibit at the Francine Seders Gallery

in December, titled "The Last Picture Show."

### History Department Lecture Series:

The History Department launched a brand new lecture series in October, "Storytelling with Historians: Explorations in History," by historian **Dr. Lorraine McConaghy**. There will be two lectures each quarter open to all students, faculty and staff.

### Debate Team:

The Bellevue College Speech and Debate team has consistently ranked among the top schools. It currently ranks number three in the Pacific Northwest Region National Forensics Conference, Division III and #54 of all NPDA teams which is about 350 teams. **Denise Vaughan, PhD**, Director of Forensics, is the advisor.

### Earth Week Set For April 21-25:

Earth Week, sponsored by BC's Sustainability and Science Association, began a dozen years ago at BC as an effort to promote environmental awareness and sustainable resource use, timed to coincide with Earth Day in April. At BC the event has grown into Earth Week, a week-long celebration with lectures, films, haiku poetry contest, eco-fashion show and other events and displays.



Photo credit: Daniel Berman

# EVENTS CALENDAR

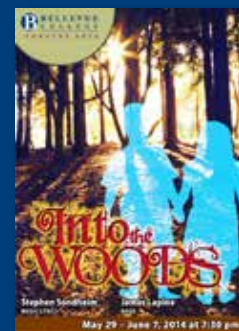
## March

<b>4</b>	<b>College Issues Day –</b> No classes; offices closed
<b>7-8 &amp; 12-15</b>	<b>Drama Production:</b> <b>The Admirable Crichton</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Student Choreographers</b> <b>Dance Showcase</b>
<b>24-26</b>	<b>Final Exams</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>Last Day of Winter Quarter</b>



## May

<b>8-10</b>	<b>BC Dance Company Dance Concert</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>Memorial Day – College Closed</b>
<b>29-31</b>	<b>Drama Production:</b> <b>Into the Woods</b>

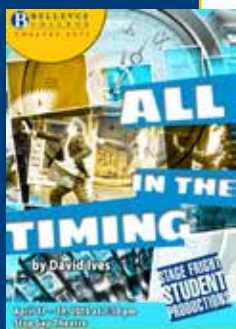


## June

<b>4-7</b>	<b>Spring Drama Production:</b> <b>Into the Woods</b>
<b>18-20</b>	<b>Final Exams</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Last Day of Spring Quarter</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>2014 Commencement</b> 7:30 pm at Key Arena

## April

<b>7</b>	<b>Spring Quarter Begins</b>
<b>21-25</b>	<b>Earth Week</b>
<b>17-19</b>	<b>Stage Fright Drama Production:</b> <b>All in the Timing</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>Annual BC Foundation Luncheon</b> <a href="http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/foundation/">www.bellevuecollege.edu/foundation/</a>



For a full calendar of events:

[www.bellevuecollege.edu/events/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/events/)

## July

<b>1</b>	<b>Summer Quarter Begins</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Holiday – College Closed</b>

## August

<b>14</b>	<b>Final Exams and Last Day</b> <b>of Summer Quarter</b>
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**Want to  
attend a  
BC athletic  
event?**

Visit [www.  
bellevuecollege.  
edu/athletics/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/athletics/)

# GIVE

a little to  
*...become exceptional!*



- ✓ For the cost of one latte per month for one year you can cover one student's fees for one quarter (\$120).
- ✓ For the cost of one pizza per month for one year you can cover one, two credit hour class for a first-year student (\$250).
- ✓ For the cost of a pair of movie tickets and a popcorn per month for one year you can cover an average student's textbooks for one quarter (\$500).

**To make a gift or for more information**

contact the BC Foundation at (425) 564-2386,  
[foundation@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:foundation@bellevuecollege.edu), or visit us  
at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/foundation/](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/foundation/).



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