

Investing in skills and student success

Bellevue College &
Bellevue College Foundation

2009-10

Annual Report



BELLEVUE
COLLEGE

Why is the success of our students so important for the region?

Answer: Because through their achievement, we build our shared future

As neighbors, we all share the same economic future – a future that depends to a great extent on education.

- **Only education can solve the "skills gap,"** which for the past decade has prevented regional employers from finding enough workers with the skills they require, and threatens the pace and extent of economic recovery.
- **Only education can endow the populace** with the advanced skills needed now to succeed in well-paying jobs and secure their families' futures.

But even education cannot help us if students are forced to leave college prematurely.

That is why we have launched the \$6.7 million Advancing Student Success Campaign: to remove the obstacles that prevent so many students from ever completing their education.

But we can't do this alone. Please join us in building our shared economic future, starting today, by supporting the Advancing Student Success Campaign.

It's a documented fact: Bellevue College generates an ongoing return of about 22 percent yearly on each dollar "invested" by donors and taxpayers, the result of increased tax revenues and lower outlays for welfare, health, social programs and corrections.

Data from "The Economic Contribution of the Washington Community & Technical College Districts," CCbenefits, Inc., 2005.

Bellevue College intends to boost and ultimately double its student success rate by:

- **Ensuring student achievement and retention** through academic support programs and scholarships to help students overcome barriers to completing their programs.
- **Supporting teaching excellence** by enabling faculty to develop new ways of engaging students, particularly through technology such as virtual reality software and new communications channels.
- **Creating tomorrow's classroom** by developing advanced learning environments with the equipment and new technology now being introduced into laboratories, research centers and workplaces.

As each student succeeds, we add to our "winner's triangle"

- **Students** secure their own and their families' futures – and increase their contributions to society.
- **Local businesses** are more productive – crucial to a solid economic recovery.
- **Taxpayers** save money, and quality of life rises, because more educated communities experience less poverty and crime.

Bellevue College Board of Trustees

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Letter from the President

"Now, more than ever, the region needs Bellevue College as an educational resource and an economic engine."



Jean Floten
President
Bellevue College

Dear friends:

The pace of progress at Bellevue College is growing exponentially as we continue to innovate and find new ways to serve our communities.

We have swiftly expanded our baccalaureate curriculum, launching a second bachelor's degree program in January after graduating our first class of 19 Radiation and Imaging Sciences students last spring. Our new Bachelor of Applied Arts in Interior Design targets the documented need for well-rounded design professionals who can create human-centered spaces that are healthy, accessible and environmentally sustainable.

Anticipating that the state will authorize further bachelor's degrees at Bellevue College, we earned accreditation as a bachelor-degree granting institution this January from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, which sets the quality and integrity standards for all four-year institutions in Washington and nearby states.

On another front, we are spearheading a rapidly accelerating drive to develop the new field of health information technology, which promises greater efficiency and economy for the nation's health record systems. We have accepted leadership of a federally designated, ten-state Health Information Technology Consortium, charged with expanding the field through education and training. This pioneering role

builds on our success as the national Biotechnology Center of Excellence through the Department of Labor, specializing in informatics, and our recent state appointment to lead medical informatics training development for Washington's health IT workforce.

But our community needs still more from us. Employers tell us the recession has intensified the need to reshape their operations for success in a global, information-based economy, but in many fields, workforce skills are insufficient to support a vigorous recovery. To bridge the gap, employers and students alike are turning to two-year colleges, where the most sought after skills are taught.

Our curriculum is already targeted on employers' needs. What we must do now is to increase graduation rates by clearing the obstacles that bar so many students from completing their programs.

We have, in fact, a comprehensive plan to do just that, but we need your help to implement it. With state funding woefully short, we have launched a \$6.7 million fund-raising program – the Advancing Student Success Campaign – to raise the corporate and private gifts necessary to reach our graduation goals.

Now, more than ever, the region needs Bellevue College as an educational resource and an economic engine. I hope we can count on your continued support as we seek higher levels of accomplishment in serving our community by Advancing Student Success.

Sincerely,

B. Jean Floten

"We have swiftly expanded our baccalaureate curriculum, launching a second bachelor's degree program in January after graduating our first class of 19 Radiation and Imaging Sciences students last spring."



Investing in skills and student success

What's the difference between a college dropout and a Columbia University student?

Answer: A Bellevue College Foundation scholarship

"I went to work right out of high school and thought my chance to go to college would never happen. I am single. I don't have my parent's assistance or the income of a partner or husband. And life's obstacles kept getting in the way.

"The most recent has been the challenge of breast cancer. That vulnerability has given me the determination to see this through, but it is your belief in me that has allowed me the strength to keep going, even when I was too tired from work or from chemotherapy.

"Because of my scholarship from the BC Foundation, I will be able to pursue my dream of achieving a four-year degree. I will be the first in my family to do so and I plan to achieve it with honors."

~ Minerva Mendoza, December 2009

Update: Columbia University has invited Minerva to apply to finish her bachelor's degree there.



"It is your belief in me that has allowed me the strength to keep going."

~ Minerva Mendoza, Bellevue College student and BC Foundation Scholarship recipient

"The majority of our Radiation Therapist staff are Bellevue College graduates. That's because they arrive fully prepared and ready for their work."

~ Susan Smiley, Manager of Radiation Oncology and Cancer Support Services, Evergreen Hospital Medical Center

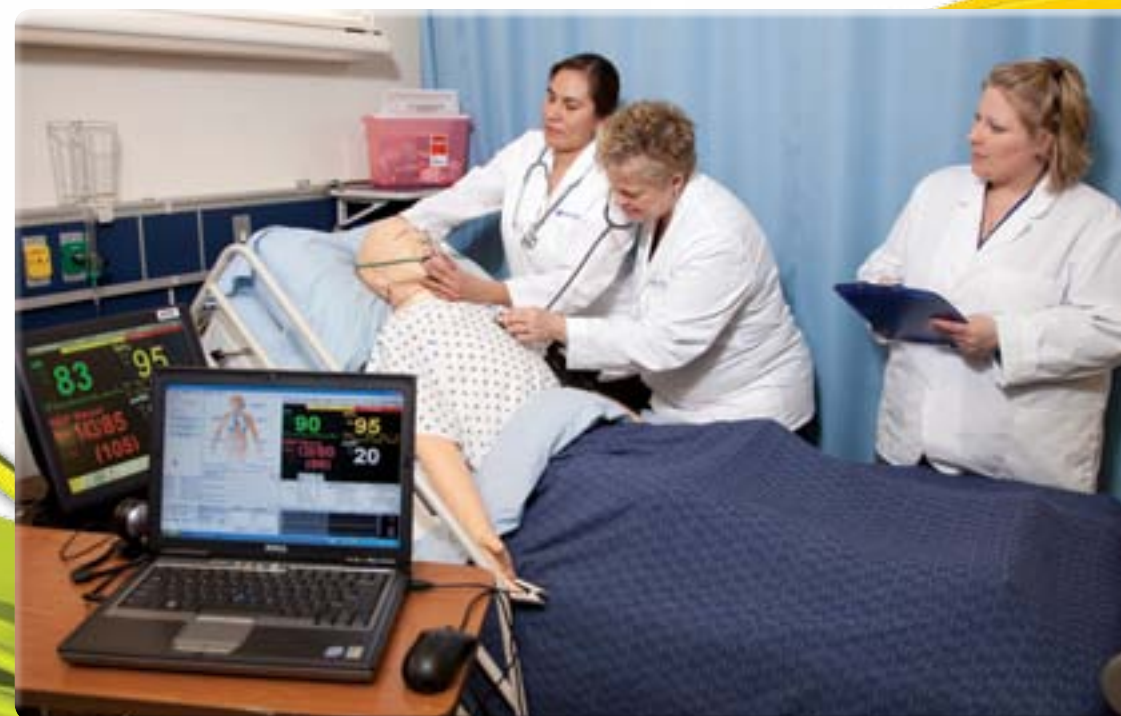
Computer simulation sparks eagerness for learning

Helping students succeed in college takes more than financial support. It also requires engaging them intellectually, in challenging and stimulating academic settings.

One such "high-impact" learning environment, found in our Nursing program, is built around SimMan®, a computerized, interactive, simulated patient who can talk, breathe and generate heart, breath and other sounds in response to students' care.

Controlled by computer program or remotely by an instructor, SimMan® creates a "virtual reality" in which students practice basic and advanced nursing procedures, from initial assessment to safety and infection control, blood pressure and pulse checks, IV and chest tube insertion, patient communication and team leadership.

"The computerized manikin brings everything to life, you might say, because he is so real in the way he responds to my treatment," said Jane Stensland, one of BC's Nursing students. "He makes learning here far more exciting than I've ever experienced before."



"The computerized manikin brings everything to life, you might say, because he is so real in the way he responds to my treatment. He makes learning here far more exciting than I've ever experienced before."

~ Jane Stensland, Bellevue College Nursing student

DNA research kindles passion for science

Michelle Schut grows excited when she talks about her DNA-sequencing class at Bellevue College, where she and her fellow students are conducting original genomics research.

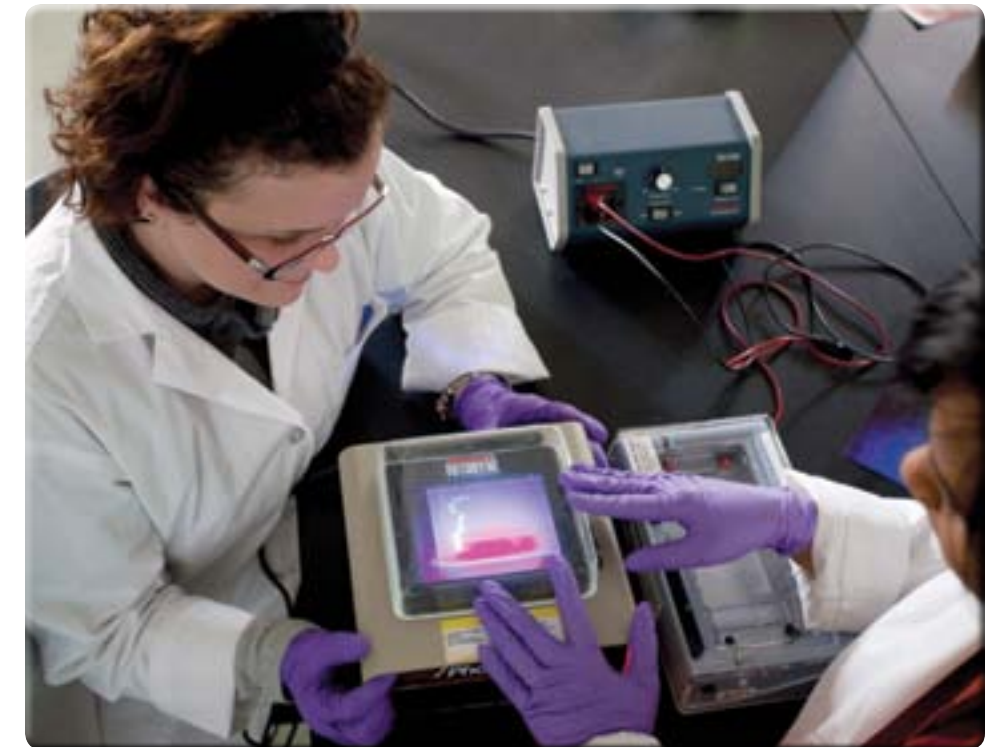
"This isn't something I could do anywhere else, and it's a huge honor to be part of it, because a good bit of Washington's economy could rely on our findings someday," she says.

Michelle and her classmates are sequencing the DNA of a bacterium – assigned by the U.S. Department of Agriculture exclusively to Bellevue College for research – that holds potential to boost grain yields significantly.

"The experience has rekindled my passion for science and the human condition" says Michelle, who is heading for a career in nursing.

The course is the brainchild of BC instructor Dr. Gita Bangera, who is another source of Michelle's enthusiasm.

"Gita sets the bar really high," Michelle says. "She doesn't spoon-feed us or hold our hands, because she truly believes we all have the capacity to succeed."



[The chance to do original genomics research at Bellevue College] "...has rekindled my passion for science and the human condition."

~ Michelle Schut, Bellevue College student

Advancing Student Success Campaign

Gift Opportunities and Targets



Real-world experience, such as Nikki Anderson's internship at Mercedes Fernandez Interior Design (above) match student learning to the changing needs of employers.

Also pictured: owner Mercedes Fernandez (left) and designer Jacqueline Snider (right) of the firm.

1. Ensure student achievement and retention

...through academic support programs and scholarships to help students overcome barriers to completing their programs.

Funding Target: \$2.5 million

- \$1,500,000 for scholarships, to create up to 35 new financial awards for low-income students
- \$500,000 for student services, to provide academic and individual assistance to help new students, veterans and at-risk individuals stay in school and succeed
- \$500,000 for rapid intervention, to identify and help at-risk students early enough to have an impact that same quarter

2. Support teaching excellence

...by enabling faculty to develop new ways of engaging students, particularly through technology such as virtual reality software and emerging communications channels.

Funding Target: \$2.2 million

- \$1,200,000 for a Teaching and Learning Center, to support faculty in responding to the changing landscape of education with new instructional methods and application of new communications technology

3. Create tomorrow's classroom

...by developing advanced learning environments with the equipment and new technology now being introduced into laboratories and research centers

Funding Target: \$2 million

- \$1,100,000 for science equipment and building upgrades, to give students access to the same sort of equipment they will find in the workplace
- \$900,000 for mentorships and special training programs, to prepare students for specific jobs by providing experience in the workplace via internships and mentoring by industry professionals



Rob McKenna
President
Bellevue College Foundation
Board of Directors

Dear Friends of Bellevue College:

When I was honored with the opportunity to serve as president of the Bellevue College Foundation Board this year, I responded eagerly. I know the crucial role our board plays in connecting you and other caring individuals in our community with meaningful opportunities to support the college's students and programs.

Your support of Bellevue College is more vital now than ever, because higher education is the single most important tool we have for overcoming the challenges that would otherwise bar us from a bright and prosperous economic future.

Through higher education, we can bridge the widening gap between the skills found today in Washington's workforce and what employers will actually need to take full advantage of an economic recovery that leads to a competitive new economy.

Through higher education, we can offer individuals a chance to acquire the new capabilities they will need to be employable in this new economy, and to build financial security for their families' futures.

Education at the community college level is especially crucial, because it is where the skills in greatest demand by employers are taught.

"Your support of Bellevue College is more vital now than ever, because education is the single most important tool we have for overcoming the challenges that would otherwise bar us from a bright and prosperous economic future."

~ Rob McKenna

In view of that fact, Bellevue College has launched a comprehensive effort to increase the flow of graduates into the new economy of Washington. This effort removes the financial and academic obstacles that prevent so many students from completing their studies.

We at the Foundation are supporting that critical undertaking with our **Advancing Student Success Campaign**, through which we are seeking the \$6.7 million in corporate, foundation, government and private gifts that the college needs to implement its ambitious and urgently needed plan.

Half of our \$6.7 million goal is already in hand, including \$1 million in gifts from the Foundation Board and our campaign volunteers. Your generosity is essential to helping us raise the remainder.

All of us at the Bellevue College Foundation deeply appreciate everything you do to help Bellevue College, its students and the greater community. Please consider a campaign gift as your next contribution to our region's well-being. I can't think of anything of greater importance right now to our shared economic futures.

Sincerely,

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Sincere thanks to all our Bellevue College Foundation donors! You are giving our region's residents greater access to affordable, high-quality opportunities to Become Exceptional at Bellevue College.

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(as of 6/30/09, audited)

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 113,956
Marketable securities	\$ 3,373,708
Pledges receivable	\$ 768,787
Total assets	\$ 4,256,451

Bellevue College
Foundation Assets

If you would like to make a donation to the Bellevue College Foundation, please contact us at (425) 564-2386, use the enclosed envelope or visit www.bellevuecollege.edu/foundation.

This list reflects combined totals for donations, pledges and sponsorships made to the Bellevue College Foundation for the 2008-09 fiscal year, ended June 30, 2009.

In preparing this report every effort was made to ensure accuracy. Please call the Foundation office at (425) 564-2386 regarding any changes to this list.

To support the Advancing Student Success Campaign at Bellevue College through your gift or personal involvement, contact:

Ms. Gaynor Hills
Executive Director
Bellevue College Foundation
(425) 564-2282
gaynor.hills@bellevuecollege.edu

or visit:
www.bellevuecollege.edu/foundation

To enroll in Bellevue College classes, visit:
www.bellevuecollege.edu

or contact our admissions staff at:
admissions@bellevuecollege.edu
(425) 564-2222

For Continuing Education programs
including business contract training, visit:
www.gotobcc.com

or contact our Continuing Education staff at:
conted@bellevuecollege.edu
(425) 564-2263

Bellevue College in brief

- Nationally recognized for its innovative programs, Bellevue College is the third largest educational institution in Washington state.
- Serving 35,000 students annually, the college offers educational programs in five general categories: baccalaureate degrees in radiation and imaging sciences and interior design; transfer study (the first two years of a bachelor's degree) in more than 50 interest areas; work-related training through more than 90 associate-degree and certificate programs in such fields as health care, information technology, business and interior design; adult basic education, including English language training; and Continuing Education programs in computing and technology, business and workplace skills (including contract training tailored for the workforces of individual employers), languages, art, travel and personal enrichment.
- Visit Bellevue College on the web at www.bellevuecollege.edu.



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