



# P R E S I D E N T ' S   N E W S L E T T E R

Bates Technical College | July 2021



Message from President Lin Zhou

Dear college community,

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the dedicated faculty and staff at Bates have worked hard to offer a safe learning and working environment so we can continue to serve our students and fulfill our mission. As we move toward fully reopening our campuses for Fall Quarter, these efforts will continue.

To ensure that we can return to a safe and full on-campus experience, I have made the choice to become a vaccinated college. That means that all students, staff, and faculty must verify that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, or claim a medical, religious, or philosophical exemption. With the COVID-19 vaccine readily available to anyone over age 16, getting a vaccine will help keep us and each other safe.

I made this decision after careful review of the Governor's higher education proclamation, and after discussion with my peers and the state board.

The COVID Taskforce is solidifying details of the vaccine requirement, including how and when students and employees can submit proof of vaccination. We will post this information on the website.

Thank you, be safe and get vaccinated.

*Lin*

## Department Updates

### Instruction

#### Downtown Campus

To reduce barriers to entry into Math and English, following the closure of the Testing Center, Bates faculty members designed and launched Math Bootcamp and English Directed Self Placement during COVID. During spring quarter over 130 students completed Math Bootcamp with a score that is communicated directly to students' career specialists in preparation for enrollment. Math Bootcamp has been active since fall 2020, and over 100 students earn their free, self-paced refresher scores each quarter. English Directed Self Placement was launched in April 2021, and just passed the 100-completion mark this summer. Congratulations to students – we look forward to tracking your success and celebrating your increased confidence in Math and English at Bates.

Machinist Students took nationally recognized NIMS exams in June and many passed. Credentials earned included: Measurement, Materials and Safety (seven male students, two female students); Job Planning, Benchwork and Layout (six male students, one female student); and one student each passed CNC Mill Operations and CNC Lathe Operations.

Three (3) Bates Denturist students passed their board exams last month, a rigorous process and daylong exam. The Washington Department of Health, Board of Denturists and Acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioner program resumed annual board exams for Denturist candidates this summer. This involves candidates who could not sit for exams during COVID, the licensing board and Bates Denturist faculty.

### South Campus

On July 6, State Representative Dan Bronoske visited South Campus' Fire program, Facility Maintenance, Welding, Automotive, and the Motorcycle and Marine Programs.

On July 9, State Senator Steve Conway visited South Campus and spoke to Fire Services, Diesel, Architectural Woodworking, Sheet Metal, and the Electrical Construction Programs.

### Transitional Education

IBEST is going to implement a new HVAC program in fall 2021. The IBEST grant proposal was submitted to SBCTC for review and update and we are in the process of hiring new IBEST instructor to support the HVAC program. With this new program, we will increase about 100 FTEs annually by the end of the 2021-2022 academic year. Basic Skills program was audited by SBCTC BEDA at the annual visit and was approved by SBCTC.

## Student Services

### Financial Aid

**Community Resources Hub** - The Community Resource Taskforce has finished the [Community Resource Hub](#) webpage. Resources are posted for Crisis Hotlines, Food, Housing & Utilities, Emergency Funds, Health & Wellness, Childcare & Parent Support, Transportation, Money & Employment, Legal Support and Veterans Resources.

**FAFSA/WASFA Assistance** - The Bates [Financial Aid](#) department offers walk-in assistance to help students complete their FAFSA or WASFA.

**NEW Student Emergency Assistance Grant** - The Student Emergency Assistance Grant (SEAG) Program provides funding for colleges to assist students experiencing unforeseen emergencies or situations that affect the student's ability to attend classes. The college has been approved to receive \$275,000 for the 2021-22 Annual Year and \$245,000 for the 2022-23 Annual Year. Additional details an information will be sent out to the college soon.

**MDC EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER (EOC)** - The Education Opportunity Center (EOC) is a partnership between Bates Technical College and the [MDC](#). The mission of the EOC is to assist participants in their pursuit of post-secondary education. The EOC's focus is to assist individuals with reaching their educational goals through one-on-one support, connections to educational resources and navigating the college enrollment process.

EOC Advisors assist with:

- Identifying a career path.
- Creating educational goals.
- Applying to a college or career of best fit.
- Applying for financial aid in order to pay for college.
- Assisting students with grant over-payment and student loan default.

To [enroll in the EOC](#) or for more information about the EOC program, please contact our EOC Advisor Yesenia Varela, email: [yvarela@mdc-hope.org](mailto:yvarela@mdc-hope.org) or phone: 253.318.4945.

### **Emergency Assistance Funds**

Bates' Financial Aid Office is still accepting applications for the CARES Act grant, an emergency grant available to currently enrolled students. **All students**, including high school and undocumented students, may apply once per quarter and may receive up to a maximum of \$5,000 per quarter.

For more information or to complete an application, please [visit the CARES Act webpage](#).

### **Registration**

**ctcLink** - The ctcLink conversion continues to move forward. The College is currently working on data validation and conversion cycles. Bates will be fully live with ctcLink in Spring 2022.

### **Student Admissions**

**Student Checklist** - The Fall 2021 Student Checklist is now available on the [Student Checklist](#) website for students to access.

**Campaigns** - Two campaigns were sent to inquiries and applicants to increase participation in [math bootcamp](#) and the [Career Exploration quiz](#). The goal is to provide the applicant or inquiry the ability to establish college placement and determine the career pathway that works best for them.

- [Math bootcamp](#) has had an upswing in registration of 65 students in one month.
- The [Career Exploration quiz](#) has had an upswing in quiz takes of 174 in one month.

### **Recruitment and Activities -**

**Goodwill Partnership** - This partnership offers a Youth STEM Program for high school students and an opportunity for participants in the service area to learn about different career pathways in healthcare and advanced manufacturing. Students are provided a plan to achieve their objectives and help get a sense of what their career trajectory might look like. The partnership will create virtual field trips to begin with to accommodate COVID-19 best practices, establish short-term certificate course work for the students' post high school summer programming and help students navigate enrollment processes.

**Tacoma School District STEAM Network** - Bates is actively participating in the planning opportunities to increase science, technology, engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) access, interest and success for all Tacoma students.

**Tacoma School College Support Network – TCSN** - Bates Outreach continues to work in partnership with TCSN in the following areas:

- Completing College
- Paying for College – FAFSA/WASFA Completion Campaign
- Apprenticeships

**WA State Opportunity Scholarship** - Bates met with WSOS to strategize ways to connect our state's leading industries with Bates student in the STEM field by reducing barriers to education and training in minority and low income student groups.

**WSAC: Compass Coaching with Inside Track** - Bates is collaborating with WSAC in the Compass Coaching pilot project campaign. The components of this campaign are:

- Reach Interested Adults: The marketing campaign will target individuals in our community with email and social media by using messaging and imagery designed to inspire prospective students to complete a contact form.
- Coach and Support: Inside Track coaches will proactively reach out to up to 1,100 prospective students to help them navigate pre-enrollment barriers and explore career goals and interests.
- Enrollment: After the initial coaching outreach, prospective students will be connected to the specified campus outreach contact for admission and enrollment support.

**Refugees Career Pathways (RCP)** - Bates has partnered with the Refugee Resettlement Program at Lutheran Community Services Northwest (LCSNW) to facilitate career opportunities for refugee people, to enrich local refugee communities by inspiring student learning, and to educate for employment.

#### ORR Program Overview

The Refugee Career Pathways program helps enable refugees to achieve self-sufficiency by obtaining the necessary credentials, education, experience, and job skills to secure employment in professional and/or skilled career fields. RCP assists refugee participants to learn about career pathways and develop personalized career development plans for career entry and advancement.

RCP program grantees provide the necessary training and technical assistance to participants to overcome obstacles to initiating their careers and ensure they have the resources and knowledge needed to succeed.

A formal collaboration between Bates Technical College and LCSNW will prepare students who are also refugees to be successful in a range of careers and apprenticeships. Bates has built a mission around diversity and inclusion and offers a program structure that will fully support refugee people as they pursue career skills.

#### Student Life and Activities

**Campus Life is Open!** - The Campus Life and Activity Center has reopened as of July 19. Students have access to printers, computers, study space, lounge areas,

fellowship, and hygiene and food items for those in need. The Downtown and South Campus centers are now open from 8am to 4:30pm.

## Finance and Administrative Services

### Facilities Capital Projects Updates

**Center for Allied Health Education building** – On October 18 a ribbon cutting event will be held to celebrate the opening of the long-awaited Center for Allied Health Education. The site is bustling with onsite contractors working on every level and around the perimeter of the building, which includes new landscaping.

There has been an unfortunate delay to the actual operational opening due to a number of supply chain issues impacting the furniture industry. Because of this, certain furniture will not be available for delivery in time for the fall quarter. We will be moving during the winter break.

Start cleaning up your spaces and be on the lookout for more news about packing in future newsletters.



### **Bates 2021-2023 Biennium Facility Improvement Projects - \$2.6 million**

In August, a list of new potential projects will be reviewed. The list of new project allocations are:

- South Campus Overhead Exterior Coiling Doors – Replace balance of doors underfunded from previous biennium
- South Campus Building E Masonry & Building Envelope Repairs
- Central Campus Building A - Replace legacy fire alarm panel
- South Campus Building B – Replace obsolete HVAC units
- Downtown Campus East Annex – Replace water heater tank, transformer, and pump
- Replace the South Campus Building B Dust Collection system

- Replace 28 drinking fountains with bottle filling stations at the South and Downtown Campuses

### Finance Department

**A big thank you, from the Finance Department, to everyone who worked to make sure we could close the fiscal year smoothly!**



## College Initiatives

### Accreditation Update

In June, the Assessment Task Force surveyed Bates faculty on their current comfort-level with student learning outcomes assessment. High-scoring items spotlighted faculty's understanding of Bloom's Taxonomy, use of program level assessments, and facility in writing outcomes statements. Meantime, growth areas included how to assess Institutional Student Learning Outcomes (ISLOs) and how to record, analyze, and act on assessment data. The results will help shape 2021-22 professional development goals for this keystone element of accreditation.

### Guided Pathways

The Guided Pathways Committee will be holding the Guided Pathways Retreat on August 2. The committee will be using this retreat time to plan and set priorities for the next year.

### DEI Task Force

The Task Force will be conducting its full day DEI Task Force Retreat on August 2. The group will have a robust agenda including an afternoon of sessions facilitated by Dr. Jessica Taylor, Vice President of Diversity and Inclusive Development at Multnomah University and CEO/Founder of the Leadership Training Initiative.

## This is Bates

### Welcome our New Bates Employees!

- Anthony Hickonbottom, HVAC Instructor

- Robert Renfro, HVAC Instructor
- Crystal Curby, Custodian II
- Kayla Aponte, Custodian II
- Heath Major, Maintenance 3
- Ken Hardin, Interim Director of HR

### Peer Appreciations

Do you know a stellar student, a fantastic faculty or a superior staff member? Email your Peer Appreciation to [communications@batestech.edu](mailto:communications@batestech.edu)!

## Bobcat Bits

### How the Bates Foundation supported students during the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Between April 1, 2020 and May 30, 2021, the Foundation helped 103 students stay in school with \$49,844.44 in emergency assistance for essential living expenses.
- From spring quarter 2020 to summer quarter 2021 the Foundation awarded 181 students \$150,375 in scholarship for tuition, books, tools and supplies.
- The Foundation pledged \$20,000 to the college to purchase laptops for the then new student Laptop Loaner program when it became apparent students and employees would be working remotely for longer than we had hoped.

**Recruiting ASG Officers!** Last month we wished most of our ASG officers off onto their next journey as alumni. As they enter the workforce, it's time to refill these positions. That means ASG is taking applications for the 2021-2022 Student Leadership Team and training begins August 23, 2021. The pay is \$14 per hour and all positions are open.

What's in it for students? On the job experience, leadership experience, leadership training, the full college experience and lifelong friendships with peers!

## Dates to Remember

- Board of Trustees Retreat – Wednesday - Friday, August 4 - 6
- Leadership Listening Session – Tuesday, August 10
- Summer Quarter Ends – Tuesday, August 17
- Start of Summer Break (Faculty) – Thursday, August 19



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