



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

Bates Technical College | May 2022

*This newsletter is best viewed using the desktop version of Outlook.*



### President's Update

Dear college community,

The transition from Spring Quarter to Summer Quarter is just around the corner, and I am reminded of how much we have to be grateful for and to celebrate.

The end of the academic year is punctuated by our first, in-person commencement ceremony in two years. During the day, employees will gather for lunch, awards and to recognize this year's retirees. We'll end with some fun games. I am proud of our event planning teams for organizing the employee event during the day, and the big event at the Tacoma Dome. Thank you to the Commencement Committee for all your hard work in making the evening ceremony a success for our students.

As you are aware, we successfully launched ctcLink on May 9. Years in the making with countless hours of work and preparation, I want to thank our Pillar Leads, Subject Matter Experts and all of you for your efforts. It is because of your hard work that we were able to successfully launch.

Enjoy your Memorial Day weekend

*Lia*

## Department Updates

### Finance and Administrative Services

#### Finance and Administration

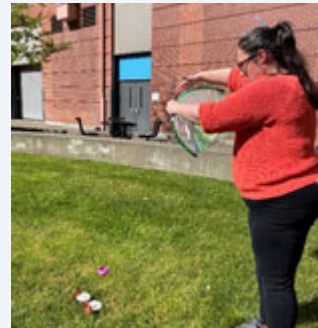
Like the rest of the college, the Finance and Administrative Services Department is working to clean up items in the old system and prepare for year-end activities, compiling information from both systems.

#### Facilities and Operations

The Center for Allied Health project won the 2022 Tacoly Opal award from the American Society of Structural Engineers (ASCE) for the structural work on the CAHE building. The college will receive a plaque that will be displayed in the building to serve as a reminder of the accomplishment.



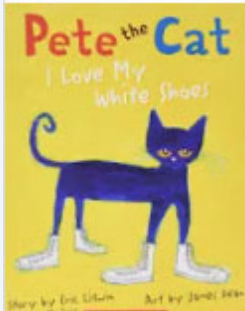
#### Childcare / ECEAP



The ECEAP children in Amber Edward's preschool classroom have been watching and waiting for the cocoons in the butterfly farm to hatch. On April 11, the caterpillars arrived, they watched them form cocoons, and on May 9, they released ten beautiful butterflies in the courtyard.

Amber has engaged the children's curiosity in their insect study by also hatching ladybugs, released May 9. The praying mantises have not hatched yet, so there is more to come.

Tami Hill's class has been mixing colors and appreciating flowers this spring. Learning about the parts of a flower and how it grows.



Early Childhood Education student Diane Erlenmeyer has the preschool children at South Campus strutting their stuff with "Pete the Cat, I Love My White Shoes," by Eric Litwin and illustrated by James Dean. If you need a reason to smile, visit Portable G and ask them to tell you the story (sing and dance) "I Love my White Shoes".

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fj\\_z6zGQVyM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fj_z6zGQVyM)



Pete sure makes knowing your colors fun. Those children have some serious swagger. Huge thanks to the student volunteer, Diane for her inspiration.

☀️ The children downtown are enjoying the warm and dry days. Just taking off the shoes and feeling the warmth of the ground on their feet.

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## Student Services



Student Services was satisfied with the results of the Go Live process and will continue to work to ensure the accuracy of student data and ongoing support to students as they navigate the new system. While we were closed for in-person appointments during the first two weeks after Go Live, we are encouraging students to use the website to seek answers to their questions and to leave voice or email messages as we continue to support their enrollment/registration efforts. During the student training sponsored in early May, we demonstrated the use of the mobile app, how to search for and enroll in classes, and put students in touch with many available ctcLink resources. Students – please reach out to Student Services if you continue to have questions.

### Student Services Staff Updates

We welcome Brandon Held as Career Advisor. Brandon comes to us after four years at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, Oregon, and will start on June 1. We look forward to him joining the team. After a failed search for the Director of Student Outreach, Advising, and Conduct, we are reviewing a new group of candidates and will soon make selections for upcoming interviews.

### Commencement Day Celebration

As previously mentioned we are excited to announce the return of Commencement Day employee activities. After sharing lunch, recognition, and awards, we are going to offer some fun time for all. We will play Minute to Win It Games. For those unfamiliar with these games (which used to appear on a TV game show), teams of players will be tasked with completing random tasks in less than a minute. For each team member that completes the task in under a minute, the team will earn a point. In the end, all team points will be tallied to reveal the winners, who will receive small prizes and bragging rights. For those who do not wish to play, observing the Games is just as much fun.



## Campus Life & Activities

### Bates ASG Updates

ASG has been working to support our students as we transition to ctLink, supporting the relocation of the CLA center, and addressing barriers faced by peers, such as lack of secure bike storage and navigating complicated class schedules.

### Pierce Transit

Bates Students had the highest ridership in the Pierce Transit higher education partner network, averaging 8.42 rides per student in 2021. Pierce plans to recognize Bates by placing the following signs in three ad shelters located on:

- Bus stop #2789 on S Tacoma Way and 96th St SW
- Bus stop #1075 on Gravelly Lake and Mt Tacoma
- Bus stop #17 on Gravelly Lake and 100th St SW
- They will also be used on social media.



### Commencement

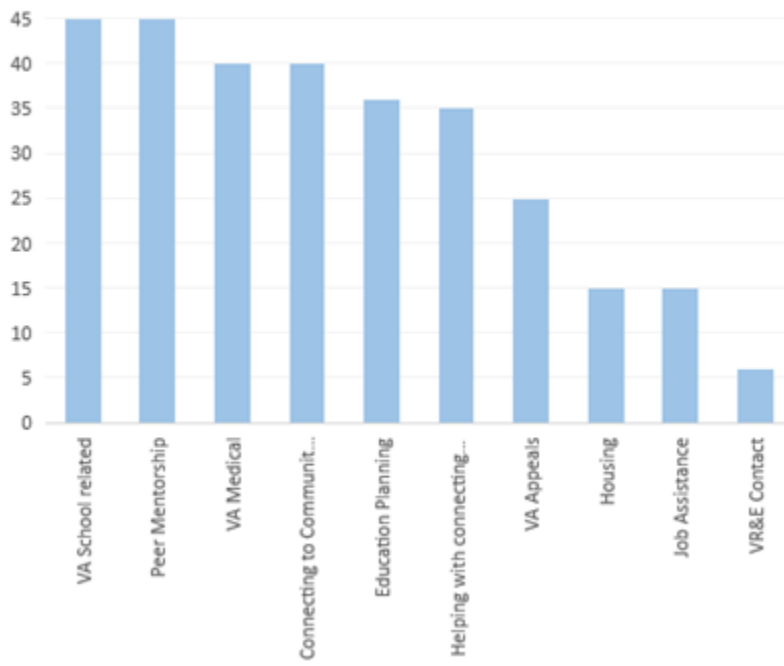
We are pleased to announce that commencement will be in person this year at the Tacoma Dome on June 6 at 6 pm. So far, approximately 200 students have registered for this in-person event.

We have invited students from classes 2020 and 2021 to join us at the celebration. To streamline the process for students, we have moved the commencement registration process online using Eventbrite. This gives us real-time data, allows us to collect payment and attendee data in one place, and send email updates to participants.

### VetCorps and WDVA

Bates partners with WDVA to have one VetCorps Navigator stationed on campus for 9 months each year. This year, Bates Vets needed the most assistance with accessing their VA benefits and peer support.

## Categories of Assistance





### **Title III Position Updates**

All three retention specialists have been focused on project objectives seven and eight; increasing fall-to-fall retention and credential completion.

They have revised and revived New Student Orientation as a mandatory in-person retention event. They attended local college's orientation programs and met with community partners to assess best practices. They have begun intake appointments with their caseloads – discovering areas of concern or obstacles students may face and building a database of resources to address those issues. They have joined campus committees and workgroups whose focus is retention – Guided pathways student intervention and Behavioral Intervention, to assess needs and guide retention. They have partnered with other campus resources to make meaningful connections with students, such as the library, career advisors, food pantry, and Metropolitan Development Council (MDC). To date, they have completed 45 student intakes.

Other Title III Milestones:

- Instructional Designer hired
- Data Analyst interviews in progress
- A site visit from an external evaluator is scheduled for May 23
- Interim Title III Report submitted in ISAPR



### **Instruction**

#### **Congratulations!**

Taina Anderson and Liberty Olson were awarded Tenure at the April 25, 2022 Board of Trustees meeting. We thank you for your hard work and commitment to Bates. [Check out the photo here!](#)

#### **Welcome New Faculty**



#### **Michelle Earthwright, I-BEST Faculty**

Michelle Earthwright joins us as our new I-BEST faculty. She previously worked as an academic advisor and affiliate faculty at UW Tacoma. She has also worked as an academic advisor at South Puget Sound Community College, and as a high school English, math, and special education high school teacher. In her free time, she enjoys hiking and backpacking with her dogs, foraging, gardening, making art, playing board games, and learning aerial circus arts.



### **Renee Phoenix, Instructional Designer**

I've been lucky enough to spend the last 15 years of my career in a community college setting as a Program Manager and then Instructional Designer for Pierce College, and as an adjunct faculty teaching business and digital design courses. I have a BA in Education from Arizona State University ("Go Devils!") and a master's degree in Educational Technology from Boise State University. I love working with faculty and students and tend to learn "wide". By that, I mean getting to know about a lot of things and then finding new ways to connect ideas and information to design great learning experiences. My teaching and

instructional design philosophies are all about helping others identify their interests and strengths, and then helping them develop the skills that give them control of their own learning journey. Together, my husband and I like to restore and rebuild things - vintage cars, snowcats, RV buses, and airplanes to name a few. In my spare time, I like to go on short photo road trips in my Jeep with Zeke (our 120 lb. Newfie mix) and explore the backroads of Washington, Oregon and Montana. I like photographing small towns, interesting places and wildlife.

### **Faculty Excellence Award**

Congratulations to Tim Bacon, CNC Machinist Instructor, who received the 2022 Exceptional Faculty Award. Tim was nominated for his work ethic and dedication to his students. He inspires student learning, community relationships, and workforce education by seeking and nurturing affiliations within the industry. Tim is dedicated to his student's success and often coordinates workshops and training.



**Johnny Hu-VP of Instruction, Tim Bacon-2022 Exceptional Faculty winner, and Peter Speelmon-Interim Dean of Instruction**



### **Thank you, Instruction Team!**

A big thank you to the Instruction team who entered 4,776 classes for the Spring term and beyond. That's 100% of Historic Classes converted to ctLink. We appreciate you and are so proud you are part of the team!



### **Mark Your Calendars!**

Vice President of Instruction Dr. Johnny Hu would like to invite Bates faculty and staff to his open drop-in office hours for this quarter. Below are the dates and times. The Zoom link is embedded in the date.

- [June 24, 2022 from 11:00-12:00](#)

If you would like to request a one-on-one meeting with Johnny or to meet as a group/department, please reach out to [Jenifer Keltto](#).

## Accreditation Update

BTC continues to gain momentum in instructional assessment (NWCCU Standard 1.C). This June, instructors will complete 2021-22's cycle of Student Learning Outcomes Assessment (SLOA) submissions. To the faculty's credit, on-time completions remain near 90 percent. This summer, instead of another SLOA to fill out, instructors will receive a short, reflective survey on the past year's assessment work. In addition, three programs will pilot-test an online SLOA form, slated for college-wide launch in fall.

## This is Bates

## Spotlight on Students

### Meet Kedric Carter, Barber program student



#### **What program are you in, and why did you choose that program?**

I am currently enrolled in Barbering. I have a passion for the industry because I grew up in a barbershop, sweeping hair in our family-owned business. I enjoy working with people, making them look and feel good, which helps build their self-esteem. I really enjoy conversating with people and building that barber-client connection.

#### **What drew you to Bates Technical College, and what do you like the most about your educational experience?**

I chose to attend Bates Technical College because it has an excellent reputation within the barbering community, especially from previous graduates. What I enjoy most about my educational experience is meeting new people, especially others who share the same goals and aspirations needed to excel in this industry. In our class, we all come together and assist each other if our instructor is helping another student and being supportive of other classmates like a big family.

#### **Were there any obstacles or challenges that you worked through while in school?**

There are several obstacles that I had to overcome to attend, especially since I do not live locally. Thankfully, my instructor, Ms. Green, was able to direct me to the proper programs to assist me with additional resources which have enabled me to be able to focus on school.

#### **When are you graduating, and what are your five-year plans?**

I will be graduating this summer, so my 3-5-year plan is to work at our family-owned barbershop, focus on building my clientele, and eventually open my own shop. A technical college is an excellent choice for anyone who wants to get hands-on training enabling them to step right into a career doing what they love.

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## Employee Milestones

### Congratulations to the following **May** employee anniversaries!

- **Miriam Hoover**, Early Childhood Specialist 4, 25
- **LeAnn Dreier**, Director of Foundation, 22
- **Kelli Rice**, HR Specialist, 20
- **Franklin Hsu**, Biomedical Equipment Technician/EEST Instructor, 9
- **Maoua Kone**, Family Support Specialist 3, 7
- **Dee Nelons**, Director of Facilities and Operations, 7

- **Yolande Berg**, Executive Administrative Assistant to VP of Administrative Services, 2
- **Brianne Knudson**, Manager of Individual Giving, 2
- **Abdalkhuddus Uraiet**, Biomedical Equipment Technician/ EEST Instructor, 2

New Hires:

- **Alexander Nicholas**, Veteran Affairs/ Labor & Industries Analyst PTE IV
- **Michelle Earthright**, Adult Basic Education I-BEST Instructor
- **Renee Phoenix**, Instructional Designer

Peer Appreciations:

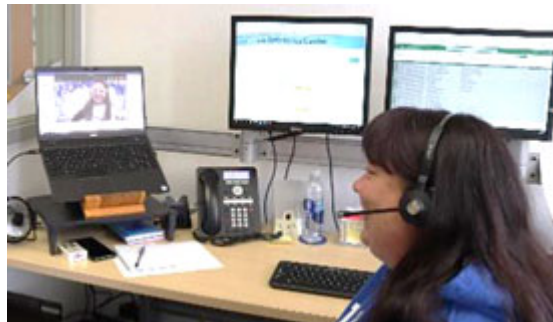
Do you know a stellar student, a fantastic faculty or a superior staff member? Email your Peer Appreciation to [communications@batestech.edu](mailto:communications@batestech.edu) to be featured here!

- **To Leesa Ostrander and Hector Perez, Advising and Retention:** I would like to take a moment to recognize Leesa Ostrander and Hector Perez for the outstanding service that they provided to the students at the South Campus in getting set up with ctLink and course registration. The students and I definitely felt supported and are grateful for their assistance. Job well done!

## Bobcat Bits

### ctLink goes live!

The dedication and hard work of our college employees, we met our May 9 ctLink Go-Live date. Those involved with the ctLink go live events on Sunday, May 8 arrived at the college to ensure our system was ready for the transition. The group enjoyed a lunch and dinner, along with a celebration cake for a job well done.



## Ironworkers Apprenticeship student Marco Montoya speaks at Bridge to Future event at UWT



**President Zhou, Trustee Layne Bladow, Dean Yifan Sun and Assistant Director of Communications and Marketing Chelsea Lindquist** attended a Bridge to the Future recognition event on May 11 with third-year Ironworkers Apprentice **Marco Montoya**. The attendees at the event, held at UWT, heard from Governor Jay Inslee, Senator Emily Randall and Representative Valdana Slatter, and three students, including Marco. The students highlighted their educational journey and thanked legislators for increasing financial aid opportunities, expanding apprenticeship pathways, and ensuring students have career options to achieve educational goals.

## Tours at South Campus reinforce the importance of technical education, elevate the college

**President Zhou, Trustees Layne Bladow, Heather Moss, Dean Yifan Sun and Assistant Director of Communications and Marketing Chelsea Lindquist, took the CEO of the American Association of Community College Jee Hang Lee** on Thursday, May 19 on a tour of three programs at South Campus. Special thanks to faculty and students in the **Fire Service, Welding and Electrical Construction programs** for welcoming the tour group and showing off their programs!



Tacoma City **Councilmember Kiara Daniels** and staff member **Clair Goodwin** joined **President Zhou, Deans Marcus Harvey, Yifan Sun and Assistant Director of**

**Communications and Marketing Chelsea Lindquist** to tour various programs at South Campus on Wednesday, May 25. The group visited the **Fire Service, Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technology, Architectural Woodworking and Cabinetmaking Technology, Sheet Metal and Motorcycle and Marine Technology programs**. Special thanks to the faculty and students for showcasing their programs!



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### **Mental Health Minute**



Did you know that you can adopt morning rituals that can create the conditions necessary for a positive mood and optimum productivity? Check out these rituals to help steer your day in a positive direction:

- Hone in on You First
- Devote time for meditation
- Exercise and Fuel your body
- Start gratitude practice
- Read and reflect

[Dive deeper here!](#)

May is Mental Health Awareness month, and it is important to raise awareness, provide support, and educate the public to break the stigma associated with mental health illness. As a community, we can do our part in advocating and bringing our voices together to promote change in the mental health care system. To find ways to help, visit [National Alliance on Mental Health](#).

## Dates to Remember (find details on the [college calendar](#))

- Summer Quarter registration for new students, June 1
- Commencement rehearsal, June 2
- ASG General Assembly Meeting, June 3
- Commencement ceremony, June 6
- Spring quarter ends, June 7
- New Student Orientation, June 8
- Student break, June 9-13
- Summer Quarter begins, June 14
- Leadership Listening Session, June 14
- College Closed, June 19
- DEI: Forging Inclusive Allyship, June 27
- Board of Trustees meeting, June 27

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