

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

CLOVER PARK TECHNICAL COLLEGE





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ADMINISTRATION



Dear CPTC Family and Friends,

Throughout its history, Clover Park Technical College has evolved to meet the changing needs of industry and our students. And we continue to progress as we embark on a culture shift that will impact the way we serve the community.

In the wake of a global pandemic and a racial reckoning, our awareness of systemic inequities has grown, and so has our commitment to be a catalyst for economic and social justice. It is a moral and practical imperative for CPTC to implement changes that help eliminate gaps that exist within our institution.

We must ground our future in a culture that makes education and economic mobility profoundly more accessible to community members historically excluded from postsecondary education. The Clover Park Technical College 2023-2028 Strategic Plan will help us increase access, completion, and employment rates for all students, and improve the rates more significantly for our students of color.

This recipe for success will help employers in our region find the workforce they need to remain competitive and ensure community members receive the relevant skills and knowledge they need to find meaningful, fulfilling and profitable careers.

I invite you to read this annual community report to learn more about the focus and impact of CPTC's work over the past year. I also encourage you to visit our website at cptc.edu and join us on campus to learn more about all CPTC has to offer.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Hoveday". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President

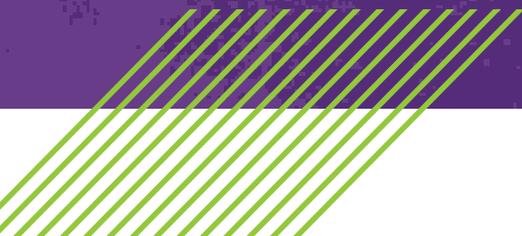


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STUDENT SUCCESS

Celebrating success: Three CPTC students land on All-Washington Academic Team

Their stories inspire and their achievements impress. Three Clover Park Technical College students named to the 2023 All-Washington Academic Team are models for success – in the classroom and in their communities.



A talent for fixing things and a passion for safety

Laurel Behrend was on her way to a health care career when she discovered she wanted something different. Summers working for a paper mill made her realize she preferred being in an industrial setting.

Her father told her about nondestructive testing (NDT), an industrial process used to check for system problems without causing damage. Behrend was sold. She liked fixing things, and she wanted to do something that would help keep people safe. CPTC's Nondestructive Testing program was the track she was looking for.

As a student, Behrend served on the board of directors of the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Society of Nondestructive Testing and on a CPTC committee dedicated to improving the college's NDT program. Upon graduation this year, she launched her career with The Merrick Group where she travels to nuclear facilities across the U.S. to test plant components.

A dream fulfilled for herself and her children

Growing up in foster care, **Melissa Gitchel-Compton** never had role models or a family she was close to. Finishing high school and pursuing something more didn't seem important. But when she became a mom, she wanted to set a positive example for her children and find out what she wanted in life.

Gitchel-Compton got her GED and went to school to become a medical assistant. She loved her job, but her dream was to work in surgery. She fulfilled that aspiration after graduating with honors from the CPTC Surgical Technology program this year.

Gitchel-Compton hopes to advocate for others in her profession across the state. And she'll make more time for another passion she and her family share – helping people with disabilities. It's something that hits close to home.

Gitchel-Compton is legal guardian of a sibling with autism and Down syndrome.

Caring for the vulnerable with compassion and grace

Petrina Sweet always wanted to be a nurse, and the military was the best route to make that happen. When the army nursing program was discontinued, she opted for a health care administrative role. But Sweet never let go of her dream, and her experience as a soldier living with sickle cell anemia inspired her to make it a reality.

After Sweet retired early from the military and her husband was stationed at Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM), the time was right to home in on her aspirations. The wife of a general at JBLM told her about the LPN-RN Transition program at CPTC.

Sweet has been caring for residents in a senior living community since graduating from CPTC in December 2022. She and her husband plan to return to Washington D.C. where she'll enter an accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at The George Washington University with the aim of becoming a neonatal intensive care unit nurse.

"We celebrate Laurel, Melissa and Petrina and their commitment to excellence," said Dr. Joyce Loveday, Clover Park Technical College President. "These outstanding high achievers are among our state's finest college students."



Petrina Sweet (left) and Melissa Gitchel-Compton (right) with CPTC President Dr. Joyce Loveday. Not pictured: Laurel Behrend



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INSTRUCTION

CPTC blazes trail with new Environmental Sciences BAS degree

Beginning fall quarter of 2023, Clover Park Technical College will provide a new educational pathway that gives Environmental Sciences students what they need to succeed.

The new Environmental Sciences Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree will be the first program of its kind to be offered at a Washington state technical or community college.



Building on a strong foundation



The college already had a rigorous Environmental Sciences and Technology associate degree program that prepared students for a wide range of careers. But the reality is that most jobs in the field require a Bachelor of Science degree.

“Graduates of our AAS program were skilled and work-ready, but employers are looking for that four-year degree,” said Derek Faust, CPTC Environmental Sciences and Technology program faculty instructor. “We can’t change what employers require, but we knew we could build a strong BAS degree on the breadth and depth of our existing programs.”

Created for all students

Curriculum for the BAS-ENV was developed with input from current and former students, as well as industry employers and CPTC’s Environmental Sciences and Technology Program Advisory Committee. Equity and inclusiveness were a key part of the building process.

As a result, the team created a BAS-ENV that is suitable for everyone – from AAS degree-holding students to busy working professionals to high schoolers beginning their college journey. The program offers in-person, hybrid and online instruction.

Additional benefits also help level the playing field:

- Students don’t have to worry if their CPTC credits will transfer to four-year institutions.

- The cost savings is substantial compared with similar programs offered at traditional four-year colleges and universities.
- The CPTC program creates a pathway to advanced degrees. Graduates can complete a Master of Environmental Studies at The Evergreen State College.

Making dreams a reality

For many Clover Park Technical College students, the new BAS program has been a game changer – and a huge relief.

“I was worried about my limited career options and the high cost of going to a four-year university, so my plan was to join the workforce and slowly continue my education in my spare time,” said CPTC Environmental Sciences and Technology student Kat Britt. “This program means I can get my BAS faster and continue my education in a familiar environment with wonderful instructors.”

With that degree in hand, Britt hopes to work with the Washington State Department of Ecology or Department of Fish and Wildlife where she can help improve and maintain the environment for future generations. She also plans to pursue a master’s degree.

“I’ll be able to have the career I’ve dreamed of, support my family and help us own a home,” she said. “It’s a little slice of the American dream.”

With the launch of the Environmental Sciences BAS, Clover Park Technical College now offers five Bachelor of Applied Science degrees. Other programs include Cybersecurity, Interior Design, Mechatronics Engineering Technology & Automation, and Operations Management.



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INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

CPTC grad makes remarkable journey to doctoral degree

The number of college students who go on from a two-year institution to get a doctorate is nominal. When homelessness is part of the equation, the accomplishment should simply be unattainable.

But Al Brown doesn't believe in impossible. Despite his lack of housing throughout most of his college career, the 2015 Clover Park Technical College grad defied unsurmountable odds to earn his doctoral degree in education from City University of Seattle in June of this year.



Success amid barriers

In 2009, Brown found himself out of work after a career as a barber. Early brushes with the law made it difficult to find employment, and the jobs he did find didn't pay enough to keep a roof over his head. He knew that getting an education was the answer.

"When I saw my kid's face when he found out my sleeping circumstances, I knew what I had to do," Brown said.

His interest in working in the human welfare sector led him to CPTC. After completing his Associate of Applied Technology degree in Human Services in 4 quarters, he went on to earn his Bachelor of Social Science through The Evergreen College in just 11 quarters. A Master of Arts in Leadership from City University followed and led Brown to the Doctor of Education in Leadership program.

While he found success in the classroom, Brown slept in shelters, couch surfed at friends' homes, lived in a garage, found refuge in his child's abandoned day care and rented cheap office space. Just days before he began his master's program, his "home" was a Tacoma sidewalk. It wasn't until he began his doctoral program that he found permanent housing.

Lived experiences, meaningful research

Through it all, college remained a beacon of hope and purpose. And it opened the door for Brown to use his own experiences to help pave a better path for others.

A class project early in his college career got the wheels turning. Brown had to compile a list of community resources designed for individuals without cell phones and internet service who needed food assistance, housing and other essentials. When he found himself in a helpless situation, he thought he had the information he needed at hand.

"Nearly everything I pulled together was incorrect and out of date," Brown said. "That's when I realized how disjointed things are."

That experience spurred him to do his own research into the inconsistencies and cracks in a system that is supposed to help those in need.

The next chapter begins

As more people face homelessness in the region and across the U.S., and stigmatization, discrimination and health conditions associated with the issue grow, Brown is eager to use his academic credential to bring his message to the forefront. He hopes to share his research and lived experiences through lectures and podcasts and plans to write a book. He would also like to work alongside community leaders and help develop school curriculum.

Brown will also continue to inspire others who struggle to find their way forward. He offers this advice: "Determine what's holding you back and try to create a new understanding of your values and what you need to succeed."

In May, Brown fittingly shared his story where it all began – as a guest speaker at the Clover Park Foundation 2023 Scholarship Celebration.



Al Brown speaking at the 2023 Scholarship Celebration.



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EDI

MOSAIC Center celebrates an eventful year

As Clover Park Technical College embarks on its 2023-2028 Strategic Plan, deepening the college's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion is at the forefront.

A very visible part of that effort is CPTC's Multicultural Office of Student Access, Inclusion and Community (MOSAIC) Center.

"Since its official grand opening in September 2022, the MOSAIC Center has served as a warm and welcoming space where students of diverse, racial, ethnic and gender backgrounds can gather and connect," said Luke Ruiz, Manager of Student Diversity Programs for the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.



The MOSAIC Center is also a hub for culturally relevant and meaningful initiatives and events.



Here are a few examples:

- The center collaborated with the Students of Color Association (SOCA) on several events, including celebrations honoring Juneteenth, Black History Month, Cinco de Mayo and others.
- Through a partnership with College Success Foundation, representatives of the organization visit the MOSAIC Center every other Monday and share coffee and donuts with students, along with access to the organization's resources, including scholarship and emergency funding opportunities.
- The center teams with Nourishing Neighbors to distribute \$50 gift cards that students can use for gas, food and other needs. The popular program is especially helpful for those who need assistance with basic transportation to get to school.
- With antiracism a critical part of MOSAIC Center's mission, efforts continue to make that work even more relevant, including applying strategies to specific students, their programs of study and their careers going forward.
- Friendships formed through the MOSAIC Center have spurred new campus clubs and organizations, including an architecture and engineering group.
- The center works with the CPTC Nursing program to help students navigate their undocumented status as they complete their studies. As Ruiz looks ahead, he hopes to

become even more attuned to the undocumented student population and create additional, and stronger, pathways for those students.

- The MOSAIC Milestones Celebration held at the McGavick Student Center in June honored the contributions and achievements of Clover Park Technical College students, staff and faculty of color, and LGBTQIA+ communities. The highpoint of the inaugural celebration was the presentation of vibrant and colorful cultural and identity stoles to nearly 80 graduating students to wear at CPTC's 2023 commencement.

Serving the whole campus community



It's also been a year of discovery for Ruiz and MOSAIC Center staff. For one thing, it's not only degree-seeking students who use the space. Students from CPTC's Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language programs visit the center, as well as younger students from the college's on-campus Northwest Career & Technical High School.

"The MOSAIC Center is about community building and outreach, Ruiz said. "We've realized that we need to keep the whole campus community in mind going into next year, so there's still a lot we need to do to learn about all the different educational paths students are on. But it's easy when the work is engaging and fun."



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FOUNDATION



Total of all College Support for July 2022-June 2023

Type of Support	Amount
Program Account	\$5,525.47
Emergency Assistance	\$33,527.80
College Hosting and Support	\$4,736.20
Faculty Awards	\$7,000.00
Scholarship Awards	\$156,016.00
Donated Goods Transferred to College Programs	\$130,496.46
TOTAL: \$337,301.93	

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