

Welcome to the Workforce Excellence Newsletter!

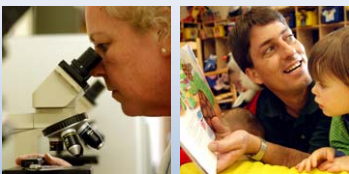
Our focus is to bring you updates and changes taking place through Workforce Development that impact you and the local community. We look forward to hearing your feedback.

“I chose OC because...I felt [this college] could provide me with the knowledge to achieve my academic and career goals.”

Victor Moore

Olympic College Student

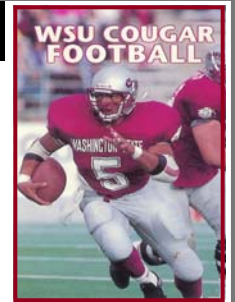
Computer Information Systems



WELCOME, DEREK SPARKS

NEW LEADER: WEST SOUND EDUCATION CONSORTIUM & TECH PREP

“On October 14, 2008 Derek spoke to our freshmen students about making high school count. He stressed the importance of education, a positive attitude and participation in school. Derek...captivated their attention for the entire 50 minutes of advisory time...Derek Sparks definitely “lit a spark” at North Kitsap High and we look forward to him...speaking in our classrooms again in the near future.” Paula J. Patterson, North Kitsap School District



It's **Game Time!** That is the mantra Derek Sparks, newly hired Tech-Prep Director at Olympic College, shares with students to get them fired up for the game of life. Sparks demonstrates a unique ability to connect with students when he speaks at high schools. He impresses upon them the importance of putting effort into education.

Community members may already know Derek Sparks as a stand-out football player for Washington State University who was recruited to the National Football League with the San Francisco 49ers for three years. He has published a book, *Lessons of the Game*, based on his experiences. Later, Derek directed the Education Foundation for the Association of General Contractors, promoting careers in trades. He has worked extensively in education.

We are fortunate to have Derek's energy and enthusiasm as he leads the West Sound Education Consortium and Tech Prep program for Olympic College and our region.

Shelton Welding Program

If you need welders, look to OC's expanded program

Olympic College welding instructors were confident that a welding program based in Mason County could become very successful, but the program has exceeded all expectations. A local company has already hired two OC Shelton welding students! The students plan to complete their ATA degrees in Welding Technology while employed.

For the first year, the program was housed at Shelton High School, giving it a foothold in the community. The program recently moved to the former “Bronze Works” facility off Highway 101. Remodeled to accommodate instructional needs, the welding shop is now outfitted with state-of-the-art welding and metal cutting equipment. It boasts 16 individually vented workstations, with space left over for electronics students to get hands-on lab experience.

Shelton resident Chris Hobson teaches the new welding program. With 22 years of experience instructing students in welding and allied processes, he leads the program and students to success. For more information, please contact Chris at (360) 432-9555.



Free Electronic Income Tax Filing Assistance

Accounting Technology and Business Management students from Olympic College offer free income tax preparation service through the Internal Revenue Service's Tax-Aide Internship program. Beginning February 3rd through April 15, students will assist taxpayers at the Olympic College Bremer Student Center in Room 116, located at 1600 Chester Avenue, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays only from 12:30 to 4:30 pm. This service is open to the public with walk-in appointments only. Information: (360) 475-7480.



Thank You

Participants of the 2008 Internship and Community Volunteer Service Fair



- 1030 KMAS Radio
- A Place Called Hope
- American Red Cross
- Armin Jahr Elementary School
- Big Brothers, Big Sisters of South Puget Sound
- Boys & Girls Club of South Puget Sound
- CAPRI Heart and Lung Institute
- Children of the Nations
- Communitas Group
- Crisis Clinic of the Peninsulas
- Department of Corrections Washington State
- Habitat for Humanity of Kitsap County
- Harrison Medical Center
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
- Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration
- Kitsap County
- Kitsap County HIV AIDS Foundation
- Kitsap Humane Society
- Kitsap Mental Health Services
- Kitsap Regional Library
- Kitsap Youth Mentoring Consortium
- Mason County Literacy
- Mason County School District
- Naval Avenue Elementary School
- Navy Marine Corps Relief Society
- North Kitsap Fishline
- Olympic College Career Center
- Old Dominion University
- Peninsula Community Health Services
- Puget Sound Blood Center
- The Salvation Army
- Sound Works Job Center
- United Way of Kitsap County Volunteer Center
- View Ridge Elementary School
- West Hills Elementary School
- Western Washington University
- YMCA of Kitsap County
- Youth for Christ
- YWCA of Kitsap County

Need Employees for a Culinary Business?



The Culinary Arts program at Olympic college provides in-depth culinary training for skilled employees who will work in restaurants, hotels, catering, fine bakeries, resorts and institutions offering food services. As the program unfolds, the students focus on specialty areas of cooking and gain hands-on experience working in the Olympic Café, The Fireside Bistro and at various catered events. Program graduates hold one or many of OC's eight culinary degrees or certificates. Information: (360) 475-7577

New Professional-Technical Programs at OC

During the fall of 2008 the State Board of Education approved a myriad of new programs available for students to pursue at Olympic College.

ANIMATION & GAMING PRODUCTION

Associate in Technical Arts: Includes (5) new Certificates of Recognition (IMM)

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY PROFESSIONAL

Associate in Technical Arts (Human Services)

INFORMATION SYSTEMS SPECIALIST

Associate in Applied Science (CIS)

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Certificate of Proficiency

LEADERSHIP AND OCCUPATIONAL STUDIES

Associate in Applied Science Transfer Degree (OLRM)

MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Certificate of Completion

MEDICAL BILLING & CODING

Certificate of Specialization (Medical Assisting)

TECHNICAL DESIGN

Each program offers a Certificate of Completion and Certificate of Proficiency

- ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
- CIVIL DESIGN
- GIS TECHNOLOGY
- MECHANICAL DESIGN



Mr. Chris Gallagher Selected to Lead OC Manufacturing Program

Chris Gallagher slid into Silverdale behind the wheel of a 26 foot U-Haul truck in the midst of the big December blizzard. Wouldn't you know his new home was destined to be at the top of a hill? Mr. Gallagher simply added this adventure to the long list of world travels that he has experienced in his quest to develop his knowledge and his profession.

Hailing from Illinois, he set off to attend Western Washington University where he achieved his Bachelor's degree in Manufacturing Engineering Technology. Soon after, he became a millwright for an area hardwood lumber producer. Still thirsty for knowledge and adventure, he joined the Peace Corps and moved to Zambia, Africa where he met his wife, Monica. A return to the states led to Mr. Gallagher's achievement of his master's degree in Curriculum & Instruction and work at schools of the Rosebud and Standing Rock Reservations in the Dakotas. After spending several months in his wife's homeland of Brazil, the couple along with baby, Sophia, has settled into the Olympic College community.



Chris Gallagher says he has found his "dream job" with the newly created Manufacturing Program, because of the flexibility that he has to shape the fledgling program. He looks forward to responding to local manufacturers' needs for quality candidates for jobs. He feels that manufacturing employment has grown into more than attending a machine and now involves understanding the entire production process, troubleshooting problems, and working as a team.

Manufacturing classes begin this spring, but stop by the OC Shop now, and extend a warm welcome to Chris and Monica Gallagher! Program information, (360) 475-7676.

CAREER FAIR COMING SOON!

**WEDNESDAY,
MAY 6, 2009**

For Information
contact the
Olympic College
Career Center:

(360) 475-7480

Nursing Assistant Program Provides Quality Employees

The Nursing Assistant program is an example of how Olympic College has connected with the needs of the community. Locally, the demand is great for skilled certified nursing assistants. As a result, Olympic College revised the program this past year and has seen a record number of graduates! Olympic College prepares students to assist registered nurses or licensed practical

nurses in providing basic nursing care for clients in acute and long-term settings. Training includes learning and refining client care skills, clinical observation, and performing skills in a supervised clinical setting. Instruction includes tools to promote a successful job search and best behaviors in the workplace.

We are fortunate here at OC. Our Nursing Assistant program is also an I-BEST program, which integrates basic education with skills training. We have two instructors in the classroom, one focusing on professional-technical skills, and one focusing on skills such as writing, reading and math. We partner with several facilities in the area, enabling our students to work in clinical settings where students gain real-world experience in their chosen field. At the same time, nursing facilities receive skilled help in caring for residents.

For more information contact Mary Polensky, Director Olympic College Nursing Assistant Program, (360) 475-7764.



Workforce Development Team

Dean: Amy Hatfield

Directors: Elaine Williams-Bryant, Teresa McDermott, Jim Friedman, Cindy Wyman, Derek Sparks

Newsletter Editor: Lori Fagan

www.olympic.edu/WorkforceDevelopment
360.792.6050 or 1.800.259.6718, Ext. 7555


OLYMPIC COLLEGE

1600 Chester Avenue
Bremerton, WA 98337-1699
www.olympic.edu