

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.

Why did you choose Olympic College?

// Best medical assisting program around. //

Suzanne Rosenbaum,
Olympic College Student
Medical Assisting



Join us!

Olympic College Job Fair

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Please join our other major sponsors for an opportunity to meet and talk with highly qualified students eager to join the workforce.

- ◆ A Home Care Solution
- ◆ BAE Systems
- ◆ Communitas
- ◆ Harrison Medical Center
- ◆ Kitsap Credit Union
- ◆ Jefferson Healthcare
- ◆ KPS Health Plans
- ◆ Port Madison Enterprises
- ◆ AMSEC LLC
- ◆ PSNS & IMF
- ◆ Navy Exchange Bangor
- ◆ Costco Wholesale
- ◆ Martha & Mary Health Services
- ◆ TeleTech

Call **360-475-7480** to register

It's Official: OC Offers Industry Certification Exams

Take the new Industry Certification Computer Exams and document skills in the use of Microsoft products, networking concepts or general computer programs. The Testing Center at OC is open to all members of the community as an official testing site for PearsonVUE, Prometric and Certiport testing and **Industry Certification Exams**. After passing these exams, people may list the certifications on their resumes or update their qualifications with their employers.

As an employer, you could ask an employee to document new skills through testing – for example, in order to justify a career advancement. You'll find it easy to register and pay online. The Testing Center is located on the fourth floor of the College Service Center on the Bremerton campus. For a complete list of these and other tests offered at OC, visit www.olympic.edu or email TestingCenter@olympic.edu or call 360.475.7371.

CIS Exams Available at OC Testing Center

Microsoft Programs	MCTS and MCITP in current technologies including Windows Vista, MCTS in specific technologies, including SQL Server, .NET, Framework, SharePoint, Microsoft Business Certifications (demonstrates skills with MS Office products)
CompTia	A+, Network+, Security+, Project+, Server+ and more
CISCO	CCNA, CCDA, CCNA-Security, Voice or Wireless, CCNP, CCIP, CCSP and more
IC3	The Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC3) program is the world's first validated, standards-based training and certification program for basic computing and internet knowledge and skills. Successful completion of IC3 ensures you have the knowledge and skills required for basic use of computer hardware, software, networks and internet. IC3 is a gateway to advancement in education, employment or other certification programs.

Chris Plemmons: Skilled Chef and Instructor

When Chris Plemmons signed up for a “Bachelor Living” class in junior high school that featured cooking, he unknowingly launched his career as a chef. Inspired by what he learned in that class, Chef Plemmons went on to earn his degree from Western Culinary Institute. Since then, Chef Plemmons has achieved excellence as a chef, instructor, and philanthropist. Most recently, he accepted an appointment to the Washington State Chef’s Association and received the Kitsap Sun/Kitsap Credit Union “Healthy Tomorrow Award.”



Chef Chris Plemmons
Olympic College Faculty

After joining Olympic College as an instructor five years ago, Chef Plemmons also began serving the community through work at the Bremerton food bank. There, he developed classes and a cookbook to encourage clients to create healthy meals from items commonly available at the food bank.

In addition to teaching OC Culinary Arts classes, Chef Plemmons guides interns through work-based learning opportunities at restaurants and food service establishments. Through experience in the workplace, culinary students fine tune skills to match individual employers’ needs. Students select internship sites to match their area of study, such as hospitality management, restaurant management or international cuisine.

Employers may contact Chef Plemmons about internships at 360.475.7316.

CIS Innovations

Digital Advisor

Computer Information System (CIS) students can now focus their study plans on specific employment and career goals by using Olympic College’s new online “Digital Advisor.” This highly interactive web tool allows students to “shop” Olympic College’s multitude of computer classes to match their targeted employment. To access the tool, go to cis.olympic.edu and choose “Digital Advisor.”

Employers can go online too, and hand select skills or skill sets they would like their employees to learn. Did you know that Olympic College offers 16 CIS certificates and two degrees, including a new AAS-T degree?



CIS instructor Pam Bilodeau assists students with computer programs.

Information Systems Specialist

Would you like an employee to gain specific computer skills needed to enhance efficiency in your workplace? A new program known as *Information Systems Specialist* allows students with specific career goals to design their own degree track. By choosing different combinations of study modules, students can put together sets of skills that meet the needs of today’s employers.

OLYMPIC COLLEGE
PRESENTS

Earth Day Week

**Activities and Events
April 20-25**

BREMERTON CAMPUS

- Faculty Forum
- Community Environmental Fair & Poster Display
- Movies: King Corn & Deep Presence
- Beach Debris Survey

SHELTON CAMPUS

- Community Environmental Fair
- Peste Student Art Display
- Movie: King Corn
- Shoreline Living Workshop
- Community Clean-up Project

**Go to www.olympic.edu
then type in Earth Day**



Computer Information Systems students get hands-on practice troubleshooting a rack of Cisco routers.

**For more details on CIS Programs
go to cis.olympic.edu
or call 360.475.7371**

OC Workforce Development Welcomes Patty Thomas

Olympic College Workforce Development and Basic Studies welcomes Patty Thomas to the team for spring quarter. Patty, an intern from Western Washington University, joins our staff in a quest to develop her skills and knowledge of Workforce Development. Patty may seem familiar because she also serves as program assistant for our WorkFirst Program. She is currently working on her Bachelor of Arts degree in Western's Human Service Program.

Patty's duties include comprehending the maze of our legislative system to monitor workforce-related legislation. She will also assist in supporting our partnership with Bremerton Housing Authority. BHA received a HOPE VI grant in excess of \$20 million to revitalize the West Park community into a blended housing development that will include government housing, low income housing and private residences. West Park residents impacted by the development project may be eligible for education, training and career services through Olympic College. We are excited to have Patty working on these projects and look forward to seeing her progress through her education path.



Income Tax Assistance Internship Program Achieves Milestone

This year, Olympic College, the Internal Review Service (IRS) and the Association for the Advancement of Retired People Foundation (AARP) marked their 10 year sponsorship of the Tax-Aide Internship program at OC. Primarily, students in Accounting Technology and Business Management programs have participated in the two-credit internship. After 30 hours of combined lecture and computerized training, interns volunteer 30 hours with preparation of income taxes.

Through tax season, the OC site was open four hours a day, three days a week staffed by students or AARP volunteers under the direction of site coordinators Gene Daniels and Doug Stauner. During the first two weeks of opening this year, tax preparers completed 195 free e-files. As well as e-files, they helped with reviews of self-prepared forms and answered questions. Tax-Aide has worked for over thirty-one years to offer free help with about two million simple tax returns. OC has been one of the largest producing Tax-Aide sites in Kitsap County. This free service is available to people from campus and our community. For information, call 360.475.7480.

Keys to College & Career: A Learning Community for People in Transition

Are you a person in transition? Considering college or work? You can find assistance discovering your life direction by joining "Keys to College & Career," a program sponsored by Olympic College Women's Programs and College Success and the Washington State Life Transitions Program. The program includes a 5-credit "learning community" style of class that can help you set and achieve your goals.

"Keys to College & Career" helps people who have lost their source of financial support to become economically self-sufficient. The program provides classes and encouragement, helping to identify career or educational options that aid in the transition to independence. Classes meet twice a week for six weeks and include *Strategies for Academic Success, Psychology of Self-Esteem, Career Planning & Life Exploration, and Orientation to College.*

For new dates and times, visit www.olympic.edu/Students/StudentServices/WomensPrograms. To talk with Laurie Adamson, program director, call her at 360.475.7478, or email ladamson@olympic.edu.



"Keys" class graduates, fall quarter 2008

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