



# Connections

*December 03, 2020*

## **Congratulations to Transforming Lives Award Winner**

The WWCC Board of Trustees has selected Clarkston student Brionna Mimier for a Transforming Lives Award, given annually by the Washington State Association of College Trustees. Created in 2012, the Transforming Lives Awards program recognizes current and former students whose lives have been changed by pursuing higher education at a community or technical college and includes a small scholarship. The Board of Trustees from each college names one recipient, whose story and picture is included in a booklet shared with state legislators and the broader higher education community. A hearty congratulations to Brionna, and many thanks to all of the students who applied for this award. Their stories were moving and inspirational. We are very proud of our students and their accomplishments.

## **Weekly Highlight**

Strategic planning starts with a kick-off meeting on Monday, December 7th from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Dr. Bob Hughes will present an overview of the process, with an emphasis on how anyone who so wishes can be involved in the college-wide conversation. An Outlook invitation has been sent earlier today, following the save-the-date email that was sent yesterday. We hope you can make this kick-off event.

**Weather Disruptions:** Please watch for an email regarding interruptions to campus operations due to inclement weather. The email includes links and information, including how to sign up for text alerts. The general approach is to use Warrior Flex to continue operations in case weather causes the campuses to close. If you have questions, please contact your supervisor.

## **Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce Community Award**

Continuing a long tradition of honoring community service and civic-mindedness, the Walla Walla Valley Chamber of Commerce is inviting nominations for this year's award. If you, or one of your WWCC colleagues, exhibits exceptional commitment to the

community through volunteerism, participation in civic organizations, or something similar, please consider making a nomination by completing [this form](#).

## WWCC Comings and Goings since October:

Welcome to our new colleagues:

Nyx Mann, Research Analyst (Title 3)

Katie Ross, Director of Finance/Controller

Best wishes to our departing colleagues:

Ben Rotert

Sue Willis

Taking on new titles/roles:

Christina Lugo, Navigator at WSP

Current active recruitments:

Program Assistant (in training) - Enrollment Services, posted

Program Specialist 2 at WSP, posted

Athletic Trainer, posted

Vice President of Instruction, screening applications

## Other quick takes

- Following a discussion in the December 1st SLT meeting regarding improving communication with students, a group led by Dr. Lisa Chamberlin and Miguel Robles have added a link to student email accounts on the Canvas page. This is intended to encourage students to use WWCC student email accounts, in addition to the Canvas messaging feature. Most WWCC announcements are distributed via official email accounts, so this should facilitate better communication overall. An email use policy is being drafted to establish guidelines for communication, and that policy will be shared in the near future. Please do all that you can to encourage students to use their WWCC email accounts.
- A survey of students has been completed and the responses are being analyzed, to determine how students experienced Warrior Flex this quarter. We hope to make any needed refinements, in the spirit of continuous improvement.

**Board of Trustees:** The next Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 18th at 9:30 a.m.

## Looking Ahead

As you probably know, WWCC is preparing to transition from our current record-keeping legacy system onto a new SBCTC-wide system based on PeopleSoft software. This project is called “ctcLink” across the system, and WarriorLink here at WWCC. The WWCC project implementation team is composed of subject matter experts from Enrollment Services, Human Resources, and Business Services, and these experts are currently training on PeopleSoft. From January through May the team will participate in frequent live (Zoom) workshops, called Business Process Fit Gap sessions, to learn how PeopleSoft works in their specific functional areas. Then during the summer, WWCC will enter the “data conversion” phase of the project, as we prepare for full-scale implementation in February, 2022. This is a complex and high-stakes project, so a heartfelt thanks to everyone who is working hard to make it a success.

Comments or questions? Please email [Connections@wwcc.edu](mailto:Connections@wwcc.edu)