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### IMPORTANT DATES:

#### Application deadlines for Spring Quarter 2018

- Outside US – January 15
- Already in the US – March 1

#### A new student orientation for Spring Quarter 2018

- Credit and Bridge – March 23
- ESL – March 26

## Bellevue College Fast Facts

Bellevue College is the third-largest college in Washington State where you can earn professional/technical certificates and two-year or four-year college degrees. BC provides excellent training in business, computer science, engineering, interior design, accounting, and many others! We also offer intensive English for students to master speaking, reading, and writing skills.

- Bellevue College values diverse community that welcomes all students
- Lower tuition – Named among the 10 most affordable colleges in the U.S. (CNN Money)
- University Transfer – for example, #1 transfer rate to the University of Washington (UW is ranked #11 globally by *US News*)

- Small class sizes, great faculty, staff and variety of programs
- More than 300 campus activities each year, over 80 student clubs, plus volunteer, work and leadership experiences
- Global companies located nearby BC (Boeing, Amazon, Starbucks, and Microsoft).
- Ranked in the top 25 nationwide and first in Washington State for community college alumni earnings (Payscale.com)
- Median wages of BC graduates with a bachelor's degree are higher than the median for UW graduates (*Seattle Times*)
- Outstanding Interior Design program ranked #7 nationally (*Campus Explorer*)

## A SPECIAL EDITION!

### Meet your future advisors!

Over time, the number one question asked by students is “Who is my Advisor.” Bellevue College has four professional and caring international student advisors who will guide you through the completion your program.

**JILL BURRUS** Jill is originally from a small town in Eastern Washington. At 16, she lived abroad for one year in Hamburg, Germany as an exchange student with Rotary International. Jill went to the University of Idaho and earned a B.A. in International Studies with a focus on international business and German. After that, she moved to Las Vegas, where she attended the University of Nevada – Las Vegas and received a M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus on teaching English as a second language. Jill has worked in the field of International Education (English language instructor and advisor) since 2008. Helping college students is something she truly enjoys! Her other hobbies include going on hikes, travelling, eating pizza, and her cat (Nikita).

**MEGAN GURDINE** Megan is originally from San Diego, California. She graduated from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles with a B.A. in Theater and earned an M.F.A. in Costume Design from the University of California, Irvine. After seven years designing costumes for theater, Megan discovered how much she loved helping students and meeting people from around the world, so she started to build her career as an international student advisor. Megan began as a temporary advisor at Bellevue College in February 2014 and returned to a permanent position later that year. Aside from advising students, Megan is passionate about design and enjoys the opportunity to work with students pursuing creative majors and interests. Other hobbies include cooking, shopping farmers’ markets, dancing flamenco and traveling. Megan believes a person can do anything they set their mind to and loves encouraging students to build a strong foundation from which to grow.

**ANGELA LEUNG** Angela was born in Hong Kong. She started her college education as an international student at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, Canada as a geography major until her sophomore year, then returned to Seattle and graduated with a B.A. in Geography at the University of Washington. Then she completed the MA degree specializing in economic geography and a graduate certificate in global trade, transportation, and logistics. While in



FROM THE LEFT:

Jill Burrus, Megan Gurdine, Angela Leung, Carla Honkanen

graduate school, she served as the undergraduate adviser for three years for geography majors, besides various teaching assistant appointments in Geography department and College of Forestry/College of the Environment. After completing the first year in the doctoral program, she worked in the Geography Department at the University of Hong Kong as a research assistant. Then she accepted a multidisciplinary research associate position in Asian Studies, Economics, and Geography at the National University of Singapore on “Asian firms in the global economy.” After returning to Seattle, she earned the doctoral candidacy (PhC), and was adjunct faculty at Green River College for three years teaching various undergraduate-level Geography courses.

Angela has lived and worked overseas in Hong Kong, Canada, Singapore, and Taiwan; and worked in various positions at Bellevue College before joining the Office of International Education in 2016. Helping students to achieve their academic goals successfully is something she truly enjoy! Her other hobbies include travelling, studying subway and trains maps in foreign countries, hiking, practicing yoga, reading manga and watching anime, as well as spending cuddle time with her canine niece and nephews. Angela believes education makes a BIG difference in every person’s life!

**CARLA HONKANEN** Carla grew up in Eastern Washington and has lived in the Seattle area since 2001. She enjoys Seattle’s unique neighborhoods, beautiful green surroundings, and abundant local events and activities. Carla graduated from Seattle University with a Master’s degree in Education in 2006. After graduation, she became an international student advisor and has enjoyed supporting international students achieve their academic and personal dreams. June is one of her favorite times of the year because it is the time of graduation. Carla studied abroad in Japan and Italy during college and has spent time in Honduras, Finland, Germany, and France. You can find Carla walking her dog, Lulu, near the Bellevue Botanical Gardens during most days. She enjoys spending time with her family (sisters, nephews, and niece) and spends her free time practicing yoga, cooking/baking, and reading.



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## Why Bellevue College?

This quarter, we interviewed two students from the Democratic Republic of Congo who are enrolled in Bachelor degree programs at Bellevue College.

Here are their stories:

FROM THE LEFT:

Ferdinand Tembo and Grace Bosango

### **Ferdinand Tembo** Bachelor of Computer Science

When I came to study in the USA, my first destination wasn't Bellevue. I first landed in Eugene, a small quiet place known for its arts, and for being a great place to live and study. I went to a community college in Oregon. Being the only Congolese student in the college was a very challenging experience. I was struggling with homesickness emphasized by my feeling of loneliness. I was feeling so lonely that I thought about moving to another city where I could find a Congolese community. After a lot of researching about the best colleges around me, I found out about Bellevue College. After collecting information about the college and reading people's reviews, I decided that Bellevue College was the best place for me to go. What attracted me to Bellevue College was the high emphasis they put on diversity and community. I also learned that there was a great community of very ambitious Congolese students going there. I started my journey as a Bellevue College student in summer 2015. I had to begin with the ESL program to have a great English base. I finished My ESL two quarters later with excellent speaking, writing and reading skills. In winter 2016, I started my credit classes. Since then, I am still pursuing my journey with the same determination. I am now a student in the Computer Science Bachelor program. I am benefiting and taking advantage of all the great resources that Bellevue College has to offer. I have been extremely satisfied by the advising program here at BC. I received directions to help with my academic decisions, and got prepared for my future professional career. I enjoy being involved on campus through many different volunteering opportunities, retreats, conferences, clubs and on-campus jobs. Working at Bellevue College taught me a lot of skills and added to my work experience. I learned how to effectively work alone as well as in a team. Campus life is vibrant and the atmosphere is warm and welcoming. One feels like being part of a family. I will definitely recommend Bellevue College to people because of the transformation it has made in my life. I remember coming here with almost no goals or direction in life. Now I can say that I have a clear vision of what I want and where I am heading. I am also more fulfilled as a person. I am a leader in my community, and a role model for my younger siblings. I am full of hopes, and I look forward to realizing all my

dreams and continue to be a role model for a larger community. If Bellevue College did that for me, I believe it can do it for everyone else. We can all become Exceptional!

### **Grace Bosango** Bachelor of Molecular Biosciences

I applied to the associate degree in Molecular Sciences at Bellevue College in winter of 2015. I am currently working on the second year of my bachelor's degree in Molecular Biosciences. I have two major life goals. First, to work with Congolese medical facilities to help them use genetic information to diagnose, treat, prevent and cure genetic illnesses. Second, to create an education center in the Congo that will bring knowledge of the soil and production methods to the farmers of the Congo. Bellevue College has allowed me to move forward towards these goals. It has been a good environment and contributed very much to my education and growth. It was the best decision to choose Bellevue College to pursue my academic and career goals. I enjoy my studies at Bellevue College. During my first year I worked on the ComGen project. It is a collaborative research project designed to give biology students real-world research experience. It helped me decide what education path to focus on. Next, at the University of Washington, I interned in a laboratory that focuses on the neurosciences of sensorimotor control of movement. I worked on an aspect of insect neurosciences with a focus on electrophysiological methods. I also interned at Ruohola-Baker Lab at the University of Washington. We used drosophila as a model for human diseases to study cancer and find a drug that can kill cancer stem cells. I was excited to learn at the lab. I also believe that having a great understanding of how cells behave at the molecular level gives powerful insights that can lead to effective treatments for a multitude of human diseases. My advancement in my program was made much easier by the wonderful advisors, staff and instructors at Bellevue College. They supported me from the first day I arrived on campus. I thank everyone at Bellevue College and I wouldn't have been able to accomplish what I have achieved without their caring and dedication to students.

# PIE day success!

Partners in Education (P.I.E.) day is an open house event inviting local educational partners. It is also a great opportunity for parents, friends and families to learn about Bellevue College's programs. They get to speak with our wonderful and dedicated staff, faculty, academic advisors, and current global-leader students. A walking campus tour gives them time to explore our diverse, and dynamic campus community. We will guide them through our agent agreement, official contract, and referral fees. The Office of International Education and Global Initiatives (OIEGI) conducted four PIE days in last two years, and served 45 local partners. As a result, over 50 new students came and enrolled through local PIE agencies, as of fall quarter 2017. Some were existing agencies, but most of them had never worked with BC prior to PIE day. We will continue our outreach activities to both local and overseas partners and students.

## Here's what some of our partners had to say:

### **Sihong Deng, Rainier Advisors, LLC**

*"Thank you very much for today's informative PIE Day. We are glad to have this opportunity to get familiar with the honored business program, new English placement system, and BC academic advantages! Thank you and the entire OIE team for always being there to help the students."*

### **Abraham Hengyucius, Ph.D., Senior Visiting Scholar at UNSW, Visiting Professor at University of the West, President of American Kono Group**

*"It was my pleasure to have the chance to share the PIE with all the colleagues and enjoy the fruitful information during the presentations. Great job!"*

### **Karena Ling Gao, LKG CONSULTING LLC**

*"It was a great pleasure to attend the PIE day today; I am happy to be a part of it. Thank you for organizing the event and thanks to all the speakers for giving wonderful presentations. I got to know Bellevue College and understand the international student programs better. I got a chance to talk to some current international students. It was a great way to understand their feelings of studying aboard, and help myself to improve my education consulting service to my students/clients. I also liked the campus tour, a wonderful experience of being guided to walk through different departments and buildings. I saw a clean beautiful campus, with smiling happy students everywhere, I saw positive spirit... Looking forward to working with Bellevue College more often"*

### **Preeti Sharma, RAM OVERSEAS CONSULTANT Private Limited**

*"Thank you so much first of all for the very warm welcome and adding me as a part of this wonderful event today. It was a great experience for me as a partner of Bellevue College. I learnt in depth how the system works inside and out and what Bellevue College expects from their partners and prospective students. It was a platform of shared knowledge and*



*experiences. Meeting partners from different countries doesn't happen every day, but you made it possible and brought the world together in one room. It is an absolute example of international exposure that we want our prospective students to experience. The International Programs team proved again to be the best in all aspects. During the tour, I had an amazing time with the students who were leading the groups. I really appreciated your efforts and hard work to take this event to another level. Ms. Soo, you are the most amazing person I have ever met. It was an honor to work with such an amazing and strong team"*

### **Jin Yan**

*"Thank you Soo for inviting me to this welcoming and informative meeting! It was amazing to talk to your staff and students face-to-face, and get to know practical information and personal experience of Bellevue College! I especially enjoyed the tour with Maria, who is a very independent, responsible and helpful student. Thank you again!"*

### **Andy Allred, President of Seattle Pioneers, LLC**

*"It was great to spend so much time with students hearing about the aspects of BC culture that resonates for them. I enjoyed the tour around the campus, it was very helpful and impressive. There's so much I can tell prospective students about what I saw, including the general demeanor of students being so positive that we met during the tour."*

### **Olen Anderson**

#### **Director of Business Development from Experience America**

*"I have to say it was an absolute pleasure meeting you and your team for PIE Day! We appreciated the opportunity to hear from you and your students about their experiences studying at Bellevue College. You certainly have a very warm team and an excellent culture which speaks volumes. We are excited to find ways we can partner together to give our students a great experience with you."*

# *Student Housing is Coming to BC*



Bellevue College is building on-campus Student Housing, expected to be completed and serving BC students starting with fall quarter 2018.

## *We also offer Bachelor Degree programs*

- Bachelor of Applied Arts Degree Interior Design
- Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Applied Accounting
- Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Data Analytics
- Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Digital Marketing
- Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Health Promotion and Management
- Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Healthcare Informatics
- Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Healthcare Management and Leadership
- Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Information Systems and Technology
- Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Radiation and Imaging Sciences
- Bachelor of Applied Science Degree Molecular Biosciences
- Bachelor of Science Computer Science
- Bachelor of Science Degree Nursing (RN to BSN)