

# Message from the OISS Director

Allison Blizzard

Jan 4, 2021

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

I hope you had a wonderful holiday break. And, I truly wish each of you a ...



As with each new year, it is a time that we often reflect on lessons and accomplishments from the past while hoping for positive changes and readying ourselves for new challenges in the future.

Here at PCC, today is the **first day of the new term**. Although the stress and strain of living and studying in a world restricted by COVID has surely taken its toll on each of you, I congratulate you for persevering. The OISS Team is here to help you get off to a great start. Remember, you can reach out by connecting with the **[OISS Virtual Front Desk](#)**.

Another new beginning will be on Jan 20 when **Joe Biden and Kamala Harris** will be sworn in as our new US President and Vice President. Personally, I hope that the new administration will bring with it a new, more science-oriented approach to our COVID response here in the US. I also hope a renewed support for international students will be forthcoming.

One other big change for the coming year is that after 4.5 years as the Director of International Student Services here at PCC, I will be embarking on a new career challenge. I have accepted to the position of **Director of International Programs at Reed College**, which I will begin mid-January. I have learned so much from my experiences here at PCC, and I will take those lessons with me. I am also incredibly proud of the accomplishments of the OISS Team! They are all dedicated to serving international students with a passion that is beyond compare. Most of all, I am grateful to have had the opportunity to support PCC international students, who contribute so much to the PCC and Portland community and are bound for great achievements in the future!



Until next week,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Allison Blizzard".

**[www.pcc.edu/international-students](http://www.pcc.edu/international-students)**

