

PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUNITIES

SUMMER 2023

Making Waves

Students are getting out of the classroom to take surfing lessons and camps at the Oregon Coast.

See page 43



PCC Community Ed

Classes held remotely and in person

June – Sept. (see pages 3 – 54)

Registration opens

May 31 at 7 am



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A Perfect Union

Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici’s guest for President Joe Biden’s 2023 State of the Union Address was a familiar face to Portlanders – PCC President Adrien Bennings. Bonamici is a community college graduate and has long partnered with PCC to increase access to higher education and expand career pathways. During her D.C. trip, Dr. Bennings also attended events and conferences associated with community college advocacy, including visiting with U.S. representatives and senators in the college’s district. ♦

Left to right: U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi, PCC President Dr. Adrien Bennings, U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici.



Spotlights

A Colorful Belonging

It was a dreary winter, but one day at PCC was bright with colors. Staff and students hosted Holi, an Indian festival of colors to celebrate oneness with nature and each other. The college hosted the event from 2018-20 until the pandemic forced its hiatus. More than 270 attendees splashed each other with colorful dyes and nibbled on great food. Events like Holi give students, faculty and staff a sense of belonging and help to engage them on a deeper level. This is a key component of the college’s Strategic Plan. ♦ [Learn more: pcc.edu/strategic-plan](https://pcc.edu/strategic-plan)



Special Delivery

PCC deliveries are getting much more sustainable. Last year, the college added a Ford All-Electric E-Transit Van to its delivery fleet – the first zero-emissions vehicle to be used by the college’s Central Distribution Services for deliveries. By the end of 2022, the van saved 350 gallons in six months, which equates to a savings of \$1,592.50 based on the average cost of gas. And, PCC’s Marketing team designed a creative wrap – a colorful tree pattern celebrating the college’s designation as a “Tree Campus USA.” ♦



Flight Connections

PCC and Horizon Air join forces to offer support and a commercial aircraft

At first blush, it may seem they don't go together – a commercial aircraft and a community college. But there couldn't be a better union.

Portland Community College and Horizon Air agreed last year to a unique partnership. Horizon would donate one of its Bombardier Q400 turboprops to PCC to help train the next generation of aviation maintenance technicians. The aircraft, permanently housed at the Hillsboro Airport, is being used for hands-on training on modern engine and avionics technologies.

“This is a dream come true,” said Archie Vega, director of maintenance and planning with Horizon Air/M&E Division. “Our relationship with PCC is extremely strong. All of the faculty and everyone associated with the school are an outstanding group of individuals. And I look forward to working with them as we continue to grow.”

There is a dire need for trained aviation industry professionals now and into the foreseeable future. According to Boeing, there will be a projected global demand for 610,000 civil aviation maintenance personnel and 602,000 new pilots over the next two decades. The Oregon Employment Department forecasts that the employment of aviation mechanics in the Portland area will grow by 14.6% through 2027.

PCC, and colleges like it in the country, are the primary means by which the aviation industry gains new workers, and it is critical for the college to have relevant



Poppie the Panther celebrates the landing of PCC's new aircraft.

tools for students to train on. The Aviation Maintenance Technology Program has a success rate of around 70% for first-time students of the program, which is nearly double the completion rate of PCC students as a whole. Nearly 100% of the program's students who attempt the federal certification exams after completion become certified.

This plane donation complements PCC's Oregon Aerospace Careers for Everyone (O-ACE) Program – a partnership with the Hillsboro School District and community partners. High school students can take dual credit classes exploring aviation

maintenance, avionics and pilot careers. The plane also builds on PCC's agreement with Horizon Air on an aviation maintenance scholarship training program that connects students to employment opportunities.

“This Q400 will give students the opportunity to get their hands on a full-size airplane from a real airline, and the skills and knowledge they gain will carry them for their entire career,” said Kayler Randall, a PCC graduate and Horizon aircraft technician. “This is a huge asset to the program, and I'm really grateful to everyone involved in making this happen.” ♦

Interested in Aviation?

PCC offers aviation maintenance and aviation science (pilot) training for those wishing to get started in this rewarding career.

Learn more: pcc.edu/programs/aviation-maintenance

More Than a Ride

PCC instructor and student ride to Alaska to support military vets at risk

Jonathan Williams is headed to the Canadian Arctic via the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway (ITH) this June. The adventure motorcycle ride isn't for pleasure, but to bring awareness to the high rate of veteran and active-duty military suicides.

The Portland Community College Diesel Service Technology instructor is leading a group of veterans and active-duty military on a ride from Portland to Tuktoyaktuk in Canada's Northwest Territories, 120 miles north of the Arctic Circle. It's a favorite destination for adventure riders, which will take approximately three weeks and cover more than 5,400 miles round-trip over unpaved roads and grizzly bear habitats.

Williams is both a U.S. Army veteran and the father of an active-duty soldier who struggles with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) after seeing combat in Iraq. Before being deployed, Williams' son called him to share that he lost one of his former squad members to suicide. Williams said that this grievous situation happens more frequently during and after military service than it used to – and that is why they are trying to bring understanding.

“Suicide is the second most common cause of death for active-duty forces. They are four times more likely to die by their own hands than at the hands of the enemy,” Williams said. “Veterans between the ages

of 18 and 34 experience rates more than 2.5 times higher than the national average for civilians in the same age group.

“This is an opportunity to address the crisis in our country,” he added.

Today, many veteran and active-duty service members know someone they served with who has attempted or died by suicide. So, this ride is designed to raise awareness and funds for suicide prevention resources. It will also provide an outlet for those who might otherwise be struggling alone.

Joining the ride is PCC diesel technology student Ethan Cape, who is a U.S. Navy veteran and motorcycle enthusiast living in McMinnville. Cape, who has been on rides with Williams before, is graduating in June with his electrical power generation degree and hopes to work for a company servicing generators and transfer switches after the ITH ride.

“This ride means everything to me,” Cape said. “I want people to know it's a hard transition into civilian life for veterans like me. A little compassion goes a long way with us.” ♦

For more information: vb40adv.org

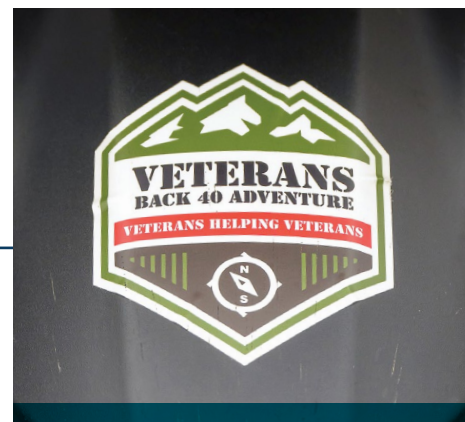


Diesel faculty Jonathan Williams (left) and student Ethan Cape.

Interested in Mechanics?

Jonathan Williams is part of the Diesel Service Technology Program, which trains students for rewarding and well-paid careers in diesel engine repair and maintenance.

Learn more: pcc.edu/programs/diesel-service



Advanced Manufacturing Pays Off

PCC's semiconductor pathways are getting timely boosts

Due to technology advances and an aging workforce, there is an immediate need to grow a diverse pipeline of workers in the semiconductor industry. In Oregon, there will be more than 5,500 new jobs created in the advanced manufacturing sector over the next eight years.

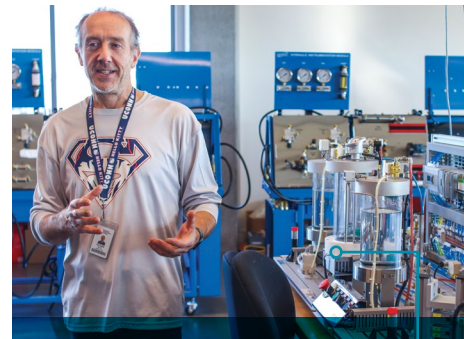
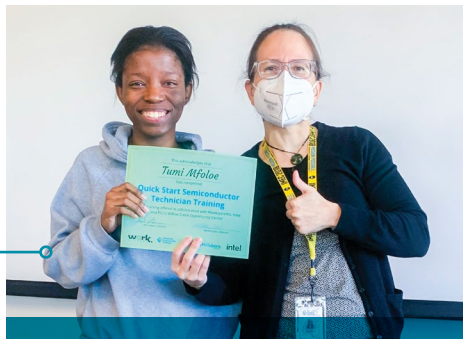
Portland Community College is responding to this need for training with a wide range of initiatives and partnerships. The college offers students the opportunity to complete short-term workforce training, such as a one-year certificate in mechatronics and a two-year career technical associate degree in microelectronics and electronic engineering technologies.

The college's Electronic Engineering Technology (EET) and Microelectronics Technology programs are prime pathways for students looking to get into advanced manufacturing through their mechatronics degrees and certificates. An associate degree

in mechatronics, automation and robotics engineering technology prepares students to work in a variety of settings. Both programs offer options for those wishing to learn the principles of mechatronics, with graduates earning nearly \$70,000 annually in related fields.

"All of our graduates who are electronics engineering technicians can apply for jobs in this rather broad area of mechatronics," said Sanda Williams, EET Program faculty chair. "With the specialization in mechatronics, automation and robotics, our students can apply for jobs in this specific sector where they can perform operation, repair and service for the equipment. Microelectronics is focused on many of the same principles with a focus on working in the semiconductor industry."

Here is a sampling of what PCC is doing to train the future workforce:



Quick Start Semiconductor Technician Training Program

– Every few weeks, PCC graduates a cohort of 15 students as part of an Intel partnership with funding from Worksystems. This 10-day training course at the Willow Creek Center is designed to help job seekers quickly gain the skills they need to land an entry-level technician job with Intel and other area semiconductor manufacturers.

Semiconductor and Advanced Manufacturing Pathways

– The college received \$910,000 in government funding for its semiconductor and advanced manufacturing workforce training and support efforts. This allows the college to further develop a regional career and academic pathway by reaching and supporting marginalized and underrepresented populations.

Next Generation Machine Manufacturing Technology (MMT) Initiative

– Dovetailing this funding is a \$300,000 grant from the Higher Education Coordinating Commission as part of Future Ready Oregon Workforce Ready grants. The Next Gen MMT project brings together college partners to improve awareness and access to industry-aligned training for underserved populations. ♦

Interested in Mechatronics?

The Electronic Engineering Technology Program offers a two-year mechatronics degree. The skills relate to a wide variety of fields – medicine, food processing, auto assembly, computer chips, robotics and more! [Learn more: pcc.edu/eet](https://pcc.edu/eet)

History Corner: Panthers Win Title

In 2014, Portland Community College men's basketball team won its first-ever Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAC) championship. The journey to the championship was a special one. The team won just one game between 2010-12 until the college hired Tony Broadous as head coach. Then, in the title year, the Panthers went 23-9 and 10-4 in their league before storming through the league tournament playoffs to capture the title. ♦

Learn more about panther athletics: panthers.pcc.edu



Signed, Sealed, Delivered

Thanks to a new transfer agreement, PCC students have access to a bachelor's degree in fine arts from the Pacific Northwest College of Art (PNCA). Students who transfer to PNCA with 60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits automatically receive a minimum annual scholarship of \$22,000. In order to receive the transfer scholarship, PCC students must take the courses outlined in the transfer agreement pathway, which allows them to earn a BFA degree in just two years. ♦

Learn more: pcc.edu/programs/art



Heather Lang's Legacy

Heather Lang, PCC's retiring vice president of student affairs, was awarded the inaugural 2023 Student Success and Retention, Legacy of Excellence Award. This award was given in front of more than 300 student affairs practitioners from around the state and southern Washington at the Student Success and Retention Conference in February. Lang started at PCC in 2007 as associate dean of student development before working her way up the leadership ladder to VP, which she has served the past three years. Congratulations, Heather! ♦



Dreams Take Flight

To celebrate the return of in-person learning, each PCC campus has been adorned with a set of wings to inspire and encourage others as they work to achieve their dreams. The murals were designed by students and each piece features different types of wings, including butterfly wings or dragon wings – and they all tell a story. PCC students, faculty and community members are invited to share a photo with the wings on social media using #PCCDreamsTakeFlight. Let your community know how PCC has helped you achieve your dreams! ♦



Portland Community College mails *Communities* to most district residents to let them know about upcoming Community Ed classes and share what's happening at the college. The magazine is printed and mailed four times a year for about 32¢ per copy. It can be recycled. **Because the magazine is addressed to "Residential Customer," PCC cannot remove individuals from the mailing list.**



Summer Teen Program

Immerse your teen (ages 12-17) in a dynamic and engaging educational experience this summer at PCC!

Check out pages 48-50 or visit

pcc.edu/community/teen



PCC Community Ed