

# SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE Currents

February 2012

## REFLECTIONS AND VISIONS

### Skagit Valley College

has been transformed  
under the leadership of  
Dr. Gary Tollefson

### Dr. Gary Tollefson Farewell

SVC Accountability Report  
to the Community

Foundation: Donors  
Motivated by Remembrance  
and Vision



# Currents

February 2012

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COLLEGE MISSION

Skagit Valley College exists to expand opportunities and horizons for students and to improve the communities in which they live. We achieve this by welcoming and valuing diverse learners, providing quality education and support, and contributing community leadership and service.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I prepare to complete my tenure as President in February, I have enjoyed taking a few quiet moments to reflect on the ways you, our friends and patrons, contribute to the success of Skagit Valley College and how you enthusiastically share our vision of its future. With the commitment of many individuals throughout Skagit, Island,

and San Juan counties, SVC has truly been transformed into a vibrant center for learning excellence. Collectively, your partnership, dedication, and support leave an indelible mark on the lives of our students and on the life of this institution.

So, in this edition of Currents, I am proud to reflect upon a few of the successes we have achieved together: McIntyre Hall, Oak Hall, Gary Knutzen Cardinal Center, Laura Angst Hall, and the Northwest Career and Technical Academy. In addition, we will again share SVC's vision of the future including our design for the new Lewis Hall Academic and Student Services building, our first steps toward offering SVC's first-ever bachelors of applied science degree, and our work with marine educators from the State of Jalisco, Mexico, to help them develop a marine trades program. In the pages that showcase our SVC Foundation, you will see how your support makes a difference in our students' lives with highlights about donors, scholarships, and special events.

As my time as President of SVC comes to a close, I thank you for welcoming me so warmly into the community and allowing me to be part of this great institution. My service to SVC has been the highlight of my professional career and will remain a cherished memory. On behalf of the faculty, staff, administration, and Board of Trustees, I extend my appreciation for all you do in support of Skagit Valley College and the students we serve.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gary Tollefson  
President





**U**nder the leadership of Dr. Gary Tollefson, Skagit Valley College has been transformed into a nationally acclaimed center for learning excellence. During his tenure, Dr. Tollefson has presided over significant modernization of college infrastructure, including construction and facilities improvements at the Mount Vernon and Whidbey Island campuses.

### 2004

#### McIntyre Hall Performing Arts & Conference Center Ribbon Cutting

**T**he dream of bringing a vibrant performing arts center to the Skagit Valley became a reality on November 20, 2004 when elected officials, business leaders, patrons of the arts, and community members gathered at SVC's Mount Vernon Campus for the ribbon cutting ceremony of McIntyre Hall Performing Arts & Conference Center.

This magnificent 700-seat performance hall opened with two days of inaugural performances and celebrations. In addition, an evening opening gala featured performances by the Vela Luka Croatian Dancers, North Cascades Concert Band, Skagit Opera, and Mexican Folkloric Dancers.

McIntyre Hall was made possible through the generous \$6 million initial gift from the M.J. and Shirley McIntyre Charitable Foundation. Unprecedented relationships and collaborations between the Skagit Regional Public Facilities District (PFD), Skagit County, Skagit Valley College, Skagit Performing Arts Council, and many generous corporate and individual supporters, were instrumental in the hall's opening and highly successful operation.

Oak Hall



### 2003

#### Ribbon Cutting at Oak Hall, Whidbey Island Campus

**O**n June 13, 2003, Skagit Valley College, along with elected officials and community members, came together to celebrate the opening of Oak Hall, the 36,000 square foot higher education center at SVC's Whidbey Island Campus. With stunning views of the Oak Harbor Marina and the Olympic Mountains, Oak Hall opened with space designated for science and computer labs, an interactive classroom and meeting room, a fitness lab, a teaching learning center, a health and fitness lab, as well as several classrooms and offices.



*Jack and Shirley McIntyre, generous donors and visionaries*



*(left to right) Ken Dahlstedt, Skagit County Commissioner; James Anderson, PFD member; Dr. Gary Tollefson, SVC President; Dr. James Monroe, Skagit Performing Arts Council.*



# Reflections

## 2005

## Transforming Skagit Valley College

### George Hodson Hall Re-dedication & Open House

In honor of the legacy of Dr. George Hodson, the college re-dedicated George Hodson Hall on October 19, 2005, after an extensive remodel. Visitors had an opportunity to tour the two-story, 20,300 square foot facility that included well-equipped classrooms, studio space, and plenty of natural light. Highlights included a ceramics studio, painting and drawing studio, piano lab, photography darkroom, and a Macintosh computer lab featuring multimedia, digital imaging, and design. Hodson Hall is also the home for SVC's English and Speech departments.

Dr. George Hodson served Skagit Valley College from 1950 to 1965 as Teacher, Dean, and SVC's first President. He was primarily responsible for the building of the present Mount Vernon Campus. In addition, Dr. Hodson had a strong interest in the development of the fine arts at SVC. The building's re-dedication was a fitting tribute to Dr. Hodson, as well as to the longevity and vitality of fine and performing arts at SVC.



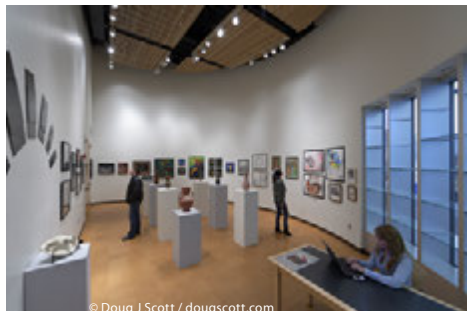
## 2009

### Gary Knutzen Cardinal Center Naming

Under fluffy clouds and warm sunshine on May 22, 2009, Skagit Valley College held an outdoor naming ceremony to salute Gary Knutzen and officially name SVC's Campus Center building the Gary Knutzen Cardinal Center.

Originally built in 1959, the Campus Center had undergone a variety of minor remodels and modifications throughout the decades. When its major remodel was completed and the building reopened in Spring 2008, it included spaces for Admissions and Registration, Art Gallery, Cafeteria, Student Government, study areas, as well as the Delbert Tillotson Cardinal Bookstore.

Gary Knutzen joined Skagit in 1963 as the college's wrestling coach, leading two teams to win the Washington State Junior College Championships. He became a full-time physical education instructor in 1965 and was promoted to his current position as Athletic Director in 1968.



Gary and Diane Knutzen



# 2009/2010

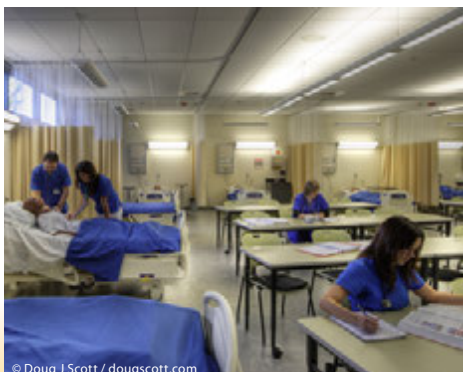
## Laura Angst Hall Ribbon Cutting

**S**kagit Valley College celebrated the opening of its new magnificent sciences and health occupations building, Laura Angst Hall, with a community-wide dedication ceremony on September 15, 2009.

The 65,232 square foot building features exceptional learning environments for fast-growing health occupations including Registered Nursing and Practical Nursing, Medical Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Phlebotomy Assistant, and Medical Billing and Coding. Within the Nursing program, high tech simulation labs increase the capacity to engage students. The energy conservation features and rain garden serve as an ideal lab for the Environmental Conservation program. In addition, the building provides classroom and lab spaces for many science departments including Astronomy, Biological Science, Chemistry, Environmental Conservation, and Physics.

Laura Angst Hall replaced the original Angst Hall, which had its groundbreaking in 1958 and was named for pioneer SVC biology professor Dr. Laura Angst. Dr. Angst joined the SVC faculty for the 1927-28 academic year and retired from SVC in 1950.

By working with regional healthcare providers, community partners, economic leaders, and other colleges and universities, SVC continues to respond to the demand for highly skilled healthcare professionals and provide a strong foundation for students in science.



### Laura Angst Hall LEED® Platinum Certification

**I**n celebration of Laura Angst Hall achieving LEED® Platinum certification by the U.S. Green Building Council, the college held a plaque presentation ceremony on October 6, 2010 at the building's north entry.



At the time of the plaque presentation, Laura Angst Hall had already achieved an impressive total of 72% reduction in overall energy use from the Department of Energy typical higher education building. This equates to an annual reduction in CO2 emissions of nearly 1,167 metric tons. The building's design and construction incorporated the highest standards in energy conservation such as lighting that self-adjusts to incoming natural light, a rain garden to collect excess rainwater, and photovoltaic panels that contribute up to 5% of the building's total power each month.

The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® green building certification system is the preeminent program for rating the design, construction, and operation of green buildings. Thirty five thousand projects are currently participating in the LEED® system, comprising over 4.5 billion square feet of construction space in all 50 states and 91 countries. <http://www.usgbc.org>

Laura Angst Hall holds distinction as the first public higher education building in Washington state to achieve LEED® Platinum certification.

# Reflections

## Transforming Skagit Valley College

### 2009/2010

#### SVC Greenhouse

**A**lso on October 6, Skagit Valley College opened the new SVC Greenhouse, located at the northwest corner of Laura Angst Hall, replacing the outdated greenhouse structure. The 1,800 square foot greenhouse is divided into three climatic zones that allow biology students the opportunity to learn from a variety of plantings that require different environments such as desert, tropical, and temperate.



*Dr. Gary Tollefson with Dennis Rohloff, recently retired Physical Plant Director.*



© Doug J Scott / dougscott.com

#### Northwest Career & Technical Academy — Quall Center and the NCTA Marine Technology Center Grand Openings

**I**n collaboration with the Anacortes, Burlington-Edison, Concrete, La Conner, Mount Vernon, and Sedro-Woolley school districts, along with the invaluable help and enthusiasm of Representative Dave Quall, Skagit Valley College celebrated two special grand openings on October 21, 2010: the Northwest Career and Technical Academy "Quall Center" on the Mount Vernon Campus and the Marine Technology Center in Anacortes. These two comprehensive facilities are the culmination of a dream to create the newest, most advanced skills center in Washington state. Initial NCTA programs included Dental Technology, DigiPen, Academy of Finance, and Veterinary Technology.

The NCTA Marine Technology Center in Anacortes became the new home for SVC's Marine Technology program, a national leader in preparing workers for careers in the marine trades. And, as a member of the Marine League of Schools, SVC is the only school in Washington to offer American Boat and Yacht Council certified training.



*Dr. Gary Tollefson with Representative Dave Quall*



*Marine Technology Center*



# Visions

## Maintaining the Skagit Vision of the Future



Architectural illustrations: Stephanie Bower  
Renderings courtesy of Schreiber Starling & Lane Architects

### ***Gary Tollefson Plaza and Charles Lewis Hall***

**O**n February 15, more than 200 colleagues, community members, and friends gathered at McIntyre Hall for a Retirement Reception honoring SVC President Gary Tollefson. Throughout 40 years of distinguished service to students of all ages, Dr. Tollefson has been an insightful teacher, a caring mentor, and an outstanding visionary. We are grateful for his exceptional leadership at Skagit Valley College and the impact he has made on our campuses and centers, in our local community, and throughout the community and technical college system.

As a special recognition during the reception, Board Chair Debra Lisser announced that the SVC Board of Trustees had named the area just southeast of where the new Charles Lewis Hall will be constructed as the Gary Tollefson Plaza. Comprised of beautiful Northwest-style landscaping with gentle pedestrian walkways among native plantings and hardscapes, Gary Tollefson Plaza will serve as an inspirational tribute to Dr. Tollefson's vision of the future for student engagement and success.

Currently, Skagit Valley College is in the final design phase for the new Charles Lewis Hall that will replace the old Lewis Hall that was among the original buildings constructed on the Mount Vernon Campus in 1958. When completed, this 70,000 square foot facility will serve as the hub for student services, support programs, and academic instruction. Naturally, Charles Lewis Hall will be decked out with the latest technology and innovations for academic engagement and success. Of course, the design will be infused with many earth friendly amenities too, including radiant floor heating — for those chilly mornings — and a rooftop green space for studying or casual conversation.

Charles Lewis Hall is named for Charles H. Lewis, the first Dean of the College and an admired instructor at SVC for 28 years.





### **Helping Marine Educators from Jalisco, Mexico to Develop a Marine Trades Program**

**W**ith the beauty of fall leaves and misty mornings in Anacortes as a backdrop, Skagit Valley College welcomed four marine educators from Instituto Tecnológico Superior (ITS) de Puerto Vallarta for a two-week visit at SVC's Marine Technology Center. Their visit was part of the college's ongoing partnership with the State of Jalisco, Mexico to help marine education providers there develop a training program.

During their stay, the Jalisco delegation gained a first-hand look at SVC's vibrant Marine Technology program in action, including classroom observations and curriculum options, under the direction of Department Chair Mike Swietzer.

Currently, Carlos Mora, Carlos Peña, and David Flores Castañeda have returned to the Marine Technology Center where they are taking Marine Technology courses in the areas of gas and diesel engines, drive trains, and electrical during winter quarter. They are studying for American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC) certification tests and will take those tests before they return to Mexico in March. Dr. Mick Donahue, SVC's Executive Vice President of Instruction and Student Services, will return to Mexico with them to continue work on establishing a Marine Technology program at ITS and exploring other training and exchanges with ITS in the area of Culinary Arts and Hospitality.

SVC's relationship with the State of Jalisco, Mexico was formed back in 2007, the result of a Mexico Trade Mission led by Governor Chris Gregoire. Representing Skagit Valley College on the trip were SVC President Gary Tollefson and former SVC Trustee, Jess del Bosque.



*In June 2011, Dr. Gary Tollefson and Alejandro Garcia Moreno Elizondo, Consul General of Mexico in the State of Washington sign an official extension to the partnership agreement between Skagit Valley College and the State of Jalisco, Mexico at SVC's Mount Vernon Campus.*



*(l to r) Carlos Peña, David Flores Castañeda, and Carlos Mora gaining skills in the marine electronics lab.*



*In July, 2007, Dr. Gary Tollefson and former Trustee Jess del Bosque join the Mexico Trade Mission led by Governor Chris Gregoire.*





## ***SVC Board of Trustees Approve Initial Steps Toward Offering College's First-ever Bachelor of Applied Science Degree***

**D**uring its regular meeting on November 8, 2011, the Skagit Valley College (SVC) Board of Trustees approved plans for SVC to pursue offering the college's first-ever baccalaureate degree, a Baccalaureate of Applied Science (BAS) in Environmental Conservation. During a study session also on November 8, the Board learned about the application process from Laura Cailloux, SVC's Dean of Workforce Education and Dr. Claus Svendsen, SVC's Environmental Conservation Department Chair. Then, during their regular meeting, the Board voted unanimously to seek approval to offer the new degree.

"Our students are surrounded by an incredible natural learning environment in Skagit, Island, and San Juan counties," said Debra Lisser, Chair of the SVC Board of Trustees. "By creating access to a Baccalaureate of Applied Science in Environmental Conservation, Skagit Valley College would help train future biologists and scientists who will be prepared to address the issues in today's complex environment." The Environmental Conservation Program at SVC takes advantage of this local ecological diversity through a unique field-based approach to ecological and natural resource education. Students gain an understanding of complex ecological

issues through contextual and experiential learning.

According to Workforce Explorer, [www.workforceexplorer.com](http://www.workforceexplorer.com), the occupational outlook is positive and relevant to SVC's proposed bachelor's degree. Ten-year projected growth for job opportunities ranges from 5%-29% and average annual openings are projected to be over 500 in the state of Washington. In addition, all of these are high wage positions from \$22-\$58 per hour.

The proposed BAS program will serve graduates of SVC's two-year Environmental Conservation program and incumbent workers who are place-bound. Feedback from current and former SVC environmental conservation students also indicates a strong interest in a four-year degree opportunity. Earlier this year, the college conducted a survey of former SVC Environmental Conservation students and 53% indicated it was "very likely" they would have enrolled in a bachelor's program if it had been offered at SVC. Of those students, only 18% said they would commute over 45 miles to attend a bachelor's program.

In order to be considered for degree approval, the college must undergo a highly rigorous application process that involves active participation, review, and evaluation by the State Board for

Community and Technical Colleges, Higher Education Coordinating Board, Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, and by presidents and deans of instruction from Washington's community and technical colleges. An official notice of intent was submitted last October. Now, with the SVC Board of Trustees approval to proceed with the degree request, the process is expected to take approximately one year. If approved, SVC hopes to begin offering the new baccalaureate program in Fall Quarter 2013 with 12 students.

The Baccalaureate of Applied Science in Environmental Conservation is being designed as a hybrid program, incorporating on-campus learning, lab and fieldwork, as well as online components. It offers a blend that works well with students who have their two-year degree already and want to complete their four-year degree locally.

SVC has offered the Associate in Technical Arts degree and Associate in Applied Science Transfer — Environmental Conservation training since 1992. College collaborations with area high schools, along with relationships with many Northwest environmental agencies and organizations, provide a strong network of affiliations and partnerships.

# *Rising Stars* Exemplary Students at SVC



## ***Joanne Lu, Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management Graduate***

“My name is Joanne (Shu Hua) Lu and I came from Taiwan about five years ago. I worked in a marketing company for over 18 years, and I was promoted to be a sales director for about five years. But for my children, I quit my job and came over to United States. When I came here, I was a complete foreigner with no background, no friends, and no experience. At that time my English was poor, not good enough to find any good jobs. I was spending all my savings and had no income at all. But I was still responsible for my kids as well as surviving here myself, so the only thing I could do was to learn how to improve my language skills and build others skills to get my confidence back up to help me find a job. So, I decided to go back to school.

First, I found a job at an Italian restaurant cleaning tables. I started from zero and worked hard for very little money to support myself. Then I took an ESL class and joined the ‘Calling all Colors’ club. I tried to improve my language ability and volunteer to work in community activities so I can meet more people and practice my English. I kept telling myself: ‘I need to make a good example for my kids and let them know that if I can do it, they can do better than me. And someday, if I could, I want to help more people like me.’ In the second year, I took a Culinary Arts class. In Chinese New Year I had a chance to help teach my classmates how to cook Chinese New Year traditional food and dessert for Cafeteria, and I helped the Chinese professor present ‘Chinese tea and wine culture.’ I learned lots of skills that I needed.

I finished my two-year program and earned an ATA in Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management - Restaurant Management. I was lucky; I soon got a manager job in a new Chinese restaurant. I got a chance to learn more skills about how to run a restaurant business. I will continue to achieve my goal to become a good chef. One day I hope I will have my own restaurant. I will do all my best to help more people, create more job opportunities, and let them know, ‘Knowledge is power, do your best and never give up! Only you can make the decision to change your life and make your life better, and to give your family a good future.’”



## **David Glenn, Business Transfer Student**

“I am 34, and a 13-year veteran of the United States Navy. I faced an unexpected future as a civilian because I was no longer deployable as a single father and it scared me knowing I was leaving the relative security of the Navy as the nation struggled to rebound from a recession.

I have attended Skagit Valley College for over a year earning a transfer business degree to WSU. I plan to earn a degree in Accounting, a field that I know will succeed in, even in this economy.

With advice and assistance from the school, I applied, and won four scholarships. With Veteran's benefits and other resources I qualified for, I am able to provide for my children while attending school full-time. Ten years ago I would not have believed I had what it would take to get through college — now I am on my way towards a Business degree and I am actively involved as an officer with Phi Theta Kappa, an Honor Society for two-year colleges that recognizes students with exceptionally solid GPAs.

I know I am going somewhere and Skagit Valley College is the stepping-stone I have needed to get where I am going. I am sure I could have succeeded by jumping directly into a large university, but the small, family-like campus in Oak Harbor has made my transition to civilian life and college life a great deal more manageable.”



## **Karina Borja-Hurtado, Basic Skills Program Assistant**

“I am from Jalisco, Mexico and I have a degree in Business Administration from Mexico, now revalued here in USA as a B.A. in Business Administration.

When I came to the U.S. in 2008, I had many personal and professional dreams and goals, such as learning English, my family, having a good job, etc. So, my first choice was to study English and my best option was Skagit Valley College. I became an ESL student in winter 2009 and I exited ESL in spring 2011, which was a very significant experience to me, because during that time I gained the English skills that I needed. After that, I tried to find a job, but one of the requirements to get a job was to have a GED, so I took GED classes and I graduated in March 2010. My first job was at the Washington State Migrant Council as a Teacher Assistant. After five months there, I got the opportunity for a six-month internship at the Housing Authority of Skagit County by WorkSource Skagit and Opportunities Industrialization Center of Washington.

Now I have a good job at Skagit Valley College as an Office Assistant in the Basic Skills department, and I'm the English as a Second Language Night Coordinator. This job provides me with the opportunity to give back to SVC and to the community all my knowledge and skills as an employee and my experience as a student, to help others in their learning process at SVC.



Through this short time I've been developing my confidence to communicate in English with others and becoming a better and skilled person.

Now I can support, as much as I can, my family in Mexico. I would like, in the near future, to become a US citizen and bring to my family the opportunity to come legally to this country.

I would like to thank all the great people and my family for helping, supporting, and encouraging me to continue to develop my skills and set up new goals and reaching my dreams, during my linkage process here in USA.”

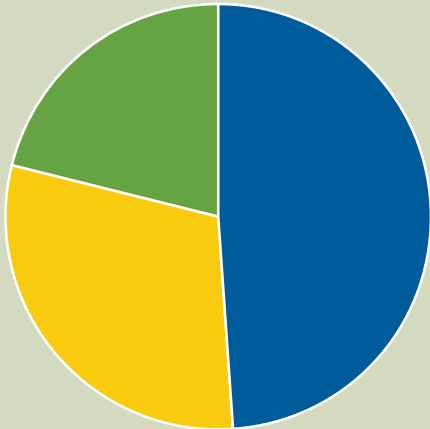
# Accountability Report 2010 - 2011

## Financial Data

### SOURCES OF FUNDING

State Funds	49%
Student Tuition	30%
Locally Generated Revenue	21%

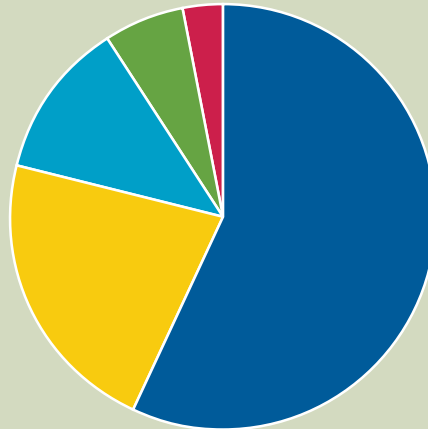
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### COLLEGE BUDGET

Operating Expenditures	57%
Student Aid	22%
Grants & Contracts	12%
Business Enterprises	6%
Capital Projects	3%

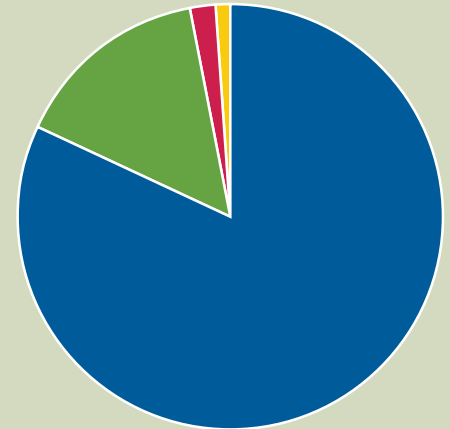
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### OPERATING EXPENDITURES

Salary & Benefits for Teaching and Support	82%
Goods & Services	15%
Equipment	2%
Travel	1%

S&B G&S E T



## Student Demographics for all students enrolled for credit in Spring 2011

### AGE & GENDER

The average age for students enrolled at SVC for credit at the college is 28. The majority of SVC students are female, and the average age for females is 29. In contrast, the average age for male students is 27.

Female	59%
Male	41%

### ATTENDANCE

Part-Time	52%
Full-Time	48%

### ETHNIC DIVERSITY

	Number	Percent
White	4,039	70%
Asian/Pac Islander	302	5%
Hispanic	750	13%
Black/African American	121	2%
Amer Indian/Alaska Native	88	2%
Other/Not Reported	290	5%
International	165	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,755</b>	<b>100%</b>

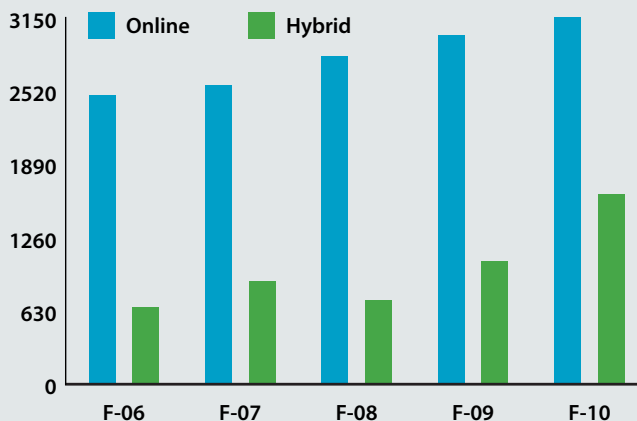
### PROGRAM GOALS OF STUDENTS

	Number	Percent
University/College Transfer	2,701	47%
Workforce Training	2,107	37%
Basic Skills	411	7%
Apprentice	182	3%
Home & Family/Non-Degree	326	6%
Multiple Goals	28	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,755</b>	<b>100%</b>

### eLEARNING

#### Annualized FTEs - All Funds

Over the past five years, the college has significantly increased enrollments in both fully-online courses and in "hybrid" courses, that is, courses that substitute some part of the ground instruction with online instruction. This results in fewer commute days for many students and provides a viable means for continuing instruction in the event of an emergency.



### 2010 - 2011 SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID

In 2010-11 the SVC Foundation awarded over \$300,000 in scholarships to SVC Students; \$15.5 million in Financial Aid was distributed to 2,200 students.

### 2010 - 2011 DEGREES & CERTIFICATES AWARDED

The college awarded 607 degrees, 486 certificates, and 45 high school diplomas.





## **Dear Friends of Skagit Valley College,**

Dr. Gary Tollefson is completing 40 years of excellence as an educator, public servant, and community leader, culminating with his service as President of Skagit Valley College. He has served as President of SVC with vision, enthusiasm, leadership, and dedication for nearly nine years.

Among the highlights during his tenure, Dr. Gary Tollefson has presided over significant modernization of college infrastructure, including construction and facilities improvement at the Mount Vernon and Whidbey Island campuses.

The newly built, state-of-the-art, science and allied health building on the Mount Vernon Campus received LEED® Platinum certification for environmental excellence. Laura Angst Hall was the first public higher education building in Washington to receive this designation.

In addition, strong public partnerships between Skagit Valley College and local school districts resulted in the construction of the Northwest Career & Technical Academy located on the college's Mount Vernon Campus, and in the development of a technologically advanced Marine Technology Center in Anacortes.

Each and every day, Dr. Gary Tollefson demonstrated his commitment to students and carrying out the ultimate mission of the college, which is to “expand opportunities and horizons for students.”

So, on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire college community, we are grateful for Dr. Gary Tollefson's outstanding leadership at Skagit Valley College and the impact he has made on our campuses and centers, and throughout the community.

As we look ahead, we are pleased to welcome Dr. Thomas Keegan, an accomplished leader in higher education, as the sixth president of Skagit Valley College. We look forward to working with him to create an even brighter future for SVC, our students, and the communities we serve.

Sincerely,

**Debra Lisser**  
**Board Chair**

# Donors Motivated by Remembrance & Vision

Recent gifts to the Skagit Valley College Foundation provide insight into the variety of ways to help provide access and financial support for students as well as critical instructional needs for educational programs. These gifts allow families to honor loved ones and publicly affirm their values.

## Honorarium Gifts

*Give a gift to honor someone's birthday, anniversary, retirement or other special occasion.*

When Dr. Gary Tollefson decided to retire as president of Skagit Valley College last year, Gary and his wife Tamera wanted to create a lasting legacy for future SVC students pursuing a degree in the arts or education. The Tollefson's gift, along with numerous gifts from friends, family and colleagues honoring his retirement, will continue to assist SVC students for years to come.



Gary and Tamera Tollefson

and Physical Sciences Departments. These critical program funds will help supplement instructional needs in Skagit Valley College's Science Departments for years to come thanks to the generosity and foresight of a retired instructor.

## Bequests

*Give a legacy gift.*

Leah Hawkinson always dreamed of becoming a nurse, but life circumstances prevented her from fulfilling her dream. This dream will be carried for-



Members of Leah Hawkinson family with Carl Young, SVC Foundation Director

ward to Skagit Valley College nursing students thanks to a generous bequest she identified in her will. Her passion for community health and helping underprivileged women continues to live on through her generous gift to students.

## Memorial Gifts

*Give a gift in memory of a loved one who has passed away.*

The Vonda Lynne Polinkus Memorial Scholarship was created by Vonda's parents, Jan and Bill Polinkus, to "give others the opportunity to follow in Vonda Lynne's footsteps. She loved her life as a registered nurse and the organized chaos of the Emergency Department." This generous nursing scholarship endowment was given in memory of Vonda Lynne Polinkus, a registered nurse and SVC Nursing Alumnus, who passed away in 2010 from complications of H1N1 (swine flu). Nursing students at Skagit Valley College will follow her passion to help people thanks to this endowed scholarship.



Vonda Lynne Polinkus

## Scholarship Support

*Give a gift that provides financial support to students.*

Longtime Skagit Valley resident and restaurant owner Don Finsen wanted to help support the industry that has supported him throughout his career by creating a culinary arts scholarship endowment for Skagit Valley College students. Finsen's generosity substantially boosts scholarship support for the college's acclaimed culinary arts program.



Don Finsen

## Program Support Gifts

*Give a gift to help support critical educational programming needs.*

A longtime Skagit Valley College instructor, the late Robert Dursch, established a science equipment endowed fund in 2000 to annually provide funding for scientific equipment and instructional resources for Skagit Valley College's Life Sciences



Robert Dursch

- Carl Young, Director
- Karen Kotash, Accountant
- Jennifer Fix, Assistant Director
- Jaana Hatton, Interim CVV Director
- Shannon O'Neil, Administrative Services Manager, CVV
- Bridget Candler, Office Assistant
- Anne Donovan Clark, Ford Golf Coordinator



# Foundation Fundraising!

The 24th Annual  
**James M. Ford**  
GOLF CLASSIC



**Friday, May 11, 2012**  
Avalon Golf Links, Burlington  
10 a.m. – Registration  
Shotgun Start at Noon

Underwritten by:



**Puget Sound Refinery**

For Sponsorship or Golfer Registration, contact: 360.416.7821  
Proceeds support SVC scholarships and program enhancements

The 20th Annual  
**Whidbey Island**  
GOLF CLASSIC



**Friday, June 22, 2012**  
Whidbey Golf & Country Club  
10 a.m. – Registration  
Shotgun Start at 1 p.m.

Underwritten by:

