BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT
Larry McGee – Executive Director

- We have selected a BASM program coordinator who will start December 3rd. Jana Fraley comes to us with the highest recommendation from her supervisor at South Puget Sound and is expected to be a major addition to the Instruction Office and BASM teams.

- The focus this month has been on course development which absorbs considerable time especially with the adjuncts. We are following the normal processes used on campus, but with every one of the eighteen courses in BASM brand new, it is a major effort that will continue throughout 2013.

- One of the expectations of the BASM program is that new ideas will be piloted. There are two important items to note, both of which are in the early stages.

  - Program assessment is a perennial topic of interest and since all of the new course outlines for BASM courses have direct linkages between College Learning Themes and also to BASM program outcomes, it is now possible to extract data from our SMS and Canvas, to start to objectively measure how well we are achieving stated BASM program outcomes based upon the measurement of individual course objectives. Much work remains, but this is potentially of great value.

  - The three faculty who have started BASM this fall are all quite strong in their respective fields, highly regarded as instructors and also quite collaborative. An example of collaboration designed to enhance student learning is the use of a common Harvard Business School case study in week eleven. The common study will be addressed in all three classes from both the perspective of that individual class and of course from the more difficult but real-world perspective where varying viewpoints and plusses and minuses must be netted out to a single decision.

- Mini-presentations are being made on campus to those classes which have students in the programs that are the most logical feeders for BASM. As of this memo, I am in touch with 13 students, most of whom want to begin BASM in the fall of 2013. Articles in the Nexus, the winter 2013 schedule and new marketing materials all are acting to get the word out on campus and in the community. Much more work will of course be done to recruit for fall 2013.

- Participation in a recent meeting of all colleges with BAS programs or with programs in design at Everett Community College revealed the fact that 34 additional BAS programs are in development for startup in either 2013 or 2014. We are in preliminary discussions on campus concerning potential BAS programs in the Diesel Technology and Web Development arenas, two areas not duplicated by the above noted 34 programs. Startups would be fall 2014. In addition, we are in the early stages of a possible expansion of the existing BASM that could be very useful for career tradesmen who need or want to make a change.

ACADEMIC TRANSFER
T.R. Gratz - Academic Transfer Programs

Humanities

- Dr. Susanne Weil reports that the Washington Community College Humanities Association held its annual conference at North Seattle Community College October 26-27. The conference was well attended and included some great contributions from Centralia faculty and staff.
• Humanities professor Sharon Mitchler presented a pedagogical presentation titled “Helping Students Create Original Analysis of Artworks and Texts,” highlighting a set of stepped activities which she uses to help students in her humanities survey course learn to write original analyses of multiple works. Over a period of weeks, students develop their own raw analysis of texts, paintings, architecture, sculpture and dance. Sharon’s process breaks this down into do-able steps to minimize students’ anxiety. Her presentation was very well received as a means to introduce students to writing about complex texts.

• Adjunct English faculty Ruth Schnabl and Dorothea Buehler led a workshop on yoga as a means to enhance student learning: Dorothea presented an overview of research on the impact of yoga practice on cognitive processing, after which Ruth led attendees in a series of yoga moves, followed by some short “brain tests.” Attendees hailed this fresh approach as innovative.

• Retired Centralia faculty member Don Foran was honored by WCCHA’s board with the John Terrey award for significant contributions to the humanities in Washington state over the course of his long career; Don and his wife Maggie were present to receive the award at the conference banquet.

• WCCHA’s literary arts journal, Crosscurrents, is graced this year with cover art by Bev Gestrine. Bev, Connie Robertson, and Susanne Weil contributed illustrations (Bev’s cover, Connie’s encaustics, and Susanne’s bee photos). After organizing the program for her 7th WCCHA conference, Susanne is stepping down as board member and association secretary but will continue to be active as Centralia’s campus representative.

Music
• The Centralia College choir presented a “Feast of Carols” for the Lyceum Series on Wednesday, November 28.

• The Lewis County Community Band, part of the college’s Continuing Education Program, will be performed a concert in Corbet Theatre December 4, at 7:30 p.m. The concert is open to the public and free of charge.

• The Centralia College Vocal Ensemble provided holiday music for the Foundation Donor Appreciation Event in the Centralia College Library December 6, at 5:30 p.m.

• The Centralia College Jazz Band performed in the College Cafeteria for a luncheon concert on November 29, at noon.

• The Centralia College Jazz Band performed at the Veteran’s Museum in Chehalis December 7 for the Winter Staff Dinner of the Valley View Health Center.

• The Centralia College Choir performed a holiday concert December 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Harrison Square Presbyterian Church. A free-will offering was taken to benefit the Lewis County Food Bank.

• Dr. Donna Huffman has been invited to be an adjudicator for the Chinook Region Solo and Ensemble Contest in February.

• The student music club, Pro Musica, will be sponsoring a concert at the Woodland Estates in January.

• The Pro Musica also maintains a Facebook page to discuss the musical degrees and opportunities at Centralia College. They also post the musical happenings at Centralia College as well as events off campus that have student musical involvement.

Media Studies
• Wade Fisher reports that the Media Studies students recently recorded the fall quarter drama production of On the Verge. The students also will be recording the Angela Meade concert December 22. During this past quarter three students completed an internship with Ryan Trotter, the sports announcer at KELA and another one of our students is working there under our work study program.
Science

- From November 9-11, Dr. Steve Norton attended the annual meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists in Seaside, California. While there, he attended two symposia: “Integrating Approaches in Marine Ecology” and “Integrating Data and Theory to Advance Marine Science.” He also attended a variety of contributed paper presentations and posters. On Sunday afternoon, he visited the Monterey Bay Aquarium and played his favorite game, how many cottid species are in the aquarium: answer = nine of the 90+ species found along the West Coast.

- At the invitation of BASM director Larry McGee, Dr. Norton provided an overview of STEM careers and the STEM program at Centralia College at the November 16 meeting of the Twin Cities Rotary Club.

- There were two speakers in The Rising Tide Science Seminar Series in November, with one remaining speaker in December. On November 9, Mr Charles Cody, Plant Growth Facilities Manager at WSU Pullman, presented a seminar “The Other Hat: What I am Doing When You Can’t Find Me In the Greenhouse.” On November 16, Dr. Ralph Haugerud, Research Geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, presented a seminar “The Last Glaciation of the Puget Lowland.” At noon on December 7 in NSC 121, Dr. Agnieszka Miguel, Chair of the Electrical Engineering Department at Seattle University, presented a seminar “Image and Video Compression.”

- On November 30, Dr. Norton discussed the role of math in STEM careers (and STEM education at Centralia College) to Mr. Justin Rotter’s calculus class and an overview of his research on chemical defense in crustaceans (and STEM education at Centralia College) to Mr. Dan Tedor’s environmental science class at Rochester High School.

- On November 30, the science and math faculty (Dr. Lisa Carlson, Mr. Michael Threapleton, Dr. Steve Norton, Mr. Pat Pringle, Ms. Karen Goodwin, Dr. Ruby Nagelkerke, and Dr. Chris Carlson) presented a Rising Tide Science Workshop “Everything you need to know to prepare for graduate school in science and engineering.” The workshop described (a) strategies for choosing the most appropriate graduate advisor/school, (b) the costs (or lack thereof) of graduate school, (c) the activities of a graduate student, and (d) steps that students can take now to improve their likelihood of acceptance into a graduate program, such as participating in the Research Experiences for Undergraduates program supported by the National Science Foundation.

Art

- A student Art Show was held in the Washington Hall Lobby, Center Gallery, Art Department Hall and Front Hall November 30 through December 12. The show included art from Art Appreciation, Drawing, Computer Graphics and Digital Photography classes.

Psychology

- Fifteen members of the Psychology Club visited the King Tut exhibit at the Seattle Science Center November 17.

- The Psychology Club helped send three members to an autism conference held in Lewis County November 2. The students attending were Shonna Clark, William Peckham and Nick Purcell. They later explained what they learned during a Psychology Club meeting. Club advisor Dr. Sandra Neal said she was impressed: “The members learned about the conference on their own and they wanted to go on their own.”

Geology

- More than a year ago, Chris Hedeen, a high school science teacher from Oregon City, Oregon, and Pat Pringle were in the field with a film crew from Oregon Field Guide for a segment on Mount Hood’s volcanic past. The episode will be airing on KCTS 9 at 7:30 p.m. December 19 and 26. Willie Scott, brother of Pat’s wife Leslie, also appears in the episode – he works for the Cascades Volcano Observatory and has been mapping the lava flows and other volcanic deposits there.
Chris and Pat received a Murdock Trust Partners in Science Grant last year, and their research involves using radiocarbon dating and tree rings to investigate a ghost forest of dead trees, mainly whitebark pines, that they suspect may have been killed by an eruption at Mount Hood in the late 1700s. Here’s the OPB web page link where you also can watch the show online: http://www.opb.org/programs/ofg/episodes/view/2404 and http://www.opb.org/programs/ofg/segments/view/1838.

LIBRARY/eLEARNING/INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH
Sue Gallaway - Dean, Library Services and eLearning

I’m pleased to announce that Alexis Austin has accepted the position of Instruction & Classroom Support Technician 3 in eLearning. Her first day was December 3. Alexis is a 2008 graduate of Centralia College and earned her BA in English and Creative Writing at Western Washington University. She brings technology savvy, positive energy, and great experience working with students. Alexis will be mainly responsible for the administration of our eLearning platforms and student support. She is jumping right in to help with our migration from ANGEL to Canvas.

Forty three classes are scheduled to pilot the Canvas system during winter quarter. All 18 teachers have completed Canvas training and have begun content development in their Canvas courses. The 43 classes consist of 21 web-enhanced, 7 hybrid, 12 online, and 3 eCorrespondence courses. Faculty involved in winter pilots include: Atara MacNamara, Carol Brown, Connie Smejlkal, Dan Brown, Dave LaLond, David Peterson, Gloria Perkins, Gloria Price, Greg Lund, Kelli Bloomstrom, Kimberly Bennett, Mark Brosz, Mary Ann Medlin, Mary McClain, Otto Rabe, Sharon Mitchler, Sue Gallaway, and Todd Tveten.

Kathy Brooks has been working closely with Larry McGee to gather course and program level student learning outcomes achievement using Canvas’ student competency reporting features. So far the capability to do this level of analysis is exciting and they will continue this work with the BAS faculty into future quarters. The hope is that the process can be expanded to include additional programs as Canvas is rolled out.

The library served as the location of the December 6 Foundation event “Deck the Halls.” Lily Kun was on hand to discuss 21st century libraries and how much the process of conducting research has changed.

The library is conducting a pilot program to loan laptops to students. Lily Kun has spearheaded this effort in order to expand access to critical technology to students.

CHILD AND FAMILY STUDIES
Cristi Heitschmidt – Associate Dean, Child & Family Studies

ECEAP (Early Child Education and Assistance Program)

ECEAP classrooms participated in grocery store field trips as part of literacy development using the story classic “Stone Soup”. Children shopped for fruits and vegetables to be used to help make fruit salad and soup for their families. Children hear the story, act out the story, create handmade invitations, and help make the soup and salad. Their families come to the classroom to enjoy the “fruits” of the children’s labor.

The new assessment and data management tracking systems (TS GOLD and ELMS, respectively) are in place and being utilized. Staff are excited about what these systems will do to better track the progress of our students and the effectiveness of our program.
Our first ECEAP Parent Policy Council meeting took place this month. Policy Council is a parent-run group that seeks input on the ECEAP program from the parents of children we serve. This year, the parents are focusing much of their energy on ways to infuse more culture and parent involvement into the classrooms. This was an area that was addressed in our DEL program review last year, so we are excited to see how this involvement moves us forward!

Children’s Lab School
- Sina Mohoric and Jeanette Spiegelberg are beginning work with Frontiers of Innovation and national researchers to plan strategies to be used in CFS programs around Executive Function skills.
- An anonymous donor has given the Lab school a high quality Vitamix to be able to add smoothies to our afternoon snack menu.
- Classrooms are enjoying trips to the KNOLL natural area to observe the spawning salmon.
- Collaboration is occurring with Adna Elementary School Kids to Kids program for items for the CFS Holiday store

Parent Support Services
- Rebecca Scott participated as part of the team to present the 2nd Annual Lewis County Autism Conference on November 2. An amazing 200 people were in attendance!

Parenting Education December 2012
- Cristi Heitschmidt and Linda Wilcox attended the fall retreat for the Statewide Organization of Parenting Education Programs (OPEP) at Rainbow Lodge in North Bend, WA. One discussion topic was the OPEP Spring Conference. This year it will be held at Centralia College, March 27, 2013. Attendees will be parenting instructors and preschool teachers from community colleges throughout the State of Washington.
- In winter 2013, CFS will be offering Parenting in Recovery (PIR) in collaboration with the newly created Lewis County Family Drug Court. The class will be offered at Eugenia Center in Chehalis with funding from NW HIDTA made available through Lewis County Social Services.
- Collaborative ongoing planning is being done for a second, expanded, summer Autism class to be held at Centralia College.
- Winter parenting classes are scheduled. Love and Logic will be offered in Centralia as will the Nurturing Program for Parents and Adolescents. Through collaboration with the ESD 21st Century after-school programs, Love and Logic will be offered in Mossyrock, and Onalaska and Morton School districts will be hosting Strengthening Families. The newest class on campus, Bilingual Learning and Playing (LEAP) is growing and will be offered in winter, as will the Morton Learning and Playing (Leap) held at the Morton Co-op Preschool.

TEEN Program
- The Pregnant and Parenting Teen Community Stakeholder Team is meeting here on campus. The purpose of the group is to bring together resource agencies and services to work on streamlining services for Pregnant and Parenting youth in Lewis County. One of the goals of the group is to create a mentoring program for young moms.
- The Gathering Church staff has been donating weekly to our lunch program. We have received bread items, fruits and vegetables. Loaves of zucchini bread were baked in our building and given back to the church to sell at their espresso stand.
- Collaboration has occurred between First Steps Nurse Program, In-tot and the TEEN Program to provide developmental screening for infants in our campus Child Care. Students see different types of screening tools used to become aware of the critical areas of growth and development to watch for with their own child.
- The TEEN Program in partnership with Blue Earth Farms and the Economic Development Council has advanced to the 2nd round of a grant process for The Community Foundation of South Puget Sound school garden/entrepreneur project. The future plans of the Centralia College TEEN garden project would expand to include an entrepreneurial experience through the addition of a farmer’s market on campus.

**Passport to College Program**

- Independent Living Skills coordinators from Catholic Community Services (CCS) and Community Youth Services (CYS) continue to meet in our building on weekly basis with students from both the Domestic and International foster care systems.

**TRANSITIONAL EDUCATION**

*Brigitte Kidd – Dean, Transitional Education*

- For winter quarter Mark Brosz, pre-college math faculty, developed a new pre-college math course MATH 097, Algebra for Statistics. This course offers a shortened pathway for those students who need the college level MATH 146, Intro to Statistics course as part of their degree requirements but whose skills are not quite high enough to place into college level math. This new statistics pathway is modeled after the “Statway” approach, created by The Charles A. Dana Center at The University of Texas at Austin under sponsorship of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and adopted by several community colleges here in Washington and nationwide. This new pathway was one of the models highlighted in the statewide Rethinking Pre-College Math Initiative and we are proud that Centralia College has created its own version.

- Judith Aguilar, ESL Program Coordinator, Sheryl Mercer, Counselor and Brigitte Kidd, Dean, Transitional Education, attended the Supporting Undocumented Students Educational Drive-In Conference hosted by Seattle University on October 22. The conference intended to give the participants an overview of immigration law and policy regarding undocumented students as well as present a three-part model of serving undocumented students, which distinguishes the professional, the ally and the advocate in their level of support.

- On October 23, Judith Aguilar, Deborah Shriver, ABE program manager and Brigitte Kidd participated in the regional state mandated annual CASAS Cadre Recertification training at the State Board Office in Olympia. CASAS Cadre members are able to train locally to ensure that all instructional staff are current on their test certification; only certificated cadre members are able to order testing materials from CASAS.

- Brigitte Kidd, Dean, Transitional Education, Deborah Shriver, ABE program manager and Kerry Trethewey, ABE faculty attended the on-ramp to IBEST meeting held at Pierce College Puyallup on October 24. Participation was required for all on-ramp grant recipients. The meeting was focused on capturing best practices and looking at expanding the project.

- On October 30, Brigitte Kidd, Sheryl Mercer and Eleni Palmisano, Pre-College Math faculty, as part of the Centralia College team, attended the third annual statewide Best Practices Exchange at Clover Park Technical College. The exchange focused on discussing strategies and lessons learned that lead to student achievement and transition from pre-college (adult basic education and developmental education) through the Tipping Point and beyond. State Board staff facilitated the exchange.

- As chair of the Council of Basic Skills, Brigitte Kidd was invited to the quarterly Instruction Commission meeting at Everett Community College on November 1. On the same day, Eleni Palmisano attended the fall meeting of the RPM group (Rethinking Pre-College Math).

- Gene Shriver, Pre-College English/Reading faculty and Deborah Shriver, using personal funds, attended the National College Transition Network’s Effective Transition in Adult Education Conference in Providence, Rhode Island November 7-9. The focus of the conference was college and career readiness for adults.
Centralia College hosted a regional meeting of the southwest Washington Basic Skill directors on November 14. The meeting was intended to strengthen collaboration among programs in the region.

As CBS (Council of Basic Skills) representative, Brigitte Kidd attended the Adult Education Advisory Council meeting on November 16 at Highline Community College. The group was very interested in the work of the High School Diploma Task Force and their research regarding a high school diploma based on basic skill course work. As a follow up to this, a grading task force chaired by Brigitte Kidd met November 27 in Olympia. The task force includes members of the admission and registrar council as well as members from the Instruction Commission and the State Board. The task force is interested in analyzing the impact of graded basic skill courses to the system. Currently basic skill courses receive only pass/fail grades, which do not reflect the student mastery of learning outcomes nor the rigor of the course work.

An open house on November 29 honored three staff members of the transitional education division who will retire by the end of December. The staff members are Dennis Hatch, Testing Center Manager; Shirley Eacker, ABE instructor; and Lesly Guerrero, ESL instructor.

On November 30, Brigitte Kidd along with Ceci Mano, Testing Center Program Assistant and Kathleen Kaut, Testing Center/WABERS Program Assistant, attended the annual GED test administrators meeting at South Seattle Community College. Ceci and Kat were asked to be part of the panel of experts due to the successful implementation of computer based GED testing at Centralia College. Centralia so far has the only GED graduate that tested fully online in Washington State.

**WORKFIRST/WORKER RETRAINING**

Bev Gestrine – Director, Workfirst, Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET) & Worker Retraining Programs

**Worker Retraining**

- Employment Security Department’s report for the month of October indicated the seasonally adjusted statewide Unemployment Insurance rate is 8.2 percent. Lewis County is tied with Grays Harbor in the number two spot of those collecting Unemployment Insurance. The number one spot is just south of Lewis County, Wahkiakum County. Lewis County is three percent higher than the statewide rate.

- Joan Meister extended the workshops into the month of December to accommodate the increase of calls and foot traffic in the office, due to the release of the winter schedule.

**Basic Food Employment and Training (BFET)**

- Deb Caviness and Margret Friedley attended a BFET Provider’s meeting via ITV on November 30. Updates on school performances were shared along with a roundtable discussion. The good news is the program is still growing, and there are 130 students enrolled fall quarter.

**WorkFirst**

- Lesona Hartman and Connie Robertson are still very involved teaching the Options Program. We celebrated our one year anniversary of the program in October. At our last LPA meeting Steve Perry from the Department of Commerce reported that four other LPAs were putting together an “Options like” program for their WorkFirst clients. Port Angeles’s Hub program and Lewis County’s Options program have very good reputations and have earned “Best Practices” ratings from the Department of Social and Health Services. The Options program has served over 420 unduplicated clients in our first year and should serve at least that many in the current year. The partners see improved attitudes in graduates and feel they are more successful in their chosen pathway because of participation in the Options program. It is very exciting to see so many other LPAs starting their own version the Options model!
Lesona Hartman is currently working on submitting the 2012-2013 LPA Innovation Incentive Grant (IIG) for additional funding for the Options Program. It is a grant offered by the Department of Commerce on a first come first serve basis. The grant request in the amount of $5000.00 is earmarked for additional classroom supplies, teaching aids, and other classroom expenses that are now donated by our partners and community members. The grant was turned in on December 1, 2012. Lesona deserves a huge hand for spearheading this project and keeping it moving forward.

Lesona Hartman is planning a host of GAP activities during the class break after fall quarter. She will teach classes concentrating on developing “Soft Skills”. She has arranged for guest speakers/teachers, and will offer several project classes during that time.

The number of students in the WorkFirst program is growing resulting in a 20% increase over fall 2011. The increase may be due to the end of the participation suspension, which temporarily exempted Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) parents from participating in WorkFirst activities in order to save on daycare expenses. Clients are slowly being phased back in… resulting in a higher number of referrals, especially for GED classes. The Local Planning Area (LPA) partnership workshop “Options” has also helped ensure that the Department of Social and Health Services clients receive information on college training programs and that those expressing interest are referred to the WorkFirst program on campus.

WorkFirst staff worked with the GED program on new processes regarding computer based GED testing for our students. Michelle Hylton attended an information session demonstrating the new registration and payment options.

PROFESSIONAL TECHNICAL PROGRAMS
Durelle Sullivan – Dean, Workforce Education

Workforce Office and Continuing Education
Durelle Sullivan, Dean
We are pleased to announce that we successfully awarded bids for over $150,000 in new equipment for Nursing, Welding, and Electronics. This 2012 Supplemental Capital Allocation for Equipment will allow us to make changes in our curriculum and provide new and current skills for our students. We will be receiving a simulated medication dispenser, Plasma Cutter, Iron worker, Robotic dual arm gripper, and high tech PLC training components. A HUGE thanks to Bonnie Myer, Vicki Oakerman, Ken Kristenson, Mike Driscoll, Ken Cotton, Dave LaLond, David Peterson, Cal Taylor, Kelly Thunberg, Nola Ormrod, and Karie Jorgenson for pulling the very technical bids together!

Diesel Technology
Jake Conrad & Jake Fay
We bought a Deere 450C dozer through state surplus from Cedar Creek Corrections Center and should be picking it up some time before the first of the year. It ran when they parked it but needs some TLC.

Pape’ Material handling donated a Yale forklift and a diesel towable air compressor. Neither run but we can fix that. We picked them a couple weeks ago and had two trailer flat tires on the way back. That was not fun.

Jake Fay took six students to Montana State University Northern last week to look at their campus. Seven of our second year students have applied for admission in the Fall of 2013. One former Centralia College student that will graduate from MSU-N in May has already accepted a job offer to work for RDO Equipment in Pasco, WA when he graduates. Yes, he has been offered, and accepted, a job six months before he will even graduate with his Bachelor of Science degree in Diesel.
Diesel Club is also holding their annual firewood raffle to support diesel scholarships and club activities. Tickets are $1.00 each, and can be purchased from any diesel students. The dump truck load of firewood is about two cords. The dump truck loaded with firewood is also doubling as their parade float in the city of Chehalis' Annual Santa Parade on Saturday December 1st in downtown Chehalis.

We are buying two 100kw gen sets, several engines, and two pallets of hydraulic jacks from federal surplus at Joint Based Lewis McCord. All for about $1000.00.

The recruiter for Pape’ Group will be here December 4 to present to our students. They have seven companies, 92 locations, over 2000 employees, and have hired 200 techs this year. He will be bringing with him the manager for Tyler Rental and they will be talking with Jake and I about each taking a couple students in the spring for co-op.

Accounting, Business, Business Technology Department

Lance Wrzesinski, Otto Rabe, Connie Smejkal

The CC Foundation and Washington Society of Certified Public Accountants hosted our annual Accounting/Business Night on November 8. This night provided a great opportunity for our students to network with professionals in their respective industries. Thanks to Dr. Beer from St. Martins and Larry McGee for presenting our students with opportunities to pursue Bachelor degree programs on our campus.

The Business/Accounting department held their first advisory committee meeting of the year on November 8. An overview of our program review and action items for future improvements was discussed and the members were excited about several of the action items. Continued discussion will be held throughout the year.

Otto will be presenting to the WF West Career Fair Program on November 15. He will be sharing opportunities in the business/accounting programs for the students to continue their education.

Connie will be presenting to the Teen Program on November 16. She will be sharing opportunities in the business/accounting programs for the students to continue their education.

The Accounting and Business Department completed its Program Review with a presentation to the Instructional Council on 19 November.

Connie will be presenting a workshop “The Cost of Living…On Your Own” during the Life Management Conference on December 14.

Otto will be presenting to the core of High School Counselors on Campus December 14, in order to create awareness concerning our Accounting and Business Programs.

Connie will be participating as a judge in this year’s Business Week. She will spend the morning of December 17 talking to students about their learning experience and seeing the great projects the students create.

Rotaract will be busy for the remainder of fall quarter. Some of the activities we will focus on include: helping with the Borst Park Light Show, volunteering at Providence’s 2012 Festival of Trees which will be held the week of Thanksgiving, assisting Twin Cities Rotary in a food drive for our local food bank, and supporting the Steam Train’s Polar Express. The Rotaract members are enjoying the opportunity to participate in these great community events while building important networks.

Eudora and Georganne have successfully advised over 150 Medical, Legal, and Office ATA and certificate students for winter quarter. Mary McClain will be assisting with advising starting winter quarter since she is now a Pro Rata faculty member. Mary will receive advising training at the upcoming new student advising fairs.
Before the end of the quarter Georganne will be meeting both on- and off-campus with supervisors and students who are currently completing the Cooperative Work Experience program. These seven students are working in a variety of offices in town and are earning between two and five credits each this quarter. Approximately seven more students will be enrolled in this course (BTEC 190) during winter quarter, with more to follow spring quarter.

**Criminal Justice**  
*Greg Gilbertson & Tadd Belden*

- The Centralia College Criminal Justice program now has a Facebook page where Professor’s Gilbertson and Belden and others post job opportunities and other useful information students need. Students are also able to chat with one another, and ask questions of faculty and one another as well. We now have 102 members of this web site. Students seem to really be enjoying this web site! The site can be found at: [http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/338091699576586/?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/338091699576586/?fref=ts)

- Criminal Justice students are also enjoying the new Firearms Training Simulator Professor Belden acquired through grants and lab fees last year. This is a tremendous, State-of-the-Art teaching tool for our campus.

- On Wednesday, November 28 Washington State Patrol Trooper (and Recruiter) Jason Cuthbert visited the CJ 105, Introduction to Corrections class. Trooper Cuthbert made a 30 minute presentation to students about the various career opportunities now available with the Washington State patrol. Trooper Cuthbert also shared with our 44 students in attendance that over the course of the next 3-5 years, nearly 50% of current WSP Troopers are, or will become, eligible for retirement. The current Trooper retirement cycle means more job opportunities are currently available, or will become available to our graduates than ever before. We sincerely appreciate Trooper Cuthbert visiting our campus and sharing this information with our students.

**Electronics, Robotics, and Automation**  
*Dave Lalond, Cal Taylor, David Peterson*

- Electronics has just received a big donation of workbenches suitable for Electronics from a past student!

- Mike Carter, graduated from the ERA program many years ago. He owns a surplus store in Portland. He called and asked if we wanted some work benches and sent some pictures, and they looked good so we said yes. After his black Friday sale last week, he came up and Cal and I met him here (at about 11 pm and unloaded a truck and trailer full of these work benches. There was a lot more than I originally thought, probably enough to completely renovate the electronics lab. One is already set up, and it looks amazing! It’s in almost new condition, only some very slight scuffs on the laminate counters. I looked up the prices of the parts we got in that donation of the workbenches, just because I was curious… This is a general amount, because some of the part numbers didn’t match exactly, so I had to go by description, but it should be fairly accurate. The total comes to just over $36,300!

- In other news, classes are full again – manageable, but extremely full, so the program is going really well. With all the new equipment, we should gain a bit of extra space, but it would be good to expand soon.

- Cal Taylor and David Peterson visited WSU/Vancouver and toured the new engineering facilities. We are hoping to develop a relationship with WSU for students who want to continue on for a four year degree.

**Nursing**  
*Nola Ormrod*

- Nursing students are finishing their final clinical days for fall quarter. First year students have been working with healthy elders at a variety of assisted living facilities and residents at a variety of local long term care facilities. Second year students have been working with inpatients at Western State Hospital and Medical and Surgical units at Providence Centralia Hospital.

- Nursing Club has been meeting to plan social as well as service activities.
Second year students will be eligible for LPN licensure at the end of Fall quarter. Seventeen out of 25 students plan to apply to Washington State for LPN licensure and take the NCLEX-PN. All but one of the students is planning to continue in the program until June when they will be eligible for RN licensure.

We are very proud to report that all December 2011 LPN graduates and all June 2012 RN graduates who had taken the NCLEX exam by the end of September 2012 have passed on the first try! In early January 2013 we will have the NCLEX results for all of 2012. We anticipate that a 100% pass rate will be confirmed.

Center of Excellence for Energy Technology
Submitted by Barbara Hins-Turner, Director

Careers in Energy Week, Oct. 15-19
- PNCECE and the Washington State Labor Council (AFL-CIO) led the coordination of statewide events to support Careers in Energy Week, a national initiative to increase awareness of energy workforce opportunities and needs. In one week, 19 events impacted more than 900 people— including K-12 students, high school instructors and counselors, parents, job seekers and veterans. Washington, which was one of the few states to tie-in activities for veterans, joined 14 other states in hosting events which included hands-on activities, facility tours, and energy career information. To kick-start the week, Governor Gregoire, Spokane County Commissioners and mayors of Centralia and Spokane signed proclamations of support. Centralia City Light sent announcements (including our website) to 11,262 customers. Our events were even discussed internationally in Spain at Hydro 2012 (nearly 1,300 delegates represented 80 countries attended the conference). We reached 568 students (mostly grades 6 – 12), 45 teachers and counselors, 15 parents and 290 community members.

National Science Foundation (NSF) Advanced Technological Education (ATE) Principal Investigators (PI) Conference, Washington D.C., Oct. 23 - 26
- Barbara Hins-Turner, Alison Pugh, Edmonds Community College, and Alan Hardcastle, WSU Extension Energy Program - Co-PI's for the Edmonds Community College NSF Energy Mgmt grant - attended and hosted a booth at the national NSF ATE Annual PI Conference. Keynote speaker Jane Oates, Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, U.S. Department of Labor (DoL), presented updates on national employment and training trends. While in D.C., Barbara and Alan met with Representative Jaime Herrera-Beutler, and staff members for Senators Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray to share project updates.

Corporation for a Skilled Workforce (CSW) – Long Beach, Calif., Oct. 23
- Jamie Krause attended a credentialing meeting in Long Beach facilitated by the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce. The meeting participants discussed the initial findings of CSWs credentialing research project, Expanding Business Engagement in Credentialing Processes. The research addresses models for developing a standards-based competency framework for curriculum development.

Walla Walla Community College Advisory Board Meetings, Oct. 30
- Barbara Hins-Turner and Monica Brummer attended the Walla Walla Community College Wind Energy Technology Advisory Board. The board toured the program’s new classrooms and labs (a 5,000 square feet expansion for wind equipment) and then joined the college’s 21 advisory boards for a thank you dinner, provided by the school’s culinary arts program. A presentation given by the president and vice president showcased all of the college’s workforce programs and their Agriculture Center of Excellence.
CoE Advisory Board meeting – Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery, Salkum, Wash., Nov. 2

- Twenty eight board members including PNCECE staff attended the semi-annual meeting hosted by Tacoma Power. Robin Podmore of Incremental Systems presented the IncSys PowerSimulator software and demonstrated how the high performance software provides a pathway for NERC certification. John Steidel, 2nd Year Energy Technology instructor described how the system operator training will be offered as new electives in the AAS Energy Technology Power Operations program winter and spring terms. This will open up an entirely new career path for Energy Technology students. Other program updates were presented by Grays Harbor College, South Seattle Community College and New Market Skills Center.

Centers of Excellence Directors Meeting – State Board for Community and Technical Colleges (SBCTC), Nov. 28

- The quarterly Center of Excellence Directors meeting was held at SBCTC with all 10 directors in attendance as well as SBCTC staff Jim Crabbe, Workforce Director and Policy Associates Marie Bruin, Kathy Goebel and Kendra Hodgson. SBCTC provided updates on activities that pertain to the Centers of Excellence. Discussions included updates to the 2006 Environmental Scanning Trend Document and other data driven projects and the integration of Centers of Excellence into the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board Skill Panel report to legislators.

Smart Grid Project

The 3rd quarter project report was submitted to the Department of Energy on Oct 30.

Highlights included:

- The Smart Grid Curriculum Taskforce selected the National Training and Education Resource (NTER) as the open source platform to "house" all of the training modules being developed under the Smart Grid Project. NTER is an open source Learning Management System developed by the U.S. Department of Energy.
- Training - The training target of 1,215 individuals has been exceeded (August 2010 through September 2012) reaching 4,251 individuals. This includes pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, incumbent worker courses, and high school students/STEM teachers receiving in-service training within the five state region.
- New Hires - The new hire target for the project is 234 workers. To date, 188 individuals (80.3%) have found employment with organizations across the western United States in occupations such as, ground crew, substation operator apprentice, plant operator trainee, boiler operator and hydro utility worker at an average starting wage of $15-35 per hour.

U.S. Department of Commerce Academy of Energy Entrepreneurs Technical Assistance Grant

- The application submitted by the Center of Excellence to the U.S. Dept. of Commerce to create the Academy of Energy Entrepreneurs was funded in the amount of $87,948. Centralia, Peninsula and Grays Harbor Colleges and the Regional Education and Training Center, Satsop Campus, are partners in the project. The grant will fund online development and delivery of Energy Business Development as an alternative career pathway within the Energy Technology program.

CENTRALIA COLLEGE EAST
Kelli Bloomstrom – Associate Dean, CC East

- Sixty-five people attended the special screening of Seeking the Greatest Good on November 14 at the Roxy Theater in Morton. The event was sponsored by Centralia College East Organization of Students (CCEOS), the United States Forest Service, and the Fire Mountain Arts Council. Forest Service Representatives Ken Sandusky and Gar Abbas answered audience questions following the film. A total of $128.00 in donations was collected for the Centralia College East Scholarship Fund and the Fire Mountain Arts Council.
- CCEast ended the fall quarter by giving back to the community. Centralia College East Organization of Students (CCEOS) sponsored a holiday food drive that coincided with the communitywide Drive-and-Drop program. Through the generosity of students and faculty at CCEast, CCEOS was able to contribute to the Morton Food Bank to help provide for local families in need. CCEOS also hosted a Study Break Pizza Party to help the students make it through finals week and the end of fall quarter.

- Dennis Hatch packed up his GED testing materials and hauled them to the Morton campus one last time before his retirement, proctoring five GED tests. CCEast would like to thank Dennis Hatch for his dedication to help local community members and CCEast students earn their GED. Thank you Dennis and best wishes on your retirement!

- CCEast was happy to welcome Lisa Taylor Transfer Specialist, TRiO Program to CCEast this month. Lisa met with current TRiO students and provided front office staff with information and updates on the TRiO Program and Student Support Services.

- Lewis County Beekeepers hosted a half-day workshop at CCEast on November 10, to generate interest in beginning beekeeping classes which will be held in Morton, beginning in March through the WSU extension. Centralia College’s Susanne Weil coordinated the event, which attracted a dozen folks from eastern Lewis County.

CEDAR CREEK CORRECTIONS CENTER (CCCC)
Sarah Sytsma – Education Director

- We are nearing the halfway point of our school year. FTEs and GEDs are right on target and I don’t anticipate any problems reaching our numbers. Our I-BEST class has been a challenge as it is a very fast-paced class; we have learned many things this quarter and expect the class to run smoother next quarter.